

Hebrews 5:1-14 **Human High Priests / High Priestly Order of Melchizedek**

Weakness of Human High Priest

¹ For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. ² He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also beset by weakness. ³ Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins. ⁴ And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was.

Divine High Priesthood of Christ – Order of Melchizedek

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";

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, ⁸ though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. 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," ¹¹ of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.

Needed Maturity to Discern both Good and Evil

¹² For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. ¹³ For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. ¹⁴ But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Weakness of Human High Priest [Hebrews 5:1-4]

- ✠ God appointed men to act as High Priests for things pertaining to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.
- ✧ Because the High Priest is a man, he can have compassion on those he ministers for.
- ✧ The High Priest serves to help those who are ignorant and going astray.
- ✧ The High Priest is compassionate because he himself is beset by human weakness.
- ✧ Because the High Priest is human, he is required to offer sacrifices for sins of himself, and of the people.
- ✧ The appointment to the office of High Priest is not decided by men, but by God Who appoints according to His own will, just as He chose and appointed Aaron.

Divine High Priesthood of Christ – Order of Melchizedek [Hebrews 5:5-11]

✚ Being in the form of a man, Christ did not exalt Himself to become High Priest, it was God Who said to Jesus:

"You are My Son, Today I have begotten You." [Psalm 2:7, Acts 13:33, Hebrews 1:5, 5:5]

✚ As He also says in another place:

"You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek"; [Psalm 110:4, Hebrews 5:6, 10, 6:20, 7:11, 17]

✚ Speaking of Christ Jesus, Paul describes how Jesus fulfilled the appointment God gave Him.

✧ Jesus, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to God the Father Who was able to save Him (Jesus) from death, and was heard because of His godly fear. [Hebrews 5:7]

✧ Though God the Father heard the prayer of Jesus and was able to save Jesus from death, yet He allowed Jesus to die on the cross for the sins of the world as it was decided before He began creation of the earth. [John 17:5, 24, Ephesians 1:3-4, 1 Peter 1:16-20]

✧ Though Jesus was the only begotten Son of God, he learned obedience by the things He suffered.

✧ As a Spirit being, God the Word knew obedience from God's viewpoint but not by **experience** as a human-being until He took on the body of flesh in the person of Jesus. Therefore, becoming a man was a **learning experience** for Him which found its ultimate fullness by the things He suffered.

✧ God, Who could not die, felt **incomplete in experience** until in a physical body He could die, and that was not to be a personal experience only to see what it was like, but in the experience God purposed to provide a way to eternal life for mankind as a result of His death, defeating Satan in the process. [Hebrews 2:14-15]

✧ Having been **perfected** (completed) **by the experience of death**, He (Jesus, God the Word) became the author of Eternal Salvation to all who obey Him. This goes beyond belief and oral acquiescence only, and demonstrates the changed life required in the believers. "Teach them to obey all I have commanded you." [Matthew 28:20]

✧ God the Father declared Jesus (God the Word) as "**High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek**," of whom there is much yet to say.

✧ To explain the relationship between Christ and Melchizedek is difficult because you have become dull of hearing.

Needed Maturity to Discern both Good and Evil [Hebrews 5:12-14]

✚ Christian maturity is a growing experience in which believers are expected to grow in knowledge of truth to the point where they are able to **discern** good from evil, truth from error, true doctrine from false doctrine. Then with discernment, they are expected to be able to teach others.

✧ If we remain in a state where we are only able to receive repetitive relearning of the same basic fundamentals (first principles) of the faith we are stunted in our growth and will remain as children and never mature to a point where we are able to **rightly divide Scripture the Word of Truth**. [Hebrews 5:12-13, 6:1-3]

✧ As Paul wrote to Timothy:

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth**. [2 Timothy 2:15 NKJV]

✧ The way to maturity is to learn to skillfully use the word of righteousness.

✧ We gain that skill by use, as we exercising our senses through diligent practice searching out the answers through the Scriptures for discernment of right and wrong, good and evil, Truth and deceiving error. [[Hebrews 5:14](#), [Acts 17:11](#)]