

The background of the image is a dramatic, high-contrast scene of a stormy sea. Dark, turbulent waves are visible in the foreground. Above the water, a dark, heavy sky is filled with swirling clouds. Multiple bright, jagged lightning bolts are visible, striking down from the clouds. One particularly large bolt is on the right side, and another is on the left. The overall atmosphere is one of intense power and drama.

HEBREWS

PERSEVERANCE AND GODLINESS

SUMMER

- Full bloom, some summer crops
- Often a harsh, hot period
- Need to survive drought
- Time for pruning



8 steps of the “Path”

1. Faith
2. Excellence
3. Knowledge
4. Self-control
5. **Perseverance**
6. **Godliness**
7. Brotherly affection
8. Unselfish love

Perseverance is when we choose to trust God in every test, temptation, and trial

Godliness is when we work to align our character, ethics, worldview, and thought patterns with Christ

Be careful!

① neglect → drift →

② unbelief / disobedience →
fall away / forsake (apostasy)

③ apathy → rejection of Jesus
and disqualification or death

Jesus' priesthood is better. . .

- Better hope (7:19)
- Better covenant (7:22)
- Better ministry (8:6)
- Better promises (8:6)
- Better tabernacle/temple (9:11)
- Better redemption (9:12)

Defining “perseverance”

- “by **persevering**, Abraham inherited the promise” — the word means “patience, waiting”
 - Sometimes perseverance means pushing forward, not being stopped
 - Sometimes perseverance means holding strong and waiting under the pressure
 - Abraham couldn’t guarantee Sarah would become pregnant, but they didn’t stop trying

Melchizedek foreshadowed Jesus

- Jesus will one day be the King in Jerusalem, and his kingdom will be characterized by righteousness and peace (Isaiah 11:1-9)
- Jesus is currently serving as our righteous and faithful High Priest in heaven

Melchizedek foreshadowed Jesus

- With no family history, Melchizedek is like a forever priest with no beginning or end. Because Jesus is God, he has no beginning or end, and he is our forever priest, serving on our behalf, especially now when we are so weak and struggling with our faith.

The big question

*If the Old Covenant was good enough,
why did Israel need a new one?*

Jesus' priesthood is better

- **Better hope** – complete access to God through Jesus (vs 19)
- **Better covenant** – God went under oath to confirm his New Covenant with Israel (vs 20–22)
- **Better mediator** – Jesus will never die, so he saves completely (vs 23–25)
- **Better man** – “holy, innocent, undefiled” (vs 26–28)



The background of the image is a dramatic, dark scene of a stormy sea under a heavy, dark sky. Multiple bright, jagged lightning bolts are visible, striking down from the clouds. The water in the foreground is dark and turbulent, with whitecaps catching the light. The overall mood is intense and powerful.

HEBREWS

PERSEVERANCE AND GODLINESS

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