

WHO IS MELCHIZEDEK?

MELCHIZEDEK IS A PRIEST-KING mentioned in Genesis 14 who ruled over Salem (Jerusalem). After rescuing his nephew Lot from raiders, Abraham pays tithes of the plunder to Melchizedek. It's an act of faith with prophetic significance. Abraham recognizes God's anointing on Melchizedek and accepts him as a king and priest despite his lack of earthly credentials.

Hebrews 7:3 says Melchizedek was "Without father or mother or genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest for all time." Three possibilities of his origin exist:

1. His genealogy was unknown,
2. It was known but not documented, or
3. It didn't exist because Melchizedek was the pre-incarnate Christ.

Though the third option is possible, it's more likely his heritage is unmentioned because he is a type of Christ, not Christ Himself. Melchizedek seems to have no beginning or end because we don't know his origin or his fate.

Whether literal or symbolic, his mysterious heritage points to Jesus, who is eternal and has no beginning or end. Melchizedek foreshadows the eternal Christ who existed before the law, supersedes the law, and reigns as both king and priest over a spiritual kingdom represented by Jerusalem. Like Melchizedek, Jesus's authority comes not from lineage or the law but directly from God the Father.