

WE ARE PRIESTS OF GOD! WE ARE NOT LEVITES.

by Richard Aaron Honorof

Yeshua has brought us into His Priesthood; it cost Him a Great Price. It cost Yeshua His life, given for us on the Cross, dying for all of our sins. We will never fully know how much He really suffered in order to save us. He did this because of His Great LOVE for us!

We have been made Yeshua's Priests. As New Covenant believers, we have been brought into the Priesthood of Heaven, the Priesthood of the KING of Glory, the Melchi Zedek Priesthood, "My King of Righteousness". We have come from death into Life and been made Priests of God because of the greatest sacrifice of all. We must never take Yeshua's Gift lightly.

This Heavenly Priesthood was first prophesized by God in Exodus 19:5,6, " 'Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be to Me a special treasure above all people; for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me **a Kingdom of priests** and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the sons of Israel."

David also prophesized about this Priesthood in Psalm 110:4, The LORD has sworn and will not relent, "You are **a Priest forever according to the Order of Melchi Zedek!**"

And in Revelation 1:3-6, Yeshua's beloved Yochanan (John) was told,
3 "Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and **keep those things which are written in it;** for the time is near.
4 John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, 5 and from Yeshua the Messiah, the Faithful Witness, the Firstborn from the dead, and the Ruler over the kings of the earth. **To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own Blood.** 6 And **He has made us kings and priests to His God and Father.** To Him be Glory and Dominion, forever and ever. Amen." See Rev 5:8-10

This paper is being written to address and expose a very serious error now being widely promoted throughout the Body of Christian and Messianic believers in Yeshua. This error is the belief that we, as Priests who worship and intercede before God (at the Tent of David) are still to be called **Levites!** This is a major error, for it is in direct opposition to what Yeshua has done.

In Amos 9:11-15 we read: 11 “On that day I will raise up **the Succah of David** which has fallen down, and repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, and rebuild it as in the days of old; 12 That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and all the Goyim (Peoples) who are called by My name,” says the LORD, who does this thing. 13 “Behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “When the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed. The mountains shall drip with sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it. 14 I will bring back the captives of My people Israel. They shall build the waste cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink wine from them; they shall also make gardens and eat fruit from them. 15 I will plant them in their land, and no longer shall they be pulled up from the land I have given them,” says the LORD your God.

In Isaiah 16:5, we read: “**In Mercy the Throne** will be established; and **One** will sit on it in Truth, **in the Tent of David**, **Judging** and seeking **Justice**, and speeding **Righteousness.**” (see Daniel 9:24)

The **One** who sits on **this Throne** is **the KING!** This Throne is located within **the Tent of David**. **God’s Mercy** has now replaced **the Mercy Seat**. Inside the Tent of David was the place where the High Priest (Zadok) of the Aaronic Priesthood and possible other priests of the Aaronic Priesthood could come. (1st Kings 1:38-40)

Therefore, **this KING** in the Tent of David is also **HIGH PRIEST!** **This KING PRIEST is God Himself, YESHUA, the KING OF GLORY!** The Isaiah 16:5 prophesy shows that those who serve **this KING YESHUA** in this Tent of David are **only His Priests of the Melchi Zedek Priesthood**. Isaiah 16:5 is not a work of Priests or Levites of the Aaronic Priesthood.

I believe that King David was also allowed to go into the Tent of David by God. However that is a different subject, and not the issue of this paper. For those interested I have addressed that subject, in depth, in two papers which I have written. Go to my website, and under the section called ‘Author’s Articles’, look for “Mysteries of the Tent or Succah of David”, and “RESTORING THE FALLEN TENT OF DAVID, Amos 9:11-15” <http://www.FeedMySheepJerusalem.com>

The Levites were stationed continually just outside this Tent of David, but they were never allowed to even look in! They performed their new duties of high praise, worship and intercession given to them by King David.

By God's unbreakable Word, Levites were never allowed into this Tent of David except to carry the ARK of the Covenant in and out of this Tent. They could only enter this Tent after the ARK had been properly covered by the High Priest or other priests, or both the Levites and Priests could die! Numbers 3:5-10; Numbers 3:29-31; Numbers 4:1-6,15-20; Numbers 18:1-7; Leviticus 16:1-34; 1st Samuel 6:19-21; 2nd Samuel 6:3-7,17; 1st Chronicles 13:7-10; 1st Chronicles 15:11-15; 2nd Samuel 15:24.... Please read these.

From all the families of the tribe of Levi, God choose only Aaron and his sons to become the Aaronic Priesthood. And besides the sons of Aaron, **none of the other Levites were ever Priests, or were ever allowed directly into the Presence of God.** Only the Levites were set apart by God from all the other tribes of Israel to serve Aaron and his sons (the Aaronic Priesthood), performing their many different duties. Numbers 3:5-10

Calling ourselves Levites is so far from the Truth of the Word of God. This is in direct opposition to what Yeshua accomplished for us on the Cross. Yeshua died to bring all mankind out of the Aaronic Priesthood structure, (which separated Priests from Levites and from all the people of the other tribes of Israel, and from all the Gentiles from the nations), and to bring us all into God's Kingdom and into His Presence, as His Kingdom **Priests of the Melchi Zedek Priesthood**, His own Heavenly Priesthood.

See the Heart of Yeshua on this subject, "Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My Glory, which you have given Me." John 17:24

Why would we ever want to go backwards and call ourselves Levites? Especially now after we know the Truth. This is truly wrong teaching. In whatever ways we allow the enemy of our soul to deceive us, this only opens the doors for more deceptions to come, and keeps us in a small place.

God has warned us that in the last days that deceptions would creep into the Body of Messiah, and if possible, to deceive even God's elect. We are His front line soldiers. We must cover each other, and stay awake. Matthew 24:4, 24; Mark 13:5; Ephesians 4:14-16; 1st Timothy 4:1; Hebrew 13:9.

This major error of replacement theology, instead of stating the Truth of who we are as Priests of God in the Order of Melchi Zedek, only brings confusion to our witness of Yeshua to the unsaved Jewish people, and it also takes away from the finished work and Power of the Cross.

Look at God's Judgments to the Levites and Priests in the later days, because of their great disobedience. We read that all the families of the Aaronic Priesthood, except for **only High Priest Zadok and his sons**, were no longer allowed to come into the Presence of God. Read Ezekiel 44:5-16

[We find that the Zadok Priests were the sole High Priests from the days of king Solomon until around 170 B.C., when they were unlawfully removed from their God given position of Temple authority by the Maccabeans.] ...

5 And the LORD said to me, "Son of man, mark well, see with your eyes and hear with your ears, all that I say to you concerning all the ordinances of the House of the LORD and all its laws. Mark well who may enter the House, and all who go out from the sanctuary. 6 Now say to the rebellious, to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "O house of Israel, let us have no more of all your abominations. 7 When you brought in foreigners, uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in flesh, to be in My Sanctuary, to defile it, My House, and when you offered My food, the fat and the blood, then they broke My Covenant because of all your abominations. 8 And you have not kept charge of My holy things, but you have set others to keep charge of My Sanctuary for you." 9 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "No foreigner, uncircumcised in heart or uncircumcised in flesh, shall enter My sanctuary, including any foreigner who is among the children of Israel. 10 **And the Levites who went far from Me, when Israel went astray, who strayed away from Me after their idols, they shall bear their iniquity.** 11 Yet they shall be ministers in My Sanctuary, as gatekeepers of the House and ministers of the House; they shall slay the burnt offering and the sacrifice for the people, and they shall stand before them to minister to them. 12 Because they ministered to them before their idols and caused the house of Israel to fall into iniquity, therefore I have raised My hand in an oath against them," says the Lord GOD, "that they shall bear their iniquity. 13 **And they shall not come near Me to minister to Me as priest, nor come near any of My holy things, nor into the Most Holy Place;** but they shall bear their shame and their abominations which they have committed. 14 Nevertheless I will make them keep charge of the Temple, for all its work, and for all that has to be done in it.

15 But **the Priests, the Levites, the sons of Zadok**, who kept charge of My Sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from Me, **they shall come near Me to minister to Me; and they shall stand before Me, to offer to Me the fat and the blood,**" says the Lord GOD. 16 "**They shall enter My Sanctuary, and they shall come near My table to minister to Me, and they shall keep My charge.**"' (Ezekiel 44:5-16)

Ezekiel 44:15, 23,24

“But **the Priests, the Levites, the sons of Zadok**... they shall teach My people the difference between the holy and the unholy, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.

In controversy they shall stand as judges, and judge it according to My judgments. They shall keep My laws and My statutes in all My appointed meetings, and they shall hallow My Sabbaths.”

We are not Levites, and we are not Aaronic Priests!

Thank You LORD, for we are so grateful to You to be the men and women of Your heavenly Priesthood! Please forgive us where we have not fully embraced this Truth, and have gone astray and entered into deceptions. “If you abide in My Word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you free!” John 8:31,32

The many changes in the Aaronic Priesthood would finally culminate hundreds of years later, when the hidden mystery Zadok High Priest would emerge, taking up his mantle of Priestly authority of the Aaronic Priesthood, moving Israel into correct position for the coming of their promised Messiah. **The Aaronic Priesthood would now be fulfilled by Miriam’s son Yeshua!** This happened the day when Yeshua was baptized in the Jordan River by His own cousin **Yochanan** (John the baptiser), the mystery Zadok High Priest.

This passing of the High Priestly mantle from Yochanan to Yeshua, the son of God, made it possible for fulfillment of the Aaronic Priesthood, bringing the Aaronic Priesthood into perfect submission under the Heavenly Melchi Zedek Priesthood, headed by Yeshua, Priest of God Most High.

Remember what Yochanan the baptizer had said to his cousin Yeshua: “I have need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?” And Yeshua had replied, “Permit it to be so now, for thus it becomes us to fulfill all Righteousness.” Matthew 3:14,15

That was a kyros moment for the history of mankind.

[Angel Gabriel told Priest Zacharias that his son’s name is ‘Yochanan’. Zacharias’s words at his son’s circumcision: “**His name is Yochanan!**” Luke 1:13, 63 [Yochanan was given the name of the last Zadokite High Priest around 170 B.C., before the corruption of Temple Priesthood. So God gave this sign to show us the continuation of the Zadok Priestly line.]

These and other Priesthood mysteries [such as just how did Yeshua physically fulfill the Aaronic Priesthood] can be better understood in my book called: "Revealing the Mysteries of the Melchi Zedek Priesthood", published in Jerusalem in 2001, and revised in 2005. You can find this book on my website under the section called 'Author's Books'. All my books and also all my prophetic writings are free for you to download and study.

When Yeshua died, the veil over the Temple Holy of Holies was rent: Mark 15:37,38 "And Yeshua cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost. And the veil of the Temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom." Thus the Wall of separation between God and man was taken down.

For the Veil of separation from the Presence of God was forever removed for these **New Covenant Priests**, bringing us into Sonship with our heavenly Father, through Yeshua's Blood sacrifice. God had torn down the Veil and the dividing Wall of separation forever, and brought equality to all members of this new Body of Messiah, not just between those who would now serve God in positions as worshippers and intercessors, but also between Jews and Gentiles, and men and women. They would now have the right to become sons of the Living God, and **humbly enter into God's Presence**, coming into the Holy of Holies. This truth would also apply to all those who would be saved through them, and those after them ... **in preparation for God's Bride**.

"Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical Priesthood (for under it the people received the Torah), what further need was there that another Priest (Great High Priest Yeshua) should rise according to the Order of Melchi Zedek, and not be called according to the order of Aaron?" Hebrews 7:11

"But you are a chosen generation, a Royal Priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light, who once were not a people, but now are the people of God, who had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained Mercy." 1st Peter 2:9-10

Dear Lord Yeshua, thank You for dying for each one of us, and forgiving us for all of our sins, so that we can enter into Your Wonderful Presence, as Your humble priests, serving You with truly grateful hearts.

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