

Priesthood of the Believer

Type of Priesthood of Jesus (Melchizedekian – i.e. “King-Priest”)

Psa 110:4⁴ The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Heb 7:1-3¹ For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; (Gen 14:18-20)² To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;³ Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.

Heb 7:14-17¹⁴ For *it is* evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.¹⁵ And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest,¹⁶ Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life.¹⁷ For he testifieth, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

Jesus' Priesthood is Pictured in Zechariah with two men who together laid the foundation of the 2nd temple

1. **Zerubbabel** – from the tribe of Judah (the kingly tribe) who is part of a priestly service vision:

Zec 4:1-3¹ And the angel that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep,² And said unto me, What seest thou? **And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof:**³ And two olive trees by it, one upon the right *side* of the bowl, and the other upon the left *side* thereof.

Zec 4:5-9⁵ Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord.⁶ Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, **This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel,** saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.⁷ Who *art* thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel *thou shalt become* a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone *thereof* with shoutings, *crying*, Grace, grace unto it.⁸ Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,⁹ **The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you.**

2. **Joshua the High Priest** (The priestly tribe) who's given kingly crowns:

Zec 6:9-13⁹ And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,¹⁰ Take of *them of* the captivity, *even* of Heldai, of Tobijah, and of Jedaiah, which are come from Babylon, and come thou the same day, and go into the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah;¹¹ **Then take silver and gold, and make crowns, and set them upon the head of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest;**¹² And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, **Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH** (“Jesus” cf. Zec 3:8; Jer 23:5-6, Jer 33:15-16); and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:¹³ **Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.**

Type of Priesthood of the Believer: Same as Jesus (Melchizedekian – i.e. “King-Priest”)

Rom 8:16-17 ¹⁶ The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: ¹⁷ **And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ;** if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together.

Thus:

Rev 1:5-6 ⁵ And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, ⁶ **And hath made us kings and priests** unto God and his Father; to him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Rev 5:10 ¹⁰ And hast made us unto our **God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.**

Rev 20:6 ⁶ Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be **priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.**

Our Priesthood is demonstrated in 3 ways: Our Praises, Our Prayers, Our Person

1. Praises

1 Pet 2:5 ⁵ Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, **an holy priesthood**, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

Hos 14:2 ² Take with you words, and turn to the LORD: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive *us* graciously: **so will we render the calves of our lips**

Heb 13:15 ¹⁵ By him therefore let us offer **the sacrifice of praise** to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

Psa 107:21-22 ²¹ Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men! ²² And **let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving**, and declare his works with rejoicing.

Psa 50:23 ²³ **Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me:** and to him that ordereth *his* conversation *aright* will I shew the salvation of God.

2. Prayers

Rev 5:8 ⁸ And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four *and* twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, **and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints**

Rev 8:2-4 ² And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. ³ And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. ⁴ And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

3. Person

Rom 12:1 ¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye **present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.**

1 Pet 2:9 ⁹ But ye *are* a chosen generation, **a royal priesthood**, an holy nation, a peculiar people; **that ye should shew forth the praises** of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Cf. Mt 5:13 Let your light shine...that they might see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.