

"Appointed and Perfected"

Hebrews 5:1-10

March 3, 2024

I. Priests Must Be Appointed by God (5:1, 4-6)

- A. The role of priestly mediator between God and man can only be granted by God.
- B. God appointed Aaron and his Levite descendants to the priesthood.
- C. God also appointed Jesus the Christ to the priesthood, even though He was from the tribe of Judah.
 - 1. The same God who declared that the Christ would reign as King (Ps. 2) also declared He would be a priest (Ps. 110).
 - 2. Jesus the Messiah is a priest according to a different order than Aaron's, the order of Melchizedek (see Gen. 14:17-20)

II. Perfect Priestly Obedience and Effective Sympathy (5:2-3, 7-10)

- A. Faithful Israelite priests could sympathize with their fellow Israelites out of awareness of their own sinfulness.
- B. Yet it was their sinfulness that made their priestly work ultimately ineffective to provide salvation.
- C. Jesus, however, was always perfectly reverent and perfectly obedient.
 - 1. His priestly prayers for His people are always heard.
 - 2. He experientially learned the challenge of obedience in the most profound of ways.
 - a. This, along with His successful, lifelong battle with temptation, makes Him deeply sympathetic to us.
 - b. Yet He is also able to be the sympathetic source of our eternal salvation.
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