

Sunday April 30th sermon: "Our Priest Has No Infirmities -- The God of All Comforts (Pt 14)"

Preached at the Lord's Table at Grace Bible Church in Greenwood, MS,
by John Pittman Hey

Hebrews 7:28

God comforts us by the oath He made to Christ, appointing Him our high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

By that oath, He was made the surety of a better covenant of salvation, the New Covenant.

Jesus never has to make a sacrifice for His Own sin, for He has none!

But the ultimate, glorious purpose of Christ being our perpetual, perfect high priest is this: Christ offered a one-time, all sufficient sacrifice for our sins, when He offered up Himself!

That priesthood which God swore to Christ with an oath entailed the requirement that Jesus find a suitable offering for the saving of His people.

That suitable offering is the body and blood of Christ Himself!

Chapter 7 of Hebrews ends with this: the law makes men priests who have infirmities.

How could it be otherwise, for all men have sinned? Death has come to all men because of their sin.

The inferiority of Aaron's priesthood flows from Aaron being a sinner.

No wonder Aaron could never offer a perfect offering. No wonder he was really unsuited to be a high priest before a holy and righteous God. No wonder Aaron sometimes betrayed his people before God.

The best that any law could ever appoint as a priest would prove to be inadequate at best.

But the word of God's oath to Christ makes the Son our priest, consecrated forevermore!

He ever lives to make intercession for us! He is perfect, and righteous, and faithful as our high priest.

And Christ has offered up Himself as our sin offering, and intercedes to God for us forever.

Hebrews warns Jewish believers, that they dare not go back to the Old Covenant, the Mosaic law, for therein is no righteousness, no sacrifice that takes away sin, and only a defective, sinful, doomed priest.

But under God's oath to Christ, we have an everlasting priest with no flaws, who never fails to save His people! On top of all that, He is the Son of God, God incarnate in our humanity.

It turns out that no matter what system of laws, or cultural traditions, or religious schemes, appoint men priests, they all have infirmities, and they all fail in their priesthood.

The Roman Catholic false religion claims to anoint men priests, and even blasphemously claims they are, like Christ, of the order of Melchizedek.

But they are full of sin and corruption, even as they usurp the pure and holy prerogatives of the Lord Jesus, Who is the only true priest of that noble order!

They offer polluted sacrifices, the so-called Mass, and tell their people that it is a propitiatory sacrifice, and can take away their sins.

In truth, they are no better than the false priests of Baal, or Jeroboam's priests for his golden calves, or everybody who exalts themselves to take the power of Christ to save men into their own miserable and sin-cursed hands.

How dare anyone assign to sinful men, men with infirmities, the duties and powers and prerogatives of the Lord Jesus, Who is our only high priest after the order of Melchizedek!

Jesus is the only one who experienced all our travails, and sorrows, and pitiful circumstances, yet without sin. Though He was rich, yet for our sakes, He became poor!

When Jesus came to offer Himself at Calvary to take away our sins, He wore no fancy clothes, flashed no gold Rolex watch, had no riches to wallow in, like so many of our religious leaders and popular preachers today.

Though He is God, He is also and forever will be a man, and He came lowly and condescending to His poor people. He came as a servant, to give His life a ransom for His people.

One day, when Christ returns in His power and glory and majesty, we will fully grasp just how puny, and miserable, and worthless, and degraded, were all the ones in this world who pretended to be priests who could save poor sinners.

What great comfort God has given to us by the oath He made to Christ, to appoint Him such a glorious, perfect high priest for His people whom He loves, and whom He died to save!