

Who was Melchisedec?

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The King James Bible Church

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"Who was Melchisedec?"

¹ For this **Melchisedec**, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him;

² To whom also **Abraham** gave a **tenth** part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;

³ **Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.**

⁴ Now consider how great this man was, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils. (Heb 7:1-4)

THE KEY

The key to understanding who Melchisedec was, is to be found in the last chapter of the epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Hebrews, where God says

Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Heb 13:2

Melchisedec was an **angel** sent by God, given the physical form of a **man** and assigned the specific task of accepting **tithes** from Abram the Hebrew (Gen 14:13, 20)

THE JEW AND ANGELS

From the beginning of creation, the appearance of heavenly beings on earth have been numerous.

To name a few, we see that after the creation week, **Satan** is cast from heaven and inhabits the **serpent** in the garden of Eden (Gen 3:1).

Also, we have the **sons of God**, having human form and taking wives (Gen 6:2); in addition there is Joshua by Jericho seeing a man with a drawn sword, the **captain of the host** of the LORD (Josh 5:13-15); and the **two angels** at Sodom (Gen 19).

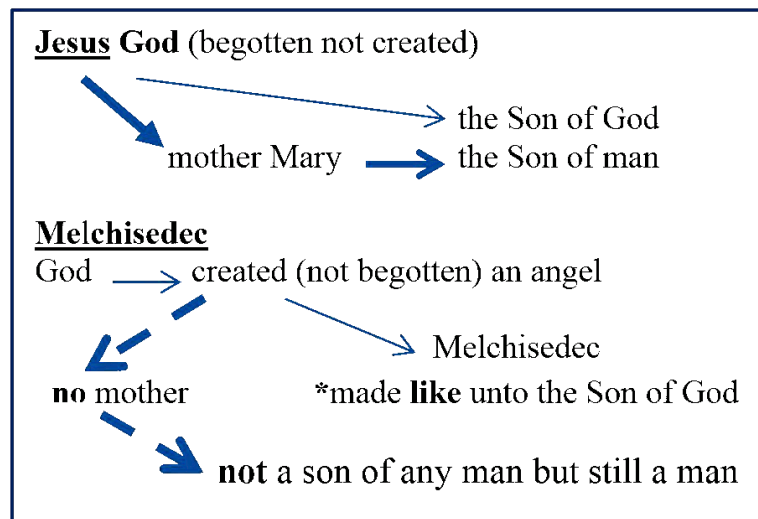
Lastly, the Lord uses an animal, an **ass**, to speak to Balaam (Num 22:28) if he so desires.

Now, for the Hebrew, the sudden manifestation of angelic beings in human form was not an uncommon occurrence. Both Jew and non-Jew alike, accepted the fact that God would guide and assist men in their earthly endeavours, by sending the heavenly help of angels in human form.

And of course today, we are not to be surprised at this, as Jesus, God himself, was manifest (1Tim 3:16), with God as a Spirit (Jn 4:24) taking on the form of a man.

TWO NAMES

Now, Jesus Christ has the two names of **the Son of God** and **the Son of man** – the non-physical becoming physical. Now unlike Jesus who had a mother (Matt 1:18), Melchisedec



appears on earth, seemingly out of nowhere, and having by-passed a physical birth as he is *without mother* (Heb 7:3).

Although a man, **no** reference is made to his being a son of man. Not having a mother, he cannot be called a son of man unlike Daniel (Dan 8:17) and Ezekiel (Ezek 2:6) for example.

LIKE THE SON OF GOD

There is another Bible instance where God gives an angel a form **like** the Son of God. In Nebuchadnezzar's fire, a man appears with Shadrach and his two companions such that "... *the form of the fourth **man is like the Son of God...***" (Dan 3:25). Now, despite what many commentators will say, this appearance was **not** Jesus but a man **like** 'him'.

So both this fourth man and Melchisedec have something in common, they are men but **not** the sons of men, as in Melchisedec's case, he is *without father, without mother, without descent Heb 7:3*.

WHAT SORT OF FLESH BODY IS IT?

They have the flesh of a man that the Lord can simply make appear and disappear. A poor, but similar analogy, might be like Captain Kirk In the movie Star Trek where he says "Beam me up Scotty."

WOULD THE PEOPLE OF SALEM KNOW WHO

MELCHISEDEC WAS?

Yes. It would have been an accepted phenomena as stated with the sons of God (Gen 6:2) along with Joshua's captain of the host and the two angels at Sodom – a man/angel appears from God with a job to do.

WHAT DID GOD SEND MELCHISEDEC FOR?

To receive the tithes from Abram/Abraham (both the names of Abram and Abraham are used with the giving of tithes).

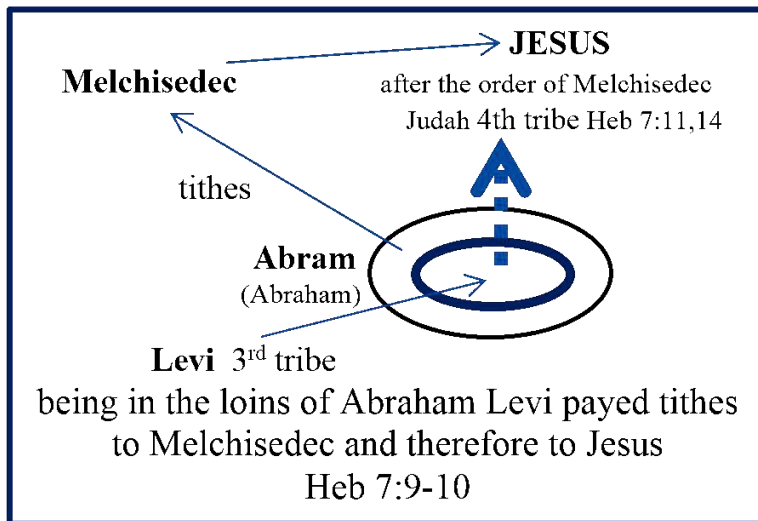
Now before the priests of the law of Moses, Melchisedec was given that role at Jerusalem (Salem) as a priest unto the Lord (Heb 7:3).

Abraham is the father of Isaac, who is the father of Jacob, who is the father of **Levi**, the head of the Levites (the priests).

In essence, God is saying, "Even though Levi hasn't been born yet, Abram/Abraham who will give birth to Levi, will give tithes to Melchisedec, a type of Jesus, and this will signify, that before it even comes to pass, there will be a changing of the priesthood from Levi to Judah. The law (Levi) will bow to Jesus Christ (Judah)."

The scriptures say *By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament. For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but ... the Son is consecrated for evermore (Heb 7:22,28)*

*For it is evident that **our Lord sprang out of Juda**; (NOT LEVI) of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood. Heb 7:14*



LEVI (THE LAW) FULFILLED IN JESUS

SHOULD WE GIVE TITHES TODAY?

Many pastors say today "You should give tithes because this was done before the law was given, and as Abraham is our father in the faith and we should follow Abraham and they quote the following

Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham. Gal 3:7, 9

BUT they fail to see that although Abram/ Abraham gave tithes to Melchisedec before the law was given at Mt Sinai a few hundred years later, when Abram/Abraham gave his tithes he was **NOT a man of faith** at that time.

Follow the time line of events:-

Order of Events	Abram
<i>And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. So Abram departed ... Gen 12:2-4</i>	Simply hears God but has no response of belief. NOT A MAN OF FAITH
<i>And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him, and said,</i>	

<p>Blessed be Abram ... And he (Abram) gave him tithes of all. Gen 14:18-20</p>	<p>Abram gives tithes</p>
<p>And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness. Gen 15:5-6</p> <p>And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly. And Abram fell on his face: ... Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. Gen 17:2-3, 5</p>	<p>Hears God and makes a response of belief.</p> <p>NOW</p> <p>A MAN OF FAITH</p>

It is **not** until chapter 15 that he **believes** God and **then** at that moment, he becomes a man of faith. Paul the apostle says *Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for **God loveth a cheerful giver**. 2 Cor 9:7*

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