

without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life." In the histories of most of the important characters of the Old Testament are narrated their birth, genealogy, life, and death. None of these is told of Melchisedech; he is portrayed as having neither a beginning nor an end, as being an eternal priest. Christ's priesthood had no beginning, no end; it is eternal and imperishable. Melchisedech is the only priest thus depicted in the Old Testament; Christ is the only priest of His order, no one preceded Him, no one will succeed Him, for His ministers, while being true priests, merely participate in His priesthood.

Since the priests of the New Law, the ministers of Christ, only participate in His priesthood, they must participate also in all which made Christ a priest. They are chosen from among men, that they might act for men in those things which pertain to God, they are chosen from among men by God that they might offer gifts and sacrifice for the sins of men. They are priests "according to the order of Melchisedech."

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#### PRODIGALITY

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A Wafer of Bread—the Body of Christ!  
 O Wonderful Mystery,  
 That in so humble and common a guise  
 My God can come to me!  
 He is pleading there in the hands of His Priest:  
 "Take Me, and eat!" begs He.