Jesus Christ: Our Unchanging Priest

Heb. 7:20-28

Introduction:

A. Hebrew Christians understood earthly priesthood -- qualifications and functions.
   1. High priests offered gifts and sacrifices. (Heb. 5:1; 8:3).
      a. Presided Over Annual Atonement. (Lev. 16).
      b. Various sin offerings. (Lev. 4).
      c. Daily grain (meal KJV) offering. (Lev. 6).
   2. Common priest served at all sacrifices -- could not enter Holy of Hollies.

B. All Christians need to understand New Testament Priesthood.
   1. Christ is our High Priest. (Heb. 3:1)
   3. Catholic priesthood not in the picture.

C. Hebrew writer compares and contrasts Jesus's priesthood with Levitical Priesthood.

Discussion:

I. Jesus is Our Sacrificial High Priest.
   A. Both priest and sacrifice. (Heb. 8:3,4; 9:7-14,24-28).
   B. Both atonement and sin offering. (Heb. 10:1-15).

II. Jesus is Our Sanctioned High Priest.
   A. God called him to the priesthood. (Heb. 5:4-10).
   B. God changed law to permit His priesthood. (Heb. 7:12-22).

III. Jesus is Our Superior High Priest.
   A. Greater than Levi. (Heb. 7:1-11).
   B. Both King and Priest. (Heb. 7:1,2).
   C. Both Son and Priest. (Heb. 5:5,6).

IV. Jesus is Our Stable High Priest.
   A. Not subject to death. (Heb. 7:23-25).
   B. Not subject to human failure. (Heb. 7:26-28).

V. Jesus is Our Suitable High Priest.
   A. Understands both God and man. (Heb. 2:14-18; 4:14-16; 5:7-10).
   B. Has traveled entire route ahead of us. (Heb. 6:18-20).

Conclusion:

A. His priesthood is unchangeable in every respect we have discussed.
B. His priesthood is over the house of God. (Heb. 10:21).
C. His priestly benefits are conditional. (cf. Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:7-9).