HEBREWS: "BETTER"

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- 2. The Better Apostle
- 3. The Better High Priest
- 4. The Better Covenant
- 5. The Better Sacrifice in the Better Tabernacle
- 6. The Better Way: Faith

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 - Exhortation to be diligent, not sluggish, and to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises

7:1-3 WHO IS MELCHIZEDEK?

"For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

{2} to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated 'king of righteousness,' and then also king of Salem, meaning 'king of peace,'

{3} without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually."

7:4-10 HOW GREAT MELCHIZEDEK WAS COMPARED TO ABRAHAM AND LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD

"Now consider how great this man was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils.

{5} And indeed those who are of the sons of Levi, who receive the priesthood, have a commandment to receive tithes from the people according to the law, that is, from their brethren, though they have come from the loins of Abraham;

{6} but he whose genealogy is not derived from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises.

{7} Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is blessed by the better.

{8} Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives.

{9} Even Levi, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak,

{10} for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him."

7:11-14 NEED FOR ANOTHER PRIESTHOOD AND THUS ANOTHER LAW

"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."

7:15-19 CHRIST'S PRIESTHOOD SUPERIOR

"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."

7:20-22 CHRIST'S PRIESTHOOD SUPERIOR BECAUSE OF A DIVINE OATH

"And inasmuch as He was not made priest without an oath

{21} (for they have become priests without an oath, but He with an oath by Him who said to Him:

'The Lord has sworn

And will not relent,

"You are a priest forever

According to the order of Melchizedek""),

{22} by so much more Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant."