

***International Bible Lessons***  
***“Teaching the Truth in Love”***  
***Sending International Sunday School Lessons and Bible Studies Around the World***  
**L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.**

**Why Will Jesus Never Disappoint Us?**

The *International Sunday School Lesson* for Sunday June 8, 2008  
Hebrews 7:20-28

*“But Jesus holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them”* (Hebrews 7:24-25—NRSV).

*“But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.”* (Hebrews 7:24-25—KJV).

Many people can remember a beloved minister, pastor, or priest who made a positive, life-transforming impact on their lives. If they moved to a new congregation, retired, or died, those they left behind felt sorrow at their loss. Similarly, for hundreds of years, thousands of priests served the Jewish people, passing on their responsibilities to those in the tribe of Levi who followed them.

Unlike other pastors (shepherds) or priests, and in fulfillment of the prophecy in Psalms 110:4, the Letter to the Hebrews insists that Jesus the Messiah is: “a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek” (see Hebrews 5:6, 6:20, 7:17). As a priest forever, Jesus will never disappoint believers; for “he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him.” No matter what temptations, trials, or troubles believers face, He is able to rescue them and grant them assurance of life eternal. The condition for His saving people is their willingness to “approach God through him.”

Death did not prevent Jesus from continuing in the office of priest or king. Jesus died, but His body did not decay (Psalms 16:10; Acts 2:27, 13:35). Moreover, Jesus died with a holy purpose according to the will of God, His Father. The Apostle Paul wrote, “Christ died for our sins . . . was buried . . . and was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3-5). King Jesus will serve as a priest forever. He meets the needs of all believers, and “he always lives to make intercession for them.” — Copyright 2008 L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

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## Questions for Further Thought or Class Discussion

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Hebrews 7:20-28

Think about your answers to the questions below before your Sunday school class meets, discuss in class, or use for further study. In some cases, I do not always write the questions to have a definitive right or wrong answer. In most cases, the questions should encourage everyone to think about how to apply biblical truths to their daily lives. Before beginning to answer the questions below, read the entire Scripture lesson in your favorite translation or compare translations. Write your thoughts in the space provided and take them to your Sunday school class for discussion.

1. How might God changing His mind regarding Jesus have an effect upon your relationship with Him? How might your changing your thoughts about Jesus have an effect on you?
2. How does Jesus guarantee a better covenant or relationship between God and believers now that He has come, lived, died, rose again in our world, and ascended into heaven?
3. In what ways do the former priests differ from Jesus as our high priest? In what ways is Jesus a better priest than they were?
4. How does it make you feel, knowing that Jesus is praying for you right now? How is His intercession for you different from other forms of praying?
5. Why must we approach God through Jesus?

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