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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church  
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Series: Melchizedek

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Date: 2/18/15  
Heb.10:19-25  
File: D150218

### **VIRTUOUS PRIESTLY SERVICE (Part 1)**

This is the sixth lesson in the series entitled, Melchizedek. Our lesson text is one of the longest sentences in the NT (Heb.10:19-25).

In Hebrews Chapters 5-10, the writer has taught on the superiority of high priesthood of Jesus Christ.

In this lesson, he outlines four virtues important to the Church Age Believer's (CAB) priesthood service to the local church body.

**How do I know he is talking about the local church?** The answer is found in the last verse of our lesson text (Heb.10:25).

- Do you suppose God is smart enough to know about internet communications? Technology like the printing press, radio, TV, etc. through-out the world? [Technology is never ahead of God.]
- Do you suppose God knows that you are not omnipresence (everywhere)?
- The local church is the geographical place of primary priestly service in the Church Age (Acts 20:28; 11:22-26; 14:21-27).

**This lesson will study four aspects of the four Virtuous Priestly Services to the local church body.**

1. Every Church Age Believer (CAB) is a Royal Priest after the order of Jesus Christ, based on Grace Salvation (1 Pet.2:5, 9).

(1 Pet.2:9) "But you are a chosen race (eklektos genos), a **royal priesthood** (basileios hierateuma), a holy nation (hagios ethnos), a people for God's own possession (laos peripoiesis), **so that (hopos) [divine purpose] you may proclaim the Excellencies (tas arête) [the virtues] of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.**" (Acts 26:18; Col.1:13-14)

**Heb.10:19-25** will identify four divine virtues of the royal priesthood services to the local church body of believers.

Writer of Hebrews divided our lesson text into two sections (Heb.10:19-20 and 10:21-25).

- "Since (oun/ inferential conjunction) [understood from Heb.10:17-18] **therefore**, brethren, **we have** (echo/p.a.ptc.nplm) **confidence** (parrhesia/ asm/ direct object of echo)
  - Confidence is important to our priesthood service to local church.
- "Since we have such [understood from Heb.10:19-20] a **great priest** (asm/ direct object of echo) over the house of God. (Heb.10:21-25)
  - Four virtues are important to our priestly service to other believers.

2. While our Church Age Believer (CAB) Priesthood is 1 of 20 status privileges of package in grace salvation ([50 Things Free](#)), the four Virtues of our Church Age Priesthood service come from our spiritual growth (Eph.4:11-13; Phil.3:15-16).

Confidence of our priesthood status precedes our priesthood service.

The writer of the book of Hebrews identifies **four virtues of priesthood** by three hortatory (p.a.sub.1pl) translated “let us”.

**The Subjunctive** is viewed as possible, contingent upon certain conditions.

**The Hortatory subjunctive** (first person plural) [let us] encourages others to follow in the action.

#### FIND THE VIRTUES

- (Heb.10:22) “Draw near” (proserchomai) [Resurrection, Ascension and Session of Jesus] (Heb.4:14-16) **How?**
- (Heb.10:23) “Hold fast” (kathecho) [to have a firm grip on] **What?**
- (Heb.10:24a) “Consider” (katanoeo) [to have hold of one’s attention] **What?**
- (Heb.10:24b) “Consider” [one’s undivided attention] **What?**

(**Titus 2:14**) (kalos) [Divine Good that comes from spiritual growth maturity] Hold fast to the good doctrines (1 Thess.5:21-22).

### 3. **These four virtues of our priesthood service to the local church body are products of our spiritual growth maturity (Heb.10:22-24).**

Write them on the blank lines.

(Heb.11:6) \_\_\_\_\_

(Rom.4:17-21) \_\_\_\_\_

(1 Cor.13:13; Col.1:4-5) \_\_\_\_\_

(James 2:17-26) \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. **The writer of Hebrews, to the believers of his day, closed our lesson text with a warning about how forsaking our assembly affected their priesthood ministry.**

(Heb.10:25) “**Not forsaking** (me egkataleipo/ p.a.ptc.nplm) our own assembling together (ten episunagogue/ asf), as is the habit of some, **but** (alla/ adversative) **encourage** (parakaleo/ p.a.ptc.nplm) **one another**; and all the more as you see (blepo/ p.a.ind.2pl) the day drawing near (The 5<sup>th</sup> cycle of Divine Discipline upon Israel would occur in 3 – 4 years of the writing).”

**Not Forsaking:** (Matt.27:46; Acts 2:27, 31; 2 Tim.4:16-17; 2 Cor.4:9; Heb.13:5)

- Every Church Age Believer (CAB) is a Royal Priest based on the resurrection, ascension and session of Jesus Christ.
- Priestly service is given to other Church Age Believers (CABs) on the basis of God’s grace in Jesus Christ.
- Reaching and maintaining spiritual growth maturity results in the consistent manifestation of the four virtues of the believer-priest’s life / walk. (Faith, hope, love and good works - Divine Production).
- Forsaking the assembly with the local church body amounts to deserting ones priestly service.
- Intercessory prayer is an important part of our priestly service (1 Tim.2:1-4).
- The exercise of our spiritual gift is a priestly service to our local church body.
  - (1 Pet.4:10) “As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” (1 Cor.12:12-27)