**R. 937 (87) Rumination for Jan. 08, 2023**

The **T**heme: **Melchizedek** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: ***Melchizedek*** *king of Salem brought forth bread and wine:*

 *and he was the priest of the most high God.* Gen. 14:18

The **T**hots:

1. **Melchizedek, the Picture (type) of Christ –** *made like unto the Son of God* Heb. 7:3c
2. In His Dei**ty** – *Without father, without mother, without descent* Heb. 7:3a
3. In His Eterni**ty** – *having neither beginning of days, nor end of life.* Heb. 7:3b
4. In His Minist**ry** – *abideth a priest continually.* Heb. 7:3d
5. **Melchizedek, the King of Peace –** *the King of Salem* Gen. 14:18 cf. Heb. 7:2
6. Cf. Christ is our **P**eace – *For He is our peace* Eph. 2:14a
7. Cf. Christ has broken *down the* ***P****artition between God and us*. Eph. 2:14b-16
8. Cf. Christ comes to ***P****reach peace* to both the Gentiles and the Jews, Eph. 2:17

 *that through Him we both* (may) *have access by one Spirit unto the Father*. Eph, 2:18

1. **Melchizedek the Priest of the Most High God*.*** Gen. 14:18 cf. Heb. 7:1
2. Christ is not the High Priest after the Order of Aaron. Heb. 7:11

 *If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law)*

 *what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec,*

*and not be called after the order of Aaron?*

1. Christ is the High Priest after the Order of Melchizedek. As such, He is the High Priest… Psa. 103:
	1. To **S**ave **S**inners. Heb. 2:17

*that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest …to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.*

* 1. To **S**uccour **S**aints. Heb. 2:18

*For in that He Himself hath suffered being tempted, He is able to succour them that are tempted.*

* 1. To **S**ympathise with the **S**uffering. Heb. 4:15

*We have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities;*

*but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*

1. **Melchizedek and His Presents – Gen. 14:18**

***Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine.***

1. Cf. Jesus taking bread and giving it to His disciples. Lk. 22:19

(Jesus) *took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying,*

*This is My body which is given for you****: this do*** *in remembrance of Me.*

1. Cf. Jesus taking the cup of wine and giving it to His disciples. Lk. 22:20

 *Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you.*

1. Cf. Jesus telling His own to Remember Him thus. I Cor. 11:24, 25

*And when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you:* ***this do*** *in remembrance of Me.*

*After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in My blood:* ***this do*** *ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.*

Thus we take the Bread and the Cup in Obedience to His Command to Remember Him –

the **Melchizedek** of our New Covenant, the King of Salem, the High Priest of God, **our High Priest**.

Thou dear Redeemer, dying Lamb, I love to hear of Thee;
No music like Thy charming Name,
Is half so sweet to me, Is half so sweet to me.

O let me ever hear Thy voice In mercy to me speak!
And in my Priest, will I rejoice,
My great Melchizedek, My great Melchizedek.

My Jesus shall be still my theme, While in this world I stay;
I’ll sing my Jesus’ lovely Name

When all things else decay, When all things else decay.

When I appear in yonder cloud, With all Thy favored throng,
Then I will sing more sweet, more loud,
And Christ shall be my song, And Christ shall be my song.

 John Cennick

**Reflections for the Week R. 937**

 ***Having now an High Priest over the House of God…* Heb. 10:21-25**

1. How should this **A**ssurance govern our **A**pproach to God this week?

***Let us*** *draw near with a true heart* *in full assurance of faith,* *having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience,* *and our bodies washed with pure water.*

It is true – our salvation is not conditional - *not of works, lest any man should boast* (Eph. 2:9) *for by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:* (Eph. 2:8)

Yet it is equally true, as believers in Christ, when we come into the presence of God, we need to be holy, *as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.* (I Peter 1:15-16).

Hence, when we enter the presence of God we need to fulfil four conditions the Lord Himself has listed in the above text:

1. *Enter with a true heart* – cf. *God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth. (*Jn. 4:24)
2. *in full assurance of faith –* cf*. let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed* (Jas. 1:6)*;*
3. *having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience –*

Trusting in the shed blood of Christ to cleanse away all our sin *for if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?* (Heb. 9:13, 14)

Remember: *if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin*. (I Jn. 1:7)

1. *and our bodies washed with pure water.* And we do this by…

*Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.* (II Cor. 7:1)

*That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word* (Eph. 5:26)

To sum up, as we approach the presence of God to seek help in time of need this week let us do so with a true and sincere heart, having our faith focused on Him to do that which we ask supported by a holy life cleansed from all sin from our confession of such so that or prayers are not hampered in any way with the support of holy and sanctified living – Hebrews 10:19-22:

*Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,*

*By a new and living way, which He hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true he****art in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies*** *washed with pure water.* **REFLECT.**

1. Also **C**onsider the following:

How should this **C**onfidence fashion our **C**onfession before men?

 ***Let us*** *hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering;*

 *(for He is faithful that promised;)*

and

How should this **C**onsideration make us **C**ommunicate with God’s people?

***Let us*** *consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:*

*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is;*

*but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

**REFLECT**

**P**oints To **P**onder: *Let us come boldly into the Holiest* (Heb. 10:19) *into the Presence of God.*

*We have a High Priest* (Heb. 10:21), *A Mediator* (I Tim. 2:5), *an Intercessor* (Heb. 7:25) *and an Advocate in there to plead our cause.*