

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for May 31, 2015

Melchizedek's Priesthood Trumped Aaron's Priesthood
Hebrews 7:11-14

The author in Hebrews 7:1-10 highlighted the greatness of Melchizedek and his priesthood.

The author in Hebrews 7:11-28 explained why it was necessary for Aaron's priesthood to be replaced by Christ's priesthood which was according to the order of Melchizedek.

It was necessary because Aaron's priesthood could not bring about "perfection" Hebrews 7:11-14.

The word "perfection" (TELEIOSIS) here, as elsewhere in Hebrews, does not mean "without flaws", but rather it has to do with "arriving at a desired end" or "reaching a particular goal."

The desired end or the specific goal that Aaron's priesthood was unable to achieve was making people acceptable to God in such a way that they gained personal access to God.

Because of the failure of the Levitical priesthood to bring about "perfection", God replaced the Levitical priesthood with Christ's priesthood which was according to the order of Melchizedek (Hebrews 7:11).

He established the Levitical priesthood not to bring about "perfection" but rather to point us to Christ and His priesthood (Hebrews 10:1).

Based on the parenthetical statement in verse 11, the author wanted his readers to understand that it was on the basis of the Levitical priesthood that Israel received the Law and not the other way around.

If the Levitical priesthood is changed, then there must also be change in respect to the Mosaic Law (Hebrews 7:12).

May we by the grace of God be filled with grace and thanksgiving knowing that Christ our great high priest has made it possible to enjoy communion with God today and forever.