

# Hebrews 7:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchisedec met him.

## Analysis

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Levi was 'still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him.' This emphasizes the representative principle and establishes temporal priority - Melchizedek's priesthood predates the Levitical priesthood by centuries. What existed before the law and outside its system can also exist after it. Christ's priesthood isn't a novelty but a return to the superior, pre-Levitical order instituted by God's oath.

## Historical Context

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Abraham lived c. 2000 BC, Moses and the Levitical law c. 1400 BC. Melchizedek's priesthood predated the law by 600 years, demonstrating that the Levitical system was a later, temporary insertion in God's redemptive plan, not the original or final word.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does the pre-existence of Melchizedek's priesthood challenge the idea that Mosaic law is God's ultimate revelation?
2. What does the temporal priority of faith and priesthood over law teach about God's redemptive method?

## Interlinear Text

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ἔτι γὰρ ἐν τῇ ὀσφύϊ τοῦ πατρὸς ἦν ὅτε  
**yet** **For** **in** G3588 **the loins** G3588 **of his father** **he was** **when**  
G2089 G1063 G1722 G3751 G3962 G2258 G3753

συνήντησεν αὐτῷ ὁ Μελχισέδεκ  
**met** **him** G3588 **Melchisedec**  
G4876 G846 G3198

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