

Hebrew 7-8

By Louis Talbot

Thank you Mr. Announcement. Good morning my radio friends and friends of the Bible institute of Los Angeles. This is Louis D Talbot coming to you by way of radio once again and I welcome you and the wonderful name of our wonderful Lord and on behalf of the Bible institute faculty and students. I'd like you to remember that you folks are looked upon by us as members of the student body. Now, I want you please to turn your Bibles to Genesis Chapter 14. You know we're going to make a study this morning of the Melchizedek's priesthood of the Lord Jesus Christ and this strange character that foreshadowed the Lord Jesus Christ in a fuller way than did Aaron the high priest in connection connected with the Levitical priesthood is record. That is Melchizedek's and his appearance is recorded in Genesis Chapter 14. I want you to turn your Bibles to Genesis Chapter 14 and also to Hebrews chapter 7.

You know that the last few days' use I have devoted the radio time to the closing verses of chapter 6 where the apostle Paul talks about how believers having fled to Christ for refuge. A statement that evidently took the Hebrews back to the Sixth City is a refuge in the Old Testament days. You need to bear in mind that when Paul wrote this episode that he was writing to Hebrews and the Temple service was still standing. And he says things that that only a Hebrew would understand. For instance that verse that I just referred to, a wonderful verse in the six chapter of Hebrews, we have fled to Christ for refuge. And then he speaks about us having a priest who lives forever after the order of Melchizedek's. You know I have devoted a great deal of the radio time to that study because of its richness in spiritual truth. I do not know any six words that so wonderfully portray Christ in his relationship to a believer as the six cities of refuge. You know

that the last one I just didn't even have time to mention it and that was Golan. That was to know Christ as as as the joy of your heart and the joy of your soul.

You know that there is a great difference my friends between happiness and joy. You know a happiness comes from the one Hap, HAP, and you know that your happiness depends upon what happens, but you know Joy is is that deep seated, that deep seated quality that God gives to you, the things that happen can't change at all. Happiness is like the like the surface of a river. You know that the wind may be blowing in the very opposite direction to that which the river is flowing and to look at the surface of the river that you would think that it was going in the other direction, but it's only because the waves are being blown in that direction but a way and there is that stream that is journeying in the other direction. And I want to say to you my dear friends that our joy does not depend upon the hap of things. You can have a lot of things happen and you get a happiness. Some relative may die and, and leave ten thousand dollars. Well something has happened and have caused you very very happy. Well you may invest that ten thousand dollars and you'll lose the whole thing and and something else has happened and all your happiness is gone, but you know that joy is something that ah can nobody can take from you. And the apostle Paul, he speaks about joy. He doesn't talk about happiness, he talks about the joy of the joy of the Lord is yours Strength. Now that six city, that is Golan represents the Lord Jesus Christ as the joy of your heart and my dear friends you may have a sadness in your heart over certain things that may have taken place, but to know that if you know the Lord Jesus Christ you have a deep seated joy that even a jail cannot take away from you. And when the Apostle Paul was in and in a prison in Rome that he had that joy and he wrote to the Philippines and he told them to rejoice evermore. That is to have the joy of the Lord to rejoice evermore. Now that is knowing Christ as Golan, I think that another questions my dear friends need to

know the Lord Jesus Christ as Golan. So many folks are full of criticism and they go about on wearing long faces well the Lord doesn't want you to look like that. The Lord wants you my dear friends to show to the world that you have something that that unregenerated people do not have, but we must get onto this subject.

Now this morning we begin the study of the seventh chapter which has to do with the Melchizedek's, a priesthood of the Lord Jesus Christ. You may say to me Well Mr. Talbot what is the difference between the Melchizedek's priesthood of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Aaronic priesthood. Well there was this difference. You know that Aaron's priesthood came from the tribe of Levi. The Lord Jesus did not come from the tribe Levi, he came from the tribe of Judah and under the Levitical priesthood, a priests could not be a king and a king could not be a priest. That the priestly tribe was Levi and the kingly tribe was Judah. The Lord Jesus was going to be the king priest and therefore there have to be some other priest in the Bible that would fitfully and fully represent the Lord Jesus Christ and that man's name is Melchizedek's. Now there is a second thing about the difference in the Melchizedek priesthood of Christ and the Aaronic priesthood and it was this that Aaron's priesthood was tied up with one nation and that was the nation of Israel. But you know that the greater number of you folks I guess all of you folks are gentiles. And where do we come in? Well you know the God that had a priest a way back there in the 14th chapter of Genesis and he lived before before the division of the nations he began he lived. My friends before the before the tabernacle was erected. He was he had lived before there was an Aaronic priesthood and he was the one who wrote those names really the priesthood of the Lord Jesus Christ because the Lord Jesus Christ is not only the high priest of believing Jews he is the high priest of believing gentiles. And if the Lord Jesus had a had a priesthood after the order of Aaron then it would be too bad for all of us Australians and Swedes and Germans

because we did not, we don't belong to the nation of Israel, but the Lord had that that there in the book of Genesis a High Priest that fully represented the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now listen, you will remember that in the fifth chapter of this epistle to the Hebrews the Apostle Paul spoke about Melchizedek and about Christ being after the order of Melchizedek and then he suddenly stops with the realization that he was about to propound truth that they were unable to comprehend. And you remember that he takes them to task for being babes or babies in the truth when they should have been teachers. And the Apostle Paul gives that long parenthesis which carries this right to the end of chapter six. Now in chapter seven the apostle resumes the teaching concerning the Melchizedek's priesthood and presents Christ as our great high priest as well as the high priest of believing Israelites. He is presented as our high priest fully foreshadowed in the Old Testament, not by Aaron, but by this strange character Melchizedek that we read about in the 14th chapter of Genesis. You know that the priesthood you know was the very heart of Judah Judaism and to give up the temple worship with a ministry of Israel's earthly priests are the tribe of Aaron and to give up the high priest meant being ostracized by the nation and persecuted by the rulers of Israel. And that was the thing that the believing Hebrews imposed they were confronted with. And they were subject not only to persecution, but also to the loss of property or even of life itself. It was the hardest test of all. The religious persecutors of Christian Hebrews said that the followers of Christ had no priest and they certainly had no high priests because the only high priest that they knew was Annas and Caiaphas and they were of the tribe of Levi and that was unthinkable to one steeped in Judaism.

Yet my dear friends, in the inspired words which are our lesson for today and tomorrow, the apostle Paul urges the Hebrews to separate themselves from the ritual of Judaism which was intended only to foreshadow certain things about the coming into this world of the Messiah and

to see in Christ our high priest foreshadowed how long before Aaron ever came into existence a high priest foreshadowed by Melchizedek who lived hundreds of years before Aaron and who really and fully foreshadowed Christ in his present ministry.

Now, you know that whether you can comprehend this my dear friend will determine whether your babes in Christ tonight. You know that a king priest have foreshadowed by Melchizedek who lived hundreds of years before Aaron was born. Now you read about Melchizedek in Chapter 14 of the book of Genesis. Genesis chapter 14 verses 17 to 24. How strangely my friend this man Melchizedek appears upon the pages of the word of God. He was a priest vastly superior to Aaron because we read that Abraham paid tithes to him and in the loins of Abraham at that time was the whole human race, just as the Jewish race rather was in the loins of Abraham just as the the whole human race was in the loins of Adam and when Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek of course the whole nation in his loins at that time were paying tithes to Melchizedek even Aaron himself, although Aaron hadn't been born at that time. But Aaron was the father of that race that was going to come and when Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek he was recognizing Melchizedek as a greater than any high priest that was in his lines.

Now we have just so much for that. I want to now, I do want to make some progress here this morning. I want you my dear friend to read Genesis chapter 14 verses 17 to 24. I think that we read this once before, but I wanted to read it again. This is where Melchizedek appears upon the scene. Now listen, Paul goes back takes these Hebrews away back before Aaron right to the book of Genesis. Genesis chapter 14 verses 17 and 24 Paul. Now listen, "And the king of Sodom went out to meet him, that is Abram, after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer and other kings that were with him in the valley of Shaveh which is the king's deal and

Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine." Now that of course represents the death of the Lord Jesus and to remind you of the Lord's Supper, that is his priesthood was going to be based upon death and resurrection. And Melchizedek King of Salem brought forth bread wine, and he was priest of the most high God.

Now I want you to see this threefold, this threefold office that he had. He was Melchizedek, the word Melchizedek means king of righteousness and he was king of Salem and he was a priest of the most high God. So there were three offices in one. You couldn't have that my dear friends in the Aaronic priesthood at all. Now listen, let us go on. And he, that is Melchizedek blessed him, that was Abraham, and said Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth and blessed be the high, the most high God which has delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all. When Abraham gave tithes to this man, he recognized that this Melchizedek was greater than all those that were going to come from his loins.

Alright, now I want you to the look at Hebrews chapter seven where the apostle Paul is taking these Hebrews back to this fourteenth chapter of Genesis. Hebrews chapter seven verses one to four and then I want you to look at verse 21 if we have time, but verses one to four. Now here is the divine comment, the Holy Spirit's comment on this passage from the Book of Genesis. Now listen follow me as I read. "For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of The Most High God, who made Abraham returning from the slaughter of the Kings and blessed him to whom also Abraham gave a tenth of all. First being by interpretation king of righteousness that is Melchizedek name, words being in and by interpretation king of righteousness. And after that also, King of Salem. Which is king of peace. Without Father, without mother, without dissent, that is without genealogy that is that there was no genealogy in the book of Genesis about this

man Melchizedek. Having neither beginning nor end of life but made a like unto the son of God abideth a priest continually. They'll consider how great this man was.

Now my friend, here is the apostle Paul saying to these Hebrews when he introduces this mel, Melchizedek he says. Now consider how great this man was. Now my dear friends, that is the thing that I want you folks to do. That is to consider how great this man Melchizedek because as you consider his greatness you consider the greatness of the Lord Jesus Christ. Now let your eye go down the verse 21, let your eye go down to verse twenty one of this seventh chapter of Hebrews. The Lord swore and will not repent thou art a priest forever, that is God he is talking to his son after the order of Melchizedek. My friends in closing the the leaders of Israel were saying to these Hebrews who had been converted you have no priest. The apostle Paul is showing them that there was a priest that was greater than Aaron.