Hebrews 6:13- 7:10

**Digging Deeper in the Word**

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***Hebrews 6:13–7:10*** (ESV)  
**13** For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, **14** saying, “Surely I will bless you and multiply you.” **15** And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise. **16** For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. **17** So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, **18** so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. **19** We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, **20** where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.  
  
**1** For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, **2** and to him Abraham apportioned a tenth part of everything. He is first, by translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then he is also king of Salem, that is, king of peace. **3** He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever.   
  
**4** See how great this man was to whom Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth of the spoils! **5** And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to take tithes from the people, that is, from their brothers, though these also are descended from Abraham. **6** But this man who does not have his descent from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises. **7** It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. **8** In the one case tithes are received by mortal men, but in the other case, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. **9** One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, **10** for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

1. Summarize Hebrews 6:1-12.
2. In Heb. 6:15, Abraham is quoted to have “patiently waited”. How does patience correlate to the reference in Gen. 22:15-19? In other words, how did Abraham “obtain the promise”? See Deu. 7:6-13 for a cross-reference to the promise made to Abraham.

***Genesis 22:15–19*** (ESV)  
**15** And the angel of YHWH called to Abraham a second time from heaven **16** and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares YHWH, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, **17** I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, **18** and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.” **19** So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.

***Deuteronomy 7:6–13*** (ESV)  
**6** “For you are a people holy to YHWH your God. YHWH your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. **7** It was not because you were more in number than any other people that YHWH set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, **8** but it is because YHWH loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that YHWH has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. **9** Know therefore that YHWH your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, **10** and repays to their face those who hate him, by destroying them. He will not be slack with one who hates him. He will repay him to his face. **11** You shall therefore be careful to do the commandment and the statutes and the rules that I command you today. **12** “And because you listen to these rules and keep and do them, YHWH your God will keep with you the covenant and the steadfast love that he swore to your fathers. **13** He will love you, bless you, and multiply you. He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your wine and your oil, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock, in the land that he swore to your fathers to give you.

1. What are the rules for a vow between two men? See Num. 30:1-2.

***Numbers 30:1–2*** (ESV)  
**1** Moses spoke to the heads of the tribes of the people of Israel, saying, “This is what YHWH has commanded. **2** If a man vows a vow to YHWH, or swears an oath to bind himself by a pledge, he shall not break his word. He shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.

1. As a review, who is Melchizedek and what is his connection to Yeshua?
2. What are the “two unchangeable things” referred to in Hebrews 6:18?
3. What is referred to in Hebrews 6:19 by the phase “a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain”?
4. In Hebrews 6:20, what does it mean that Yeshua was a “forerunner on our behalf”? What are the implications for us?
5. What is the significance of Abraham’s gift in Heb. 7:2?
6. Is Melchizedek truly without a mother and father? What is meant by “having neither beginning of days nor end of life” in Hebrew 7:3?
7. In Heb. 7:4, Abraham is honoring a command in Torah before it was even recorded by Moses.
8. Why is the tithe to the priests (which is commanded in Deu. 14:28-29) honoring to Yeshua, based on the context of Heb. 7:5)?

***Deuteronomy 14:28–29*** (ESV)  
**28** “At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up within your towns. **29** And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that YHWH your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do.

1. In Heb. 7:6, why is it important that the author specifies that Melchizedek blessed Abraham after receiving a tithe, even though he “did not descend from [the Levitical priests]”?  Remember, according to the Torah, the Levitical priests are the only people to receive a tithe from the people of Israel.
2. By receiving a tithe from Abraham, what does this infer about Melchizedek’s importance?
3. In Heb. 7:8, it is stated that Melchizedek still lives.  How does this make argumentative sense, according to the train of logic that the author is making?
4. The author is saying that, in a way, Levi paid a tithe to Melchizedek.  How?
5. What is the overall purpose of the author’s discussion about Melchizedek? What is the point of his argument, and how does it relate to why he is writing to Hebrews?