



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Jesus, our Perfect Priest and King

SPEAKER

Ps Low Kok Guan

THEME Hebrews

DATE

23 & 24 September 2023

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

In Hebrews 7, Jesus is presented not only as the better priest and king, but He is our perfect Priest and King. In this sermon, Pastor Kok Guan led the the congregation to explore the reasons why Jesus is the perfect Priest and King, and gave us 3 applications from which we can draw from this truth – we can come to Jesus, call on Jesus and count on Jesus.

Jesus, our Perfect Priest and King

(1) Jesus and Melchizedek (Hebrews 7:1-10)

In ancient Israel, a king cannot be a priest and vice versa to prevent anyone possessing both governing and religious authority. Those who tried to do so were judged (1 Samuel 13, 2 Chronicles 26).

Yet, Jesus is our Priest and King at the same time. Firstly Jesus is high priest in the order of Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18-20, Hebrews 7:11, Psalm 110:4), who is the priest of the most high God and also the king of righteousness and peace, of divine descend with no beginning and end resembling the Son of God i.e. Jesus (Hebrews 7:3). Unlike all the other priests, Jesus will continue to be a priest forever (Psalm 110:4).

Secondly, Melchizedek is such a great man that even Abraham paid tithe to him (Hebrews 7:4), even though he has no genealogy in the line of Levi. Thus Melchizedek is different and better just like Jesus.

Lastly, Melchizedek blessed Abraham – only the greater will bless the lesser (Hebrew 7:6-7), meaning he is far superior than Abraham just like Jesus.

(2) Reasons why Jesus is the perfect Priest and King (Hebrews 7:11-24)

There is no perfection in the existing Levitical priesthood. Thus, there is a need for a different priest. A comparison between Jesus and the Levitical priesthood is summarised in the table below.

Levities	Jesus
In the order of Aaron	In the order of Melchizedek (line of Judah, line of kings)
Imperfect, mortal	Perfect, divine
Under the Law	Under the New Covenant
Priesthood without oath	Priesthood with oath (Psalm 110:4)
Many priests	One and only
Death thus no continuity	Permanent priesthood (lives forever)

Hence Jesus is the perfect Priest and King.

(3) Results of Jesus being the perfect Priest and King (Hebrews 7:25-28)

Jesus is able to save forever those who come to God through Him because:

- He is the Lamb of God who took away the sins of the world once and for all.
- He is holy, blameless, pure and set apart as the perfect Priest.
- He is exalted above the heavens as the perfect King.

(4) Responding to Jesus the perfect Priest and King (Hebrews 7:25)

Jesus is alive, present and interceding for us right now. But we are to act and respond to Him by doing the 3 things below.

- Come to Jesus - He is waiting for us to draw near to Him.
- Call on Jesus - He is here to help us with our problems and troubles.
- Count on Jesus - He is able to save us completely.

CONCLUSION

Jesus has come so that there can be a perfect, permanent and indestructible priesthood, so we can have a living hope and be whole again. God also wants us to be perfect and whole like Jesus (Matthew 5:48). When we fall, we can draw near to God and ask for forgiveness and walk in the freedom that is in Christ alone. Jesus is not only the better way, but the perfect way and the only way to God. So, we should always come to, call on and count on Jesus, our perfect Priest and King.

QUESTIONS

1. We know that Jesus is both our perfect Priest and King. How does this knowledge influence your relationship with Christ and how does it comfort you in your personal faith journey?

2. We learn that Jesus is able to intercede for us because He lives forever as our permanent high Priest (Hebrews 7:24-25). How should this impact your prayer life?

3. Pastor Kok Guan gave us 3 applications in Hebrews 7 - come to Jesus, call on Jesus and count on Jesus. Share how you would intentionally draw near to Jesus this coming week.