

希伯來書淺談

第六課: 更美之約
A Better Covenant (7:1-8:13)

May 31, 2015

Recap

- 我們既然有一位已經升入高天尊榮的大祭司，就是神的兒子耶穌，便當持定所承認的道。(4:14)
- The focal point shift from Sonship to High Priesthood
 - Son of God (1:1-2:18), Faithful Son (3:1-4:13)
- Great High Priest (4:14-10:25)
 - Pt. 1 - 4:14-6:20
 - Priesthood under Old Testament vs. New Testament
 - Christ became the "source of eternal salvation" 永遠救恩的根源
 - Believers vs. Disciples
 - Pt. 2 – 7:1-8:13
 - 7:1-28 – Jesus like Melchizedek
 - 8:1-13 – The High Priest of a New Covenant

- 而且蒙神照著麥基洗德的體系，稱他為大祭司。論到這些事，我們有很多話要說，可是很難解釋；因為你們已經遲鈍了，聽不進去。(5:10-11)
 - Switch topic to spiritual immature
- Hard to make clear... because no longer try to understand (NIV)
 - Sluggish 遲緩
 - Negligent 不在意
- Need to re-learn and live out fundamental teachings
 - 信靠神，洗禮，死人復活，和永遠審判 (6:1b-2)
- 勸勉信徒要成長，努力進到成熟
 - In order to make right choices at difficult time
- The issue on apostasy 背叛基督
 - Will be under God's judgment

神起誓保證他的應許 (6:13-20)

- 神定意向那些承受應許的人，更清楚地表明他的旨意是不更改的... 因此，我們這些逃進避難所的人，就大得安慰，抓緊那擺在我們面前的盼望。(6:17-18)
- 我們有這盼望，就像靈魂的錨，又穩當又堅固，通過幔子直進到裡面。耶穌已經為我們作先鋒進入了幔子裡面；他是照著麥基洗德的體系，成了永遠的大祭司。(6:19-20)
- Inner sanctuary behind the curtain – the Most Holy Place
 - The place of God's presence
 - We all now may enter by following Jesus
- Ch.7 resumes the topic of Melchizedekan high priesthood
 - 麥基洗德的大祭司體系

Melchizedek 麥基洗德

- Who is Melchizedek?
- 這麥基洗德就是撒冷王，又是至高神的祭司 (7:1a)
- 「公義的王」, 「平安的王」 (7:2)
- 他沒有父親，沒有母親，沒有族譜，也沒有生死的記錄 (7:3a)
- 與神的兒子相似，永遠作祭司。(7:3b)
- Some consider he is a mystical figure...
 - Never die?
 - Angelic figure?
 - An early incarnation of Messiah?
 - Traditional Jewish view of Messiah – a priest-king



Melchizedek 麥基洗德

- Only one reference in Torah: Gen 14
 - There was a war at the valley of Siddim 西訂谷
 - 四王與五王交戰 (Gen 14:1-9)
 - The five kings lost and their cities robbed
 - Sodom is one of those
- Read Gen 14:13-24
- Lot, Abraham's nephew, among the captives in Sodom (Gen 14:10-11)
- Abraham rescued Lot in Dan (Gen 14:13-16)
- After return home, King of Sodom and Salem met Abraham

Melchizedek 麥基洗德

- Melchizedek - A priest-king of the city of Salem
 - 撒冷王麥基洗德也帶著餅和酒出來；他是至高神的祭司。(Gen 14:18)
- Melchizedek blessed Abraham
 - 他給亞伯蘭祝福，說
 - 願創造天地的主、至高的 神，賜福給亞伯蘭。把敵人交在你手裡的至高的 神，是應當稱頌的！」 (Gen 14:19)
- Abraham gave a tithe to Melchizedek
 - 亞伯蘭就把所得的一切，拿出十分之一來，給了麥基洗德。(Gen 14:20b)

Melchizedek 麥基洗德

- Psalm 110 and Hebrews referred to Gen 14
 - 你永遠作祭司，是照著麥基洗德的體系。(Heb. 5:6, 7:17)
- Author's intention on referring Melchizedek's priesthood
 - Demonstrate Jesus' priesthood superior to the Levitical
- Eq.A: Melchizedek's Priesthood > Levitical Priesthood
- 1. 你們想一想這人是多麼偉大啊！祖先亞伯拉罕也要從上等的擄物中，拿出十分之一來給了他。(7:4)
 - Abraham shows his respect for Melchizedek's service to God
 - Levites aren't even born!! (7:10)
- 2. 向來都是位分大祝福小的 (7:7)

Melchizedek 麥基洗德

- Eq.B: Melchizedek's Priesthood = Jesus' Priesthood
- 沒有生死的記錄，而是與神的兒子相似，永遠作祭司。(7:3b)
- Melchizedek's Priesthood "lasts forever" because there is no record of his death
 - No heir for the priesthood – e.g. Likedin
- Jesus' Priesthood lasts forever because of his immortal nature
- Author's logic:
 - Eq.A. Melchizedek's Priesthood > Levitical Priesthood
 - Eq.B. Melchizedek's Priesthood = Jesus' Priesthood
 - Eq.C. Jesus' Priesthood > Levitical Priesthood

Melchizedek 麥基洗德

- Jewish tradition identifies Melchizedek as Shem – firstborn son of Noah
 - 在亞伯拉罕的日子，閃仍然在世
- Settled in Salem after the flood
- Became king of the city
- Became high priest through hereditary 世襲
- Do not divinize Melchizedek
- Melchizedek's superiority to the Levites
 - Received a tithe from Abraham
 - Scripture gives no indication of his death (priesthood didn't end)

Incompetence of the Levitical Priesthood

- 這樣看來，如果藉著利未人的祭司制度能達到完全的地步，為甚麼還需要照著麥基洗德的體系，另外興起一位祭司，而不照著亞倫的體系呢？(7:11)
- It doesn't mean the Levitical system was completely ineffective
- The Levitical system intended to foreshadow something better
- 更美的盼望 (7:19b)
- 更美好的約的保證 (7:22b)
 - Guaranteed by God's oath (7:21-22)
- 永不更改的祭司 (7:24)
 - Never ended, never changed
- 因此，那些靠著他進到神面前的人，他都能拯救到底；因為他長遠活著，為他們代求。(7:25)

What's Your Passion?

- Think about during the day and dream about at night
- Love deeply
- What is God's passion?
 - You and I are passion of God
- The Covenant
 - Not just a set of Dos and Don'ts
 - Intended to draw us close to God
- This intimated relationship could only materialize through the sacrificial death of Christ
 - 我們就可以親近神 (7:19b)

Inadequacy of the Old Covenant

- 如果頭一個約沒有缺點，就沒有尋求另一個約的必要了。(8:7)
 - Quoted from Jeremiah 34:31-34 (Read Hebrews 8:8-12)
- 日子要到了，我要與以色列家和猶大家訂立新約。(8:8)
- 這新約不像從前我拉他們祖先的手，領他們出埃及的日子與他們所立的約。(8:9a)
- 我要把律法放在他們的心裡，寫在他們的心上。(8:10a)
- 我要作他們的神，他們要作我的子民。(8:10b)
- 人要認識主(8:11a)
- 所有的人，從最小到最大的，都必認識我。(8:11b)
- 我也要寬恕他們的不義，決不再記著他們的罪惡(8:12)

- Not based on observing the law , but internalizing

A Better Covenant

- No longer tied to Levitical regulation
- Failed because people not remain faithful, can't fulfill
 - 他們沒有遵守我的約(8:9)
- 我要把我的律法放在他們的心思裡面，寫在他們的心上。(8:10b)
- 我要作他們的神，他們要作我的子民。(8:10c)
 - For restoring our relationship with God
- Base on Jesus' sacrificial work, forgiveness of sin
 - 我也要寬恕他們的不義，決不再記著他們的罪惡(8:12)