## Moms & Melchizedek... Storms, Anchors, & Hope

Hebrews 6:18 – 7:10 May 12, 2024

Heb. 7:1-15

...That's a Lot of "Obscure Details"!!

— It's Mother's Day! ...Is Heb 7 and "Melchizedek the Mysterious" REALLY what I'm needing to hear?

"But we also see the importance, the practical importance of scriptural knowledge. The way that the author of Hebrews plans to bless you as he teaches you in this chapter is by calling to your remembrance a story that he expects all of his readers already to know." **Ligon Duncan**, "The Great Melchizedek"

— Check out the "Vocabulary Concepts" in these Verses— Heb 7:1-15

What are all these "vocabulary words & concepts" attached to? WHY Do They Need to Hear This?

## NEEDED: Anchoring of the Soul

**Heb 6:18-20** "...we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. <sup>19</sup> We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, <sup>20</sup> where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

<u>Souls at Sea</u>! ...<u>Anchors</u> ...Sure & Steadfast <u>Hope</u>

"This world is like a sea — restless, unstable, dangerous, never at one stay. Human affairs may be compared to waves driven with the wind and tossed. As for ourselves, we are the ships which go upon the sea and are subject to its changes and motions. We are apt to be drifted by currents, driven by winds and tossed with tempests. We have not yet come to the true terra firma, the rest which remains for of God. God would not have us carried about with every wind and, therefore, He has been pleased to fashion for us an anchor of hope most sure and steadfast, so that we may outride the storm." **Charles Spurgeon**, *The Anchor* 

• "Souls" that are "fleeing for refuge"!! ... Souls that are facing storms!

"...at least 3 million shipwrecks are lying across ocean floors. There are over 5000 shipwrecks in the Great Lakes that have taken the lives of over 30,000 mariners. ...maritime accidents in the past, depict the heart wrenching tales of lost ships, their lamenting crew and hopeless passengers who drowned in the depths of oceans and seas. ...shipwrecks provide a window to the long histories of conflict, survival, and the history of destinies." Zahra Ahmed, "30 Famous Shipwrecks in the World"

...the "Danger, Intrigue, & Mystery" that this Heb 6 Imagery taps into!

FORCES ...FIERCENESS ...FLEEING

**Luke 2:34-35** And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also)...

...What Have You Known of "Storm-FORCES" ...&... Intensity!! ...&... FLEEING for Refuge in Your Life??

...When does one need to drop anchor in such conditions?

"A black box recovered from the wreck of the ship that destroyed the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore shows it sent alarms and ordered the anchor to drop shortly before the collision. ...the ship lost power at 1.25am, ... at 1.27am, the pilot gave the order to drop the ship's anchor and commanded the navigator to steer away from the bridge. **Tony Diver**, "The Telegraph"

"...there are conditions of weather in which an anchor becomes altogether essential. When a gale is rushing towards the shore, blowing great guns and the vessel cannot hold her course and must surely be driven upon an iron-bound coast, then an anchor is worth its weight in gold. If the good ship cannot be anchored, there will be nothing left of her in a very short time." Charles Spurgeon, The Anchor

- An ANCHOR ...this is some kind of "apparatus" that extends from a ship that serves a strategic purpose—
  - The "Apparatus of the Soul" that seeks to attach itself to something secure—is our FAITH.
    - ...We have something in us called "FAITH" ...AND... we have the ability to PLACE that Faith Somewhere!

"FAITH is essential to the vitality of Christianity and anything which weakens that faith weakens the very mainspring of spiritual power!

Brothers and Sisters, not only does our own experience teach us this, and the Word of God declare it, but the whole of human history goes to show the same Truth of God. Faith is force! Why, even when men have been mistaken, if they have believed the mistake, they have displayed more power than men who have known the truth, but have not heartily believed it. The force that a man has in dealing with his fellow men lies very much in the force of conviction which his beliefs have over his own soul. Teach a man the Truth of God so that his whole heart believes in it and you have given him both the fulcrum and the lever with which he may move the world." **Charles Spurgeon,** *The Anchor* 

**Hebrews 6:19** We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain...

- ? —Where does this "Anchor" (our faith) get its "Sure & Steadfast" qualities? ...it comes from the OBJECT of the Anchor (of our faith)
  - NOTE: This "Hope" has more to do with what the Anchor is Attached To! ...Merely dangling an anchor in the water does nothing; an anchor that is skimming across the sandy bottom is not helpful!
- A HOPE ...an Inner Sense that is so Real & Influential that it brings "strong encouragement to hold fast"
  - Where are these souls instructed to "attach their anchor"? ... Heb 6:19-20 "the inner place behind the curtain, <sup>20</sup> where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek..."

...Then to Explain This Concept of a Place that provides a "sure and steadfast 'thing'" to attach our faith (anchor) to—We get introduced to the Priesthood of Melchizedek.

... Where Does the Author of Hebrews go to Set His ANCHOR? ... to Jesus' Priesthood, which is of the order of Melchizedek!

**Hebrews 6:19-20** We have <u>this</u> as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, <sup>20</sup> where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

...Here is what our FAITH/ANCHOR is Joined To—the On-Going Ministry of Jesus in the Heavenly Tabernacle "behind the curtain"!!

Heb 7:24-25

Heb 8:1-6

Did you know that there is On-Going, High Priestly Ministry taking place in the Heavenly Temple—That Saves us to the Uttermost!

And now, lastly, and best of all, THE ANCHOR'S UNSEEN GRIP, "which enters into that within the veil." Our anchor is like every other, when it is of any use it is out of sight. When a man sees the anchor, it is doing nothing, ...When the anchor is of use it is gone — there it went overboard with a splash! Far down there, ...quite out of sight. Where is your hope, Brothers and Sisters? Do you believe because you can see? That is not believing at all! Do you believe because you can feel? That is feeling, it is not believing! But "blessed is he that has not seen and yet has believed."

Blessed is he who believes against his feelings, yes, and hopes against hope! That is a strange thing to do, hoping against hope, believing things impossible and seeing things invisible. He who can do that has learned the art of faith! Our hope is not seen, it lies in the waves, or, as the text says, "within the veil." ..." Although our anchor is gone out of sight, yet, thank God it has taken a very firm grip and "entered into that which is within the veil." ... I know You cannot lie and You have sworn that Christ is a Priest forever. I am resting in Him as my Priest who has made a full atonement for me. ... Can You reject a soul for whom Your own Son is pleading? He is able to save to the uttermost them that come unto You by Him, seeing He ever lives to make intercession for me! My Lord, this is the hold I have upon You! This is the anchor which I have cast into the deep mysterious attributes of Your wondrous Nature! I believe You and You will not make me ashamed of my hope." Charles Spurgeon, The Anchor