

LEVITES, WE NEED TO TALK

HEBREWS 5:1-10

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: In the previous lesson you saw that you could go to Jesus your High Priest to receive mercy and grace. In this lesson you get a glimpse of the transition from the Levitical priesthood to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ. God appointed Aaron to start the Levitical priesthood and He appointed Jesus to end it.

HIGH PRIEST'S ROLE WILL REMAIN—ONLY BETTER. The Old Covenant high priest was chosen from men like you and understood what all men are like. His responsibility was to make it possible for the Israelites (and himself) to have a relationship with God. His work seemed endless, and it was never enough to clear the consciences of the worshippers. (**Hebrews 5:1-3, Hebrews 7:27, fn 7:27, Hebrews 10:1-4, fn 10:3, fn 10:4, Hebrews 10:11, fn 10:11, 12, Hebrews 4:15, fn 4:15**) *In what ways was the Levitical high priest and also our great High Priest, Jesus, like you? What does this mean for you?*

BUT YOU ARE FIRED! The Levitical high priest and priesthood of 1400 years (approximate) are no more. Your High Priest now comes from the Order of Melchizedek not from a descendant of Levi. Jesus, the Son of God, is the permanent High Priest who is able to save completely those who come to God through Him. As a permanent High Priest, He is eternally living and interceding for the believer. (**Hebrews 5:4-6, fn 5:4-6, fn 5:6, Hebrews 7:11-18, fn 7:11-17, Hebrews 7:22-25, fn 7:22-24, fn 7:25**) *How is Jesus a better High Priest than the Levitical high priest for you and me?*

NOW JESUS IS THE HIGH PRIEST! “All believers are sons of God, and they learn obedience by the things which they suffer...in incarnation, God the Son became obedient to God the Father. He learned experientially what obedience was.” Kenneth S. Wuest, Word Studies in the New Testament, Volume II: Hebrews, p. 101. As a man Jesus, like us, knows and understands what it means to suffer. Unlike us, Jesus experienced every suffering known to man and was completely obedient to the point of death. His perfect obedience and death on the cross made your eternal salvation possible. (**Hebrews 5:7-10, fn 5:7[1st], fn 5:7[2nd], fn 5:8, fn 5:9[1st], fn 5:9[2nd], Hebrews 2:10, fn 2:10, Hebrews 2:16-18, fn 2:16, 17, fn 2:18, Hebrews 4:14-16, fn 4:14**) *Why and when do you and I need Jesus to be our High Priest?*

As you daily study the truths about Jesus, in what ways is the presence of the Holy Spirit revealing to you God's majesty and glory?

