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The Uniqueness of Jesus Hebrews 6

Hebrews 6, in comparison with other chapters, has relatively little information about Jesus. The author, in Hebrews 5.11, spoke pointedly to his audience about their lack of spiritual progress — he had more and deeper things to discuss with them, but they were unable to tolerate it at the moment. The Holy Spirit reveals that they should have been teachers, yet they needed someone to come and teach them the first principles (5.12).

Throughout much of chapter 6, the author continues to speak directly to his audience about their spiritual condition. He encourages them to progress on from the first principles (6.1) and reminds them of the goodness and mindfulness of God (6.7-18). Then, in the last two verses of the chapter, the author turns his attention back to Jesus. He speaks of Jesus in language which calls back to the law of Moses. Consider the following:

As we have seen in prior chapters, **Jesus is our high priest** (6.20). Although he has covered this reality

in both chapters 2 and 4, there is more to understand about Jesus' priesthood. Note that the Holy Spirit reveals to us the nature of Jesus' high priesthood — He is of the order of Melchizedek (6.20). This is a reference to a prophecy in Psalm 110 — a psalm that is undeniably Messianic (cf. Matthew 22.43ff). Jesus is not a priest according to the Levitical system — He is a priest from a different order, thus evidencing the presence of a law other than the law of Moses.

Beyond that, **Jesus has entered behind the veil for us** (6.19-20). This is a reference to the design of the tabernacle, where a veil separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place (cf. Exodus 26.33). In the Most Holy Place, behind the veil, is where the High Priest came before God, met with God, made offerings for sin (Leviticus 16). Today, we have access into the presence of God ("behind the veil") through Jesus, who Himself is the perfect offering for sin (Heb. 4.15).

Finally, **Jesus is our forerunner**. Jesus marks the trail for us to enter fully into the presence of God. Hope (6.19) is realized in Jesus! -TS

Please feel free to contact us — we'd love to hear from you!
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