



Better (Hebrews)

Sermon Questions | 03.01.15

Opener

Greater than vs Less than game.

Make two columns. Using Hebrews 6:19 – 7:28, place in the first column each reference to something or someone that is greater than. In the second column, place each reference to something or someone that is less than the things you placed in the first column. Note: you can use some terms more than once in each column.

Terms: Melchizedek, Abraham, Jesus, Levi, Levi's priesthood, The Law, Melchizedek's priesthood, Jesus' Life, Former Regulation, A Better Hope, Dirty and Distant, Clean and Close.

Read

Hebrews 6:19 – 7:28

Genesis 14

Psalms 110

Hebrews 9:14

Hebrews 9:24-26

Engaging with God in a Group

Read Genesis 14, Psalm 110, Hebrews 6:19-7:28

Hebrews 7 uses the downstream argument: Once you have established that something is greater, then everything downstream from that thing is greater as well.

Levi was downstream from Abraham, so when Abraham gave the tithe to Melchizedek. It was as though Levi did too, establishing that Melchizedek is greater than Levi (Hebrews 7:10). There was a need for another priesthood, one that would produce righteousness and peace.

- How are we related to Abraham? How are we related to Melchizedek?

- How do you relate to God when you sin? How do you feel at that time? (Hebrews 9:14)
- When were your sins forgiven? What makes you acceptable to God again after you sin? (Hebrews 9:24-26)

In Hebrews 7 we have the example of the King of Salem and Melchizedek, king of righteousness. How does peace follow from righteousness?

- Are you righteous? If so, how? If not, why not?
- What is required for us to draw near to God?

Temptation will come. Are you ready? Prepared? Melchizedek came to Abraham to encourage and nourish him before temptation of Sodom to keep all the goods for himself.

- What can you begin to do/believe now to live the life Jesus gave you, instead of living according to the law? (Hebrews 7:25-28)
- Who do you know that lives like this? What is different about their life than yours?
- Who looks to you for the example? Are you proactively leading someone on this journey?

Engaging with God Alone

Have a personal, quiet time of confession.

Closing thoughts and prayer

As a group, share communion together. You can use whatever elements are in the house to represent the wine and bread; this is a symbolic representation. Thank God for his work in making you pure, holy and acceptable. It is finished!