

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further
International Bible Lessons

Hebrews 7:1-3 & 18-28

Sunday, October 23, 2016

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. In what important way (or ways) was Jesus similar to Melchizedek?

Both were both a king and priest.

2. If Jesus were born of the tribe of Levi, would He have been legally qualified to be the Messiah? Give a reason for your answer.

No. The Messiah had to be a legal descendant of the tribe of Judah. If Jesus were legally of the tribe of Levi, He would have been disqualified and could only have been a priest.

3. Before the coming of Jesus the Messiah, why do you think only those of the tribe of Judah could be kings and only those of the tribe of Levi could be priests?

In order to create a divided form of government over Israel (and Judah), which would provide some checks and balances between these two authorities that ruled the people. But that form of government under the old covenant was weak and useless for creating a permanent form of righteous and peaceful government. Therefore, God sent Jesus to be both King and Priest in the kingdom (government) of God. Human kings and priests were also too weak to empower people to live holy and peaceful.

4. Why can't the law of God given to Moses in the old covenant make us perfect?

Because we have broken the law of God at some point in our lives and continue to do so in spite of our good intentions. Jesus Christ is our only hope because of what He has done and will do for us.

5. How is Jesus able to save completely those who come to God through Him?

He always lives to intercede for them.

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