

Note: In Heb. 7:28 we are told that Jesus who was David's Lord was appointed and confirmed with an oath to be a priest after the law had been given. It doesn't say how long after the law had been given that this took place. I suggest that it took place before David's Lord came to earth.

b. Function of the priesthood vs. 4b

According to Heb. 5:1, a priest is to do two things:

(1) He is to offer sacrifice for sin. cf. Heb 5:1b

Jesus did this when He offered Himself once for all as a sacrifice for sin cf. Heb. 7:27b

(2) He is to represent men before God cf. Heb. 5:1a

Jesus has been doing this ever since He ascended into heaven and He is doing it today cf. Heb. 7:25

Note: Jesus only intercedes for true believers i.e., those who come to God through Him.

c. Duration of the priesthood vs. 4b

David predicted that his Lord will be a priest "forever" vs. 4b. The author of Hebrews says that because Jesus lives forever, He has a permanent priesthood and because He has a permanent priesthood, He is able to save completely all who come to God through Him because He always lives to intercede (one of the functions of a priest) for them cf. Heb. 7:24,25.

d. Origin of the priesthood vs. 4b

David predicted that his Lord will be a priest after the order of Melchizedek. Why? Because David's Lord was to be both a king and a priest and Melchizedek was both a king and a priest. He was king of Salem (Gen. 14:18 and Heb. 7:1) and a priest of the Most High God (Gen. 14:18 and Heb 7:1). Thus the priesthood of David's Lord finds its origin in the priesthood of Melchizedek and not in the priesthood of Aaron, for if David's Lord were to be priest after the order of Aaron, He couldn't be both a king and a priest at the same time. The reason is this: In order to be king, David's Lord would have to descend from the tribe of Judah as far