

Character Study: Aaron

Part 2 – The Priesthood of Aaron and Christ Compared Hebrews 4-9

What's happening?

- Aaron served in the Tabernacle as a high priest, having the important role of representing the Israelites before God. In the New Testament, we see Jesus Christ as a High Priest, who represents believers before God (Heb. 4:14).
- In order for a person to become a high priest, they had to meet several qualifications. These are highlighted in Hebrews 5:
 - Must be selected “from among men” (5:1).
 - Must have compassion on people (able to relate to them) (5:2).
 - Must be called by God (5:4).
- Aaron met these qualifications, as does Christ. Note:
 - Christ became a man (Heb. 5:5, 7a).
 - Christ has compassion on people and is able to relate to their temptations (5:7-8; 4:15).
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What's God doing?

> Aaron had a significant role in the Old Testament. Yet his role was only a picture of the position Christ has as our High Priest today. Old Testament high priests help us better understand and appreciate the perfect Advocate that God has given us in His Son, Jesus Christ (1 John 2:1).

What's to learn?

- There are similarities in the work of Aaron as high priest and Christ as High Priest. However, Scripture reveals the advantages of having Christ as our High Priest today. Note the points made in Hebrews 7:
- His role on our behalf will continue forever (7:23-25).
 - He does not need to offer sacrifices for His own sins (7:26-27).
 - There is no need now to continually offer sacrifices, since through the shed blood of Christ our guilt has been removed once and for all (7:27).
- With Jesus Christ as our High Priest, we have a permanent High Priest who represents us perfectly before the Father. Through Christ, we can be confident that our forgiveness and salvation are secure (Heb. 9:11-14)!

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