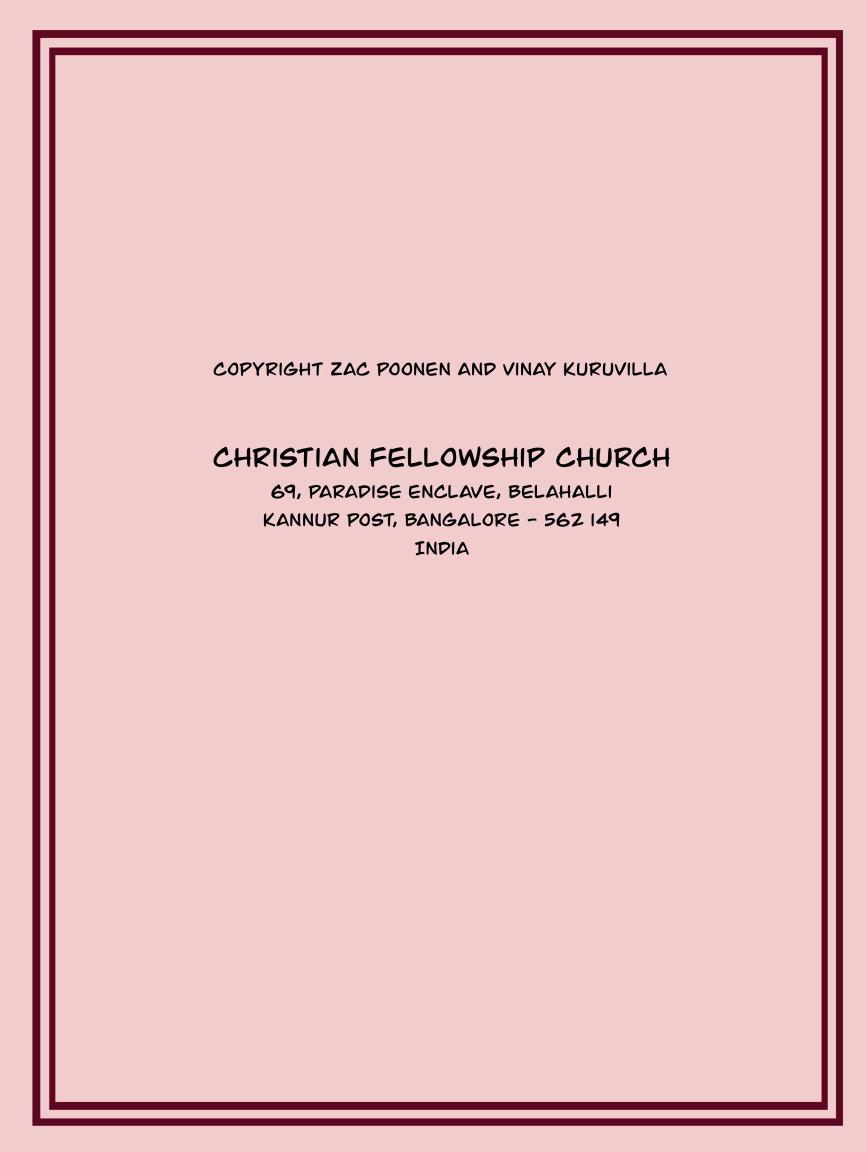
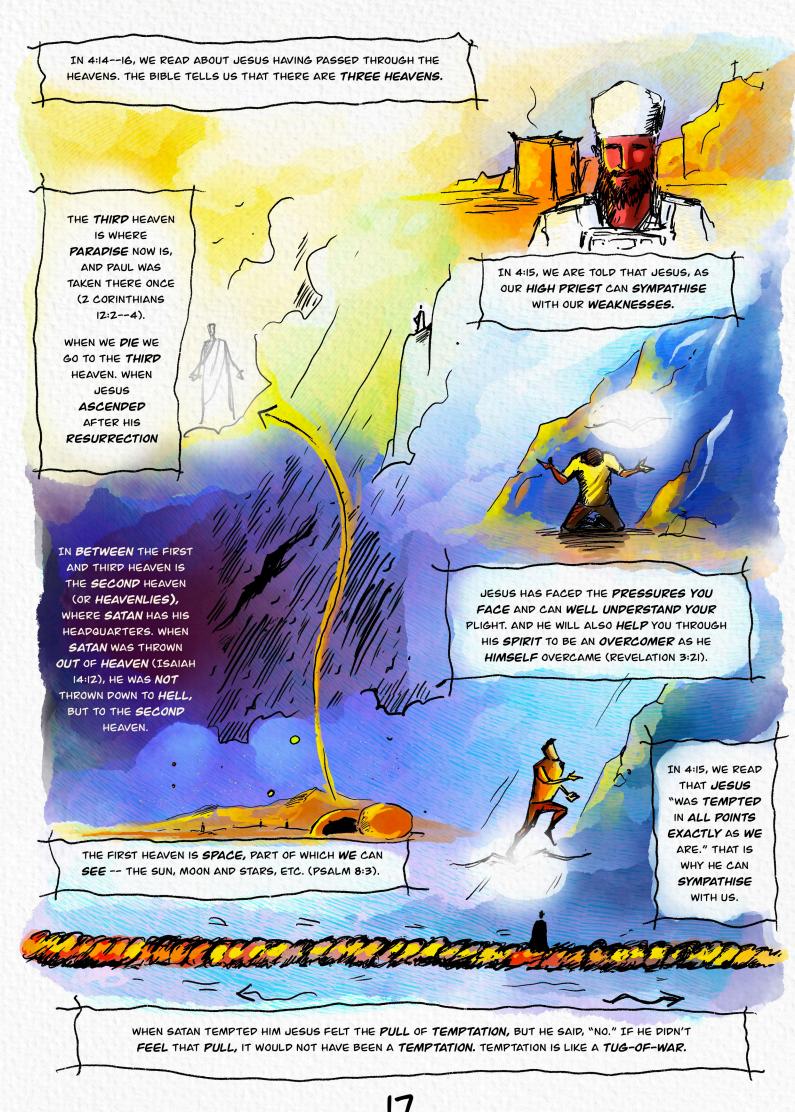
Through the Bible

HEBREWS-II

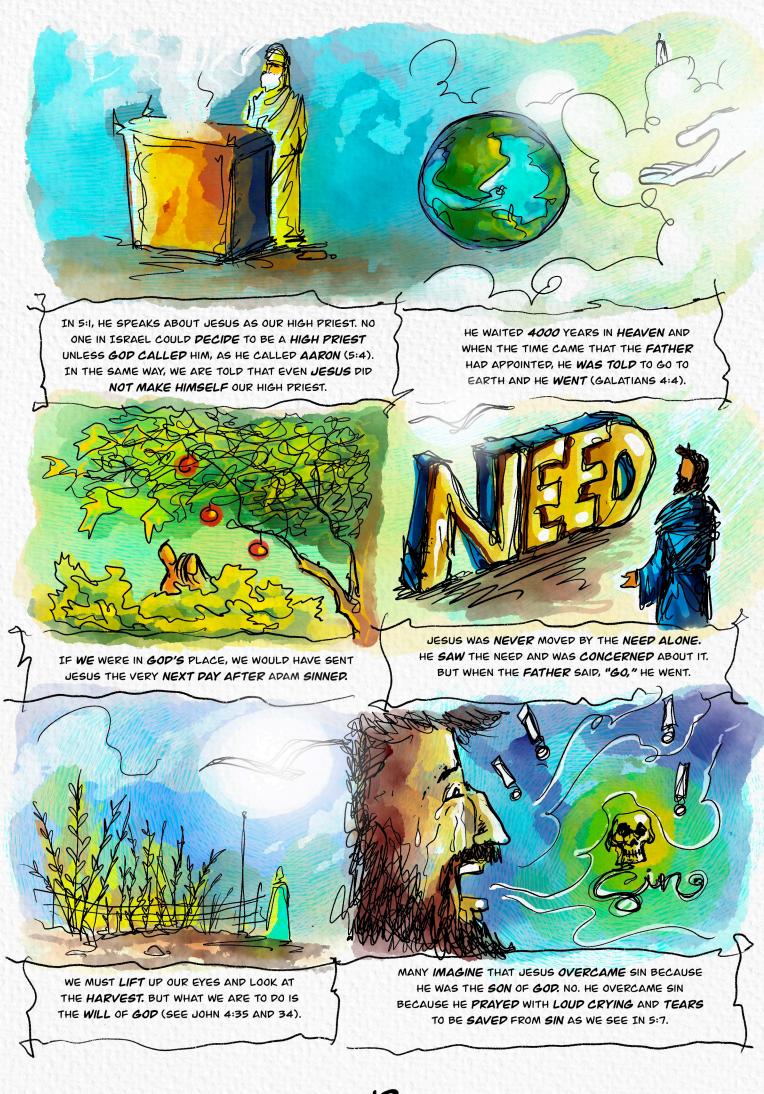


Illustrations by Vinay Kuruvilla











IT WAS TO PRAY WITH LOUP CRYING AND TEARS THAT JESUS OFTEN SOUGHT OUT LONELY PLACES FOR PRAYER (LUKE 5:16).

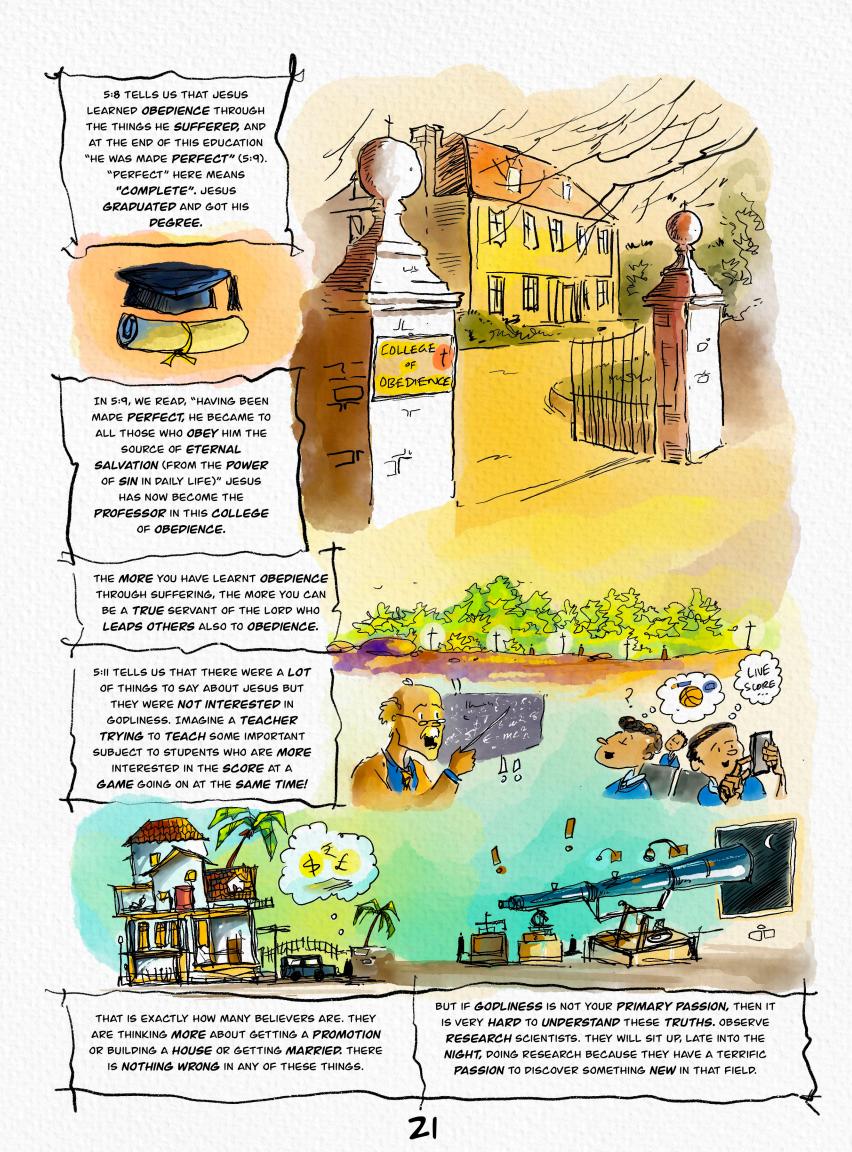


WHEN WE LIVE IN THE CITY, IT IS DIFFICULT TO FIND A LONELY PLACE. BUT I HAVE DISCOVERED THAT I CAN PRAY WITH LOUD CRYING IN MY HEART TO GOD, WITHOUT MAKING ANY SOUND WITH MY MOUTH, WHEREVER I MAY BE.

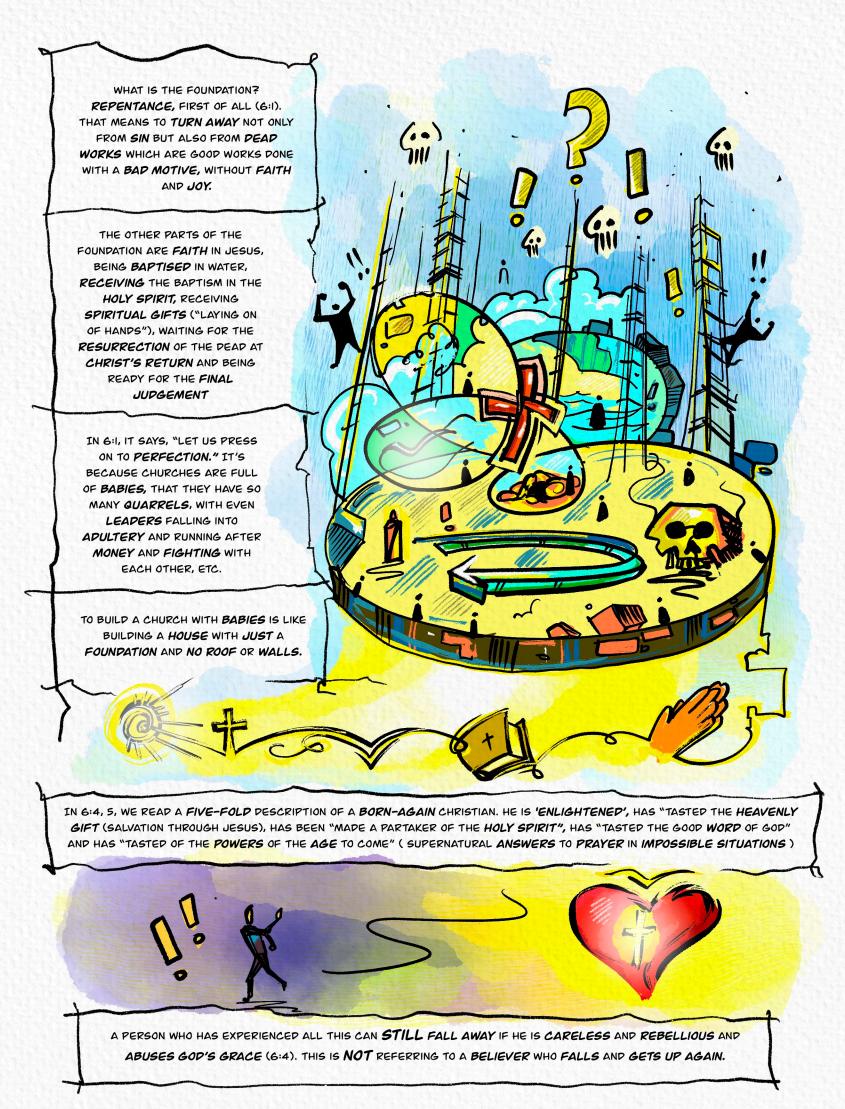


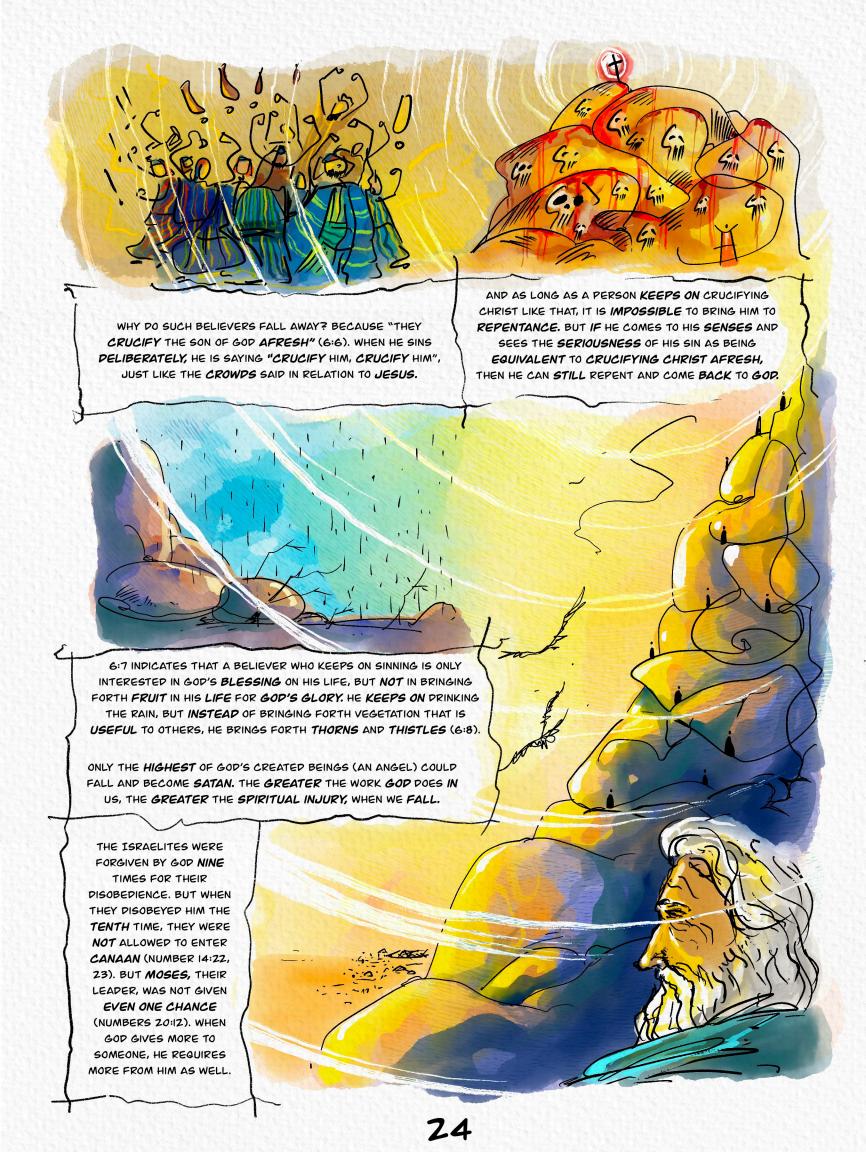
JESUS NEVER FELL INTO SIN AND YET HE HAD TEARS. ZEAL FOR PURITY CONSUMED JESUS AND BURNED HIM UP. WHAT WAS HE PRAYING FOR IN GETHSEMANE, WHEN HE SAID THAT HE DIDN'T WANT TO DRINK THE CUP? THE CUP HE FEARED WAS THE BREAK OF FELLOWSHIP WITH HIS FATHER FOR 3 HOURS ON THE CROSS -- WHEN HE WOULD BEAR OUR SIN.

MARY SOUGHT
FELLOWSHIP WITH JESUS
WHILE MARTHA SOUGHT TO
SERVE HIM. AND JESUS
REBUKED MARTHA SAYING
THAT WHAT MARY CHOSE
WAS THE ONLY THING
NECESSARY (LUKE 10:42).
IT IS HOLINESS THAT
MAKES OUR SERVICE
EFFECTIVE.











BUT ALONG WITH THOSE STRONG WORDS HE ALSO APPS A WORD OF **ENCOURAGEMENT.** "GOD IS NOT UNRIGHTEOUS. HE HAS NOT FORGOTTEN YOUR WORK OR THE **LOVE** YOU HAVE SHOWN TO HIS NAME IN **SERVING** OTHER **BELIEVERS**" (6:10).

IN 6:11 HE ENCOURAGES THEM NOT TO BE LAZY BUT TO PRESS ON UNTIL THE END WITH THE SAME DILIGENCE.

I HAVE BEEN CONSTANTLY CHALLENGED BY THIS POEM OF A.B. SIMPSON'S:

No time for trifling in this life of mine Not this the path the blessed Master trod; But strenuous toil - each hour and power employed Flways and all for God.

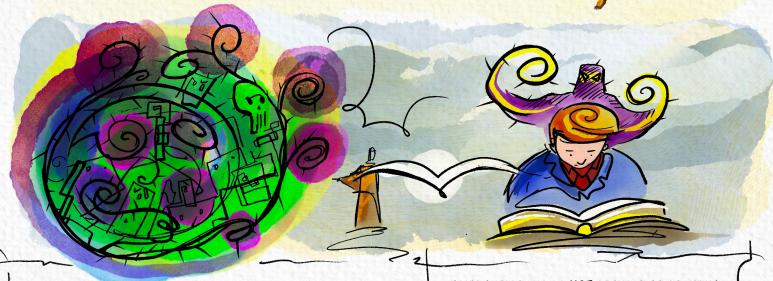
in the same to

Time swiftly flies - eternity is near,

And soon my dust may lie beneath the sod.

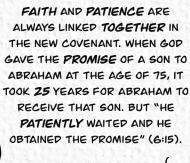
How dare I waste my life, or cease to be

Always and all for God.



WE HAVE TO GIVE UP MANY THINGS THAT WORLDLY PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN, AND CONCENTRATE ON THINGS OF ETERNAL VALUE.

MANY CHRISTIANS DO **NOT** SPEND TIME STUDYING THE SCRIPTURES. THEY SAY THEY ARE **BUSY**. BUT WE **CAN FIND** THE **TIME** IF WE **WANT** TO.







I JOHN 3:2 SAYS THAT HE WILL COME AGAIN AND WHEN HE COMES WE WILL BE LIKE HIM. THOSE ARE THE TWO PARTS OF OUR HOPE. THIS POUBLE HOPE IS CALLED "THE SURE AND STEADFAST ANCHOR OF OUR SOUL" (6:19).

HERE WE READ THAT JESUS HAS GONE INSIDE THE VEIL AS OUR FORERUNNER (6:20). THIS IS A TITLE OF JESUS THAT IS NOT WELL KNOWN.

JESUS HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS A PRIEST OF THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK. IN 7:1, THE PRIESTHOOD OF MELCHIZEDEK IS SHOWN TO BE GREATER THAN THE PRIESTHOOD OF LEVI (A **DESCENDANT** OF ABRAHAM), SINCE ABRAHAM GAVE MELCHIZEDEK 10% OF ALL THE SPOILS HE HAD COLLECTED IN THE WAR (7:4).



THE LEVITICAL PRIESTS TAUGHT PEOPLE TO PAY THEIR TITHES. IN THE NEW COVENANT, ALL GOD'S PEOPLE GIVE VOLUNTARY GIFTS JUST LIKE ABRAHAM GAVE TO MELCHIZEPEK.



MELCHIZEDEK HAD THE **PIGNITY** OF A **KING. JESUS** AND **PAUL** TRUSTED GOD **ALONE** FOR THEIR NEEDS. WHEN THEY **RECEIVED GIFTS** FROM **OTHERS,** IT WAS IN ORDER THAT THE PEOPLE WHO **GAVE** THE GIFTS WOULD BE **BLESSED**, AND **NOT** BECAUSE THEY **COVETED** WHAT THE PEOPLE HAD.

MELCHIZEPEK WAS A KING OF **RIGHTEOUSNESS** (BY HIS NAME), AND A KING OF **PEACE** (SALEM MEANS "PEACE") (7:2). RIGHTEOUSNESS AND PEACE MET TOGETHER IN **JESUS CHRIST** (PSALM 85:10).



MELCHIZEDEK APPEARS IN THE BOOK OF GENESIS -- WHICH IS A BOOK OF BEGINNINGS AND WHERE THE GENEALOGY OF EVERY MAN OF GOD IS CLEARLY INDICATED. BUT THERE IS NO RECORD THERE OF MELCHIZEDEK'S FATHER OR MOTHER OR HIS DEATH. IN THIS WAY ALSO, MELCHIZEDEK IS A TYPE OF JESUS WHO LIVED FROM ALL ETERNITY IN HEAVEN. (7:3)

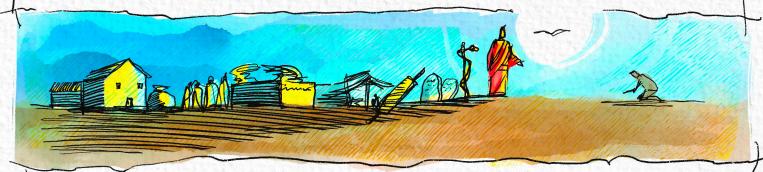
THE PRIESTS IN THE *OLD* COVENANT HAD TO OFFER SACRIFICES FOR SIN, *EVERY PAY*. BUT JESUS OFFERED UP HIS BODY AS A SACRIFICE JUST *ONCE* .. AND WHEN THOSE PRIESTS OFFERED THEIR SACRIFICES, IT WAS FOR THE SINS OF THE *PEOPLE* AS WELL AS FOR THEIR *OWN* SINS. *JESUS* HOWEVER OFFERED HIS BODY *ONLY* FOR THE SINS OF THE PEOPLE. HE HAD *NO SIN* HIMSELF. (7:26--28).

UNDER THE OLD
COVENANT, A MAN
BECAME A PRIEST
BY A CARNAL
COMMANDMENT:
HE HAD TO BE A
PESCENDANT OF
LEVI. JESUS
HOWEVER BECAME
THE GUARANTOR
OF A BETTER
COVENANT BY THE
POWER OF AN
INPESTRUCTIBLE
LIFE (7:16, 22).



IN 7:25, WE READ THAT JESUS LIVES TO MAKE INTERCESSION FOR US IN HEAVEN. IN THE LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD, THEY JUST PRAYED ROUTINE, FORMAL PRAYERS, DID THEIR JOBS AND WENT HOME. BUT JESUS AND HIS PRIESTS ARE DEVOTED TO PRAYER.

THE TABERNACLE THAT MOSES BUILT WAS ACTUALLY A **SHAPOW** OF THE **HEAVENLY** REALITIES (8:5). WHEN WE BUILD THE **CHURCH** AND IN ALL OUR **MINISTRY**, EVERYTHING MUST BE EXACTLY AS **GOD** HAS **TAUGHT** US IN THE **NEW COVENANT**.



THEN, WE WILL SEE THE GLORY OF GOD TOO. TODAY OUR PATTERN IS JESUS HIMSELF.

