

## Hebrews 5:1-11 Jesus, our Kingly High Priest

**The spiritual principle that Jesus is our High Priest is one that I believe is greatly overlooked & largely misunderstood in the Church today -**

A.) The Reason for many is their upbringing- My Father was brought up a Catholic - In his early 20's he was offended by Priest and left church.

B.) Now I grew up knowing that a Priest had left a bad taste in my dad's mouth – Consequently I wasn't interested in that stuff.

1) Plus Priests were always portrayed in a negative way in Movies.

C.) Many great Priests – Spirit filled Bible teaching – Awesome Christ loving Catholics.

**I grew up here in So. Cal. where things are really casual & laid back – when I saw a Priest I never understood what the point was in outfits**

A.) Black - with white collars - looked very uncomfortable/ And those robes - **what was that all about** - guys wearing dresses/ WEIRD

B.) Then this idea of confession: The last thing I wanted was to tell some stranger - secret sins!

**In 1973 - I became a Christian - shortly there after started attending C.C. Costa Mesa**

A.) I was so excited when I walked into the chapel and saw Pastor **Chuck sitting on the stage wearing Hawaiian shirt!**

B.) Young people sitting down on floor - my kind of place/ Casual free flowing style / very Real – **very unreligious**

1) The word was taught/ the music was great

C.) This is where I want to Let others have that Priest stuff – If Jesus was around in 1974 – he would be hanging out at CCCM.

**Now Everything was great until several years later reading through book of Hebrews - verses / talking about Jesus as my High Priest**

A.) Remember thinking - *"I don't want a High Priest"*.

A Savior great/ Shepherd sure /- friend awesome / Lord - definitely / but Priest - no way!

1.) **That is religious I don't want to be religious!**

B.) Plus I Couldn't picture my Jesus in one of those **black outfits** - or wearing one of those fancy robes or with one of those hats like pope!

1) **My mind Jesus wore blue jeans; sandals & Hang ten t-shirt**

**C.) Well as I began to study further/ The High Priest in Israel was altogether different.**

1) I came to understand more of what it means that Jesus is my High Priest

**D)I became incredibly blessed to discover that His Priestly Role in my life has a lot to do w/ Him helping me in my walk w/ Him/ service to Him**

**E)But understand this would have been a radical concept in first Century ISRAEL.**

**The High Priest was the most important figure in the worship system of ISRAEL**

A)Among the first things a Jew might have asked another person about his religion were, “Who is your high priest?”

B) Who mediates between you and God? Who offers the sacrifices to atone for your sins?”

1) The answer to those Questions is a Focal Pt. Of the Book of Hebrews

**C)We do have a GREAT High Priest.**

1)Ch. 2:17 Learned He is compassionate{ Became a man to relate. Merciful and Faithful.

2) Ch.4:14 Seeing Him as our High Priest in Key to Holding Fast

3)Ch.4:15 He can sympathize w/ weakness tempted.....

4) 4:16 He has Provided Access into the throne of Grace.

**The writer Continues on this theme in Ch.5 where we are told that the understanding of Jesus High Priest key to moving into maturity! RD V.1-11**

A)Here in this chapter - focus is on the Superiority of Jesus over Aaron.

B)Aaron was the brother of Moses & the First Official High Priest over Israel / He was considered first & Best –

1)But here we are told why Jesus is considered to be far superior than Aaron

C)Note of 4 reasons in our text this morning.

**#1 Jesus has a more Prominent Priest Hood. He is a King and a Priest.**

A) V.1 we read that **The High Priest had to be appointed by God/** No man could appoint himself as Priest or even try to function in the Priestly duties

B) **King Saul; King Uzziah; Korah** - men who tried to function in that role - they were punished severely

1) Very special office; great responsibility!

C) In verse 4 we read that God chose Aaron to be the **1<sup>st</sup> High Priest!** He was called by God

**God established both the priesthood and the office of High Priest in the days of Moses (Exodus 28:1)**

A) All the priests came from the tribe of Levi / Levi had 3 Sons Gershon / Kohath / Merari /

1) The entire tribe of Levi was dedicated by God for religious service.

B) Now Although all priests were Levites, not all Levites were priests.

1) Those who were called to be the priest were from the family of Kohath

C) The non priestly Levites served as helpers to the priests.

1) Those from the family of Gershon: cared for the tabernacle's (veil), fence, and curtains (Numbers 3:25-26)

E) **Merari:** this family took care of the boards and pillars of the tabernacle and the fence (Numbers 3:36-37)

The Priest were from the family of Kohath: They served in the Tabernacle itself. and Aaron who was the first High Priest.

A) Their service had more to do with the service of Sacrifice, prayer, and intercession. Mediators between God and man.

B) The whole set up reminds me of how the Lord set up his Church. Peter in his 1<sup>st</sup> epistle refers to us as a **A Chosen Generation Royal Priesthood. 1 Pet 2:9**

1) We all have roles – Some serve like deacons – more practical ways – take care of this building – help with set up /

C) Others serve in Counseling / Administration / others in prayer / others in teaching – **THE BODY OF CHRIST – BEAUTIFUL**

D) So the High Priest – was chosen from among men to minister for men!

**Likewise, Jesus was appointed by the Father to role as High Priest. V. 5,6**

**5 So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him:**

**"You are My Son,  
Today I have begotten You."**

**6 As He also says in another place:**

**"You are a priest forever  
According to the order of Melchizedek";**

A.) Now to The Jewish listener hearing this idea of Jesus as High Priest would immediately **object** that He was from **wrong tribe**

**B) Jesus was from the tribe of Judah –Wrong tribe TO BE A PRIEST - LEVI**

C) The Point the writer makes here is that Jesus *was of a WHOLE different order* –

1)MELCHIZEDEK - here we see the **1<sup>ST</sup> significance** of His Superior Ordination.

**Melch is one of the most Significant and mysterious Characters in all of the OT scriptures. Very least a picture of Christ – Possible Christophony.**

A)Introduced to him in Gen 14 Abe was blessed by him & paid tithes to him.

Aa) Talk about more in Chapter 7 **Who he was is a very debated subject /**

B)But for the sake of our study this morning I want you to note what was very unique about Melch's Priest Hood / that order Which Christ followed

**C)He wasn't Just a Priest but he was also a King**

**Melch. Was on the scene before a Priestly ministry was official instituted by the Lord – called the Priest of the Most High God –Gen 14**

A)But He was also called Gen.14the King of Salem – which would later be Jerusalem in & the King of Righteousness in Heb.7

B)So he was both King & Priest & **Very unique**: no one in Jewish history held both offices

C) And when Abraham met him - recognized - impressed; paid tithes and Melch blessed him!

**Now Jesus being after the order of Melch. Was both a king & a Priest**

*This made him superior to Aaron*

A)Aaron's line Levites - were important in Jewish culture, but they were still subject to the King!

B)The priestly functions were not under the control of the King but in all other matters they were subject

1)But Melch was both King and High Priest and Jesus was as well – which made Him more superior than Aaron

**There is a two fold Significance of Jesus being a Priest and a King.**

A)As a Priest He represented the Father to us / As a Priest He offered a Sacrifice / as a priest He mediates between us & God / Continues to Aid

B) As a King He **supplies us w/ all the resources of the kingdom** all been made available to us in Christ

Ephesians1:3 ***<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,***

C)As a King He supplies us with what we need to live the Christian life.

On June 12, 1979, a young man made aviation history when he flew a pedal-powered plane across the English Channel.

Taking off from England, he flew for three hours, rarely more than 15 feet above the water. Finally, after covering 22 miles, he landed exhausted on the coast of France.

Now As dramatic as this was, man-powered flight could never be practical. Because A man simply cannot maintain the necessary energy output for extended flights. **FLINSTONES**

B)In the same way, **no one can live the Christian life pedaling** on his or her own power.

1)**Not by Might** ..... Zech. 4:6

2) Christ our King thru His Spirit -supplies us w/ the **resources needed** to make it to the other side

C) **And As KING HE WANTS TO REIGN IN OUR HEARTS**

1)As a King He deserves our Worship!

D)So #1 Jesus has a More Prominent Priest Hood – He is both a King and a Priest.

#2 His has a Permanent Priest Hood. {He is a Priest Forever v. 6 Also significant of Melch.

A)Those who were of the Priestly line of Aaron ministered only for a significant period of time 50.

B)Then they taught the younger Priest – and their priestly role ended by death or old age

1) Christ priestly ministry carries on – forever Why? Rez

C) **The writer here takes us back to Psa. 2 in v.5 a Messianic Psalm-**

1) *Today begotten you* = "Brought Forth" Paul explained in Acts 13:33, 34 **Ref to the Rez -**

D) When Christ died it looked as if His priestly ministry was over ! But He was Brought forth from dead!"

1) **He Rose & Now lives as Priest forever to serve the redeemed / saved**

E)He Ever lives – forever lives to make intercession / to Help & Give aid

#3 Jesus has a Perfected Priesthood. {He was perfected thru suffering. V.7-9 Not morally/ Minister

A)V 1,2 – We R told The Priest was taken from men to minister to men in order that **he could be compassionate W/ those who are ignorant & going astray.**

B) Now The High priest knew **experientially** about physical weakness/ because he was a sinner & had his own FAILURES

C) A true high Priest was completely involved in the lives of the people - He lived amongst them

D) He needed to live among men **to feel with them in their highs** and in their lows, so He could deal gently with them

*NIV v.2 Have compassion- as He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray,*

E) **To deal gently,” means to treat with mildness or moderation. { Not Harsh – Understanding.**

1) He has his own struggles and weaknesses.

**Ministers are not meant to live in Ivory towers separated from those they are called to serve.**

A) Among the People - My week – meeting with Pp.

B) If they don't their ministry will tend to be full of lofty idealistic ideas – not real.

C) God wanted his Priest – his representatives to be from among men – relate to man.

**For that Reason - Jesus left Heaven – came to earth to be among men – that He might be a compassionate High Priest.**

A) He knows what like to suffer; be tempted - deal with physical weakness/ even though he was sinless

B) In v.7 the writer of Hebrews takes us into the garden of Gethsemne –

**7 who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear,**

C) What was Jesus wrestling with in the garden that night? - **THE WILL OF GOD!**

D) Jesus prayed 3 times – father let this cup pass – sweat drops of blood - *Vehement Cries*

E) **Vehement Cries** = loud Boistrous & powerful cries  
1) Take this cup from me – NOT MY WILL BUT YOURS BE DONE.

**As a Man on that night Jesus was wrestling with God's will for His life.**

A) Be honest that is what we wrestle with the most – before saved – after saved.

B) Original sin – Adam/ Eve – Disobeyed God's will.



**Jesus as a man wrestled with the will of God Understand Jesus was not Wrestling with what the will of God was.**

A)But in his flesh in His humanity He was wrestling with carrying it out – because He knew what It would mean.

B)He who knew no sin would become sin – perfect would be marred –

1)He would take upon Him the wrath of almighty God

**C)He would be separated from His father.**

1)Jesus was wrestling with that in his Flesh – as a Man. Human Being.

**The Writer makes an interesting statement in v. 8 He learned obedience by the things that he suffered.**

A)What does that mean ? He was God he didn't need to learn anything.

B)Idea: **Not that he learned how to obey – but he learned what was involved in obedience as a man.**

C)As God He needed to learn nothing- but As a man he was subject to the Father's will

D) **But as the Son of God come in human flesh, He had to experience that which His people would experience.**

1)so that we would know He could relate to us as HP

E)**This is most insightful to us** – You want to obey God – follow His will –

1)Overcome the struggle with the will of God for your life.

**What can we Learn from Jesus example of Obedience ? 3 things**

A)1<sup>st</sup> in John 12 we see the **Motivation for obedience**

B)Jesus gives an illustration of a seed falling to the ground & dying – in order to bear fruit

This was a direct reference to what He was about to do – die & be buried – result would be much fruit – **the Church born**

**C) Also illustration for our lives – fruit bearing happens when we die to self allow God to bury us in Him / He is seen not us**

D) Now the very thought of this – DEATH that was awaiting Him – troubled our Lord's heart – **v.27 My soul is troubled Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour.**

E)Jesus at that moment was wrestling in His Humanity w/ what He knows is the Fathers will for His life – **This was the week** PASSION WEEK –

Ee)33 yrs of his earthly life is coming to a head – and as man – in his Humanity He is struggling.

Ever wrestle God's will? Uncertainty of it?  
Uncomfortable – Break up – get rid of this

**What does Jesus do – what does He say – How does He handle this struggle?**

**v.28 FATHER GLORIFY YOUR NAME**

A) **This is our Motivation for Obedience** / not my happiness / not my comfort / not my being glorified honored or esteemed that matters.

B) God's Glory – because I know that God is just/ fair/ sovereign/ - can be trusted.

1) I want to choose His glory over my own personal comfort, fears etc.

C) More than anything else I want God to be glorified in and through my life. – what is going to glorify him

**2<sup>nd</sup> consider the way of Obedience – Lk.22:42**

A) In the Garden – Again Jesus is wrestling – this is a few days after John 12 -/ night before cross

B) He prays 3 times – vehement cries – loud boisterous – let this cup pass from me ....

C) But *Not my will but your will be done*

**The way of Obedience is to surrender my will to His will – so that God can be glorified in and thru my life**

A) God is glorified in my marriage – when I surrender to His will – Love my wife.

B) Someone wronged you – you want to hold a grudge  
God says forgive –

1) He is glorified when I surrender – my will to his will – forgive – show kindness

2) You say like Jesus – *Not my will but your will be done*

C) I choose to Align my heart with your will.

**3<sup>rd</sup> The reward of Obedience** / Hebrews 12:2 *who for the Joy that was set before Him, He endured the cross*

A) He had His eyes on **what His obedience would accomplish** – Salvation it would secure –

B) His Joy is you & me in the Presence of God – cleansed

**9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, 10 called by God as High Priest "according to the order of Melchizedek,"**

C) His yielding to the will of God resulted in him becoming the author of eternal Salvation.

1) All Who obey - Believe.

**John 6:29** Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."



**C) So the Motivation ? Be Glorified / The WAY - Not my will ... / The reward – Joy set before Him –**

1) that is what we learn from Him about being how to obey

#3 He has a Perfected Priesthood.

**#4 He has a Powerful Priest Hood. {He offered a Superior Sacrifice.**

A) The High Priest in O.T. offered sacrifices **continually for people** - the fire on the altar always going / only covered not cleansed

B) Before offered sacrifice for people - **one for self!** V.3

C) Now Jesus didn't need to offer a sacrifice for Himself - He was perfect, sinless!

1) Nor does He continue to offer sacrifices /

D) **One Sacrifice for all!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

1) **Atonement – AT-ONE-MENT**

**Superior Priesthood**

He is both King and Priest.

**He was perfect in suffering and teaches us how to obey.**

He is a Priest forever and lives to intercede and help us.

**He offered the final sacrifice to make us right with God.**