

**Sermon Quotes**  
**May 28 , 2006**  
**Study of Hebrews- Jesus and Melchizedek**

**Hebrews 5:9-11** "...He (Jesus) became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, (10) being designated by God a high priest **after the order of Melchizedek**. (11) About this we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing."

**Genesis 22:16-17** "By Myself I have **sworn**, declares the LORD, because you [Abraham] have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens, and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies."

"The rabbis wrote much about Melchizedek. In fact, Melchizedek was a rather problematic figure. Who was the greatest of the patriarchs, according to the rabbis? Abraham. But you have a problem when you turn to Genesis 14, because Abraham, the greatest of the patriarchs, is being blessed by someone else and that someone else is Melchizedek. And as the author of Hebrews points out in verse 7, without any dispute the lesser is blessed by the greater. So the passage clearly indicates that Melchizedek was greater than Abraham in some respect, even though Abraham had received the promises. And so the rabbis really wrestled with the issue of who is this Melchizedek and what do we do with this passage?"

—Ligon Duncan

"...The point of the book of Hebrews is that Jesus Christ, God's Son, has not just come to fit into the earthly system of priestly ministry as the best and final human priest, but he has come **to fulfill and put an end** to that system and to orient all our attention on Himself ministering for us **in heaven**. The Old Testament tabernacle and priests and sacrifices were shadows. Now the reality has come and the shadows pass away."

—John Piper

"Reader, would you know the security for the perseverance of God's own people? Would you know why it is that Christ's sheep shall never perish, and none shall ever pluck them out of His hand? It is a miraculous thing. When you look at the believer's heart, listen to the believer's prayers, mark the believer's confessions,—when you see how a just man may fall, sometimes seven times,—when you see, with all this, the believer's perseverance, it is a marvel indeed. To carry a candle upon a stormy night, when winds and gusty blasts are blowing from every quarter,—to carry it still burning, steadily burning, along the street,—this is a wonderful achievement. To go over a stormy sea in a little boat,—to mount wave after wave, and not see them breaking over the boat and overturning it,—this is well near a miracle...But, after all, what is this, but the life, and history, and experience of every true Christian? Though he falls, he rises again; though he is cast down, he is not destroyed...What is the secret of it all? It is the continual intercession of a mighty Friend at the right hand of God: a Friend that never slumbers and never sleeps: a Friend who cares for the believer morning, noon, and night. The intercession of Christ is the secret of the perseverance of the Christian."

—JC Ryle