

# The Qualifications of a High Priest

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## 1. He was a man (1)

*1 For every high priest taken from among men*

***Exodus 28:1 (NASB95) — 1*** “Then bring near to yourself Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the sons of Israel, to minister as priest to Me

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## 2. He was Appointed by God (1b)

*“is appointed”*

**Question:** How serious does God take this appointment? (Numbers 16)

**3** *They assembled together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, “You have gone far enough, for all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is in their midst; so why do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?”*

**31** *As he finished speaking all these words, the ground that was under them split open; 32 and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, and their households, and all the men who belonged to Korah with their possessions. 33 So they and all that belonged to them went down alive to Sheol; and the earth closed over them, and they perished from the midst of the assembly*

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## 3. He was to be compassionate (2a)

*“he can deal gently with the ignorant and misguided”*

“Deal Gently”

part 1 of meaning: to be compassionate, kind to, sympathetic towards

part 2 of meaning: to be in the middle of or moderate a situation

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## 3. He was to be compassionate (2a)

Who was he to shepherd in this way?

*ignorant and misguided,*

***Ephesians 4:18 (NASB95) — 18*** *being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them*

NOT willful, obstinate disobedience

***Numbers 15:30 (NASB95) — 30*** *‘But the person who does anything defiantly, whether he is native or an alien, that one is blaspheming the LORD; and that person shall be cut off from among his people.*

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## 4. He was subject to weakness (2b)

“since he himself also is beset with weakness”

### Difference between 14:15 and 5:2

Jesus	High Priest
14:15	5:2
Tempted in every way	Tempted in every way
Sinless	”Beset with weakness”

# The Qualifications of a High Priest

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## 5. He was required to offer sacrifice for sin...continually (1c,3)

*“...in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins;...3 and because of it he is obligated to offer sacrifices for sins, as for the people, so also for himself. “*

3 Prayers offered on the Day of Atonement y the High Priest:

1. For his own sins and for the sins of his household
2. For his own sins, the sins of his household, and those of the Aaronic Priests
3. For the sins of the house of Israel

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## 6. His calling was to bring humility (4)

***1 Chronicles 23:13 (NASB95) — 13*** *The sons of Amram were Aaron and Moses. And Aaron was set apart to sanctify him as most holy, he and his sons forever, to burn incense before the LORD, to minister to Him and to bless in His name forever.*

*But...*



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*But...*

**Luke 18:11 (NASB95) — 11** *“The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.*

**Ezekiel 34:3–4 (NASB95) — 3** *“You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat sheep without feeding the flock. 4 “Those who are sickly you have not strengthened, the diseased you have not healed, the broken you have not bound up, the scattered you have not brought back, nor have you sought for the lost; but with force and with severity you have dominated them.*



# In Conclusion...

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The OT System was...

- Temporary
- Not able to deal with sin
- A reminder of sin and the need for a permanent sacrifice

**Hebrews 10:1–3 (NASB95)** — **1** For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, make perfect those who draw near. **2** Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, because the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have had consciousness of sins? **3** But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins year by year.

# In Conclusion...

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The High Priest was...

- Temporary
- Sinful
- Not able to pardon sin

***1 Timothy 2:5–6 (NASB95) — 5 For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time.***

# Qualifications of a Perfect High Priest (pt 2)

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HEBREWS 5:5-10



# Recap...

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## Questions from the Jews:

- Who is your mediator?
- If Jesus is this Mediator, He must be a High Priest
- What Qualified Jesus to be a great High Priest?

# Theme...

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“The writer of Hebrews proves how Jesus Christ uniquely meets and exceeds the demands as the perfect High Priest and therefore is worthy of their worship and obedience”

# Last week...

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## Qualifications of an earthly High Priest (“even as Aaron was”)

1. **He was a man-***“For every high priest taken from among men”*
2. **He was Appointed by God-***“is appointed”*
3. **He was to be compassionate-***“he can deal gently with the ignorant and misguided”*
4. **He was subject to weakness-** *“since he himself also is beset with weakness”*
5. **He was required to offer sacrifice for sin...continually-** *“and because of it he is obligated to offer sacrifices for sins, as for the people, so also for himself”*
6. **His calling was to bring humility-** *“And no one takes the honor to himself, but receives it when he is called by God, even as Aaron was”*

# 1. Jesus has a unique appointment (5)

5 So also Christ did not glorify Himself so as to become a high priest, but He who said to Him, “YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU”;

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## A. By His Father (5)

## B. As the “Begotten” (5)

***Acts 13:33 (NASB95) — 33 that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, ‘YOU ARE MY SON; TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU.’***

## 2. Jesus is a unique High Priest (6)

6 just as He says also in another passage, “YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK.”

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### Melchizedek:

- OT does not record His ancestry
- Recorded in Scripture at the time of Abraham

***Genesis 14:18 (NASB95) — 18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; now he was a priest of God Most High.***

**Question:** What is unique about Melchizedek?

**Question:** Has the Aaronic Priesthood been established yet?



## 2. Jesus is a unique High Priest (6)

6 just as He says also in another passage, “YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK.”

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### **A. Christ is both King and Priest**

*Isaiah 9:6 (NASB95) — 6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.*

*Revelation 19:16 (NASB95) — 16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”*

### **B. Jesus’ priesthood is eternal**

### 3. Jesus is uniquely compassionate (7)

7 In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety.

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The high priest was to ...“deal gently with the gently with the ignorant and misguided”

“deal gently” :

- 1) to be compassionate towards
- 2) 2) to moderate a situation

- The reason he could do so was that he was “best with weakness”

“beset”- something bad that affects a person but can have a beneficial purpose for others

### 3. Jesus is uniquely compassionate (7)

7 In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety.

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#### A. Jesus understood suffering uniquely (7)

*“Jesus prayed and agonized so intensely that He sweat great drops of blood. His heart was broken at the prospect of bearing sin. He felt the power of sin and He felt temptation. He cried. He shed tears. He hurt. He grieved. What He had always known in His omniscience, He learned in a new way on earth to experience. He could not be a fully sympathetic high Priest had he not experienced what we experience and felt what we felt.” (MacArthur)*

### 3. Jesus is uniquely compassionate (7)

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#### **B. Jesus was uniquely resurrected (7)**

“to save Him from death”

lit: “save Him out of death”

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## 4. Jesus uniquely humbled (8)

8 Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered.

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*When we go to the Lord in prayer and fall on our knees before Him and say “God, this problem, this loss, this pain is breaking my heart,” How wonderful to feel His arms around us and to sense in our hearts that He is saying “I know, I know” (MacArthur)*

## 5. Jesus offered a unique offering for sin (9-10)

9 And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation, 10 being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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### **A. He himself became the sacrifice (9)**

*“And having been made perfect”*

### **B. His sacrifice was forever (9)**

*“the source of eternal salvation”*

# Jesus met and exceeded the requirements to be a high priest

Qualification	High Priest	Jesus Christ
<i>Must be a man</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aaron</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Man</li><li>• God</li><li>• the Begotten Son (the unique One)</li></ul>
<i>Appointed by God</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As high priest</li><li>• Service had beginning and end</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As High Priest</li><li>• King</li><li>• Reign is eternal</li></ul>
<i>Compassionate</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deal gently with sinners</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Became sin for those who would believe</li></ul>
<i>Subject to weakness</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Beset with sin</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tempted by sin</li><li>• Endured suffering</li><li>• Sinless and Sympathetic</li></ul>
<i>Humility</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As one called by God to an earthly position</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Son of God</li><li>• co equal to the Father</li><li>• called to endure suffering</li></ul>
<i>Sacrifice</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Temporary</li><li>• a Reminder</li><li>• an animal</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eternal</li><li>• His body</li></ul>

# In Conclusion...

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-information vs faith

-John 1