

# THE ONE YEAR BIBLE CLUB

WITH TEACHING COMMENTARY BY NICK BOORK

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## November 3 – Hebrews 5:1-14

For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. <sup>2</sup> He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. <sup>3</sup> Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins. <sup>4</sup> And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was. <sup>5</sup> So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: “You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.”

<sup>6</sup> As He also says in another place: “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek”; <sup>7</sup> who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, <sup>8</sup> though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. <sup>9</sup> And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him, <sup>10</sup> called by God as High Priest “according to the order of Melchizedek,”

<sup>11</sup> of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. <sup>12</sup> For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. <sup>13</sup> For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. <sup>14</sup> But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

## OKAY, HERE'S MY TEACHING COMMENTARY

In the portion of Scripture Paul writes to the Hebrew Christians about the unique calling of God to his Son Jesus Christ to become the ultimate High Priest to make atonement for the sins of humanity. The difference between Christ and other priests is that he was both the Priest and the sacrifice for sins. Jesus committed no sin and became the Lamb of God taking away our sins on the cross. In a very real sense, it was the Jewish priests that offered up Christ to be crucified without even realizing that the man they were condemning to death was in fact the promised Messiah, the sacrifice of all sacrifices. However, the High Priest Caiaphas prophesied without even understanding what he was saying that they would offer up Christ on the cross.

John 11:49-52 And one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all, nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish.” Now this he did not say on his own *authority*; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the

nation, and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad.” So Jesus was both the sacrifice and is now our High Priest forever, an eternal High Priest for us before God in the eternal order of Melchizedek.

### **Who was Melchizedek?**

There are two interpretations of who Melchizedek was. First Melchizedek’s name mean king of righteousness. Some think he was a type of Christ that appeared to Abraham to bless him. Others think that he was actually the Lord Jesus Christ because of the unique attributes that only the Son of God has like being without Father or mother and having neither beginning of days nor end of life. I’m not sure debating this point is something that is worth the time because whether he was a type of Christ in the Old Testament or whether he was and continues to be the Lord Jesus Christ today, our focus is on Jesus Christ as our High Priest today. After all, when we sin and need forgiveness we don’t pray to Melchizedek but to the Lord Jesus Christ and he alone has the power to forgive sins and cleanse sinners with his eternal blood of the new covenant. However, Paul speaks more on Melchizedek later in Hebrews so he definitely has a very important place in the purposes of God.

### **Growing up spiritually**

Paul kind of reprimands the Hebrew Christians for not growing up spiritually calling them babes saying by this time you all ought to be teachers of the word but it’s obvious you have not grown up because you can’t handle spiritual meat but only milk. He explains this to mean that if we do not know and practice the word of God then we just don’t grow. He says in verse 14 “But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.” This is a very interesting arrangement of words. Strong meat or deep Biblical truths are for those that are spiritually mature and the only way someone becomes spiritually mature is by “reason of use.” In other words, those that believe and practice the word of God develop a keen sense of discernment between good and evil. It’s not just by reading the word but by living it daily that we grow spiritually strong.

This makes believers sharp to understand and discern the difference between good and evil. Hey, isn’t that what the devil promised Adam and Eve if they would just eat the forbidden fruit, that their eyes would be opened to know good and evil? Genesis 3:4-5 says; “Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” However, the devil lied to them and when they disobeyed God they suddenly realized that they were naked and felt convicted of sin then hid themselves from God.

If we would just learn to trust in the Lord and abide in his word we will know the truth and the truth will make us free! This is how you can tell the difference between the spiritually mature and weak Christians. Babes and children are still struggling to believe and obey the word of God while mature saints walk close to the Lord and seek to live his word and as a byproduct are filled with the wisdom of God and the character of God is revealed through them producing the fruits of the Spirit.

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## WHAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE?

- 1) Jesus is both the sacrifice for sins and our High Priest forever.
- 2) The High Priest Caiaphas prophesied that Jesus would be crucified.
- 3) Melchizedek was either Christ himself or a type of Christ who appeared to Abraham.
- 4) Paul told the Hebrew Christians that they should already be teachers but were babes.
- 5) We become spiritually mature by practicing the word and become wise and discerning.

## PRAYER TO APPLY THE WORD OF GOD TO OUR LIVES



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