



**THE PRIESTHOOD AND THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST Part 2 Pastor Gerald**  
**1.14.2024**

**REVIEW**

**Revelation of Jesus as Our Great High Priest**

**Hebrews 3:1 (NIV)** Therefore, holy brothers and sisters, who share in the heavenly calling, **fix your thoughts on Jesus, whom we acknowledge as our apostle and high priest.**

**Acknowledge:** to perceive, observe, understand to consider attentively, fix one's eyes or mind upon

**Receive Jesus as Our Great High Priest**

**Hebrews 4:16-17 (NIV)** Therefore, since we have a **GREAT HIGH PRIEST** who has ascended into heaven,<sup>15</sup> Jesus the Son of God, let us **hold firmly to the faith we profess.**  
15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

The word **empathize** here means to be touched with a feeling, to have compassion, to be affected with the same feeling as another. This is what sets Jesus apart from any other high priest before Him, from any pastor, leader, friend, or person. He is the only one who can look you in the eye while you're struggling with temptation, whatever it may be and say these two things, **#1 I fully know the temptation you feel and #2 I fully triumphed over it!**

**Respond to Jesus As Our Great High Priest** What is our **response?** I want to take you back to **Hebrews 10:2** **For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins.**

**THE HIGH PRIEST OF THE NEW AND LIVING WAY**

**Hebrews 10:19-31 (NIV)** Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, 21 and since we have a **great priest** over the

house of God, **22 let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.** **23** Let us hold unswervingly (unmoved, without wavering) to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. **24** And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, **25** not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

## **THE OLD TESTAMENT VEIL**

**Exodus 26:31-35** The veil of the tabernacles is described. It was a thick curtain that separated the two rooms of the tabernacle. The holy place and the holy of holies that was on the other side of the veil. The veil kept everyone out and kept them from approaching the presence of God except the High Priest who once a year would make sacrifices for his sins and the sins of the people.

But when the true sacrifice, the blood of Jesus was applied, His body replaced the veil of the old covenant, a curtain of rejection, and became for us a curtain of acceptance.

**Matthew 27:50-51** And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. **51** Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,

**Colossians 1:21** And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled **22** in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight

Instead of there being a curtain, the veil of the old testament, that kept God's people out. Jesus' body became the curtain that allows us to enter in! We can come close, we can draw near! We can all come into the presence of the living God, through Jesus who is the new and living way!

ARE YOU DRAWING NEAR? ARE YOU COMING CLOSE?

Not only are we accepted into the presence of God through the body and blood of Jesus, our Great High Priest, but sins are FORGOTTEN

**Heb. 8:12** For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more

**Heb. 10:17-18** "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more."**18** And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary

In the presence of our Great High Priest he doesn't bring up what we did or who we were, He says you are mine now and it's my joy to share my everything I am and all that I have with you

What sins are you holding onto and remembering that your High Priest Jesus Christ has long forgotten and cast as far as the East is from the west! An offer this good cannot be substituted with anything else!!

Hebrew 10:26 If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, 27 but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. 28 Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay,"[d] and again, "The Lord will judge his people." [e] 31 It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

If we reject the sacrifice of Jesus there is nothing else for us that can cleanse us from our sin. The only thing left for those that reject Jesus is judgment. There is one way, Jesus, He is the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the father except through Jesus (John 14:6).

This single truth must continue to anchor us as believers. There is a spirit of deception, the antichrist spirit, the spirit of the age, that would have us shrink back from this truth. That wants people to think of Jesus as a way among many, instead of the way, singular. Our testimony and profession has to be clear, Jesus and Jesus alone is the new and living way!

The perfect High Priest who offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice is also the perfect Judge, the perfect prophet, the perfect King, the perfect leader!

### **OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST IS ALSO THE KING**

**Zechariah 6:12-13 (NIV)** Tell him this is what the LORD Almighty says: 'Here is the man whose name is the Branch (the Messiah), and he will branch out from his place and build the temple of the LORD. 13 It is he who will build the temple of the LORD, and he will be clothed with majesty and will sit and rule on his throne. **And he will be a priest on his throne. And there will be harmony between the two.**

You see, in the old testament there were three primary leadership offices that served Israel. The prophet, who communicated the heart and voice of God to the people. The priest who represented the people to God and made sacrifices, and the King who led the people, defended the people, and provided for the people. Jesus was all three!

Jesus as prophet- **Acts 3:22** For Moses truly said to the fathers, 'The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you.

Jesus being our priest and king makes Him different from any of the old testament priests! This role of merging the office of priest and king together as one was assigned to Jesus!

### **JESUS IS HIGH PRIEST IN THE ORDER MELCHIZEDEK**

**Hebrews 5:5-10 (NIV)** In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father.”<sup>[a]</sup> 6 And he says in another place, “You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.”<sup>[b]</sup> 7 During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. 8 Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered 9 and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him 10 and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek (Psalm 110:4)

Jesus became a human who partake in suffering He learned obedience as a human through suffering ... this is good news it proves that our suffering too has been redeemed in the hands the Lord and repurposed to teach us that we too can trust and obey the Lord. The reality of Jesus being our High Priest in the order of Melchizedek was spoken in Psalm 110

**Psalm 110:2-4 (NKJV)** The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies! **3** Your people *shall be* volunteers In the day of Your power; In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth. **4** The LORD has sworn And will not relent, “You *are* a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.”

**Hebrews 7:1-3 (NIV)** This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him, **2** and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, the name Melchizedek means “king of righteousness”; then also, “**king of Salem**” means “**king of peace.**” **3** Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest forever.

**Gen. 14:18-20** Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, **19** and he blessed Abram, saying, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. **20** And praise be to God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand.” Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

Abraham who showed that our righteousness comes through faith alone (Romans 4) is the father of the faith for both Jews and Gentiles. And when he defeated the kings who came against him in Gen. 14 he was served by the priest king Melchizedek. This encounter is before the law is given, this encounter is before the levitical priesthood is established. It serves as a foreshadowing of the perfect High Priest who was to come. And what does Melchizeke serve Abrham, bread and wine!! If nothing else this encounter points to the day that we too would one day have victory over our enemies, sin and death and be served by the eternal priest king, Jesus Christ. This encounter points to the day that Jesus He would serve us the bread of His body and the wine of His blood! Forever bringing us close to God!

**Hebrews 7:11-22 (NIV)** If perfection could have been attained through the Levitical priesthood—and indeed the law given to the people established that priesthood—why was there still need for another priest to come, one in the order of Melchizedek, not in the order of Aaron? **12** For when the priesthood is changed, the law must be changed also. **13 He of whom these things are said belonged to a different tribe, and no one from that tribe has ever served at the altar. 14 For it is clear that our Lord descended from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. 15** And what we have said is even more clear if another priest like Melchizedek appears, **16** one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry **but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life. 17** For it is declared: “You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.”**18** The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless **19** (for the law made nothing perfect), and a better hope is introduced, **by which we draw near to God. 20** And it was not without an oath! Others became priests without any oath, **21** but he became a priest with an oath when God said to him: “The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: ‘You are a priest forever.’” **22** Because of this oath, Jesus has become the guarantor of a better covenant.

### **THE KING PRIEST WHO BUILDS THE TEMPLE OF THE LORD**

Zechariah 6 told us the king priest will build the temple

**Matthew 21:13** “It is written,” he said to them, “My house will be called a house of prayer, but you are making it ‘a den of robbers.’”

**Psalms 69:9** Because zeal for Your house has eaten me up, And the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me.

**2 Peter 2:4-6 (NIV)** As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— 5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a

spiritual house[a] to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

Jesus is the High Priest, Jesus is the sacrifice, Jesus is the King and Jesus is the builder of the temple!

**Psalm 127** Unless the LORD builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the LORD guards the city, The watchman stays awake in vain. **2** *It is vain for you to rise up early, To sit up late, To eat the bread of sorrows; For so He gives His beloved sleep.* **3** Behold, children *are* a heritage from the LORD, The fruit of the womb *is* a reward. **4** Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So *are* the children of one's youth. **5** Happy *is* the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, But shall speak with their enemies in the gate.

Jesus is building a temple of living stones that host his presence in the context of family! We are being invited into the family of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and are meant to be a priesthood under Jesus our High Priest that models and reflects His value for family through our ministry with Him.

**KING DAVID'S COVENANT FULFILLED IN JESUS** (The closest picture of a priest king in the OT)

**2 Samuel 7:11-16 (NIV)** The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: 12 When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. 15 But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me[b]; your throne will be established forever."

**Isaiah 9:7** Of the increase of *His* government and peace *There will be* no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

**Luke 1:32** He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.

**1 Sam 30:3-8 (NIV)** When David and his men reached Ziklag, they found it destroyed by fire and their wives and sons and daughters taken captive. 4 So David and his men wept aloud until they had no strength left to weep. 5 David's two wives had been captured—Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel. 6 David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the Lord his God. 7 Then David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelek, "Bring me the ephod." Abiathar brought it to him, 8 and David inquired of the Lord, "Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I overtake them?" "Pursue them," he answered. "You will certainly overtake them and succeed in the rescue."

This wouldn't be the last time David as the king wore priestly garments. In 2 Sam. 6 when David led the charge of retrieving the ark of the covenant, and bringing the presence of God back to Jerusalem (the city Melchizedek once ruled as priest-king), he is found dancing in the streets wearing the priestly ephod.

**2 Sam 6:14** Then David danced<sup>[a]</sup> before the LORD with all *his* might; and David was wearing a linen ephod. **15** So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet.

David was truly a man after God's own heart (1 Sam. 13:14, Acts 13:22) and foreshadowed the perfect Priest King to come. But David wasn't a man after God's own heart because of His perfections but because of His priorities. His first priority was to seek and pursue the Lord (who alone is perfect). David never pretended to be perfect. He just gave His life to pursuing the perfect one.

**Psalm 17:15** As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness.

#### **Psalm 27:4**

David was a man after God's own heart because he knew to run to Him after he sinned. Because the presence of God was still the most important thing to him after he sinned!

**Psalm 51:10-12** Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. **11** Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. **12** Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me

David was a man after God's own heart because he spent all of his **influence**, all of his **authority**, and all of his **resources** on establishing a resting place for the presence of God. He was a king who desired more than anything else to be near to God.

- **What are you spending your influence, authority, and resources on? As a parent, a leader, as a minister, as a business owner!**

**(4000 musicians) 1 Chron. 23:5** Four thousand are to be gatekeepers and four thousand are to praise the LORD with the musical instruments I have provided for that purpose.”

**(288 singers) 1 Chron. 25:7** So the number of them, with their brethren who were instructed in the songs of the LORD, all who were skillful, was two hundred and eighty-eight.

**(20 billion dollars on the temple) 1 Chron. 29:6-9** Then the leaders of the fathers’ houses, leaders of the tribes of Israel, the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the officers over the king’s work, offered willingly. **7** They gave for the work of the house of God five thousand talents and ten thousand darics of gold, ten thousand talents of silver, eighteen thousand talents of bronze, and one hundred thousand talents of iron. **8** And whoever had *precious* stones gave *them* to the treasury of the house of the LORD, into the hand of Jehiel<sup>[c]</sup> the Gershonite. **9** Then the people rejoiced, for they had offered willingly, because with a loyal heart they had offered willingly to the LORD; and King David also rejoiced greatly.

**1 Chron. 29:16** “O LORD our God, all this abundance that we have prepared to build You a house for Your holy name is from Your hand, and *is* all Your own.

WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS COME DOWN TO? Our Priest King Jesus is worthy of His inheritance.

### **JESUS IS WORTHY OF HIS INHERITANCE**

**Psalms 2:1-9 (NKJV)** Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? 2 The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed, saying, 3 “Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles.” 4 The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. 5 He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, 6 “I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain.” 7 I will proclaim the Lord’s decree: He said to me, “You are my son; today I have become your father.

**Psalms 2:8-9** Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. 9 You will break them with a rod of iron; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.”



**Ephesians 1:18** the eyes of your [a]understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

**John 16:14-15** He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. **15** All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He [a]will take of Mine and declare *it* to you.

**Romans 8:16-17, 32** The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, **17** and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together. **32** He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

The one who purchased us with His blood, who gave all Himself for us, He delights in sharing His inheritance with us!!!

### **JESUS IS WORTHY OF A PURE PRIESTHOOD WHO OFFERS HIM PURE WORSHIP**

One of the last prophetic promises spoken of regarding the Messiah is that He would come and purify the priesthood. For only a pure priesthood can offer pure worship to Him!

**Malachi 1:10-11** Oh, that one of you would shut the temple doors, so that you would not light useless fires on my altar! I am not pleased with you,” says the Lord Almighty, “and I will accept no offering from your hands. **11** My name will be great among the nations, from where the sun rises to where it sets. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to me, because my name will be great among the nations,” says the Lord Almighty.

**Malachi 3:1-2** “I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty. **2** But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap.

**Malachi 3:3-5 (NIV)** He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, **4** and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years. **5** “So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud

laborers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice, but do not fear me,” says the Lord Almighty.

**To refining and purifying is unto removing all impurities from that which is precious and valuable and made to be pure! What does a life that has been refined and purified by the High Priest look like? Obedience and holiness!**

**1 Peter 1:14-16 (NIV)** As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

Why wouldn't we want to follow a leader who was willing to die for us to lay his life down for us while you were at your worst

How could we not trust a man who loved us in our filthy condition, and was willing to wash our filth away in His own blood!

We are being asked to obey Him without good reason! His leadership is perfect!

His leadership doesn't start with telling us to take up our cross and follow Him, His leadership starts with taking up His cross, offering His life as the lamb slain, dying on the cross for us while we were sinners and creating, resurrecting with all power, forgiving us, cleansing us, taking out our hearts of stone and giving us hearts of flesh, and sending His Spirit so He could live in us, causing us to obey Him, from here...we come to know Him rightly and out of love for who He is and what He's done obey and follow Him!!

Disciple making plug!!

Obedience and holiness are forever linked

Matthew 22:37-39, Matthew 28:18-20

Purity and holiness looks like obedience motivated by love! Purity and holiness looks like lifting up our entire lives to Jesus declaring, I'm all yours, all of who I am, all that I have, it's yours, I'm yours, have it all!

**Altar call to let Jesus refine and purify us into obedience and holiness**