## Why Won't We Sin in Heaven? International Bible Lesson Hebrews 7:1-3 & 18-28 Sunday, October 23, 2016 L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

"Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them" (Hebrews 7:25).

Because we have not loved others or ourselves as God has commanded, we cannot go into the presence of God without help. Because we have not lived perfectly on earth, we will not be able to live perfectly after we die without help. God would have been perfectly just if He had decided to tell everyone who dies, "Go away! You are so dirty that you would spoil heaven. Don't bother Me." But God is perfectly loving and merciful too, so God decided to bother with us and send Jesus to help us. God chose to be gracious and He promised that if we come to Him through Jesus that Jesus is able to help us come into His presence and live perfectly and loving in heaven. If we come to God through Jesus, our lives will bring true happiness to God and all those in heaven. How is this possible, when we have lived so imperfectly on earth? Living perfectly in heaven is only possible for us because Jesus is "able to save completely and for all time" those who come to God through Him. We can trust in Jesus to give us all the help we need. Because we appreciate all that Jesus has done and has promised to do for all who trust in Him, we love God and want to obey God in everything, and Jesus loves to help us whenever we might do wrong. In heaven, we will never think or do wrong. How do we have this hope? We trust in Jesus, and Jesus, "always lives to intercede (or pray)" for us.

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## **Thinking Further**

1. In what important way (or ways) was Jesus similar to Melchizedek?
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.
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?
4. Why can't the law of God given to Moses in the old covenant make us perfect?
5. How is Jesus able to save completely those who come to God through Him?