**Hebrews 7:1-10 (NIV)**   
1  This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him,   
2  and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, his name means "king of righteousness"; then also, "king of Salem" means "king of peace."   
3  Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever.   
4  Just think how great he was: Even the patriarch Abraham gave him a tenth of the plunder!   
5  Now the law requires the descendants of Levi who become priests to collect a tenth from the people--that is, their brothers--even though their brothers are descended from Abraham.   
6  This man, however, did not trace his descent from Levi, yet he collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises.   
7  And without doubt the lesser person is blessed by the greater.   
8  In the one case, the tenth is collected by men who die; but in the other case, by him who is declared to be living.   
9  One might even say that Levi, who collects the tenth, paid the tenth through Abraham,   
10  because when Melchizedek met Abraham, Levi was still in the body of his ancestor.



**Chapter 7**

[7:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A1) Melchizedek. See [Ge 14:18-20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+14%3A18-20) and notes; cf. [Ps 110:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+110%3A4) and note. king... and priest. Of particular significance is Melchizedek's holding both offices, one of the ways in which he is treated here as a prefiguration of Christ (see notes on [Zec 4:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Zec+4%3A14); [6:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Zec+6%3A13)). Salem. Jerusalem (see note on [Ge 14:18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+14%3A18)).

[7:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A2) king of righteousness... king of peace. Messianic titles (see [Isa 9:6-7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Isa+9%3A6-7); [Jer 23:5-6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+23%3A5-6) and notes).

[7:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A3) Without father... or end of life. [Ge 14:18-20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+14%3A18-20), contrary to the practice elsewhere in the early chapters of Genesis, does not mention Melchizedek's parentage and children, or his birth and death. That he was a real, historical figure is clear, but the author of Hebrews (in accordance with Jewish interpretation) uses the silence of Scripture about Melchizedek's genealogy to portray him as a prefiguration of Christ. Melchizedek's priesthood anticipates Christ's eternal existence and his unending priesthood. Some believe the appearance of Melchizedek to Abraham was a manifestation of Christ before his incarnation, but the comparison "like the Son of God" argues against such an interpretation.

[7:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A4) think how great he was. The one who receives a tithe is greater than the one who pays it, and "the lesser person is blessed by the greater" ([v. 7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A7)). In both ways Melchizedek was greater than Abraham.

**NIV Study Bible.**

**Open it**

1. What person from history do you most admire? Why?   
 **King Melchizedek. To see how he came about and what happened to him.**

2. If you could have dinner with any three Bible characters, whom would you choose? Why?   
 **Jesus, Paul, Peter. Just to listen to the chat.**

**Explore it**

3. How was Melchizedek associated with Abraham? ([7:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A1))   
 **He had met him on Abraham return from defeating the kings, and blessed Abraham**

4. What did Abraham give to Melchizedek? ([7:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A2))   
 **A tenth of the plunder, just as a priest collects**

5. What does the name Melchizedek mean? ([7:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A2))   
 **King of righteousness, of Salem and of Peace**

6. What about the Genesis record of Melchizedek’s life foreshadowed or anticipated the priesthood of Christ? ([7:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A3))   
 **He also was King of righteousness and peace.**

7. How do we know that Melchizedek was "great"? ([7:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A4))   
 **Abraham presented him with a tithe, as the priest received from their brothers**

8. How did the Mosaic law ensure that the Levitical priests were provided for? ([7:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A5))   
 **Now the law requires the descendants of Levi who become priests to collect a tenth from the people--that is, their brothers--even though their brothers are descended from Abraham.**

9. What did the ancient practice of one person blessing another say about the two parties involved? ([7:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A7))   
 **The lesser is blessed by the greater**

10. How did the tithe collected by Melchizedek differ from the tithes collected by the Levites? ([7:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A8))   
 **In the one case, the tenth is collected by men who die; but in the other case, by him who is declared to be living.**

11. How did Levi—the yet-unborn collector of tithes—pay tithes to Melchizedek? ([7:9-10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A9-10))   
 **He was in Abrahams loin, yet to be passed on and born**  
  
**Get it**

12. In what ways is Jesus like Melchizedek?   
 **Kings of righteousness and of peace**

13. What kind of behavior should the greatness of Christ elicit from us?   
 **We should realize how we stand with GOD**

**Apply it**

14. Because Jesus is great and worthy of our all, what gift of time, money, or energy will you give to Him this week?   
 **Leading the Sunday School, being an elder, running the budget numbers, IT, Visual ministry, Web site**

15. What insight from this passage can you meditate upon today to keep you from drifting away from Christ?   
 **I have been blessed by Christ and will do as he wants not as I want.**