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The Changing of the Priesthood – Part 1

Quite often we have received e-mails on how the law is done away with by Jesus/Yeshua being our new High Priest in the New Covenant. They then proceed to quote several verses out of Hebrews to substantiate their position. It is our prayer that this teaching will address and answer those questions on this topic along with many surrounding questions that apply.

We agree that this topic can be very confusing. Especially when just glancing over everything from a basic read. It really needs to be examined with a tighter scope to truly understand what is going on here. So first, let’s look at one of the most quoted verses we receive.

Hebrews 7:12

For when there is a change of the priesthood, there must also be a change of the law.

This has been given to us many times over to show that there was indeed a change in the priesthood AND the law. And we agree. However, with all that in mind, let’s look at the next chapter.

Hebrews 8:4

If he (meaning Yeshua) were on earth, he would not be a priest, for there are already men who offer the gifts prescribed by the law.

One more time...

Hebrews 8:4

If he were on earth, he would not be a priest, for there are already men who offer the gifts prescribed by the law.

Did you see that? Yeshua cannot be a priest on earth because of the law.

This lets us know that the “change” in the law that was mentioned in chapter 7 verse 12 was not the law on earth; neither was there a change in that priesthood on earth. Because if there was, this point would be completely void and Yeshua would be a priest on earth. But we see that Chapter 8 declares the law and priesthood on earth have remained unchanged.

The law establishes who can be a priest in the earthly temple and it is only those who come from Aaron. Yeshua is from the line of Judah. Thus, He cannot be a priest in the earthly temple.

So again, before we go any further, Hebrews chapter 8 makes it clear that the law and priesthood was not effected at all by the priesthood that Yeshua received. That must be understood before we move forward in this teaching.

The priesthood order on earth has been established. Whenever God’s temple is set up on earth, the order of priests through Aaron are the only ones who can minister at it. This is why we see Yeshua reigning as King in the millennium and the priests through Aaron are serving in the temple.

There IS a temple in heaven. Thus, there is a priesthood in heaven. Currently, Yeshua is our High priest in Heaven, not on earth. He received this priesthood by way of the Melchizedek order and not through the Aaronic order.

Hebrews 6:20

[where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.](#)

Very little is given to us regarding this order of Melchizedek. With this in mind, if we desire to seek understanding of this order, we need to look at all the information given with a basic approach to understanding and not try to force something that is not there.

There are several speculations and theories concerning this Melchizedek order. We respect those opinions but we also differ with them in several areas. Though trying to understand this topic of the Melchizedek order is interesting and intriguing, we MUST understand that regardless of what one wishes to believe here, it does NOT determine ones salvation. I hope you heard that. Many hold with a passion to what and who they believe the Melchizedek order was. And that’s fine. But if one differs with you on that topic, please know that it is no reason to separate fellowship with them. This is one of those topics where there is just so little given to us. We can only do our best as individuals to reason out in our own current understanding in attempt to comprehend the mystery behind it. And it is most likely topics like this that the proverb is given...

Proverbs 25:2

[It is the glory of God to conceal a matter; to search out a matter is the glory of kings.](#)

That being said, after seeing the many views as to who was in this Melchizedek order, we’d like to present a theory showing this order being a heavenly order and Melchizedek himself being none other than Yahweh Himself. We know, we know. It sounds strange right? But bear with

us. In this teaching you'll see our theory. And hopefully it will make sense to you. And if you end up disagreeing with us, that's OK. A phrase we often refer to is *"EVERYBODY'S right on something and EVERYBODY'S wrong on something. Thus, our need for one another."*

Yeshua was made as a priest because of his eternal nature. Just like with the first Melchizedek. Compare.

Hebrews 7:15-17

And what we have said is even more clear if another priest like Melchizedek appears, ¹⁶ one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life. ¹⁷ For it is declared: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

"on the basis of the power of an indestructible life" Verse 17 then says "For it is declared" "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

And for clarification, verse 15 shows that Melchizedek, himself also had indestructible life.

"if another priest like Melchizedek appears,"

Again, all of it together one more time.

Hebrews 7:15-17

And what we have said is even more clear if another priest like Melchizedek appears, ¹⁶ one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life. ¹⁷ For it is declared: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

Telling us what? It was the basis of indestructible life that he came into this order. That being established, who had indestructible life before Yeshua resurrected? Think about it. Again, who had indestructible life before Yeshua rose on the third day? *Only one.* The more we look, the more evidence we see pointing to Yahweh as the first and only High Priest in the Melchizedek order.

Here's another point to consider...

Hebrews 10 says...

⁹ Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second.

The first is set aside so Yeshua can be priest. Not the second, not the third or any other numbered priest for that matter. It was the first that was set aside. So who was the first? And remember, He had to have indestructible life.

Even if one still wants to debate this, this verse alone shows that someone was still in the office of the Melchizedek Priesthood as they had to be set aside so Yeshua could be the next High

Priest in that order. So who was this that had to be set aside? He had indestructible life and was the first.

As we've already noted, Hebrews 8:4 shows that the law only allows the Aaronic priesthood to minister in the earthly temple. So this Melchizedek Priest, who was set aside, could not have been on earth WHEN he was set aside. The Aaronic priesthood is the only priesthood allowed to function on earth from Exodus forward. Thus, the High Priest who Yeshua replaced had to be in Heaven.

Some want to say that Melchizedek was a pre-incarnate Yeshua. But to say that Yeshua was Melchizedek makes no sense. That would mean that He was already a priest before He came. Then was not a priest so He could be made into a priest so he could replace Himself in the position that He had vacated the office of so he could be made into a priest again even though He was already a priest in that order to begin with. Did you follow that? One more time.

To hold that Yeshua was the first Melchizedek would mean that He was already a priest before He came. Then was not a priest so He could be made into a priest so he could replace Himself in the position that He had vacated the office of so he could be made into a priest again even though He was already a priest in that order to begin with. That really just doesn't make any sense.

Let us not forget that what Hebrews 7:3 says.

³ Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever.

It says "Like the Son of God he remains a priest forever."

Thus, this individual's eternal nature is likened unto Yeshua's. Thus it is a different individual and not Yeshua Himself as he is likened unto Yeshua.

Plus, as Hebrews 10:9 said "He sets aside the first to establish the second." Why would He set himself aside so He could be the second if He was already the first? Wouldn't that just mean that He was just resuming His position as the first? And how can He be set aside so He can be the second. Again, it doesn't make sense. But even then we know that He was MADE into a priest. That would mean that He wasn't a priest to begin with.

Hebrews 5:8-10

Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered ⁹ and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him ¹⁰ and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

Also,

Hebrews 7:21

but he became a priest with an oath when God said to him: "The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: 'You are a priest forever.'"

And again,

Hebrews 2:17

For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

And again,

Hebrews 6:20

where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.

Again, He was MADE into a priest. That would mean that He wasn't a priest to begin with.

Some would say *"This all sounds very interesting, but when the rubber hits the road, it doesn't add up for real life on earth."*

They would say... "So Yahweh was the king over Salem? Really?"

But who is the real King of Salem, which later became known as Jerusalem? Even when David ruled as king there when it was later called Jerusalem, was he the true king of Jerusalem? If so, then why did Yeshua say the following regarding Jerusalem.

Matthew 5:34

But I tell you, Do not swear at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; ³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King

Who is the Great King? Is Yeshua really talking about David here? Is this why Yeshua gives this instruction? Out of respect for David? Really? Or could it be an implied answer here? Heaven is God's throne. The earth is God's footstool and thus Jerusalem is His city.

Consider...

Psalms 48:1

Great is (Yahweh) the LORD, and most worthy of praise, in the city of our God, his holy mountain. ² It is beautiful in its loftiness, the joy of the whole earth. Like the utmost heights of Zaphon is Mount Zion, the city of the Great King. ³ God is in her citadels; he has shown himself to be her fortress. ⁴ When the kings joined forces, when they advanced together, ⁵ they saw [her] and were astounded; they fled in terror. ⁶ Trembling seized them there, pain like that of a woman in labor. ⁷ You destroyed them like ships of Tarshish shattered by an east wind. ⁸ As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of (Yahweh) the LORD Almighty, in the city of our God: God makes her secure forever. Selah

So who is the Great King of Jerusalem? The Great King of Jerusalem is the one to whom

Jerusalem belongs as verse 8 declares.

⁸ As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of (Yahweh) the LORD Almighty, in the city of our God: God makes her secure forever. Selah

Plus, consider Deuteronomy chapter 12.

Deuteronomy 12:11

Then to the place (Yahweh) the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name – there you are to bring everything I command you: your burnt offerings and sacrifices, your tithes and special gifts, and all the choice possessions you have vowed to (Yahweh) the LORD.

It's the very city where He put His name. There is no doubt that Yeshua Himself is **King of Kings** as noted in Rev. 19.

Revelations 19:16

On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Yet even with that title we see that He is still under the Great King.

1 Corinthians 11:3

Now I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.

So we see that it is Yahweh who gives Yeshua that title to reign on earth during the millenium.

So, though there may have been many kings who have ruled in Jerusalem, they have only done so in proxy for the Great King. There is only one true King of Salem and that is Yahweh Himself. And there is nothing to say that He couldn't have come in the form of a man, as He had many times before, only to walk away and not be seen again as in other times.

Some struggle with the thought that Yahweh could set people as kings in Jerusalem just as Yeshua will be set there as King in the Millennium. Yahweh is the true King of Jerusalem. This is why Yeshua hands everything back over to him after the millennium. Anyone who would reign as king in Jerusalem would be doing so in proxy of Yahweh.

There are some who point out that there are secular records that show there was a king over Salem that declared he was made king there by God. This is very possible indeed. However, knowing the enemy, we can't help but wonder what "god" made these individuals king of Salem.

Is it not the goal of the enemy to be like the Most High?

Isaiah 14:14

I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.”

Is he not considered the prince of this world?

John 16:11

and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

And does he not come as an angel of light?

2 Corinthians 11:14

And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

Is that not the goal of the enemy? To make all believe that he is the Most High? And to place HIS king over Jerusalem? Is this not what happens in the end times? Placing the anti-christ over Jerusalem? Isn't History cyclical? Doesn't the Father show us the end from the beginning?

All sounds silly right? But please consider reading Joshua chapter 10. It is here that we see the existing king of Jerusalem, Adoni-Zedek, rally kings together with him to attack those who allied with Israel.

³ So Adoni-zedek king of Jerusalem appealed to Hoham king of Hebron, Piram king of Jarmuth, Japhia king of Lachish and Debir king of Eglon. ⁴ “Come up and help me attack Gibeon,” he said, “because it has made peace with Joshua and the Israelites.”

Does this sound familiar? Consider...

Revelations 17:12

“The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but who for one hour will receive authority as kings along with the beast. ¹³ They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴ They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings — and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.”

It is here that we see this Adonai-Zedek was indeed who opposed Yahweh. He gathered the other Kings together. It was Israel who defeated them led by Joshua. Again, the parallel...

¹⁴ They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings — and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.”

In fact, in this account of Joshua 10, we see Yahweh sending forth hailstones killing most of the armies.

¹¹ As they fled before Israel on the road down from Beth Horon to Azekah, (Yahweh) the LORD hurled large hailstones down on them from the sky, and more of them died from the hailstones than were killed by the swords of the Israelites.

Sound Familiar?

Revelations 16:21

From the sky huge hailstones of about a hundred pounds each fell upon men. And they cursed God on account of the plague of hail, because the plague was so terrible.

It is also interesting to note that this is the day when the sun stood still for Joshua for the whole day...

Joshua 10:12-14

On the day (Yahweh) the LORD gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the LORD in the presence of Israel: "O sun, stand still over Gibeon, O moon, over the Valley of Aijalon." ¹³ So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day. ¹⁴ There has never been a day like it before or since, a day when the LORD listened to a man. Surely the LORD was fighting for Israel!

And compare the day of Yeshua's return for Armageddon...

Zechariah 14:6-7

On that day there will be no light, no cold or frost. ⁷ It will be a unique day, without daytime or nighttime — a day known to the LORD. When evening comes, there will be light.

Both being unique days. But it continues.

Notice how Joshua had the army of Israel all put their feet on the necks of Adonai-Zedek and the other kings.

Joshua 10:22-24

Joshua said, "Open the mouth of the cave and bring those five kings out to me." ²³ So they brought the five kings out of the cave — the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish and Eglon. ²⁴ When they had brought these kings to Joshua, he summoned all the men of Israel and said to the army commanders who had come with him, "Come here and put your feet on the necks of these kings." So they came forward and placed their feet on their necks.

Now compare...

Romans 16:20

The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

And also 1 Corinthians 15 where Yeshua puts all under His feet before He hands the kingdom over to Yahweh.

1 Corinthians 15:24-28

²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For he “has put everything under his feet.” Now when it says that “everything” has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. ²⁸ When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

If we think about it, this mirrors what we see in the end times almost perfectly. Yahweh destroys the false king of Jerusalem AND puts His people in the Land.

The Father declares the land of Israel is truly His.

Joel 3:2

I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will enter into judgment against them concerning my inheritance, my people Israel, for they scattered my people among the nations and divided up my land.

The land is HIS. Though the whole earth is truly His. Yet He stakes his claim and His name on Jerusalem. Thus, the tactics of the enemy to place his authority there instead.

In His efforts to be like the most High, where better to do this in the land that he knows belongs to the Father? To have his rulers set in place. Just like when the anti-christ will rule from there as well.

And how appropriate that it was Joshua who came and over thru this Adoni-zedek. The one whose name mirrors Yeshua's in the Hebrew.

Yet, contrary to what will happen at the return of Yeshua, the people who were living in Jerusalem was not completely removed.

Joshua 15:63

Judah could not dislodge the Jebusites, who were living in Jerusalem; to this day the Jebusites live there with the people of Judah.

Though the king of Jerusalem was killed, the people remained.

Maybe this can shed a little light as to the whole fight over the land of Jerusalem all these years. The point is this, the enemy has always wanted what was Yahweh's. Even the land. And it will come down to a final battle at Yeshua's return.

So then, this should make us wonder if the historical records that show that those who were named Adonai-Zedek were actually set in place not by Yahweh but rather by the enemy.

It would seem to us that the ones who were noted in secular history as being appointed by "God" could very well have been appointed by the enemy himself. And the battle we see with Joshua is simply giving us a preview of what is to come in the future.

Even as that particular Adoni-Zedek gathered kings for battle to no avail, the one who will declare himself King in Jerusalem in the last days will do so to no avail as well with the coming of Yeshua. Hail stones and all.

So we don't question that there were kings noted as Adoni-Zedek over Jerusalem. But there is reason to wonder just who it was that really put them in charge.

Just as the enemy has his counterfeits, they are still counterfeits.

Could it be possible that those noted as Adonai-Zedek were the counterfeits to Melchizedek, the true Righteous King? There are many questions with few answers, but one can't help but wonder.

And it must be noted that this Melchizedek in Genesis 14 is the ONLY king of Salem, or Jerusalem, that is both King AND Priest. We have seen no other king carry both titles to our understanding. Again showing a personal visitation by Yahweh in revealing Himself in this role while not allowing His fullness to be seen as before.

Yahweh reveals Himself when and how He wants. But that doesn't mean we see the fullness of him in those times. I don't believe ANYONE, besides Yeshua will see His fullness until Revelation 21...

³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

We read that Yahweh spoke to Moses face to face in Exodus 33

¹¹ (Yahweh)The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young aide Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent.

But just eight verses later we see that Moses was not allowed to see the fullness of Yahweh.

Exodus 33:19

And (Yahweh) the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, (Yahweh) the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ²⁰ But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live."

So just eight verse before He said He spoke to Moses face to face, but now He's saying He's not? Is this a contradiction. Not at all. Verse 19 shows that Moses was not allowed to see the fullness of God, even though he spoke with Him "face to face". So though Moses spoke to Him face to face in some aspect of Yahweh, it obviously wasn't in His fullness.

Some struggle with this and would say that when there is mention of seeing God in some form or another that it is recorded that they have a reverence and bow down and worship Him. And if this is indeed Yahweh in the form of Melchizedek in Genesis 14, why don't we see people bowing down to him here?

But He also revealed Himself as a man to Jacob who wrestled with him. Not only did Jacob not bow down to him, he wrestled Him.

Genesis 32:28-30

Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome."²⁹ Jacob said, "Please tell me your name." But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there.³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared."

But that being said, if Yahweh revealed this aspect of Himself as High Priest and not the Most High, why would anyone bow? Remember, no one can see the fullness of Yahweh and live. But it's obvious that he has revealed aspects of Himself along the way.

He spoke to Moses through the burning bush...

Exodus 3:4-5

When (Yahweh) the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am."⁵ "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."

He was in the pillar of cloud and fire...

Exodus 13:21-22

By day (Yahweh) the LORD went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night.²² Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.

He revealed himself as a man to Abram just before the destruction of Sodom...

Genesis 18:1-2

The (Yahweh) LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day.² Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet

them and bowed low to the ground.

Could He not have revealed himself through Melchizedek as well? Of course. The aspect of Himself as High Priest and not the Most High.

It has been said that the Melchizedek's administration was without "beginning of days" and "end of life" and they use Hebrews 7:3 for this.

Hebrews 7:3

Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever.

The problem here is that this is NOT discussing the "administration" of this priesthood. It is discussing the Melchizedek priest Himself as verse one declares.

Hebrews 7:1

This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him,

From their assumptions on verse three in saying that the Melchizedek Priesthood was not for a fixed term, they then present a difference with the priests of Aaron saying they began their service at the age of 30. They say that these priests only served from age 30 to 50. They get this from Numbers 4:3 and 8:24-25. However, these verses are specifically discussing the Levites and not the Priests from Aaron. It's the job of the Levites to assist the priesthood in the temple work. They are not allowed to do any of the priestly duties. Those are for the descendants of Aaron only. We encourage you to review Numbers chapter 4 and 8 for your own review. We have found nothing that discusses the tenure of the priesthood of Aaron up to this point.

Another thing to consider on this topic of Yahweh being Melchizedek is the process of doing sacrifices. Who kills the animal? Most would say the High Priest. But let's consider the instructions regarding this process in Leviticus chapter 1.

Leviticus 1:1-9

(Yahweh) The LORD called to Moses and spoke to him from the Tent of Meeting. He said,² "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'When any of you brings an offering to (Yahweh) the LORD, bring as your offering an animal from either the herd or the flock. 'If the offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he is to offer a male without defect. He must present it at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting so that it will be acceptable to (Yahweh) the LORD. ⁴ He is to lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted on his behalf to make atonement for him. ⁵ He is to slaughter the young bull before (Yahweh) the LORD, and then Aaron's sons the priests shall bring the blood and sprinkle it against the altar on all sides at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. ⁶ He is to skin the burnt offering and cut it into pieces. ⁷ The sons of Aaron the priest are to put fire on the altar and arrange wood on the fire. ⁸ Then Aaron's sons the priests shall arrange the pieces, including the head and the fat, on the burning wood that is on the altar. ⁹ He is to wash the inner parts and the legs with water, and the priest is to burn all of it on the altar. It is a burnt

offering, an offering made by fire, an aroma pleasing to (Yahweh) the LORD.

Notice how the instructions are the same for a lamb. Verse 10...

Leviticus 1:10-11

“If the offering is a burnt offering from the flock, from either the sheep or the goats, he is to offer a male without defect. ¹¹ He is to slaughter it at the north side of the altar before (Yahweh) the LORD, and Aaron’s sons the priests shall sprinkle its blood against the altar on all sides.

We see that it was the people who were to bring the offering, kill the offering and then offer it over to the hands of the priests.

Likewise, Yeshua at the cross, in following Leviticus Chapter 1, brought and made his sacrifice and then presented it to the High priest of Heaven, Yahweh Himself.

Hebrews 9:14

How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Why would He offer Himself to Yahweh if Yahweh wasn’t the heavenly high priest? There had to be a high priest for him to offer himself to, and we see that he offered himself to Yahweh.

The temple that was in heaven was indeed what Moses saw for the instructions of the earthly one.

Hebrews 8:5

They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: “See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.”

Knowing that the instructions to make the tabernacle on earth was to be just as he saw in heaven, are we to believe that tabernacle in heaven didn’t have a Priest though the earthly one did?

Again, more evidence showing that Yahweh Himself was indeed the Melchizedek Priest. The first one. The only other with indestructible life. Who then passed the order on to His son.

There are only two priesthoods ever mentioned in all of scripture. These two priesthoods are the order of Melchizedek & the order of Aaron. Knowing that Yahweh was who Yeshua presented His offering to, which priesthood was God a part of?

The next question would be *“Did the Heavenly priesthood EVER minister his duties on earth before the Aaronic priesthood and even before the time we see this Melchizedek in Genesis 14?”* If so, this would be one more connection showing the Heavenly priesthood being that of the Melchizedek priesthood. The answer to our question is “yes”. We see it with Adam and Eve.

They both sinned. Thus, blood HAD to be shed if there was to be any hope for them.

Hebrews 9:22

²² In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

And knowing that Yahweh doesn't change, according to Leviticus 11, Adam and Eve would have had to bring their sacrifices to Yahweh just as Yeshua did.

Yet here it was in the garden of Eden. Making atonement for the sin of Adam and Eve and thus clothing them and covering their nakedness.

Genesis 3:21

(Yahweh Elohim) The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

The garments of skin could have only derived from the fact that an animal had to die.

Thus, the garments of skin came from the sacrifices for their sin. Again, there is no forgiveness of sins without the blood being shed for that sin.

Hebrews 9:22

²² In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

It would seem that Yahweh was indeed the Heavenly High priest who, out of grace and love, performed the necessary priestly services for Adam and Eve.

Many say that Yahweh couldn't be the Priest here because a priest is supposed to be the mediator between man and Yahweh. Many say "*Yahweh cannot be the mediator between Himself and another.*" We see the point. But if this is the case, why wasn't Moses the first High priest instead of Aaron? Wasn't Moses the mediator used by Yahweh? Did Yahweh speak to Aaron or to Moses? Who met Yahweh on the mountain? Who met with Yahweh in the tent of meeting to speak? It was all Moses. Aaron was not the mediator, it was Moses.

Who was the mediator of that covenant between Yahweh and Man? Aaron or Moses? It was Moses. Was it prophesied that there would be a prophet likened unto Moses or likened unto Aaron that would come? Likened unto Moses.

Deuteronomy 18:15

(Yahweh) The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him.

So Moses was the mediator and Yeshua, the prophet likened unto Moses, is the mediator now.

1 Timothy 2:5

For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

Hebrews 8:6

But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises.

However, we agree that a priest does indeed serve as a mediator between Yahweh and man for the required sacrifices. But what about the high priest himself? Who is to mediate between him and Yahweh? No one. There is no mediator between these two. So then, yes, Yahweh can be the mediator between Himself and another.

Likewise in the garden, there was no mediator. Yahweh, out of His love and grace, performed His priestly actions so Adam and Eve would not be eternally separated.

And as mentioned in our teaching titled *“Nailed to the Cross”*, the fact of all those who are thrown into the lake of fire shows all the more that Yahweh was indeed the first indestructible High Priest. How is this? We know that Yahweh is a righteous and just God. He is not a hypocrite. He operates in the same righteous laws that he gave us to walk in. That being said, everything He says and does is within the spectrum of His own law. Otherwise, He would be a hypocrite.

That being said, what gives Yahweh the right under his own law to just throw people who were disobedient into fire at the end of the millennium?

It's very clear when you realize that He is the first indestructible High Priest. Compare...

Leviticus 21:9

“If a priest's daughter defiles herself by becoming a prostitute, she disgraces her father; she must be burned in the fire.

We are all children of Yahweh as we are all descendants of Adam. And in the end, we either partake in the marriage supper of the lamb, resurrected as sons of God or we are the prostitute daughter that must be burned because of our unfaithfulness.

Again, showing forth Yahweh as the first indestructible High Priest.

Yet some could still question that if this is truly Yahweh as Melchizedek, why would He say “And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand.” in Genesis 14?

²⁰ And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand.” Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

It doesn't make sense right? Would God really bless or praise Himself?

But yet we know that He swears by Himself in Deuteronomy 32....

⁴⁰ I lift my hand to heaven and declare: As surely as I live forever,

And several times we see Yahweh boasting of His greatness. Is that not what praise is? Declaring the greatness of the Father?

Consider how He also reminds Moses and the children of Israel of the greatness of His glory in what He says in the surrounding verses of Deuteronomy 32:40

“³⁹ “See now that I myself am He! There is no god besides me. I put to death and I bring to life, I have wounded and I will heal, and no one can deliver out of my hand. ⁴⁰ I lift my hand to heaven and declare: As surely as I live forever, ⁴¹ when I sharpen my flashing sword and my hand grasps it in judgment, I will take vengeance on my adversaries and repay those who hate me.”

Plus, it is Yahweh alone who possesses the answers to every single question that he asks of Job in Job chapters 38, 39 and 40. Thus, He declares forth HIS greatness to Job. It is Yahweh alone who knows His greatness and awesome splendor. Who better to declare His own praises and blessings than He Himself?

In reality, the highest praise becomes the praise that God alone can give unto Himself. Sounds strange at first, but with all our efforts, our praise pales in comparison because our knowledge, understanding and insight of Him is SO limited in our finite beings. Thus, His declarations and praise of Himself is truly the highest as it is only He who knows the riches of His eternal greatness and nature with all the mysteries of His eternal word.

With all the other evidence presented for Him being Melchizedek, is it really that hard to believe that He Himself would declare His own blessings? We don't think so.

Yet how could he be the priest of the Most High if He IS the most high? Doesn't make sense right? As this is what Genesis 14 says...

Genesis 14:18

Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High,

Simply put, He is revealing one of the aspects of who He is. We already know that He is a High priest simply by what allows him to throw those considered in harlotry into the lake of fire as found in Revelation. But if He is a High Priest, WHO is He a priest to? To Himself, for His people. Remember, no one can see the fullness of Yahweh and live. But it's obvious that he has revealed aspects of who He is along the way. And so here we can see that He revealed the aspect of Himself as High priest for His people.

Again, according to His own law, the only way he can throw ANYONE into the lake of fire is if he is indeed a High Priest in accordance to Leviticus 21:9. Since He is indeed High Priest and there is no one above Him, it only shows that He is High Priest unto Himself Specifically on behalf of His people.

As we continue along, you'll find several other points that show Yahweh was indeed the first and indestructible High Priest of the Melchizedek order.

To continue here, we know that Yeshua is currently our High Priest in Heaven.

The priesthood He received is a heavenly priesthood. Telling us again that the priesthood in the order of Melchizedek was indeed not an earthly priesthood but in fact a heavenly one.

Hebrews 5:10

[and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.](#)

He was not designated to be a high priest in the order of Aaron. We know the origins and instructions of Aaron's order. However, we know little if anything of the order of Melchizedek.

And it is this priestly order that Yeshua is in. Melchizedek means Righteous King. Or more properly, king of righteousness. Melchi - meaning king, and Zedek - meaning righteousness. All of Israel's kings truly should have been called Melchi- Zedek ... King of Righteousness. And thus, Melchizedek is truly a foreshadow of Yeshua. The righteous king. At His return to earth He will be the righteous king in the millennium.

In Genesis 14 we see this Melchizedek, the righteous king, king over Salem. Salem means peace. Where will Yeshua, the righteous king, reign as King in the millennium? Jeru-Salem. The city of peace.

While on earth in the millennium, Yeshua will be the righteous King over the city of peace. While in Heaven He is the High Priest of the heavenly temple. He cannot be High Priest in the earthly temple as the Scripture clearly shows.

Again, this let's us know that the "change" in the law that was mentioned in Hebrews 7:12 was not the law on earth.

Neither was there a change in that priesthood. Because if there was, this point would be completely void and Yeshua would be a priest on earth. But again, we see that Chapter 8 of Hebrews declares the law and priesthood on earth have remained unchanged.

Since the priesthood and law here on earth was not touched with the making of Yeshua as a priest, what priesthood was there a change in? What law was changed as a result? Though this change did not affect the law given to us here on earth, thus not changing anything as given to us through Moses, it obviously changed something. Let's look and see what DID change.

Knowing that Jesus/Yeshua was made a priest in the order of Melchizedek, this is truly the only place a change actually takes place as this is the only other priesthood mentioned in the Scriptures. But what is the "order" of Melchizedek?

The word "order" here concerning that of Melchizedek could simply mean the next one in the

progression of chronology. The next one in line if you will. Or it could actually be the structure of the priesthood itself. The order, the process of how the priesthood is actually ran.

We can only find 10 references to Melchizedek in all of the scriptures. The first reference is found in Genesis 14:18. The second is found in Psalms 110:4. Leaving the remaining 8 out of 10 to be found in the book of Hebrews. Wow. Only 1 historical record of this name. All other references point to that one historical reference.

Let's look at this one historical reference.

Genesis 14:17-18

After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley).¹⁸ Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High,¹⁹ and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth."²⁰ And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

So, what else points this Melchizedek king of Salem to being Yahweh? As mentioned, we know that his name actually means "King of Righteousness" and he was King of Salem. Which actually means "king of peace" as Salem is from the same root word for Shalom. Peace.

So while being a priest of God, His name pronounces him King of Righteousness and he was the king of Peace. Righteousness and Peace. This is declared in Hebrews...

Hebrews 7:2

and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, his name means "king of righteousness"; then also, "king of Salem" means "king of peace."

Plus as previously noted, He was the only King who was also a priest.

And again, there is nothing to say that Yahweh could not have presented himself in the form of a man as mentioned in other cases though the Scriptures.

Let's look at some of the descriptions given by the author of Hebrews regarding Melchizedek and see how they compare to Yahweh.

Hebrews 7:3

Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever.

Think about it. How does this verse compare to Yahweh? Without father or mother or mother. *Check.* Without genealogy. *Check.* Without beginning of days or end of life. *Check.* Like the Son of God he remains a priest forever. *Check.* King of Righteousness. *Check.* King of Peace. *Check.* The more we look and think about it, everything just seems to fit.

And again, as it is now, Yeshua is our High priest in Heaven, not on earth. The priesthood He received is a heavenly priesthood. Telling us that the priesthood in the order of Melchizedek was not an earthly priesthood but in fact a heavenly one. But how did He receive this Priesthood? Hebrews chapter 10...

Hebrews 10:8-9

Previously saying, “Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them” (which are offered according to the law), ⁹ then He said, “Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.” He takes away the first that He may establish the second.

First we have to ask who is the “He” that is setting aside the first? Is it Yeshua or is it Yahweh? The first part of the text shows the important timing. It says, “*Here I am, I have come to do your will.*” Meaning what? Yeshua was not priest yet. The coming priest is not the one who sets aside the previous so he can take office. This is done by the existing priest. And who was that? Yahweh Himself. Yahweh steps aside to allow His son to take office.

If one wants to claim that it was Yeshua who was setting aside the first so He could be the next, then they are actually contradicting Hebrews 5 which says...

Hebrews 5:4-6

No one takes this honor upon himself; he must be called by God, just as Aaron was. ⁵ So Christ also did not take upon himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father.” ⁶ And he says in another place, “You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.”

The fact of Yahweh making his son the next High Priest of Heaven is a perfect picture of what Moses and Aaron did with Aaron’s son. Compare...

Numbers 20:28

²⁸ Moses removed Aaron’s garments and put them on his son Eleazar. And Aaron died there on top of the mountain. Then Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain,

Did Eleazar do this? No. He had no position to do so. Likewise, Yeshua appeared as Eleazar to do the work and it was Yahweh who set aside the first to establish the second.

But what was the “first”? As we mentioned earlier, the earthly priesthood was not done away with or set aside because Yeshua cannot be a priest on earth because of the law. And that aside, we know that the Levitical priesthood through Aaron was NOT the first priesthood. The Melchizedek priesthood as mentioned in Genesis 14 is clear evidence of this.

So what was the first? Or should we ask “who” was the first? And again, that was God himself. He set himself aside to establish His son as the next heavenly High Priest. The mere fact that it says He sets aside the “first” definitely seems to suggest that it was Yahweh Himself who set Himself aside to make way for His son as Aaron did since He was the first High Priest.

Who OR what would be the “first” that was set aside if it wasn’t Yahweh stepping aside to allow His son to take the role of Melchizedek priesthood? It can’t be the priesthood. It’s the priesthood that Yeshua is called to. Whoever it was HAD to be set aside so Yeshua could be the next High Priest in this order.

And yet it says that it was the “first”. So the High Priest that was in this office before Yeshua was also the first High Priest in this position? And who would that be? The first High Priest who Adam and Eve gave their sacrifices to. Yahweh Himself.

Yahweh set Himself aside so His son could take the office, the role of High Priest.

Remember...

Hebrews 5:4-6

No one takes this honor upon himself; he must be called by God, just as Aaron was. ⁵ So Christ also did not take upon himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father.” ⁶ And he says in another place, “You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.”

As the verse says, Yeshua did not take this position upon himself. We find He was a priest because he was the son of a priest.

We even find in these verses that the author here seems to be implying that Yahweh is indeed Melchizedek. Again...

Hebrews 5:4-6

No one takes this honor upon himself; he must be called by God, just as Aaron was. ⁵ So Christ also did not take upon himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father.” ⁶ And he says in another place, “You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.”

Meaning that they are indeed tied together and one and the same. First He calls Him His son and then that he’s in the order of “Melchizedek”. Thus, He’s in the order of Melchizedek because He’s the son of Melchizedek. Just like the son’s of Aaron are in the order of the Aaronic Priesthood.

Well, this concludes part one of this teaching. If you have found this teaching even the least bit interesting, then you will want to follow up with part two as well. We cover more material in part two and we believe you will find it even more interesting. We will dig into other points to the Melchizedek priesthood and also cover other views to this priesthood as well. We will also show how all this plays into the new covenant. Which many believe is already in place.

We hope you have enjoyed this teaching. Remember, continue to test everything. Shalom.

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

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