

Christ our Great High Priest

The Qualifications of Christ's Priesthood:

- Jesus had to become fully human – sharing in suffering (2:10, 11, 14, 17, 18; 4:15; 5:8)
- Jesus had to suffer death – offering his body as the perfect sacrifice (2:10, 14, 17; 8:3; 9:16,22; 10:10)
- He had to be without sin (3:2; 4:15; 7:26)
- He had to be appointed by God (5:1, 10)
- He makes intercession for the people (2:11; 5:7)

The Superiority of Christ's Priesthood

Jesus, our Great High Priest	Levitical Priesthood
New Covenant based upon better promises (8:6, 7-13)	Old Covenant was only a shadow of the good things to come (8:5; 10:1)
Jesus maintains a perpetual priesthood (7:3, 24-25)	Priests existed in greater numbers because they were prevented by death from continuing (7:23)
He is a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek (5:6; 6:20; 7:1-10)	OT Priests are of the tribe of Levi (7:11)
He is declared priest on oath (6:17; 7:21, 28)	OT priests became so without an oath (7:21)
Jesus was tempted in every way yet was without sin (4:15)	OT priests had to offer sacrifices first for their own sins (5:3; 7:27; 9:7)
He made a once for all sacrifice (7:27)	OT priests made the same sacrifices year after year (9:25; 10:1)
He entered heaven itself – the true tabernacle (4:14; 5:19; 8:2; 9:11,24)	Moses' tabernacle was a copy made by men (8:4-5)
He offered his own blood for the remission of sin (9:12,14)	OT Priests offered the blood of bulls and goats which can never take away sin (10:4,11)

The Result of Christ's Priesthood:

- There is a changing of the law (7:12, 18)
- Worshipper can draw near to God through the veil (4:16; 6:19-20; 7:25; 10:20)
- Worshipper is made perfect through Christ's obedience? (5:7-8)
- Worshipper has a clear conscience (9:14)
- Worshipper's hope is secure (6:19; 7:25; 9:15)
- Christ continually intercedes for us in our weakness, sufferings, temptations (4:16; 7:25)