

THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS

Wednesday Nights Bible Studies

Saint Mary Coptic Orthodox Church of Colleyville

Melchizedek The High Priest (Hebrews 7:1-10)

- Melchizedek means “_____.”
- Salem means _____.
- The Lord Jesus is the king of _____ and the king of _____.
- Melchizedek did not inherit his priesthood but it was given to him by _____.

The Eternal Priesthood of Christ (Hebrews 7:11-25)

- Speaking of a priesthood according to the order of Melchizedek (Psalm 110:4) means that the Levitical priesthood was _____.
- “Who has come not according to the _____ of a _____, but according to the _____ of an _____” V. 16.
- Christ's priesthood is effective and will remain effective because God has _____.
- The Levitical priests were _____ but Christ is _____ (unchangeable priesthood).
- The superior priesthood of Christ provides an _____.

The Ultimate Uniqueness of Christ (Hebrews 7:26-28)

- Morally, He is harmless which means “_____”.
- Religiously, He is undefiled which means “_____ attached itself to Him”.
- The necessity of repetition has disappeared because the perfect high priest (_____) offered the perfect sacrifice (_____).

Study Questions for Reflection and Discussion

These readings and study questions are in preparation for next week's lesson.

As you begin each day pray that the Lord would speak to you through his Holy Spirit as you open yourself to his word.

First Day: Read Hebrews 8:1-13. Now focus in on Hebrews 8:1-2.

1. St. Paul begins with a backward glance by mentioning what we have been saying. What conclusions have we reached so far concerning the argument of the superiority of Jesus' high priesthood?

2. The idea of Christ being at God's right hand is also alluded to in Psalm 110:1 and the idea is connected to the Melchizedek argument that was based on Psalm 110:4. Please read Psalm 110:1-4. What seems to be the key concept?

Second Day: Read Hebrews 8:1-13. Continue to focus on Hebrews 8:1-2.

1. Hebrews 8:2 further defines Jesus as a minister in the sanctuary. Does the word that is translated minister – *leitourgos* in Greek sound familiar?

2. The word sanctuary literally means “holy things” but in the Old Testament it referred to a certain place. What was it? What was its significance?

Third Day: Read Hebrews 8:1-13. *Continue to focus on Hebrews 8:1-2.*

1. St. Paul uses an expression that clearly defines the new sanctuary: The true tabernacle. What is the major difference between the old and the new?
2. Could you think of any reason why St. Paul chose to mention the tabernacle and not the temple?
3. Read Exodus 25:9 and 40. What did the Jews come to believe about the pattern of their earthly sanctuary?

Fourth Day: Read Hebrews 8:1-13. *Now focus your attention on Hebrews 8:1-6.*

1. What conclusion could be reached in comparing the earthly sanctuary with the heavenly?
2. How different was the earthly priest from our heavenly one? How has He obtained a more excellent ministry? What better promises was Christ's priesthood established on? What do these promises mean specifically to you now?

Fifth Day: Read Hebrews 8:1-13. *Now focus in on Hebrews 8:7-13.*

1. Both Exodus 20-23 and the entire book of Deuteronomy follow the legal format of a covenant. What were these contractual descriptions of the relationship between God and Israel?

2. The time of the new covenant is placed by Jeremiah 31:31 and Hebrews 8:8 simply in the future, **the days are coming.** The first Christians read "the time has arrived." Could you think of why?

3. What three things were the new covenant that Jeremiah prophesied characterized by?

Sixth Day: Read Hebrews 8:1-13. *Continue to focus on Hebrews 1:7-13.*

1. Read Deuteronomy 6:6-9 and Ezra 36:26-28. How different is memorization from writing on the heart?

2. The new covenant also promised knowledge of God based on personal experience according to Jeremiah 31:34 and Hebrews 8:12. What are some steps that you have begun to make to reach God on a personal level?

3. The final characteristic of the new covenant is that God would no longer remember his people's sins. How was atonement made for our sins?

FOCUS VERSE

I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God and they shall be My people.... For all shall know Me.... For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more. Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Wednesday Nights Bible Study
At St. Mary Coptic Orthodox church
From 7-830pm

Live at www.suscopts.org

Uploaded to www.suscopts.org/stmarydallas

Questions, suggestions to stmarydallas@yahoo.com