

# TCC Community Guide

For the week of April 21, 2024  
Greater Than: A Series in Hebrews

*Before working through this Guide, ensure everyone has listened to the teaching from April 21, 2024.*

*Tonight's reflective reading: Ephesians 5:14, "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."*

## Content Overview:

*Read aloud together, Hebrews 7:1-10. Pastor Norb taught on this passage, highlighting the following:*

- Hebrews chapter 7 is not easily understood. We may read it and wonder if it is even worth our attention. The conviction at TCC is to preach through books of the Bible and not leave out any part. This passage has much to teach us about Jesus.
- The author of Hebrews returns to his thought from 5:9, by explaining that Jesus' priesthood is in the order of Melchizedek. To help his audience understand this, he reminds them who Melchizedek is.
- Some theories see Him as an Old Testament appearance of Jesus, others argue he wasn't even a real person. What Genesis makes clear is that Abraham interacted with a Priest King named Melchizedek, who was both a priest of God (the God of Abraham), and a King of Jerusalem (then called Salem).
- We better understand Melchizedek by understanding typologies in the Bible. Typologies are images or figures of the Old Testament that point forward to something in the New Testament. For example in Exodus 12 Lambs were sacrificed for the passover as a means of sparing the Hebrews. In John 1:29 Jesus is called, "the lamb of God." In this, we see that the lamb of the passover was a typology pointing forward to Jesus. Melchizedek is categorically the same, an OT Priest-King, point ahead to Jesus.
- God, being the ultimate author of the Bible, intentionally left out a lot of details about Melchizedek. What we do know of him is taught on in this chapter. The author is teaching on the reality that Melchizedek is a great priest-king, which highlights the fact that Jesus is a priest greater than all who have come before Him.
- The author highlights that Abraham brought offerings to Melchizedek because of his greatness. This practice was done by Israel to the priests as well. In light of Jesus being the greater-priest, he is worthy of all we have to offer.
- In light of this hope we should:
  - We must accept Jesus. He is the only one who can save
  - We must read and study the Bible. 2 Timothy 3:16 says that **ALL** scripture is God breathed and is profitable for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. We rightly seek to understand passages like this and discover how they may be applied to our lives.
  - We must love God with our minds. We need to focus our attention on God.
  - We must worship Jesus. Because of who Jesus is and what He has done, He is worthy of all of our praise! He is truly greater than all others and is worthy of our adoration and worship.

## Discussion Questions:

1. What has resonated with you most from this message and Hebrews 7:1-10?
2. How do you interact with passages in the Bible that seem irrelevant or confusing? What resources might you use to better understand difficult passages?
3. What are some other Old Testament typologies you can think of? What are your favourite illusions to Jesus in the OT?
4. What does it look like for you to bring offerings to Jesus? As Abraham brought an offering to Melchizedek, and the Israelites brought offerings to the Priests, what are the ways you bring offerings to Jesus?

**End in Prayer:** Invite the group to additional sharing. What are people celebrating these days, what would they like prayer for? Take time to hear prayer requests or testimonies of praise from the group. Give all of these back to the Lord in prayer.

