

H O U S E o f W I S D O M  
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Hebrews 5  
Called a Priest

Read Hebrews 5:1-4:

1. How were priests in Israel appointed? Verse 4; Ex 28:1

{The High Priest was a lifetime appointment. During the time of Jesus, the office was so corrupted that they were not lifetime appointments, but the office was obtained more by bribery & appointments made by Roman officials - i.e. it was about wealth & power. Men were honoring men instead of God.}

2. How do you reconcile Exodus 19:6 with Num 3:3, 5-10, where Aaron & sons were to be priests?

{The condition of Exodus 19 is in verse 5: *...if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then...* The Aaronic priesthood was part of the covenant to be obeyed. Looking back today, we can see that the covenant was 10 concepts written in stone, Dt 4:13, and the letter of the law, all of which Israel was to perform according to the letter. The whole system was a teaching tool and types of the spiritual kingdom that would be taught with the advent of the Messiah. Cf Lk 16:16; Heb 9:24.}

Read Hebrews 5:5-10:

3. Verse 5 quotes Psalms 2:7 and verse 6 quotes Psalms 110:4. Considering the context of Psalms 2:7, how is the term "birth" applied in Hebrews 5:5-10?

{Young states the translation of Ps 2:6, correctly noted in the KJ margin: *I have anointed My King, Upon Zion—My holy hill.* A high priest was anointed with oil, a symbol for the Holy Spirit with which Jesus was anointed, Lk 4:18. These Psalms are prophecies of the spiritual birth of the Son of God that he would obtain by his human experience & the suffering of the cross. Cp Heb 5:7 & Mt 26:38-39. A priest is a minister. We become spiritual priests/ministers when we are spiritually birth - i.e. born from above, Jn 3:5-6, which the denominations only partially define.}

Note: Psalms 2:8-9 is a promise of the Savior after his completion, to give mankind rule over the character traits of the nations that we have collect all our lives. This is repeated in Rv 2:26-27; the fulfillment seen in Rv 12:5 & by whom in Rv 19:15.

4. Who was Melchizedek, after whom Christ was made priest? Gen 14:17-20

{The meaning of the words: *Melchizedek*<sup>h4442</sup>: From h4428 & h6644 = *king of righteousness*; *king*<sup>h4428</sup> of *Salem*<sup>h8004</sup> = *king of peace*<sup>h8004</sup>. He was a priest of Abram, who blessed him & to whom Abram paid tithes. More will be covered on this in the study of Hebrews chapter 7. Cp Isa 9:6; Jer 23:5-6}

5. When did the Son of God become *author of eternal salvation*? Heb 5:8-9

{KJ put *made perfect*, which would be better rendered as *made complete*. Made complete how? In his understanding of humankind & his Father's patience with them. Cf Ex 32:9-14; Num 16:19-22. On the cross Jesus could say of those crucifying himself, *Father, forgive them, they know not what they do*, Lk 23:34.}

6. When does Jesus become our *author of eternal salvation*? Heb 5:9; 1Pt 5:10

Read Hebrews 5:10-14:

7. What does verses 12-14 indicate about those to whom the letter of Hebrews was written? 1Pt:2:2; 1Cor 3:2  
{The phrase, *being made perfect* <sup>g5048</sup> in verse 9 is a single Greek word, as is the phrase *to them that are of full age* <sup>g5046</sup> in verse 14. The first is a verb, the second an adjective, used as a noun; both of which are derived from *telos* <sup>g5056</sup>, meaning *a conclusion; the end of an act or state (not the end of a period of time)*. Verse 14 is saying that *strong meat*, i.e. *solid food* belongs to those who are (spiritually) complete. In other words, a person must be at a certain spiritual level in order to understand the deep things of God.}