

Hebrews (7)

Heb 6:14 - 7:28

How many Bible verses did Abraham memorize so He would be able to trust God?

Vs 6:14-15. saying, "***Surely I will bless you greatly and multiply your descendants abundantly.***" And so by persevering, Abraham inherited the promise.

So Abraham heard the promise, believed the promise, waited for the promise, only saw a part of the promise, his son Isaac.

Vs 6:17 **In the same way God wanted to demonstrate more clearly to the heirs of the promise that his purpose was unchangeable, and so he intervened with an oath**

There is a difference between, "I promise to do this." and "On my oath, I will do this." God only needs one, so if He uses two, how sure can it be?

What is the purpose of the anchor? To keep the boat from drifting away from security and safety.

Vs 6:19-20. **We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, sure and steadfast, which reaches inside behind the curtain, where Jesus our forerunner entered on our behalf, since he became *a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek.***

"Jesus is our anchor" is the word of encouragement in the midst of this theological discussion. And behind the curtain refers to the Most Holy Place in the temple which is a representation of God's throne.

Who is Melchizedek?

Vs 7:1-2. **Now this *Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, met Abraham as he was returning from defeating the kings and blessed him.*** To him also ***Abraham apportioned a tithe of everything.*** His name first means king of righteousness, then ***king of Salem***, that is, king of peace.

It seems that the worship of one God goes far back even though it looks like it started with Abraham. This man is called the priest of the most High God. His name means righteousness and peace. And he lives in the city of Salem which is a part of Jerusalem. There are archaeological diggings that may have found this temple.

Abraham respected this priest and was blessed and this blessing would include Abraham's family.

Now there is a very key statement being made here.

Vs 7:11-12. **So if perfection had in fact been possible through the Levitical priesthood – for on that basis the people received the law – what further need would there have been for another priest to arise, said to be in the order of Melchizedek and not in Aaron's order? For when the priesthood changes, a change in the law must come as well.**

So what we have here is the introduction of a more long-lasting and secure promise.

vs 7:18-19 **On the one hand a former command is set aside because it is weak and useless, for the law made nothing perfect. On the other hand a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.**

This could be the place where some people will perk up. Why? Because something they thought was their security is described as weak and useless. It is possible to be anxious about that unless we look to the replacement. Hope is the handle on the anchor. That is how we get closer to God.

Vs 7:22, 24. **(A). accordingly Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant. (B). but he holds his priesthood permanently since he lives forever.**

Jesus is the better answer. The more permanent priest.

I think these verses establish the key principle of the gospel. Jesus fulfilled all the requirements of the covenant/contract that we call the Law. Like Jesus said, "I come not to destroy but to fulfill." So now we know what is right and wrong and what high value is expected to define righteousness. And we know it is impossible for us to do anything to acquire that level. So now we have Jesus who becomes our righteousness.

Vs 7:26-27. For it is indeed fitting for us to have such a high priest: holy, innocent, undefiled, separate from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. He has no need to do every day what those priests do, to offer sacrifices first for their own sins and then for the sins of the people, since he did this in offering himself once for all.

Here is another of those key points that flow through these verses. Jesus was our substitute for all of the sins we have done and the ones we will yet do. Jesus is the one who intercedes for as priest. Jesus is our Lord.