“How Great This Man Was”

Heb 7:4-10
4 Now observe how great this man was to whom Abraham, the patriarch, gave a tenth of the choicest spoils.
5 And those indeed of the sons of Levi who receive the priest’s office have commandment in the Law to collect a tenth from the people, that is, from their brethren, although these are descended from Abraham.
6 But the one whose genealogy is not traced from them collected a tenth from Abraham, and blessed the one who had the promises.
7 But without any dispute the lesser is blessed by the greater.
8 And in this case mortal men receive tithes, but in that case one receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives on.
9 And, so to speak, through Abraham even Levi, who received tithes, paid tithes,
10 for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him.

Intro: Through the Penman of Hebrews the Holy Spirit upholds the superiority of the __________ of Jesus as well as the supremacy of Jesus as the __________ and Final High Priest.

A. In this teaching through which the most excellent nature of the priesthood of Jesus is presented, along with Him being exalted as the one and only Great High Priest, we learn of the __________ of our salvation. As Acts 4:9 says, “And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved.” And this we know: through faith in Jesus salvation is __________!

B. Here then, in our present text, we study as the Author displays “the immeasurable superiority of Christianity’s High Priest over that of Judaism’s, and that, that the ______ of the Hebrews (and ours) might be established and their hearts (and ours) drawn out in ______ and __________ to Him.” (A.W. Pink) Dear family, as we exalt Christ Jesus through His Priestliness so will we of maturity come to love and worship Him all the more.

I. Having reminded the people of Melchizedek who was the king and priest of Salem, who met Abraham as he returned from a victorious battle and who blessed him and to whom Abraham gave a tithe, the Author now teaches of the exceeding greatness of this man Melchizedek as he __________ the Christ who was to come and who has come in the person of the __________ of Nazareth.

A. Abraham, the patriarch, ______ a ______ of the choicest spoils ______ Melchizedek.

1. Even one such as Abraham, the __________, the venerated father of the Hebrew nation recognized Melchizedek as God’s appointed priest and representative, __________ _____ the tithe portion which he vowed to God.

   a. Though the Levites collected a tithe from their brethren it was only __________ they held the higher priestly office. The brothers supported the brothers of __________ honor.

B. Abraham ______ not out of necessity, nor under compulsion, nor under the weight of a law that so demanded but he gave the choicest tenth unto Melchizedek as a cheerful giver, as unto the Lord freely __________ the God-ordained authority of Melchizedek ______ him as priest, God’s ordained representative.
1. A. W. Pink wrote, “The force of the apostle’s reasoning here is easily perceived. To give tithes to another who is a servant of God is a token of official respect, it is in recognition and acknowledgement of his ___________ status. The value of such official tokens is measured by the dignity and rank of the person making them. Now Abraham was a person of very high dignity, both naturally and spiritually. Naturally he was the founder of the Jewish nation; spiritually he was the ‘father’ of all believers (Rom. 4). In his person was concentrated all the sacred dignity belonging to the people of God. How ‘_______’ then must be Melchizedek, seeing that Abraham himself owned his officially superiority! And therefore how ‘great’ must be that order of priesthood to which he belonged!”

C. Melchizedek pronounced a ______________ Abraham, the great patriarch, who alone possessed the covenant promises God!

1. What man could come near the greatness of the patriarch Abraham? Without question the man who blessed Abraham: one Melchizedek. As the Author well stated, verse 7, “But without any dispute the __________ is blessed ___ the __________.”

D. By Abraham’s own actions did he confess that Melchizedek was superior to him, __________ the choice tithe to him and ____________ a blessing from him.

E. The order of Melchizedek’s priesthood continues to this day, being superior over the Levitical priesthood of dead men. Being a most vibrant type of Christ Jesus, Melchizedek’s death is unrecorded and so did he foreshadow Jesus who lives forever more and is the Most ______________ High Priest of the Most Excellent Ever-_______ Priesthood.

1. Calvin wrote, “The type is described as having no end; the order of priesthood which it represents is therefore __________.” Amen! Christ Jesus is the ever-living Preeminent High __________ of the Superior Priesthood!

F. While ______ through his descendants received tithes from his brethren, being the greater of them, so is it he who paid tithes to Melchizedek through Abraham from whom he descended, making the greatest among the Levitical priests (Levi) a ___________ to Melchizedek.

Closing: Indeed church, the priestly order of Melchizedek is greater than the priestly order of Levi. And with Melchizedek being the type and Jesus the perfect reality, how much greater then is the priesthood of Jesus, our Preeminent High Priest? ____________ today who you will serve!

And know this: When you choose to believe in ____________, the Eternal Living High Priest of the Superior Priesthood, so then are you secured in your salvation in Him. He represents you before God according to His righteousness, as holy and blameless! And there at the right hand of God does Jesus even now intercede for you, and __ will ___________! His righteousness is your righteousness. His life is your life! Believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ and _____ will ___________ for He alone is the Most Excellent High Priest of the Supreme Priesthood. There is no other name given under heaven by which you must be saved, and Christ Jesus is that name!

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