

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class
FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

Hebrews 7:11-22

Remember, the “answers” provided below are not intended to be complete. They are to give you a bit of guidance on key elements to highlight in the discussion time and to help clarify the intent of some questions in case it wasn't initially clear. Not every question has an “answer” provided. Consider the comments more as insight and guidance rather than right vs wrong answers.

Remember to ask follow up questions, such as “Explain that further,” or “Who else has an answer?” to prompt additional input from the class or “Where do you see that in the text?” to remind everyone to be getting their answers from the Scriptures.

❖ Opening Prayer (3 min)

❖ Discussion (52 min)

Read Hebrews 7:11-22 aloud.

1. What perfection is being spoken of in v. 11? (Look through the rest of chapter 7 as well)
 - Perfection before God
2. What was the priesthood's relationship to the Law according to v. 11?
 - On the basis of the priesthood the people received the Law
3. Is the assumption in v. 11 that perfection was through the Levitical priesthood?
 - No – if so there would no need for a Melchizedekian priest
4. What does the imperfection of the Levitical priesthood lead the author to conclude?
 - There is a need for a non-Aaronic priest, a Melchizedekian priest
5. What must happen if the priesthood were to change according to v. 12?
 - The law must change
6. Why must there be a change of law if the priesthood is changed?
 - So much of the law depends on the priests and describes their function so if the priests were to change, the law must as well
7. What is the change in priesthood that has taken place according to vv. 13-14?
 - A priest has arisen from the tribe of Judah, not the tribe of Levi
8. What is clearer according to v. 15?
 - That there must be a change in law since a Melchizedekian priest has arisen

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9. How is the other priest who arises described in v. 15-16?
- He is according to the likeness of Melchizedek
 - He is a priest not on the basis of a law of physical requirement
 - He is a priest according to the power of an indestructible life
10. What is the difference of this priest in vv. 15-17 and a Levitical priest?
- One is a Levite, one is in the line of Melchizedek
 - One is a priest simply by biology (that he is descended from a certain line), one is a priest by the power of his own eternal life
 - One is a priest temporarily, one is a priest forever
11. Where does the author quote from in v. 17? What is he highlighting from this passage here?
- Psalm 110:4
 - The eternity of his priesthood
12. What does the author mean by “set aside” in v. 18?
- Invalidating, annulling, removing
13. What is the former commandment that is set aside?
- The Law (v. 19) – the old covenant
14. Why is it set aside according to v. 18-19?
- It was weak and useless, it made nothing perfect
15. What replaces the law that is set aside? How is it described?
- A better hope through which we draw near to God
16. What is the better hope through which we draw near to God? How does this chapter as a whole answer that?
- A better covenant v. 22 mediated through a better priest v. 23-28
 - Also called a new covenant in 8:13
17. What is being highlighted in vv. 20-21?
- The oathlessness of the Levitical priesthood, but the divine oath given to the Son as Melchizedekian priest

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18. Why is the oath from the Father to Son concerning his priesthood being mentioned in vv. 20-21?
(Look to v. 22)
- To show that Jesus is a better priest mediating a better covenant
19. What is the main point the author is communicating in this passage?
- Jesus is a superior priest of a superior covenant
20. What are some of the theological implications of what this passage is saying?
- The annulling of the Old Covenant is theologically significant
 - The priesthood is changed
 - We needn't look to anyone or anything else other than Christ
21. How should you personally respond to this passage?

❖ Closing Prayer (5 min)