

CHAPTERS IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

April 2017 --- Hebrews Chapter 5

- I. THE APOSTLE PAUL INFORMS THE JEWISH BELIEVERS OF THE INSUFFICIENCY OF THE PRIESTHOOD UNDER LAW TO AID BELIEVERS IN SPIRITUAL MATURITY.
 - A. Every high priest under law was *appointed*.
 1. High priest *were taken out* from among men.
 2. High priest *were appointed* to sit *on behalf* the *things* pertaining to God.
 - B. The *purpose* of each high priest under law was to make offerings.
 1. High priests offered up *gifts*.
 2. High priests offered up *sacrifices* on *behalf* of sins.
 - C. The advantage of the high priest under law was their *continuous ability* to: vs. 2
 1. Have *suffered alongside* of the *ignorant*.
 2. Have *compassion* on those who *were being led astray*.
 - D. The basis for the high priest under law's *compassion* was his own failures.
 1. He had *weaknesses* set before him as did the rest.
 2. He had an *obligation* to offer sacrifices for his own sins as he did for the nation Israel. vs 3
 - E. There were certain qualifications for the office of the high priest under law. Vs 4
 1. No one could *receive* this honor themselves a high priest.
 2. High priest under law were *called* by God, like Aaron were appointed. vs 4
- II. THE APOSTLE PAUL EXPRESSES TO THE JEWISH BELIEVERS THAT THE SON IS THE MEANS OF SPIRITUAL MATURITY.
 - A. Christ's high priestly ministry is superior to those under law.
 1. Christ did not *glorify* himself to *become* a high priest. Vs.5
 - a) The Father glorified Him. (Ps. 2)
 - b) The Father made Him a priest:
 - (1) Forever (into an age). vs. 6
 - (2) According to the *order of Melchisedec*.
 2. Christ showed Himself *capable* of being a high priest.
 - a) He *suppliated* in the days of His flesh.
 - b) He *made petitions* in the days of His flesh.
 - c) Christ's communication to the Father was emotional.
 - (1) It included strong cryings. Vs.7
 - (2) It included tears. vs.7

- d) The object of His communication was the one *able to save Him out from death.*
 - (1) He was heard by the Father because of His devotion.
 - (2) "Eusebia" is the word used for "devotion" meaning dedication in the things pertaining to God.
 - (3) As a result of His suffering He became the author of eternal. Vs. 9
- 3. Christ's high priestly ministry was not after Aaron's.
 - a) He was designated high priest by the Father.
 - b) His order was according to the order of Melchisedec. vs.10

III. PAUL WARNED THE JEWISH BELIEVERS THAT CONSUMPTION OF TRUTH CAN BE HINDERED BY CARNALITY

- A. The Jewish believers in Paul's audience could not digest the teaching concerning Melchisedec due to their spiritual condition. Vs.11-14
 - 1. They came to be (perf. Act. ind. of ginomai -- to become) dull (nothros -- slow to understand or respond spiritually) of hearing. Vs.11 cf. Heb. 6:12
 - a) Nothros is the opposite of maturing.
 - b) Slothfulness undermines faith and longsuffering, two fruits of the Spirit.
 - 2. They were in need of being taught the ABC's of the Christian life. Vs.12
 - a) They were under a moral obligation (present act. part.), based upon the chronological time they had been believers, to be teaching others the basics of the Christian Life (oracles -- small things)
 - b) They came to be in need of milk (galaktos) not solid food.
 - (1) Galaktos is used in the Septuagint to translate milk concerning physical maturity. Is. 28:9
 - (2) Paul notes that those who use (metecho-- sharing, partaking -- metecho) milk are inexperienced (apeiros -- having an inability) in the word pertaining to righteousness.
 - (3) Paul notes that those in need of milk are babes (napeos -- third in the state of physical development)
- B. Maturing believers have exercised the faculties of the mind to discern good from evil. Vs. 15
 - 1. "Exercised" is the Greek word gymnazo -- **to train or undergo discipline** -- Strong's lexicon cf. 2 Pet. 2:14
 - 2. "Senses" (aisthesis --**as a moral action of recognizing distinctions and making a decision about behavior perception, insight, capacity for understanding** -- Strong's lexicon Phil. 1:9
 - 3. Maturing ones can make distinctions between:

- a) Kalos -- good
- b) Kakou -- evil

CONCLUSION