

A Perfect High Priest

Leviticus 8:1-10, Hebrews

4:14-16, Hebrews 5:1-10,

Hebrews 7:23-28

The Corruption of Earthly Priests

- The priesthood was not something man came up with, it was God's design.
- The priests were just as sinful as the people they represented.
- Being set apart did not make the priests sinless.
- The priests themselves were not the solution since they were just as sinful, just as unworthy, just as in need of atonement as the people they served.

Priests Were Limited In Their Ministry

- The priests' work was never finished.
- The priests' ministry could never remove sin; it could only temporarily cover it.
- The priests were constantly standing, sacrificing, offering, and interceding because sin was never truly dealt with.
- The entire sacrificial system was designed to show our desperate need for something greater.
- The people needed a greater priest.

Jesus, Our Perfect High Priest

- Jesus Christ is the perfect mediator between God and man.
- Even though Jesus is fully God, He was also fully man, and because He was fully man, He understands us.
- Jesus knows what it is like to be tired and hungry; He knows what it is like to feel grief, loss, betrayal, and temptation.
- Jesus walked the same broken world we walk, but He remained holy.
- Because Jesus knows our struggles personally, He can represent us perfectly before the Father.

Jesus Secures Our Access

- The ministry of the priests of Israel was always temporary.
- Jesus' priesthood never ends.
- Earthly priests could only offer temporary atonement; Jesus is able to save forever.
- Unlike the earthly priests who had to offer sacrifices daily, Jesus' saving work is complete.
- Because Jesus' sacrifice was final, His intercession is eternal.

Conclusion

- If you are in Christ, your salvation is secure.
- If you have trusted in Jesus, your sins are fully atoned for.
- You do not have to work to earn His approval—you already have it.
- Jesus, our Perfect High Priest, has secured our access once and for all!