

The Divine Pattern of the Priesthood

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The priesthood of Christ commenced as soon as man had sinned. He was made a priest after the order of Melchizedek. Ms43b-1891 (July 4, 1891)

Invisible Source: Heavenly Reality – Ministry of Jesus after the order of Melchizedec Heb 8:1,2

Heaven

Grace & Mercy

Faith in Promises

Grace & Mercy

Faith in Promises

Visible Cross : Lamb Manifested.
Rom 16:25; John 1:29



Mt Sinai

Earth

Visible Channel: Earthly – Symbolic Ministry. Heb 8:4,5

Visible Channel: The Royal priesthood,
The church of God. 1 Pet 2:9, Heb 12:23



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Plan of Salvation
as Revealed in Scripture. 2 Tim 3:16

1. Sacrifices Cease Daniel 9:27
2. Priesthood Changed. Heb 7:12
3. Circumcision Spiritual. Rom 2:29

As soon as Adam sinned, the Son of God presented Himself as surety for the human race, with just as much power to avert the doom pronounced upon the guilty as when He died upon the cross of Calvary. FLB 75.

Lamb Slain. Rev 13:8
Invisible Cross Isa 63:9

ES

Divine Pattern of the Priesthood

AIM:	<p>(1) To show the Divine Pattern of the Priesthood. The heavenly ministry of Christ and the earthly ministry of Aaron in the Old Testament and the royal priesthood of the church in the New Testament.</p> <p>(2) To show that the gospel is everlasting. The grace of Christ available before and after the cross</p> <p>(3) To show that the ministry of Jesus for us in Heaven is as essential to the plan of salvation as is the cross.</p>
THEME:	Christ as Priest.
OUTLINE:	Christ has been ministering His grace from the fall of man. This ministry was symbolised in the Old Testament through sacrifices and offerings and a human priesthood. Yet once Christ came and ratified the covenant the earthly symbols were no longer needed and we can access the same grace through faith in the Word of God about Christ's ministry in heaven for us. The heavenly ministry is the invisible source and the earthly ministry in the visible channel.
NOTES:	<p>The Plan of Salvation God gave to man a process of sacrifice and offerings in the Old Testament to teach him of the work of Christ on their behalf unseen by human eyes. These symbols provided a channel for man to take hold of the heavenly reality by faith. When Christ came and the gospel was revealed in the flesh, these symbols were no longer needed. We can read the story of the gospel in the Bible and accept it by faith.</p> <p>Jesus' work in the heavenly sanctuary was vital to the plan of salvation. In Heaven Jesus intercedes for us and makes effectual His work on the cross. He covers us with His righteousness. He sends to us the most precious of gifts – the Holy Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit Christ imparts to us the grace and power to live the Christian life. Reborn and strengthened by a view of the Cross, the Christian finds comfort and strength in looking by faith to Christ in the heavenly sanctuary.</p> <p>“The intercession of Christ in man's behalf in the sanctuary above is as essential to the plan of salvation as was His death upon the cross. By His death He began that work which after His resurrection He ascended to complete in heaven. We must by faith enter within the veil, “whither the forerunner is for us entered.” Hebrews 6:20. There the light from the cross of Calvary is reflected. There we may gain a clearer insight into the mysteries of redemption.” GC 489</p> <p>Jews Cling to Copies Satan, well aware of the changes to come, sought to bind their minds to the copies by making them think that they would last forever. To suggest that the temple would be removed was blasphemy. Acts 6:13,14. It was worshipped in place of its Author. See Acts 24:5,6. The channel was made to replace the source. In terms of the lamb, the Jewish leaders over time came to believe that the lamb itself atoned for the sins (Lev 17:11) of the people and when the Messiah came, He would come as King and not as sacrifice. The Jews thought that the Messiah would be a political saviour that was earthly and visible whereas the true Messiah went back to heaven and was invisible to the natural eye. The Jews also taught that the Aaronic priesthood was eternal and it was blasphemy to suggest that a change would come to this priesthood. Finally, the Jews had so twisted the meaning of the law through all their rules and regulations that they had made the true law void by their tradition, and they had established their own law to rule by their own authority. Through these turn of events, Satan sought to keep the minds of people focused on the earth so they lost sight of the priestly ministry of Christ and lose all its benefits.</p> <p>“The rending of the veil of the temple showed that the Jewish sacrifices and ordinances would no longer be received. The great Sacrifice had been offered and had been accepted, and the Holy Spirit which descended on the day of Pentecost carried the minds of the disciples from the earthly sanctuary to the heavenly, where Jesus had entered by His own blood, to shed upon His disciples the benefits of His atonement. But the Jews were left in total darkness. They lost all the light which they might have had upon the plan of salvation, and still trusted in their useless sacrifices and offerings. The heavenly sanctuary had taken the place of the earthly, yet they had no knowledge of the change. Therefore they could not be benefited by the mediation of Christ in the holy place.” <i>Early Writings</i>, page 259.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>Desire of Ages</i>, Chapter 87 – “To Your Father and My Father”.</p> <p>Divine Pattern of Life. Available on Maranathamedia.com</p> <p><i>Early Writings</i>, pages 258-261 – “A Firm Platform”.</p>