

Hebrews 7:3-7

Hebrews 7:3 (NOTES)

- "Without father, without mother" - Some scholars who argue for typology suggest the phrase means simply that no one knew who they were. This seems a stretch. There is no reason to read such into the text (eisegesis). The text says MZ was "without" parents. The context of MZ's description in this passage is that of an eternal being, not an orphan, which would have been a much easier way to describe His background, if that is what God intended for us to understand about Him. The word *orphan* and variations of it appear throughout Scripture.
- "without genealogy" - The same scholars suggest that His genealogy must have been lost. The text doesn't indicate it was lost, or unknown, but rather that he did not have one. We must accept the text as it is plainly written. The Hebrew word for "without genealogy" is *agenealogetos* (a = without, genealogetos = genealogy). The word does not appear anywhere else in the text of the Bible, OT or NT. The word had to be coined for the purpose of this text of Scripture. The concept did not exist elsewhere in ancient Jewish theology or culture until it was used as a descriptor of MZ in this NT book (Hebrews). Prior to this description of MZ, it did not occur to the Ancient Jews that such a person with no parents, birth, death, or pedigree could exist, with the single exception of the two people God created (Adam and Eve), and even in their case the concept of their being without lineage was absent from the Jewish consciousness.
- "neither beginning of days nor end of life" - Yet again, these same scholars say no one knew when He was born or when He died. These all seem stretches. God is omnipotent, and God breathed (inspired) the text we are studying this evening. If there was a date of birth or a date of death, God could easily have inspired the writer of Hebrews with that data. We see the same controversy with liberal scholars over the meaning of the word "day" in the creation account. It is possible that God meant something else, but He goes out of His way to lead to the belief that by it He meant a 24-hour period of time.
- Exodus 20:11
- "made like the Son of God" - "Made" (Heb. -) means *caused to be*. The use of the words "like the Son" are reminiscent of the phrase "like a Son of Man", which was descriptive of the preincarnate Christ in Daniel 7, and of Jesus in the Revelation.
- Daniel 7:13, Revelation 1:13, 14:14
- "he remains a priest perpetually" - This means that He, not His priesthood, continues forever. If MZ remains a priest forever, when does He move out of the way for Jesus to become High Priest, if He is not Jesus? But that is just the point: He remains a priest forever because He is the preincarnate Christ.

- "made like the Son of God, he remains a priest perpetually" - He is the Son of God and, thus, remains a priest forever.

Hebrews 7:4 (NOTES)

- "observe how great this man was" - The writer will argue that MZ was greater than any earthly priest because He received a tithe from the father (Abraham) of those to whom such law was given to collect it, and He collected it without there being a law requiring it. MZ did not need a law to collect a tithe because He was God.
- "tenth of the choicest spoils" - Abraham's example of giving the choicest as His offering is a lesson for us in our tithing/giving to God. We should not give Him our seconds, or that which we would happily give away, but rather should always give Him our best. If it doesn't cost us something to give to God, there is little value in it.
- 2Samuel 24:24

Hebrews 7:5 (NOTES)

- "sons of Levi" - The tribe of Levi was chosen by God to be the tribe of Israel's priesthood. Moses and Aaron were Levites. Aaron was the first of the Levitical Priests. The Levites were commanded to collect the tithe.
- Exodus 6:25-26, 28:1-3, Leviticus 27:30-31, Numbers 18:21-26

Hebrews 7:6 (NOTES)

- "the one whose genealogy is not traced from them" - MZ. He was not a descendant of Levi, or Abraham for that matter. MZ was not even Jewish, for only those who descended from Abraham are of the Jewish race. Once the Son of God came to the earth as the man, Jesus, He then became a Jew.
- "the one who had the promises" - Abraham is the one who had the promises. They were given to Abraham and his Seed (Christ).
- Galatians 3:16

Hebrews 7:7 (NOTES)

- "lesser is blessed by the greater" - Abraham (the lesser) is blessed by MZ (the greater). Abraham is the father of the Hebrew nation, God's chosen people. How can he be the lesser if MZ is just an ordinary man, and not even of God's chosen people? Abraham is the lesser because MZ is the preincarnate Christ.