



COMMUNION SERIES ON HEBREWS:
THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST
AND CHRISTIANITY

The Only Priest God Wants for Us

Hebrews 7



Message Guide | December 6, 2020

The Only Priest God Wants for Us

Today's Message (06 December 2020) / Hebrews 7

*This is the
meaning of our
Communion –
we commemorate
with gratitude
Jesus' sacrifice,
and we celebrate
with excitement
His imminent
return and
leading us at His
table again!*

For Christians today, Jesus is the only Priest God wants for us because no one else qualifies. No other intercessor has done, or will ever do what He has done. So whether we talk about a High Priest or lesser priests; or priests ranked by any other system (bishop, archbishop, cardinal, etc.) none of them are required by God today. The passages at the heart of Hebrews, chapters 7 to 10:18 will explain why.

Our particular passage, chapter 7, shows that Jesus is the ultimate, final, and last priest ever needed because of the superior nature of His priesthood:

MELCHIZEDEK: THE PRIESTLY PROTOTYPE OF JESUS

- Jesus's priesthood is based on the "Order" of Melchizedek, not of Levi (7:1–10). This mysterious figure (probably human) is a prototype, a foreshadowing of the nature of the priesthood of Jesus. He is proof that the Levitical priesthood was temporary.

JESUS: THE POWERFUL AND PERFECT PRIEST OF GOD

- **His priesthood is powerful and supersedes all other priesthoods (7:11–19)**
vv. 16, 19 "... a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent, but by the power of an indestructible life... (for the law made nothing perfect); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God."
- **His priesthood is pre-eminent because God affirmed it with an oath (7:20–22)**
v. 21 "The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, 'You are a priest forever.'"
- **His priesthood is permanent because He lives forever (7:23–25)**
v. 25 "Consequently, He is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since He always lives to make intercession for them."

The Only Priest God Wants for Us

Today's Message (06 December 2020) / Hebrews 7

- **His priesthood is perfect because it involved a once and for all time personal sacrifice (7:26–28)**
v. 28 “He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself.”

What are the implications of these truths for us?

- There is only one priest God wants for us, the only One whom God will ever accept. “He ever lives to make intercession” for us.
- There is only one intercessor and mediator acceptable to God. No other member of the human race qualifies or will ever qualify. Not even the family members of Jesus.
- There is only one way to God – by faith alone, in Christ alone – therefore by grace alone. God “made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.” (2 Corinthians 5:21)

Final Thoughts

This is the meaning of our Communion – we commemorate with gratitude Jesus’ sacrifice, and we celebrate with excitement His imminent return and leading us at His table again!

Is Jesus indeed the only mediator for you, the only object of your trust when it comes to being forgiven and accepted by God? Or is it Jesus plus... your good works? Another mediator? Your religion or religiosity? Any combination of these?

Before you partake of the elements, may the Word of God speak to your heart to affirm your continuing faith, or to revive your faltering heart, maybe even bring you for the first time to the Cross and the salvation of Christ. ■

Discussion Questions:

1. According to Hebrews 7, why is any other human system of priesthood now unnecessary?
2. What does Hebrews 7:25 reveal about the exclusivity and effectivity of Christ's mediation? What does this imply about any other mediator that men propose or believe in besides Christ?
3. Pray together, and ask God to reveal to your gathered hearts that our High Priest, the only One whom God will accept, continues to intercede for us in heaven and will be with us in the hardest and most difficult times of our lives now, then guarantees our entry into heaven.

Grateful to God

Scripture reminds us that “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...” Retirement is a gateway to a season in one's life.

GCF and I have begun the conversation regarding this season in my life journey. I turn 60 in 2021. Initially there was an overwhelming flood of mixed emotions within me. But as I started to come before the Lord, pray, reflect... He graciously led me to worship. I began to recall how good, faithful, kind, compassionate, generous and gracious God has been in my life journey, thus far. I began to thank Him for the many opportunities to also participate in His mission and work in various contexts, places and roles. Many of these I have not even imagined or planned for, but obviously it was all because of God's amazing grace in my life. So I am deeply thankful to the Lord for His presence thus far and celebrate the fact that He continues to journey with me, in fact even beyond this present life.

It would be not totally accurate if I told you that worry or doubt does not creep into my mind and heart. But the more I fix my eyes on who God is and what He has been like toward me and my family, I am led to a quieter heart, assured that the LORD will continue to be who He is and will be lovingly present in my life and my family's in the days to come. Praise be to our gracious and perfectly loving God, our Abba in heaven.

Let me take this opportunity to express my deep thanks and appreciation to you, the church, for the privilege of fellowshiping with and serving you and with you. I have learned much from our journey together. Please grant me grace or pardon if I have given any of you a hard time because of my personal quirks as one of your pastors. But thank you so much for sharing your love and your lives with me and my family.

What is next for me? I am not 100% sure but God knows. Pastor Larry has graciously offered continuing engagement with GCF as a consultant so that I may continue to contribute to the life journey of the church. I am grateful for this prospect of continuing to serve the church and for the generous support of GCF. I am praying for the Lord's hand on it.

Kindly, remember me and my family in your prayers as we seek God in the coming days. Pray for me too that the last few months in my current role would be purposeful and meaningful.

God bless us all as we have a safe and meaningful celebration of Christmas, which continues to bring us hope for the future. Shalom! ■

CHURCH UPDATES

GCF RELIEF OPERATIONS FOR #UlyssesPH VICTIMS

We are accepting CASH donations for the typhoon victims. Email a copy of your transaction slip to finance@gcf.org.ph with the subject "Typhoon Ulysses"

EMMANUEL — GCF CHRISTMAS MUSICALE 2020

Celebrate Christ with us on December 20, 2020. Invite your friends and family as we proclaim the good news, God with us!

ELECTION OF CHURCH LEADERS

Church members can visit election.gcf.org.ph to see the list of candidates for the Board of Elders and Council of Deacons.

PRE-REGISTER FOR THE IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE

To know more about the safety guidelines and restrictions, and to reserve a seat, visit <https://tinyurl.com/GCFreservation>. Pre-registration is open every week from Wednesday (5:00pm) to Saturday (11:59pm) or upon full booking, whichever comes first.

ONLINE VISITOR'S CENTER

Are you here for the FIRST TIME? We'd love to get to know you more! Visit tinyurl.com/GCFwelcome today!

BELONGING (Midweek Series): CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS 2020

December 9 (Wed), 8:00 p.m., GCF Facebook Page

REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS

Mondays and Fridays, 8:00 p.m., GCF Facebook Page

LIVEstream (Youth LIVE Worship)

Saturdays, 5:00 p.m. on youtube.com/user/gcfyouthlive

KIDS' L.I.F.E. ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays, 1:00 p.m. on Facebook at [@GCFKidsLIFE](https://www.facebook.com/GCFKidsLIFE)

THE GCF FAMILY'S HOUR OF PRAYER

Thursdays, 8:00 p.m. to 9 p.m. via Zoom

SUNFLOWERS GROWTH GROUP (WOMEN)

Sunday, 2:00 p.m., via FB Messenger, with Ana Luz Ong

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

For offerings during this time, please consider the following options:

BANK DEPOSIT OR TRANSFER

Account Name: Greenhills Christian Fellowship, Inc.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BDO (BDO Corporate Center Branch)
Savings Account 000661590216• China Bank (Ortigas ADB Branch)
Savings Account 1112-02006218• UnionBank (UB Plaza Branch)
Checking Account 0005-9001-0426• Robinsons Bank (Main Office Branch)
Savings Account 1000-3010-0017-355• Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI)
(Ortigas Emerald Branch)
Peso Savings Account
Account name: Greenhills Christian Fellowship, Inc.
Account No.: 9823 0217 01 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Metrobank (Ortigas Sapphire Branch)
Savings Account 629-3-62919733-9• GCash (L) and PayMaya (R)
(Scan QR code below) |
|---|---|



CREDIT/DEBIT CARD THROUGH PAYPAL

Please visit www.gcf.org.ph/give for instructions.

Please email a copy of your transaction document to finance@gcf.org.ph so your giving can be properly recorded and an official receipt can be sent to you.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE EFFORTS

You may also designate your giving to our church's efforts to help frontliners and the vulnerable. Just indicate "For COVID-19 fund" when you email your transaction document ■



Greenhills Christian Fellowship

Know Christ and Make Him Known

Ruby cor. Garnet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 1605

☎ (02) 8632 1354 to 56, (02) 8635 0078 to 80, (02) 8635 0082 to 83

☎ Fax No. (02) 8632 1357, Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

✉ email@gcf.org.ph 🌐 gcf.org.ph 📍 Greenhills Christian Fellowship