

A GREAT HIGH PRIEST



In the Old Testament, as instructed by God, the priests would come from the Levite tribe beginning with Aaron and his sons, Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. Their duties included teaching, service and prayer. The people were to be taught the law of God by the priests. Serving was accomplished by ministering in the tabernacle and ultimately in the temple. When the nation sought God's will, it was the priests that were to pray for guidance.

From the priests would come one that was called the high priest. The high priest was the supreme religious leader of the Israelites and had to be without any physical defects and holy in his conduct (Lev. 21). Though the high priest could participate in the same activities as the other priests, there were certain duties that were his alone. The most important duty was to conduct the service on the

Day of Atonement, the tenth day of the seventh month of the year. The high priest was the only one allowed to go behind the veil to enter the Holy of Holies and stand before God. After making a sacrifice for himself and for the people, he would then bring the blood into the Holy of Holies and sprinkle it on the mercy seat, God's "throne". This was to make atonement for all (himself and the people) and for all the sins committed during the past year. It is this service that is compared to the ministry of Jesus as our High Priest.

The book of Hebrews states some significant facts about Jesus as our Great High Priest:

- Appointed by God to reflect the radiance of God's glory (Hebrews 1:1-3)
- Consecrated with an oath (others became priests without an oath) (Hebrews 7:20-22)
- He is sinless and sits at the right hand of God (Hebrews 4:15, 1:3, 7:26)
- Unchangeable priesthood (Hebrews 7:23-24)
- His offering is perfect and final (Hebrews 9:25-28, 10:8-12)

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March 4th
Potluck meal at 5:00pm.
Service at 6:00pm.
JOIN US!

Worship Texts for March					
Date		1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Mar 4	Third Sunday in Lent	Exodus 20:1-17	Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	John 2:13-25
Mar 11	Fourth Sunday in Lent	Numbers 21:4-9	Psalm 107:1-9	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
Mar 18	Fifth Sunday in Lent	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalm 119:9-16	Hebrews 5:1-10	Mark 10:32-45
Mar 25	Sunday of the Passion	Zechariah 9:9-12	Psalm 118:19-29	Philippians 2:5-11	Mark 14:1-15:47

Continued - A Great High Priest

- He intercedes continually (Hebrews 7:24-25)
- He is the only mediator (1 Tim 2:5)

Consider taking the opportunity during this month of Lent to reflect on the ramifications of Jesus being our Great High Priest.

Hebrews 13:11-16

11 The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp. 12 *And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.* 13 Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore. 14 For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come. 15 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. 16 And **do not forget to do good and to share with others**, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

***We are the people of God!
We are a priesthood of believers!***



WHAT YOU CAN COUNT ON!

1. The Bible will have all the answers.
2. Prayer is still the most powerful thing on earth.
3. The Holy Spirit still moves.
4. God still honors the praises of His people.
5. There is, and will be, God-anointed preaching.
6. There is, and will be, singing of praises to God.
7. God will pour out blessings upon His people.
8. Jesus still loves you.
9. Jesus will save the lost when they come to Him in faith.
10. There is still room at the Cross.

A cautious preacher concluded his sermon with the words: "The sinners referred to in my sermon are fictitious. Any similarity to members of this congregation is strictly coincidental!"

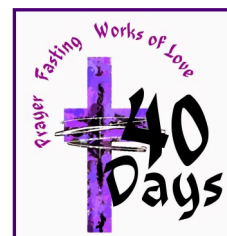
—Tal Bonham



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Fast from gossip;
Feast on the Gospels.
Fast from junk foods;
Feast on the Bread of Life.
Fast from bad news;
Feast on "The Good News."
Fast from darkness;
Feast on the Light.
Fast from the secular;
Feast on the sacred.
Fast from despair;
Feast on hope.
Fast from revenge;
Feast on forgiveness.
Fast from tears of sorrow;
Feast on tears of joy.
Fast from getting;
Feast on giving.
Fast from complexities;
Feast on simplicities.
Fast from horror;
Feast on humor.
Fast from listlessness;
Feast on laughter.

—Rev. James A. Gillespie



Word of Life Core Values

- ***Jesus is Lord.***
- ***Jesus is our guide.***
- ***Forgiveness of sin leads to healing.***
- ***Prayer changes things.***
- ***Faith is God's gracious gift that saves.***