# \$100 Challenge



If you are LDS, you know how important priest-hood authority is to your faith. I am a Christian, who cares about you, and I'm excited you are taking time to read this tract.

I will give \$100 dollars to the first person that can find a Christian in the New Testament, that holds the Aaronic priesthood. Above that, find one that holds the Melchizedek priesthood. My phone # and email are on the last page. I'm not mean, and I'm not against you. If you were to see me my face, it would express kindness, not anger or hate.

#### Bible verses often quoted to collect \$100

"'And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Hoy Ghost was given, he offered them money, Saying, "Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay my hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought the gift of God may be purchased with money." Acts 8:18-24

See also, Acts 19:13-17; Mark 3:14; John 15:16; 17:18 and 20:21-23; Matthew 16:19; 1st Timothy 4:14; 2nd Timothy 1:6 etc...



Take some time, open up your Bible, and examine each of the above scriptures. Ask yourself this question, "Is priesthood even mentioned in these verses?" Is it

really fair to say these verses teach the LDS priesthoods, when priesthood is not even mentioned?

#### What about Hebrews 5:4?

"And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron."

I am often asked, "Doesn't this verse teach you have to have the priesthood, before you can speak, and act for God?" I answer this question with three very important points:

## Point #1-LDS males are not "called as was Aaron" because....

In the Bible, when someone has the Aaronic priesthood, it is because of their <u>lineage</u>.

"So you shall appoint <u>Aaron and his sons</u>, and they shall attend to their priesthood; <u>but the outsider shall be put to death</u>." (Numbers 3:10; Also see Exodus 27:21; 28:43 and 29:9)

This bloodline requirement has not changed for today. This is seen by the fact, no Christian in the New Testament has the Aaronic priesthood. Plus, Jesus did not have the Aaronic priesthood! Why? Because he was not in the direct bloodline of Aaron (See Hebrews 7:14).

Latter-day Saints are not "called as was Aaron," because they don't follow the lineage requirement given in the Bible. It is not open for everyone.

## Point #2-LDS males are not "called as was Aaron" because....

In addition to the lineage requirement, there was a specific ordination process. If you do not go through this process, as given in the Bible, you do not have the Aaronic priesthood. Read Exodus 29 and Leviticus 8. Here are some of the highlights:

- 1. Must be washed with water.
- 2. Must be anointed with oil.
- 3. Hands are to be laid on the head of a bull, not you!
- 4. The bull is to be killed, and it's blood poured on the alter.
- 5. A ram is to be killed, and it's blood sprinkled on the alter.
- 6. A second ram is to be killed, and blood put on your right ear, right thumb, and right great toe.
- 7. For the next seven days, one bull and two lambs are to be offered daily.

If you are not ordained in the above manner, you cannot be "called as was Aaron."

## Point #3-LDS males are not "called as was Aaron" because....

The Aaronic priesthood is a thing of the past, and not apart of the New Testament Church. For a full understanding of this point, study Hebrews 7:1 through 8:13. Below are some highlights:

- Heb. 7:12 tells us the priesthood was "changed."
  In other words, it no longer exists.
- 7:18 tells us the priesthood was "annulled."
- 8:13 tells us this priesthood is "ready to vanish."

The above passage makes it clear, the Aaronic priesthood does not exist today.

If you feel that my interpretations are incorrect, find a Christian in the NT that holds this priest-hood. I will give \$100 to the first who can find one.

#### What about the Melchizedek priesthood?

Speaking Biblically, there is no such thing as the "Melchizedek" priesthood (but that is another discussion). For the sake of this discussion we will pretend this priesthood exists.

The LDS church teaches that if you do not have this priesthood, you do not have the authority to speak, and act for God. Every worthy male in the LDS church is given this priesthood. This is interesting, considering the Bible only attaches the name "Melchizedek" to two people, Melchizedek himself, and Jesus. No one else!

When an Aaronic priest died, another in his bloodline, took his office. Christ's priesthood was not like that. Christ had no successors, he did not pass on a "Melchizedek" priesthood to anyone. Hebrews 7:23-24 makes this point clear, read it carefully:

"Also there were many priests [Aaronic priests], because they were prevented by death from continuing. But He [Jesus] because he continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. (NKJV)

The word "unchangeable" is very important. In the original Greek language, the word means, "untransferrable." In other words, Jesus did not pass his priesthood to anybody. I will give \$100 to the first person who can find, in the Bible, someone Jesus gave a "Melchizedek" priesthood.

None of the Apostles, or New Testament writers, mention Priesthood as their source of Authority

When I ask an LDS missionary where he gets his authority, he is quick to mention priesthood. It is interesting that the Biblical Apostles, and writers, never mention priesthood, as their authority to speak and act for God. Paul's writings commonly open like this:

"Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God." Romans 12:1 (See also 1st and 2nd Corinthians 1:1; Galatians 1:1; also 1st and 2nd Peter 1:1)

If priesthood was the source of authority, the Apostles, and Bible writers would have mentioned it in their list of credentials (like above) somewhere; but they did not.

The Apostles were asked in Acts 4:7-12, where they got their authority, but still did not mention priesthood.

On top of all this, it is worth noting, many of the Bible writers, and characters, were not priests, yet obviously they both spoke, and acted for God.

### Where does true Biblical authority come from?

I am often asked; "Where do you get your authority?" This falsely assumes there is a special priesthood God gives men, before they can speak and act for Him.

In the New Testament, God never required any "priesthood," before man could act for Him. God simply commanded his people to speak, and act. They then had the choice to obey, or disobey. For example, Jesus commanded the Apostles, and empowered them to go out and preach his message (Matthew 10:1-42). He did not say, "But before you go I must ordain you to be priests, or else you will have no authority.

The Bible does mention that every believer has a "Royal priesthood" (1st Peter 2:9), and we are a "kingdom of priests" (Revelation 1:6). This does not mean a kingdom of "Aaronic and Melchizedek"

priests. Again, \$100 to the first person who can find a Christian in the New Testament, who holds the Aaronic priesthood, or anyone Jesus gave a Melchizedek priesthood.

I do not claim to have any special authority. The authority is in the truth of the gospel message itself! If the message is the truth of God, the message has authority. If the message is not the truth, it does not have authority.

Jesus said, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and earth." Then he simply said to his disciples, without any priesthood transfer, "GO..." (See Matthew 28:18-20) Where do I, or any Christian get their authority? From God who says, GO!

My LDS friend, I care very much about you and your future. When I get to heaven, nothing would make me happier than to see you there. My justified fear, is that you have been trusting in a false priesthood, introduced by a false prophet, by the name of Joseph Smith.

If you want to see me in heaven, follow the instructions below. I will give you a "high-five" on the way up:

"...confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9



Questions or Comments? Contact Pastor James Hazelton at gospelforutah@gmail.com or call (435) 592-2605