

JOURNEY WAYPOINTS

April 28 - May 4, 2024

A stop along the journey to study, share, and support one another while we learn the way of Jesus.

This Week's Big Idea

Jesus is Greater than the Levitical priesthood, because He brings a better covenant and is our eternal priest.

Scripture & Study

KEY TEXT: Hebrews 6:13 - 7:28 [Click here to access this week's scriptures](#)

We were made to walk with God, to represent Him perfectly to Creation, and to hold Creation in perfect submission before God. We were meant to reflect Him flawlessly in our own unique characteristics and ways. In other words, we were created to be holy priests. However, humanity failed and chose to pursue our own desires rather than trust and walk with God. This failure left us with shame, condemnation, and a feeling of being unable to walk with Him anymore.

Through Levi, a descendant of Abraham, humanity's role as priests was again brought to the forefront. The priests would represent creation to God and God to creation. In the person of the high priest, the entire nation of Israel would be represented, allowing them to enter into the presence of God. Yet, due to our fallen state, the call to holiness was a challenge. Therefore, the priests themselves were unable to fully represent humanity to God, and they were also flawed in their representation of God to humanity. The identity that the Levites carried as priests was powerful but fell short of providing for all people.

In Jesus, God came to us and met us in the midst of our brokenness. He took upon Himself our flesh, with all its weakness. Jesus suffered, was tempted, and experienced the weakness of humanity, yet He did so in perfect obedience to His Father. He can therefore fully represent us to God and, as the perfect image, reflect God back to us completely. In Him, we are brought into the presence of God and participate in His response of obedience to His Father. He IS before Abraham (John 8:58); therefore, He is greater than the identity and promise given to and through Abraham. Jesus is Greater than our own efforts to come to God, and He is Greater than anything that would identify us according to our natural heritage or actions.

Discussion Questions

- We generally, and correctly, think of Jesus as God = perfect, holy, powerful, etc. But it would seem that we don't often think about what it means that He is man. So, what does it mean that Jesus is fully us?
- Why do we often forget to think of Jesus as having lived and experienced our weakness?
- What are ways that we identify ourselves that forget that Jesus is before and after our earthly identities? What would it mean for us to think of ourselves as fully in Jesus as He stands before God?

Apply It

- Read through Hebrews 6:13-7:28 several times this week. Ask Jesus to show you what it would look like for you to live as a priest this week - as someone that has been brought into His eternal priesthood.
- Is there something within you that causes you to feel like you are unable to fully represent people to God, or God to people? If so, release it to God in prayer. Now ask the Holy Spirit if there is someone you are to be praying for. Or if there is someone you are supposed to reach out to in His love. If He shows you someone, take a challenging step of faith, and act on it!