

Hebrews 7:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.

Analysis

Melchizedek was 'without father, without mother, without descent' not literally but in the Genesis record—no genealogy is given. 'Having neither beginning of days nor end of life' refers to the silence of Scripture about his birth or death. He appears and disappears from the biblical narrative mysteriously. 'Made like unto the Son of God' means his biblical presentation (not his actual nature) typifies Christ's eternal priesthood. 'Abideth a priest continually' describes both his unrecorded end and Christ's eternal priesthood.

Historical Context

Levitical priests required genealogical proof (Ezra 2:62). Melchizedek's priesthood transcended genealogy, depending solely on divine appointment—like Christ's priesthood, which derives from divine Sonship not human descent.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's eternal priesthood without beginning or end give you greater confidence than temporary human priests?
2. What does it mean that Christ 'abideth a priest continually' for you today?

Interlinear Text

ἀπάτωρ	ἀμήτωρ	ἀγενεαλόγητος	μήτε	ἀρχὴν		
Without father	without mother	without descent	neither	beginning		
G540	G282	G35	G3383	G746		
ἡμερῶν	μήτε	ζωῆς	τέλος	ἔχων	ἀφωμοιωμένος	δὲ τῷ
of days	neither	of life	end	having	made like	but
G2250	G3383	G2222	G5056	G2192	G871	G3588
τῷ	τοῦ	θεοῦ	μένει	ἱερεὺς	εἰς	τὸ διηνεκές
unto the Son		of God	abideth	a priest	continually	
G5207	G3588	G2316	G3306	G2409	G1519	G3588
						G1336

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 7:17 (Parallel theme): For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

Hebrews 7:6 (Parallel theme): But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises.

Matthew 4:3 (Creation): And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.

Exodus 6:18 (Parallel theme): And the sons of Kohath; Amram, and Izhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel: and the years of the life of Kohath were an hundred thirty and three years.