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In the marvels of the Bible and understanding the connection of scripture, as well as individuals, between the Old and New Testaments there often occurs a need to understand as to how events and circumstances occur across these two Testaments in mankind's history. For example without knowing the creation story of Genesis in the Old Testament there is a gap in understanding the story of Jesus in the New Testament. Jesus was present throughout the Old Testament, in fact He was present at the creation of the Earth and Universe, and He knew each of us during the creation and at that time established a plan for each of our lives. He knew our destiny and the end of our lives at that time or what we call predestination. We have a hard time reconciling why things happen in our lives which can be a mystery to us without understanding that He gave each of us "a free will" for decision making with His intent for us to become a disciple of His and claim Eternal Life with Him in an Eternal Heaven on an Eternal Earth. Our sin nature also has to be understood from the fall of mankind in the Garden of Eden as also reconciled in Genesis of the Old Testament and the path to redemption and reconciliation with God in the New Testament.

Melchizedek is one of those mysteries across the Testaments with little described about the individual, yet he holds a key between the link of Jesus in the Old Testament and Jesus in the New Testament. In Gen 14:1-24 Melchizedek, King of Salem and also known as the King of Righteousness, is identified in the Old Testament as a King and Priest first written in a connection with Abram after Abram's return from battle having defeated King Chedorlaomer and his allied other kings. Abram, later known as Abraham, paid tribute to Melchizedek with ten percent of the spoils, the first mention of Tithes in the Bible, taken in this battle that occurred in the Valley of the Kings. Some theologians consider Melchizedek as a grandson of Lamech in the priestly line from Methuselah, son of Enoch and oldest man in Bible history, directly to the second son of Lamech, Nir who was the brother of Noah. There is no evidence of this lineage in the scripture as the unique Book of Hebrews with no named author but God, describes in Heb 7:1-28 Melchizedek as a Priest without father, mother, or genealogy having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, who is Jesus, to abide a Priest forever. Jesus is the only other Priest in the Bible without genealogy as he exists in the Trinity of God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit which are One. Neither Melchizedek nor Jesus had a genealogy connected to the Levites who were set aside as priests to the Tribes of Israel. King David in Psalms 110:4 is described also as a Priest forever, although he had a father, mother, and genealogy not from the Levites but from the Tribe of Judah. God told David that He would rule in the midst of David's enemies and also swore He would not change His mind and that David was to be a Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Heb 5:6-14 outlines the attributes of a perfect High Priest with no others before or after Melchizedek taken from man except David. This High Priest has to be able to offer sacrifices for sins of the people and for himself. That High Priest was Jesus bestowed on Him by God who said, 'thou art My Son, today I have begotten You, thou art a Priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek'. Remember Jesus was God before He became flesh as a Son of God born to a virgin Mary His Mother. Jesus in the flesh offered up both prayer and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One (God) able to save Him from death in the flesh and He was heard because of His piety. He (Jesus) learned in the flesh obedience from His suffering and was made perfect to become the source of salvation for those of us that obey Him as being designated by God as a High Priest by the order of Melchizedek.

Since Melchizedek was not a man in the flesh, we might conjecture that he was and is a supernatural being not in flesh but in spirit as a type of Angel not equal to God but a representative of God. Abram was

visited by Angels several times where he had conversations with them, example when he was told that because of his Tithe he would be blessed by God and told that his reward would be great. The great reward was that he and Sarai to be Sarah would have a son who would be the father of many descendants as many as the stars of Heaven (unable to count). This reward was fulfilled many years later with the birth of Isaac. In addition Abrams name was changed to Abraham and a Covenant was made with him as to possessing the Promised Land also many years later.

We must always remember that the Israelites always had enemies to fight, even to this day, because they failed as God commanded them to destroy all the Canaanites from the lands that God gave them after their 400 years of captivity in Egypt. Although they finally occupied the Promised land, through all the rule of the twelve tribes, then the judges, and then the kings, to this day they have not possessed the land and gradually lost all of it except that which exists as Israel today which they are constantly defending with the fourth largest military in the world.

But the Book of Revelation finalizes the program through all of the Old and New Testaments in Rev 19:16 "He has a name written King of Kings and Lord of Lords" followed by Rev 21:6 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End".

Life is lived Forward but understood from the Past. Know the lessons learned from the Bible with Study and Prayer and live righteously.