

Looking to Jesus

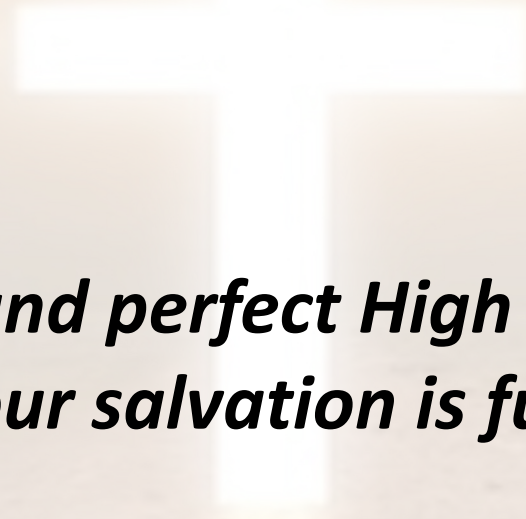


A Study of the Book of Hebrews

Looking to Jesus

“To the Utmost; Jesus Saves!”

Hebrews 7:20-28



Because of the permanent and perfect High Priesthood of Christ, we are assured that our salvation is full and forever

A Study of the Book of Hebrews

Looking to Jesus

“To the Utmost; Jesus Saves!”

Hebrews 7:20-28

Christ fully secured our salvation forever because his High Priesthood is:

I. Permanent

Hebrews 7:20-24

II. Perfect

Hebrews 7:25-28

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I. The Permanent High Priest (Hebrews 7:20-24)

“And it was not without an oath. For those who formerly became priests were made such without an oath, but this one was made a priest with an oath by the one who said to him: ‘The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, ‘You are a priest forever.’” This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant. The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ”

Looking to Jesus

The Permanent High Priest (Hebrews 7:20-24)

- The High Priesthood began in Israel with Aaron, the brother of Moses (Exodus 4:14-16; Exodus 28-29)
- The High Priest was intended to be a descendant of Aaron perpetually (Exodus 40:15)
- Many High Priests failed morally:
 - Aaron (golden calf: Exodus 32)
 - Nadab & Abihu (“strange fire”: Leviticus 10)
 - Eli’s sons (ungodly: 1 Samuel 2:12-36)
 - Annas & Caiaphas (condemned Jesus: John 18:13-24)
- The Aaronic priesthood ended with the temple destruction in 70AD

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The Permanent High Priest (Hebrews 7:20-24)

High Priesthood of Aaron	High Priesthood of Christ
Appointed without an oath (verse 20) - only by God's command	Appointed with God's oath (verse 21) - by God's command <i>and</i> His oath (Psalm 110:4)
Mediators of an imperfect covenant - inferred (verse 22)	Mediator of a better covenant (verse 22)
Temporary, by reason of death (vs 23)	Permanent, by reason of eternal life (vs 24)

***We can trust Jesus to secure our salvation forever because
His priesthood is permanent!***

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II. The Perfect High Priest (Hebrews 7:25-28)

“Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.”

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The Perfect High Priest (Hebrews 7:25-28)

- Jesus perfectly fulfilled the role of High Priest by living a perfect life (verse 26; Hebrews 4:15b)
- Because of his sinless nature, it was not necessary for Christ to make a sacrifice for his personal sins; rather, he *became* sin in order to atone for our sins (verse 27; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
- The Aaronic priests were weak and subject to sin; however, Christ was, is, and will always be perfectly perfect! (verse 28)
 - Consecrated: *teleioo* – complete, perfected

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Summary

Only an eternal High Priest can offer an eternal sacrifice to secure eternal salvation: to the uttermost (utmost), Jesus saves!

Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

Hebrews 7:25

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