

# *The Letter to the Hebrews: Chapter 4-5*

Fall 2021

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- Ch 1: Jesus, better than the angels; He is God the Son.
- Ch 2: Jesus, better as the Son of Man; He can represent us and sympathize with us.
- Ch 3: Jesus, better than Moses.
- Ch 4: Jesus offers us a better rest.
- Ch 5: Jesus is a better High Priest.

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“So we see that they were not able to enter **because of unbelief.**”

Hebrews 3:19

4

“Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you **an evil, unbelieving heart** that falls away from the living God.”

Hebrews 3:19

5

**“...*Today*, if you would hear His voice, **do not harden your hearts....**” Ps 95:7-8**

I quoted in Heb 3:7-8,15, 4:7,  
(alluded to in 3:13)

6

**“There I swore in My anger, ‘Truly **they shall not enter into My rest.**’” Ps 95:11**

I quoted in Heb 3:11, 4:3,5  
(alluded to in 3:18-19; 4:11)

7

**“So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.”**

Hebrews 4:9

I

8

**“For the one who has entered His rest has himself rested from his works...”**

Hebrews 4:10

**“...Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord...so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them.”**

Rev 14:13

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### Characteristics of God's word:

- Living
- Active
- Sharp
- Piercing
- Dividing soul & spirit, joints & marrow
- Able to judge thoughts & intentions

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“Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God....” Hebrews 4:14

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“Therefore let us draw near with confidence...so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help....”

Hebrews 4:16

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### Description of the OT high priest:

- Taken from among men; Heb 5:1
- Appointed; called by God; v.1
- From the line of Aaron, tribe of Levi; v.4
- He offers sacrifices for the sins of the people and his own sins; v.3
- Was to “deal gently with the ignorant and misguided;” v.2

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“The LORD then **spoke to Aaron**, saying, ‘Do not drink wine or strong drink, neither you nor **your sons**...so as **to make a distinction between the holy and the profane**, and between the unclean and the clean, and so as **to teach the sons of Israel all the statutes which the LORD has spoken** to them through Moses.”

Lev 10:8-11

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“Her **priests** have done violence to My law and have profaned My holy things; they *have made no distinction between the holy and the profane*, and they **have not taught the difference between the unclean and the clean**; and they hide their eyes from My sabbaths, and I am profaned among them.”      Ezek 22:26

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Christ is a better high priest:

- Appointed by God; v.5
- Is a Priest forever; v.6
- After the order of Melchizedek; v.6,10
- Took on flesh; v.7
- Able to sympathize with human suffering; v.8

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Heb 5:11 “Concerning him [Melchizedek] we have much to say, and it is hard to explain...”

“...**since you have become dull of hearing.**”

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### Melchizedek:

- Only mentioned in 3 passages in the Bible: Gen 14:18-24; Ps 110:4; Heb 5:6-11; 6:20-7:28.
- He pre-dates the Aaronic priesthood.
- He was the King of Salem (Jerusalem) & priest of the Most High God.
- Jesus is from the tribe of Judah, qualified to rule on the throne of David; He is a Priest after the order of Melchizedek = King AND Priest!

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### Lessons from Hebrews 4-5:

1. Keep your hearts tender to God's Word. Heed the warnings against a hard heart.
2. Emphasis on "today;" respond to Him today! (Gen 6:3)
3. The Lord wants us to draw near to Him.

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