

REVIVAL NEWS
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MELCHIZEDEK

By Paul Galligan

The first mention of Melchizedek

We first meet Melchizedek in **Genesis 14:18-20**. In the context Abram was a successful military leader, he had over 300 trained servants in his own house. He was obviously a military leader and had been to war to rescue his nephew Lot. On his return from the battle, he is met by this mythical person [or not so mythical as we are about to see] called Melchizedek, who is called '*king of Salem*', and '*Priest of God Most High*', that is El Elyon. He was a king and a priest! Melchizedek offers Abram bread and wine. This is the first mention of bread and wine in the Scripture. This priest Melchizedek blessed Abram, encouraged him, and in response Abram gave to this priest a tithe of what he had received in the war.

Abram exercised a priestly ministry

When Abram was called to go into the land, he built an altar (**Gen.12:8**). This is usually a priestly ministry. This was a place where he could meet with God. In **Genesis 22:6-14** we read of the altar that Abraham built to offer up his son Isaac. Finally, God Himself provided the ram for the sacrifice, but Abraham had to be willing to sacrifice his only son on the altar. Abraham was a great military leader as seen in "*the defeat of Chadorlaomer and the kings that were with him*" (**Gen.14:17**), but he is also called to this priestly ministry of building an altar for sacrifice.

Moses also exercised a priestly ministry

In **Exodus 17:15** Moses also built an altar. This was after a great victory over the Amalekites (**Ex.17:8-13**). Moses was a great leader but here he is exercising the priestly ministry of intercession, and after the victory he built an altar and called it YAHWEH Nissi [the LORD is my Banner]. In looking more closely at **Exodus 17:16**, the Spirit Filled Life Bible gives a wonderful insight into the nature of true intercession. The marginal note referring to **verse 16** says literally 'a hand is upon the throne of YAHWEH [the LORD]'. When the people of God enter in to God-inspired intercession, they are touching heaven and releasing God's power on the earth. Jesus said when "*two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them*" (**Matt.18:20**).

The order of Melchizedek

Melchizedek is next mentioned in **Psalm 110:4**. **Verse 1** gives a very clear prophecy of Messiah coming, in the context of Messiah coming as a great King who would rule in the midst of His enemies.

Psalm 110:4 says, "*YAHWEH has sworn and will not relent, you are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek*". In the midst of this Messianic Psalm, we read that Messiah is to be a Priest. God has spoken and will not change His mind.

A priest being crowned as a king

There is an amazing passage in **Zechariah 6:11-13**, which is a prophetic picture of the king/priest, who we find out in the New Testament, is actually Jesus the Messiah. The **book of Zechariah** is a transitioning book, bringing us from the Old Testament to the New Testament, so there are some amazing prophecies in Zechariah that give a picture of the new covenant being out worked.

Zechariah 6:11 – a crown is to be made and is going to be put on the head of Joshua, the high priest. A high priest is going to be crowned! Under the law there was a strict division between the office of the king and the office of the high priest. When king Uzziah went into the temple of God to burn incense on the altar of incense, God was angry with him, and struck him with leprosy, because he had transgressed God's law (**2 Chron.26:16-21**).

A branch will come forth

Zechariah 6:12 speaks of the Man whose name is BRANCH. *“Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH!”*. Where else do we read of the BRANCH? **Isaiah 11:1** *“There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots”*. The stem becomes a Branch.

In **John 15:5** Jesus says, *“I am the Vine, you are the branches”*. The Branch is both individual and corporate; it branches out. Also in **Jeremiah 23:5-6** the Scripture speaks of a king who is *“a Branch of righteousness”*, and **verse 6** says *“Now this is His name by which He will be called: YAHWEH OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS”*. This prophesy is repeated in **chapter 33:15-16**, with one slight difference, *“This is the name by which she will be called: YAHWEH OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS”*. Again, we see that the Branch is both individual and corporate.

A priest on the throne

Zechariah 6:12 *“From His place He shall branch out, and He shall build the temple of YAHWEH”*. The house of God is the *“church of the living God”* (**1 Timothy 3:15**). *“He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule on His throne; so He shall be a priest on His throne”* (**Zech.6:13**). The one who is the high priest is also now crowned as a king who sits on His throne, from where he will rule. This is something new! This is a picture of the king/priest. Zechariah is watching this vision as Joshua the high priest is being crowned as a king.

The Son has a throne

Hebrews 1:8 gives a prophetic word from the Psalms that is addressed to the Son: *“But to the Son He says: ‘Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom’”*. All of **Hebrews chapter one** gives different points about the Son of God. This verse says the Son has a scepter – a rod of rulership; He has a Kingdom and a throne.

A King/Priest

The third mention of Melchizedek in the Scripture is in **Hebrews 5:6** quoting from **Psalms 110:4** *“You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek”*. Then in **verse 10** it says, speaking of the one who is the *“author of eternal salvation”* (v.9), that He is *“called by God as High Priest ‘according to the order of Melchizedek’”*. This is speaking of Jesus the Messiah!

There is an awesome mandate and anointing to be released to the church in regard to the order of Melchizedek and the King/Priest anointing, but the writer to the Hebrews says that they had become *“dull of hearing”* (v.11), and they had *“come to need milk and not solid food”* (v.12). We need to be ready to receive the deep insights concerning Melchizedek. Jesus the Christ is a Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

The order of Melchizedek brings two ministries together

- **Priests** - offer sacrifices; bless in the name of the Lord; pray and intercede; minister healing.
- **Kings** - rule and reign; they have sovereign authority

We have this hope

Hebrews 6:19-20 *“This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”* The One who has gone behind the veil as the forerunner is Jesus who is a Priest forever in the order of Melchizedek. He cannot fail, He has gone behind the veil on our behalf. Therefore, we can have hope in our hearts.

Who is Melchizedek?

In **Hebrews 7:1-2** we find out that *“this Melchizedek, [is] king of Salem, priest of the Most High God”*. His name is also translated *“king of righteousness”* and he is *“king of Salem, meaning ‘king of peace’”*. We now get a much more detailed explanation of who Melchizedek is. He is the same one who appeared to Abram in **Genesis 14:18-20**. Melchizedek literally means *‘king of righteousness’*, so who could that one be? He can only be Jesus!

Hebrews 7:3 tells us that this Melchizedek has been *“made like the Son of God”*, and that he has an endless life; he has no beginning and no end.

In **verse 11** we find out that the traditional priesthood was according to the order of Aaron; only those of that line could be priests under the law, but here we see that the writer is now speaking of another priest rising *“according to the order of Melchizedek”*.

v.17 and **v.21** both speak again of the one who will be *“a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek”*, repeating this quote from **Psalms 110:4**. Jesus is the One who has been established as the High Priest by an oath of God, the Eternal One (**v.21**).

Psalm 110 is the most quoted Psalm in the New Testament. The One who is *“a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek”* is also ruling and reigning (**Ps.110:2**), and who is releasing judgments (**Ps.110:5-6**). We need to grow in the revelation of the King/Priest.

We have been made to be kings and priests

1 Peter 2:9 *“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people.”* We are a royal priesthood!

Revelation 1:5-6, on the basis of having washed us from our sins by His own blood, He has *“made us kings and priests to His God and Father”*. We are not ‘a kingdom of priests’ as many versions of the Bible state. The King James and the New King James Version state clearly that He has made us to be “kings and priests”. This is very different to being a ‘kingdom of priests’. We are not all priests serving in a kingdom. We have been made to be **kings** and **priests**; we are ruling and reigning as kings and ministering as priests. [The interlinear of Jay P. Green agrees “He has made us to be kings and priests”]

Jesus is both King and Priest

Jesus, our Messiah is both King and Priest, according to the order of Melchizedek. As King, He rules and reigns; as Priest, He offered the perfect sacrifice, and now is seated at the right hand of the Father, where He makes intercession for us; as Priest, He blesses us, and releases healing through us. Now He has made us to be kings and priests unto God.

In **Revelation 5:9-10** a song breaks forth in heaven and tells us that we have been redeemed out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation and He has ***“made us kings and priests to our God, and we shall reign on the earth”***. We are to be **kings and priests who will reign on the earth!** This is not referring to a ‘future’ kingdom reign on the earth, but it is referring to the very nature of the church and its members in the present time. The saints are to play an integral role in seeing the kingdom of God manifest in the earth in every realm of society and the nations.

Are you willing to be a volunteer?

Psalm 110:3 says, ***“Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power”***. Are you willing to be a volunteer in the day of His power? Are you willing to function in the earth as a king and a priest, not just praying and interceding but also taking dominion and authority in situations?

God is bringing this revelation of Melchizedek, the King/Priest, to fully equip the church in these days. So much of the historic church is becoming less and less relevant as they openly support homosexuality and transgender beliefs and practices. This is a great shock to all of us who love the Lord Jesus Christ as we face the reality of anti-Christian propaganda, and in some cases, legal steps to try to silence the Christian voice.

The Scripture clearly shows us that **we are kings and priests according to the order of Melchizedek**, and **we have spiritual authority and spiritual strength** to stand firm in these days.

Ruling and reigning with Christ

Romans 5:17 ***“For if by the one man’s offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in lifethrough the One, Jesus Christ.”***

Further to this, the Lord promises that to those who ***“hold fast”***, resisting and overcoming Jezebel, Jesus will give ***“power over the nations”*** (Rev.2:18-20). The promise to the one who overcomes is, ***“He shall rule them with a rod of iron; they shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels”*** Revelation 2:27.

**Jesus has made us to be kings and priests,
And we shall reign with Him in the earth!**