

7 – QUALIFIED AS HIGH PRIEST (HEBREWS 5:1-10)

I. The Requirements for High Priest (Hebrews 5:1-4)

A. The Appointment (Hebrews 5:1a)

- The writer points out the Jewish High Priests were selected from among men.
- Specifically, the High Priest was to be a descendent from the lineage of Aaron.
- By the time of this writing, the High Priest was selected by political appointment.

B. The Duties (Hebrews 5:1b)

- They were told serve as a representative concerning all matters pertaining to God.
- Their High Priests were to offer gifts and sacrifices for the sins of the people.

C. The Disposition (Hebrews 5:2)

- The High Priest was to have compassion on those who were ignorant.
- The High Priest was to have compassion on those who has gone astray.
- This was due to the fact that the High Priest was subject to weakness in the area of sin.

Scripture Galatians 6:1 (ESV)

¹ Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

D. His Approach (Hebrews 5:3)

- This fact required the High Priest to not only offer sacrifice for the people's sin, but his own.

E. The Calling (Hebrews 5:4)

- No one appoints himself to be High Priest; only God can appoint him.

II. The Calling of the Son (Hebrews 5:5-10)

A. The Son of God (Hebrews 5:5)

- The writer points out that Jesus Christ did not seek to glorify himself to become High Priest.
- God the Father declared Jesus Christ to be his Son.

B. Priest Forever (Hebrews 5:6)

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- God the Father declared Jesus Christ to be a priest forever.
- God declared that Jesus was a priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Scripture Genesis 14:18-20 (ESV)

¹⁸ And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) ¹⁹ And he blessed him and said, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; ²⁰ and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!” And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

C. The Obedience of the Son (Hebrews 5:7-8)

- As he faced death on the cross, Jesus cried out to God, who was able to save him from death.
- The writer points out that God heard Jesus cries because of his submission to God's will.
- Even though Jesus Christ was God's Son, he learned obedience through his suffering.

D. The Author of Salvation (Hebrews 5:9)

- Jesus Christ was made perfect or complete through his sufferings.
- Jesus Christ became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey him.

E. Called to the Priesthood (Hebrews 5:10)

- The writer restates the fact the Jesus Christ was called by God as High Priest.
- Again, the writer states that Jesus was a priest according to the order of Melchizedek.