Hebrews

7:20-28

The perfect Priest (Jesus) provided the perfect Sacrifice (Himself), in the perfect Place (Heaven).

Hebrews

When did the Levitical Priesthood come about?

Hebrews

Exodus 28:1

"Then bring near to you Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the people of Israel, to serve me as priests—Aaron and Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.

Hebrews

Psalm 110:4

The LORD has sworn
 and will not change his mind,
"You are a priest forever
 after the order of Melchizedek."

Hebrews

The coming of the Messiah would bring about the end of the need for any other lesser priests.

Hebrews

Where else do we find God making an oath and grounding the truth in His immutable character?

Hebrews

Hebrews 6:13-17

Hebrews

The expectation of God to fulfill His sworn word to Abraham is pervasive through all that follows its announcement in Genesis.

Hebrews

God brought His sworn promise to fulfillment exactly as He said He would.

Hebrews

Jesus is the fulfillment of the promised offspring of Abraham, and Jesus is also the promised eternal Priest of Psalm 110.

Hebrews

What does this mean for us?

For all who are in Christ, we reap the benefits of being heirs to the promises of God to Abraham, and the benefits of having a perfect and everlasting High Priest.

Hebrews

Deuteronomy 28:1-6, 15-19

Hebrews

Judges 2:1-5, 11-15

Hebrews

Under the New Covenant, God is the Covenant maker and the Covenant keeper for both parties.

Hebrews

However, the better high priest, Jesus Christ the Messiah, represents us now and forever because He rose from the dead.

Hebrews

How does knowing that you have a High Priest now and forever effect you?

Hebrews

It should foster assurance of salvation, compel you to obedience, increase your thankfulness, cause you to quickly confess sin, and rest in the work of your High Priest.

Hebrews

1 John 2:1-2

Hebrews

What does it mean to be saved to the uttermost?

Nothing lacking, full, complete, perfect salvation.

Hebrews

Your High Priest is alive and is interceding for you.

Hebrews

Jesus performed only one sacrifice and that one sacrifice was efficient to save all believers in all of human history.

Hebrews

Isaiah 53:10-12

Hebrews

Who is the Messiah making intercession for, and what is the result?

He represents transgressors, guilty, unrighteous sinners. The result of Jesus intercession for the sinners is their righteousness.

Hebrews

As a sinner, who do you want to represent you to the perfectly holy and just God?

Hebrews

1. The word, "priest" is used often in the book of Hebrews. The Roman Catholic Church believes that we still need earthly priests. How could you use the book of Hebrews, other scripture, and sound doctrine to refute the need for a Roman Catholic priest?

2. Put yourself in the place of the first century Jewish Christians who were facing constant peer pressure to return to the Old Covenant and the Levitical Priesthood. What would you say to those who, once again, were making the preparations for the Passover Meal? Here are some helpful verses, but feel free to talk it over before you look them up. Exodus 12:21-27, Luke 22:7-20, 1 Corinthians 5:7, etc.

3. Let's say you happen to run into one of your old friends today, and you mention that you had just left church and were encouraged by the scriptures teaching on the High Priestly role of Jesus Christ. However, your friend, immediately responds, "What are you talking about? Why would you need a priest to get to heaven? I'm going to get there just fine without one?" How would you explain his actual need for Jesus, the High Priest?

4. The holiness of Jesus is mentioned in Hebrews 7:26. Read these two other passages that emphasize the absolute holiness of the Son of God. Isaiah 6:1-7, Revelation 4:8-11

   What was the response of Isaiah to being made aware of the holiness of the Lord?

   What is the response of those in heaven to the holiness of Christ?

   As you look at these three examples of Christ's holiness, what should your response be?