

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, February 5, 2006

Passage: Hebrews 7:1-28

Memory Passage: Hebrews 7:25

TODAY: From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 7:1-3.** Who is Melchizedek? Read Genesis 14. What was the situation in which Abraham encountered Melchizedek?
- (b) What did Melchizedek do for Abraham? What did Abraham do for Melchizedek? What do these two actions tell us about who is superior?
- (c) What are the two titles given to Melchizedek? How are both of these represented in Jesus (1 John 2:1; 1 Corinthians 1:30; Romans 3:21-22; Jeremiah 23:6; Ephesians 2:14; Isaiah 9:6)?
- (d) What does verse 3 tell us about Melchizedek? Is he eternal or is he a type picturing the eternality of a priest to come? What in this verse tells you this?
- (e) Who is Melchizedek – is he an angel, Jesus, or a type (representation)? What in this verse indicates this?
- (f) Read Hebrews 7:1-3 and Genesis 14. Talk about what Abraham did for his people? Why did Abraham give tithes to Melchizedek? How is Jesus like Melchizedek? How has He rescued His people (Matthew 1:21)? Thank God for sending His son to rescue us from our sins.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 7:4-10.** How do we know the greatness of Melchizedek? To what facts does the writer of Hebrews point us?
- (b) How does Abraham's paying tithes to Melchizedek indicate that his priesthood is superior to that of Aaron (and the Levites)? Why would this matter?
- (c) What is a tithe? Is this a requirement only under the law or did it come before the law? What have we learned from Genesis 14? What did Jesus say about the tithe in Matthew 23:23?
- (d) Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8. What principle of *rewards* does Paul use when he speaks about giving? What should be the motivation behind all our giving? Is God pleased when we give without this?
- (e) What does 2 Corinthians 9:8 tell us about our confidence in giving? What does God do when we give in this way?
- (f) *Family:* Read Hebrews 7:4-10 and 2 Corinthians 9:6-8. Why did Abraham give to Melchizedek? Should it have been the other way around? Discuss why we give to the work of the Lord. What does God desire from us in our giving? What does He promise to do when we give in this way? Pray together that God would give you a cheerful heart in all your giving.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 7:11-19.** In verse 11, what indicates that another priesthood was needed? What additional conclusion does the writer draw about this change of priesthood?
- (b) What tribe did the priests come from? What tribe was Jesus from? Why was this a concern for the Jews (2 Chronicles 26:18)?
- (c) In verses 15-17, what are some reasons that the priesthood of Jesus is superior to that of Aaron (the Levitical priesthood)?
- (d) What is the problem with the law (verses 18-19)? What does Paul tell us about the nature of the law in Romans 7:10-12? What then is the purpose of the law (Romans 7:7; Galatians 3:24)?
- (e) What does Paul conclude about the law in Galatians 3:21 and 2:21? How is the new covenant brought through Jesus better (Romans 8:3)?
- (f) Read Hebrews 7:19 again. What does the priesthood of Jesus provide for us that the law could not?
- (g) *Family:* Read Hebrews 7:11-19 and Galatians 3:21-29. Discuss the importance of the law of God. Why did God give the law? Was it enough to save us or change us? What was needed? How has Christ *changed* this by His new priesthood? Are we still under the law? Share together about why God's Word is special to you. Spend some time thanking God for giving us His Word.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 7:20-25.** What are some of the reasons that the priesthood of Jesus is so much better than that of the Levites?
- (b) What is the significance of the statement that the other priests were made priests “*without an oath?*” Whose oath is the writer speaking about (Psalm 110:4)? Why does this oath matter (Hebrews 6:13-18)?
- (c) Why could the other priests not continue to serve (also Numbers 20:28)? How does this make the priesthood of Jesus a better one? Why is he able to be the guarantee (guarantor) of our salvation?
- (d) Read John 6:39 and 1 Peter 1:5. What does this tell us about where our assurance comes from?
- (e) *Family:* Read Hebrews 7:20-25. Discuss the basis for our salvation and our assurance. What is the “*perseverance of the saints?*” What is the “*preservation of the saints?*” Which one guarantees our salvation? Praise God for Jesus, the guarantee of our salvation.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Hebrews 7:25-28.** What is another reason that our salvation is absolutely secure (also see Romans 8:31-34)?
- (b) How should his intercession for us give us confidence? How did the prayers of Jesus affect Peter (Luke 22:31-32)?
- (c) What do these passages tell us about His ability to keep us (Jude 1:24; 2 Timothy 1:12)? Who is He “able to save to the uttermost?” What does this tell us about the necessity of a response to the gospel?
- (d) Why is He able according to Hebrews 7:26-28? Make a list of these reasons. How does He differ from all other priests in each area?
- (e) How many times did the priests need to offer sacrifices for sins (Hebrews 10:10-14)? How many times did Jesus need to offer his sacrifice? What does this mean for those who believe?
- (f) *Family:* Read Hebrews 7:25-28 and Hebrews 10:10-14. Talk about the sufficiency of the sacrifice of Jesus. How many sins were covered by His death (Acts 13:38-39)? What else needs to be done to secure our salvation? Pray for someone that you know needs to know about Jesus. Pray for an opportunity to share the gospel with this person.

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Read Hebrews 7:15-28. Why is there a need for another priesthood besides the Levitical one? How is the priesthood of Jesus superior? How is Melchizedek like Jesus? What is the best part about having Jesus as your High Priest? Pray today for tomorrow’s services that God’s Word might be clear to all who hear.

DATE: February 5, 2006

PASSAGE: Hebrews 7:1-28

A Better Hope!

“a better hope, through which we draw near to God.”