

TETZAVEH

Psalm 119:105 (NIV) Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. I have taken an oath and confirmed it that I will follow your righteous laws.

John 1:1-9 In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that was made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light; so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

In a sense, the general epistle to the Hebrews is a commentary on the identity of Jesus as High Priest, Prophet and King. This is especially true in the comparison of Moses and Jesus and the description of the Tabernacle (later replaced by the Temple) and its sacrificial purpose. The writer obviously has the Torah in mind with this commentary. The whole book should be read during Holy Week if we truly want to understand what Jesus accomplished on the cross.

Jesus as Prophet:

Hebrews 1:1-2 In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.

Hebrews 3:1-6 Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess. He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house. Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of the house is greater than the house itself. For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything. Moses was faithful as a servant in all God's house, testifying to what would be said in the future. But Messiah is faithful as a son over God's house. And we are his house, if we hold on to our courage and the hope of which we boast.

Jesus as High Priest & King (like Melchizedek):

Hebrews 4:14 – A great high priest.

Hebrews 5:5-6 – The Father appoints the priest. (after the order of Melchizedek because it is not hereditary). See also Hebrews 7:1-8:13 Jesus is High Priest of the New Covenant.

Jesus as the Bridegroom:

Isaiah 61:10-11 (NIV) I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations. See also Is 61:1-9.

Isaiah 61:10 (Tanach) I will rejoice intensely with HASHEM, my soul will exult with my God, for he has dressed me in the raiment of salvation, in a robe of righteousness has he cloaked me, like a bridegroom who exalts himself with splendor (cohen-like), like a bride who bedeck herself with her

jewelry.

See also the events and parables related to weddings in the NT: John 2:1-12 (Wedding at Cana); Matthew 25:1-13 (lamps to meet the bridegroom); Matthew 22:1-14 (Wedding banquet) Parallel in Luke 14:15-24; Matthew 9:14-15 (No fasting when the bridegroom is present). John 3:29-30 (John the baptist refers to Jesus as the bridegroom).

Empty Handed

Deuteronomy 16:16-17 Three times a year all your men must appear before the Lord your God at the place he will choose: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks and the Feast of Tabernacles. No man should appear before the Lord empty-handed: Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you. Also Exodus 24:20

Filled

Luke 1 – John the Baptist: will be “filled” with the Holy Spirit even from birth. (v.15)

John the Baptist: the Holy Spirit will “be upon him.” (v. 35)

Elizabeth was “filled” with the Holy Spirit. (v.41)

Zachariah was “filled” with the Holy Spirit. (v. 67)

Luke 2 – the Holy Spirit was “upon” Simeon. (v. 25)

John 20:22 He [Jesus] breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 2:4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues (or languages) as the Spirit enabled them.

Acts 4:8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them

Acts 9:17 Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord – Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here – has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Incense

Revelation 8:3-4 Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all the saints, on the golden altar before the throne. The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of the saints, went up before God from the angel's hand.