

Psalm 110
Week Four: Jesus, the Greater Moses & Aaronic Priesthood
Doug Hayes: December 10, 2023

Israel: A Kingdom of Priests

Israel as Son of God

²¹ And the LORD said to Moses, “When you go back to Egypt, see that you do all those wonders before Pharaoh which I have put in your hand. But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go. ²² Then you shall say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD: “Israel is My son, My firstborn.” ²³ So I say to you, let My son go that he may serve Me. But if you refuse to let him go, indeed I will kill your son, your firstborn.” ’ ” Exodus 4:21–23

¹ “When Israel *was* a child, I loved him, And out of Egypt I called My son. Hosea 11:1
See Matt. 2:15

⁵ Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine. ⁶ And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These *are* the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.” Exodus 19:5–6

Christ is the true royal-priest, and being united to Him, it is also true of us in the NT.

⁴ John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, ⁶ and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him *be* glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Revelation 1:4–6

⁹ And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, ¹⁰ And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth.” Revelation 5:9–10

⁶ Blessed and holy *is* he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years. Revelation 20:6

The Aaronic Priesthood in Israel

The Tabernacle (Ex. 25-31 and 39-40)

After the exile, the Descendants of Levi & Aaron chronicled several times: 1 Chr. 6; 23:13-32; 24:1-31 (also chapters 25-26); Ezra 2:24-63, 70; Neh. 7:39-45

High Priest In Restoration Prophets (Haggai-Malachi) very prominent: Joshua (Jesus)

Jesus, the Greater Moses & Aaronic Priesthood

Deuteronomy 18:17–19 a prophet greater than Moses, who would lead His people:
¹⁷ “And the LORD said to me: ‘What they have spoken is good. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. ¹⁹ And it shall be *that* whoever will not hear My words, which He speaks in My name, I will require *it* of him.

Jesus is the greater Moses. Hebrews 12:18-24:

¹⁸ For you have not come to the mountain that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet and the voice of words, so that those who heard *it* begged that the word should not be spoken to them anymore. ²⁰ (For they could not endure what was commanded: “*And if so much as a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned or shot with an arrow.*” ²¹ And so terrifying was the sight *that* Moses said, “*I am exceedingly afraid and trembling.*”) ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, ²³ to the general assembly and church of the firstborn *who are* registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, ²⁴ to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than *that of* Abel.

The Aaronic priesthood was a gift of God to His people in the Old Covenant. And yet, it was insufficient, imperfect: Hebrews 7:11–19

¹¹ Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need *was there* that another priest should rise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be called according to the order of Aaron? ¹² For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law. ¹³ For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no man has officiated at the altar. ¹⁴ For *it is* evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. ¹⁵ And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest ¹⁶ who has come, not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life. ¹⁷ For He testifies: *“You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.”* ¹⁸ For on the one hand there is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness and unprofitableness, ¹⁹ for the law made nothing perfect; on the other hand, *there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God*.

Since the old Levitical system was always imperfect, and unable to take away sins once for all, there was a need for a new priesthood. Not according to the old law (although good in itself), but according to a new and better law which fulfills mankind’s hope of being able to draw near to God fully. That hope is found in our Savior, Jesus, one who is Greater than Aaron.

Homework: Read Psalm 110 and 2 Samuel 7; 1 Chronicles 17