

## Scripture Reading

Genesis 14:18–20 (NIV)

<sup>18</sup> Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, <sup>19</sup> and he blessed Abram, saying, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. <sup>20</sup> And praise be to God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand.” Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

### 1) Introducing Melchizedek

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Psalm 76:1–2 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> God is renowned in Judah; in Israel his name is great. <sup>2</sup> His tent is in Salem, his dwelling place in Zion.

### 2) David is a type of Royal Priest

2 Samuel 6:17–19 (NIV)

<sup>17</sup> They brought the ark of the LORD and set it in its place inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and David sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings before the LORD. <sup>18</sup> After he had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD Almighty. <sup>19</sup> Then he gave a loaf of bread, a cake of dates and a cake of raisins to each person in the whole crowd of Israelites, both men and women. And all the people went to their homes.

Psalm 110:1–7 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> The LORD says to my lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.” <sup>2</sup> The LORD will extend your mighty scepter from Zion, saying, “Rule in the midst of your enemies!” <sup>3</sup> Your troops will be willing on your day of battle. Arrayed in holy splendor, your young men will come to you like dew from the morning’s womb. <sup>4</sup> The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind: “You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.” <sup>5</sup> The Lord is at your right

hand; he will crush kings on the day of his wrath. <sup>6</sup> He will judge the nations, heaping up the dead and crushing the rulers of the whole earth. <sup>7</sup> He will drink from a brook along the way, and so he will lift his head high.

### 3) Jesus is our royal priest

Hebrews 5:5–6 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup> In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father.”

<sup>6</sup> And he says in another place, “You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.”

Hebrews 9:11–12 (NIV)

<sup>11</sup> But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. <sup>12</sup> He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

### 4) We are a royal priesthood

1 Peter 2:4–9 (NIV)

<sup>4</sup> As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—<sup>5</sup> you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” <sup>7</sup> Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” <sup>8</sup> and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Revelation 5:9–10 (NIV)

<sup>9</sup> And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. <sup>10</sup> You have made

them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.”

Revelation 22:1–5 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup> No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. <sup>4</sup> They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.