

Read Hebrews 7

Reflection:

Sometimes when you are working on a particular subject or studying a topic, you will come across something you do not understand or know. Maybe it is a name or a place. So, you might go the relevant reference materials and look it up. Suddenly, from a small question about a single person or topic, a whole new area of thought, history, or culture opens up in front of you. You can get a view of the wide sweep of the ancient world, and when you come back to the original task, you carry with you all the information about that one person or topic. What started off as a small puzzle in the middle of your work has turned into a lighthouse sending rays of light flashing over the rest of the subject.

Chapter 7 begins with a discussion of Melchizedek, with what seems at first a technical, almost bizarre discussion of a short reference in Genesis, but leads us to a place where we understand why the author went down this path.

Question:

- Talk about a time when you discovered a “better” way to do something. How did you feel about this discovery?
- The author of Hebrews quotes Psalm 110 to say Jesus was appointed by God as a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek. What do we learn about Melchizedek from Hebrews 7:1-10?
- How does 7:4-10 make the case the Melchizedek’s priesthood is superior to Levi’s?
- To this point, being a priest and king were entirely different roles, so this was a startling claim. In what different ways or areas of your life do you gain assurance knowing Jesus is king but also our high priest?
- How do we tend to forget the centrality of Jesus in our faith?

Pray:

Sit in silence for a few moments and consider God’s promises. Ask God to speak those promises to you and then listen for the voice of God.

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