April 6, 2025 HEBREWS 7:**1-28**

"A Better Hope" "A Better Covenant" "Draw Near To God"

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

A "type" has a counterpart or an "antitype." The type prefigures the antitype. The type is: historical, real, and of God, but is imperfect and temporary. The antitype is perfect and eternal. This *type* of study is called typology. Moses lifted up a bronze serpent in Numbers 21:8 as a type of the lifting up of Jesus in John 3:14, for example. Melchizedek was a type of Christ.

Melchizedek was a type, some say he was an angelic being. Some say he was perhaps the pre-incarnate Christ, but 7:3 strains that theory by saying that Melchizedek <u>resembled</u> the Son of God. Bottom line, his identity is known with certainty only to God.

Jesus is our Guarantor of a <u>Better Covenant</u>. God made an <u>oath</u> with Jesus, He did not do so with Aaron. God will never change His mind! Safe, secure in the arms of Jesus!

Some Jews may have thought that since the Levites came along after Abraham that they were now superior to Melchizedek but king David makes it clear that he was not inferior to the Levites but actually superior to them, see Psalm 110:4 by David.

The writer returned to the theme he had introduced in 5:1-10, Jesus as High Priest which he doubted his readers would comprehend back in, 5:11. At the conclusion of his most recent warning 5:11-6:20, he now revisits the subject of Melchizedek's priesthood, 6:19-20. Chapter 7 now addresses and compares the priesthood of Melchizedek and Jesus in great detail.

Jesus' priesthood differs dramatically in that it was instituted with an oath, not so with Aaron and descendants. Because of this oath Jesus became the guarantee of a better covenant. The new order-superior over the old. The instillation of Jesus as High Priest is permanent. In this covenant Jesus stands as the Guarantor of the covenant, He guarantees that God will fulfill His covenant of forgiveness to us, and Jesus guarantees that those who are in Him are acceptable; thus making a perfect covenant. The author uses the word

"covenant" 17 times, this being the first of those. Jesus is the ultimate Priest and His life never ends, He will never need a successor. Gleaned from *Leon Morris*

Application:

By the blood of Christ Jesus we have a better hope, v 19. Jesus is the Guarantor of a better covenant, v 22. The first mention of this New Covenant by this name is found in Jeremiah 31:31. The Priesthood of Jesus is permanent; that is the reason our author writes that Jesus is able to save completely. Jesus is always there for those who receive Him as their Savior. Jesus is just the kind of Savior we need. So, daily lets let's draw near to God, v 19.