

Hebrews

The Order of Melchizedek

Interpreting the Text:

1. What do we learn about the intended audience of this letter from the emphasis placed on the figures of Melchizedek and Abraham? Would this particular connection be received well by different audiences (consider a gentile audience in particular)?
2. How does Jesus introduce a 'new priesthood' and 'new law' in this chapter? What are the authors' key examples?

Applying the Text:

1. There is a discussion of tithes in chapter 7 and an explanation of how we came to the practice of giving 10% to our priests and ministers. How would you use this passage from Hebrews in a stewardship or fundraising campaign?
2. Does the description of a high priest in chapter 7 affect how you think about ministers and leaders in your own church?