

Jesus the faithful Priest – one after the order of Melchizedek,

Amazing stuff in this week's study – I don't think you all need to go reading/searching for stuff beyond just reading the passages discussed in the lesson – which I think does a good job of the topic. Anyway below are some of the materials I was fascinated by and around which we can discuss on Sabbath.

1. Read Gen 14 and then focus on verses 17 to 24. What was God doing having a Canaanite as his high priest? What does that tell you about God?
2. Read Hebrews 7:1-3. Who is this Melchizedek? Is he really without mother or father and has no beginning of days nor end of life?
3. Some commentators see a play on the two kings who come to meet Abraham. One has come from the pit [verse 11] and the other from Salem [verse 18]. These two Kings meet us every day, one will offer us all things but in fact brings nothing the other will take [tithes] but gives you the God who owns and makes all things.
4. Read Psalm 110. What is David doing when he writes the psalm and says that there will be a priest after the order of Melchizedek? Where did he get that from? How did he know? What did he think the psalm would say to the religious leaders? It becomes the basis of Jesus' discussion stopping statement in Matt 22:41-46.
5. Now Hebrews 7:11-28. Why did there HAVE TO BE a different High Priest? What law was set aside or changed? Why?
6. Read Hebrews 5:1-10. Then narrow in on verses 8 to 10. How did Jesus learn obedience through what he suffered? How was he made "perfect"? Now read Hebrews 7:11-28 and ask how Jesus is the better high priest?
7. The SS Lesson says on Tuesday that "The function of the Levitical priests and their sacrifices was temporary and illustrative." Is he correct? Why would only the coming of Jesus as high priest and his death be the only way of salvation? How can that be certain?
8. Read Hebrews 7:16 and 23-28 What do these verses tell us about Jesus our High Priest? How do these statements give you confidence in your salvation?