

*How do I respond to Muslims when they say that Melchizedek had no beginning and no end just like Jesus Christ who is triune which is four gods?*

Melchizedek's history is reported differently in scripture.

Regarding Hebrews 7:3<sup>1</sup> J. Vernon McGee wrote:

...Melchizedek is a picture of Christ and a type of Christ in another way. The Lord Jesus comes out of eternity, and He moves into eternity. He has no beginning and no end....Melchizedek just walks out onto the pages of Scripture, out of nowhere, then he walks off the pages of Scripture, and we do not see him anymore, Why did God leave out the genealogy of Melchizedek? Because Melchizedek was to be a type of the Lord Jesus in His priesthood...<sup>2</sup>

Melchizedek was a man—not to be worshiped (Ex 20:3-4). The Lord Jesus (Jn 20:28) is God (Ro 1:4) and man (Lk 3:38), “a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek (Ps 110:4).”

K. R. Warstler wrote:

God promised an eternal dynasty to David (2 Sm 7:14–17; see Ps 89:29). Jesus Christ, as a descendant of David and as the Son of God, fulfills the dual roles of king and priest forever (Heb 7:17, 21).<sup>3</sup>

God is not four. He is one—one God (Deut 6:4), three persons (Ge 1:1–3, 26).

*[Follow up question] Why did Melchizedek say that he has no beginning and no ending?*

Melchizedek is described in scripture as: King of Salem (Ge 14:18), priest of God (Ge 14:18), receiver of a tenth of Abram's goods (Ge 14:18–20), king of righteousness (He 7:2) and a great man (He 7:4).<sup>4</sup>

Genesis 14:18 states that Melchizedek was “king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.”

John MacArthur wrote:

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<sup>1</sup> Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually [Heb. 7:3].

<sup>2</sup> McGee, J. V. (1991). *Thru the Bible commentary: The Epistles (Hebrews 1-7)* (electronic ed., Vol. 51, p. 123). Thomas Nelson.

<sup>3</sup> Warstler, K. R. (2017). Psalms. In E. A. Blum & T. Wax (Eds.), *CSB Study Bible: Notes* (p. 917). Holman Bible Publishers.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). *Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index* (p. 408). Thomas Nelson Publishers.

The lack of biographical and genealogical particulars for this ruler, whose name meant “righteous king” and who was a king-priest over ancient Jerusalem, allowed for later revelation to use him as a type of Christ (cf. Ps. 110:4; Heb. 7:17, 21).<sup>5</sup>

Melchizedek had a beginning and an end (Ps 90:10); whereas, the Lord Jesus has no beginning and no end (Ps 90:2).

John MacArthur continued:

The Levitical priesthood was hereditary, but Melchizedek’s was not. His parentage and origin are unknown because they were irrelevant to his priesthood. Contrary to some interpretations, Melchizedek did have a father and a mother. The ancient Syriac Peshitta gives a more accurate translation of what was intended by the Gr. phrase: “whose father and mother are not written in genealogies.” No record existed of Melchizedek’s birth or death. This is quite a contrast to the details of Aaron’s death (Num. 20:22–29). like. Lit. “made to be like”; this word is used nowhere else in the NT. The implication is that the resemblance to Christ rests upon the way Melchizedek’s history is reported in the OT, not upon Melchizedek himself....<sup>6</sup>

God is creator (Is 40:28). Melchizedek was created (Ge 1:26–28). The focus of scripture is on the Lord Jesus (Jn 21:25, Re 22:13).

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<sup>5</sup> MacArthur, J., Jr., ed. (1997). The MacArthur Study Bible (electronic ed., p. 35). Word Pub.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid, p. 1907.