

## **Melchizedek—King of Salem—Urantia Book and Mormonism’s understanding**

When it was revealed by Nephi that his record did not contain even a “hundredth part” of those things that were in the larger plates ... the “greater portion,” his statement could not be more profound than to describe or explain “Melchizedek,” perhaps the most mysterious of all figureheads of the Christian religions. There simply is not much said about him, or recorded in history about that man who even Jesus, speaking of him-self, said he is “after the order of Melchizedek.”

“Melchizedek” is only mentioned **11 times and only in 3 areas of Bible** (Genesis 14:18-20, Psalm 110:4, and Hebrews Chapter 5 to 7).

### **Biblical understanding of Melchizedek:**

Melchizedek was not born of woman.

He lived during the days of Abraham.

He was “the great High Priest.”

He was King of Salem (later called Jerusalem).

He was “without beginning of days or end of years.”

He was “without father or mother.”

To him, Abraham paid tithes (on tenth).

He “disappeared as mysteriously as he came.”

Jesus said of John the Baptist, “among those born of women, there are none greater,” which implies heavily that Melchizedek, the one “without lineage” was a very important person of history.

### **The Mormon understandings of Melchizedek**

**Mormonism, though having mention of Melchizedek 28 times**, still sheds no ‘new light’ on him beyond what is found biblically. However, of all Christian

religions, Mormonism is quite steeped in the usage of the word/name “Melchizedek.” In short, it is the name of their “higher priesthood” – the Melchizedek Priesthood, which “holds the keys of administration” in behalf of God.

Mormon women are not permitted to “hold the priesthood” personally, but can ‘share’ it through their ‘worthy’ husbands. Only the adult men can “hold the Melchizedek priesthood.” The teenage males are aligned with the “lesser priesthood” called the Aaronic Priesthood—after the order of Aaron, the brother of Moses.

**The term/name Melchizedek is used in Mormon scripture 28 times.**

- Old Testament (2)
- New Testament (1)
- Book of Mormon (4)
- Doctrine and Covenants (23)
- Pearl of Great Price (1)

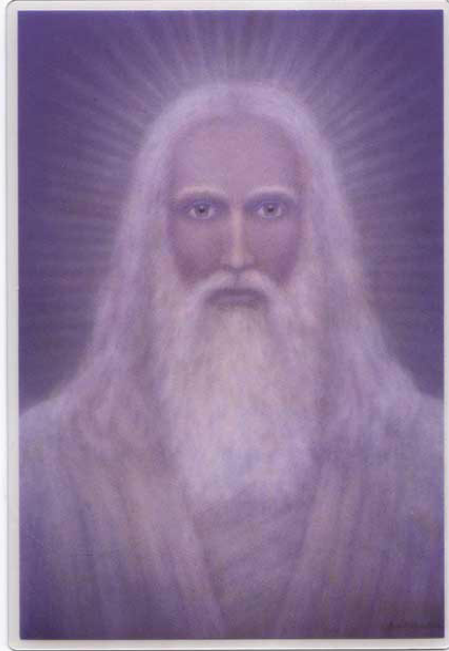
**The Urantia Book, however, is saturated with the term/name “Melchizedek,” making usage of the name/word 534 times. There is not much that is NOT answered or explained about Melchizedek. In fact it is one of the most fascinating, next to the life of Jesus,**

## aspects of the Urantia Book—the doings of a particular Melchizedek who intervened in our world affairs some 4000 years ago.

Even though the LDS usage of the name/word Melchizedek is three times more than in the Bible, still the LDS/Mormon Church sheds very little new light regarding the who, what, why, when, where and how, of Melchizedek. One difference than biblical, it is somewhat taught that Melchizedek is Shem—the son of Noah. However, we know that Shem did have a father and a mother, unlike that which is attributed to Melchizedek. Hence, the mystery.

### **Melchizedek - per the Urantia Book (published 1955 and belonging to no organized religion):**

Any serious student of history, or of religion--especially the LDS culture--should be astounded at the amount of information in the **Urantia Papers** regarding Melchizedek, wherein he is mentioned a mere **568 times**.



UB 93:2.1 It was 1,973 years before the birth of Jesus that **Machiventa Melchizedek** was bestowed upon the human races of Urantia. His coming was unspectacular; his materialization was not witnessed by human eyes. He was first observed by mortal man on that eventful day when he entered the tent of Amdon, a Chaldean herder of Sumerian extraction. And the proclamation of his mission was embodied in the simple statement which he made to this shepherd, "I am **Melchizedek**, priest of El Elyon, the Most High, the one and only God."

UB 93:2.2 When the herder had recovered from his astonishment, and after he had plied this stranger with many questions, he asked **Melchizedek** to sup with him, and this was the first time in his long universe career that **Machiventa** had partaken of material food, the nourishment which was to sustain him throughout his ninety-four years of life as a material being. (*Urantia Book~Paper 93*)

The Urantia Book, however, is saturated with the term/name "Melchizedek," making usage of the name/word 534 times. There is not much that is NOT answered or explained about Melchizedek. In fact it is one of the most fascinating, next to the life of Jesus, aspects of the Urantia Book—the doings of a particular Melchizedek who intervened in our world affairs some 4000 years ago.

Here are a few quotes from the Urantia Papers regarding this most wonderful person of our Earth's (Urantia) history. His name is "Machiventa" Melchizedek:

45:4.16 14. *Machiventa Melchizedek*, the only Son of this order to bestow himself upon the Urantia races. While still numbered as a **Melchizedek**, he has become "forever a minister of the Most Highs," eternally assuming the assignment of service as a mortal ascender, having sojourned on Urantia in the likeness of mortal flesh at Salem in the days of Abraham. This **Melchizedek** has latterly been proclaimed vicegerent Planetary Prince of Urantia with headquarters on Jerusem and authority to act in behalf of Michael (Jesus), who is actually the Planetary Prince of the world whereon he experienced his terminal bestowal in human form. Notwithstanding this, Urantia is still supervised by successive resident governors general, members of the four and twenty counselors.

43:5.17 Every quarantined or isolated world has a Vorondadek Son acting as an observer. He does not participate in planetary administration except when ordered by the Constellation Father to intervene in the affairs of the nations. Actually it is this Most High observer who "rules in the kingdoms of men." Urantia is one of the isolated worlds of Norlatiadek, and a Vorondadek observer has been stationed on the planet ever since the Caligastia (Luciferian) betrayal. When Machiventa **Melchizedek** ministered in semimaterial form on Urantia, he paid respectful homage to the Most High observer then on duty, as it is written, "And **Melchizedek**, king of Salem, was the priest of the Most High." **Melchizedek** revealed the relations of this Most High observer to Abraham when he said, "And blessed be the Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand."



43:2.4 All judicial problems are first reviewed by the council of the **Melchizedeks**. Twelve of this order who have had certain requisite experience on the evolutionary planets and on the system headquarters worlds are empowered to review evidence, digest pleas, and formulate provisional verdicts, which are passed on to the court of the Most High, the reigning Constellation Father. The mortal division of this latter tribunal consists of seven judges, all of whom are ascendant mortals. The higher you ascend in the universe, the more certain you are to be judged by those of your own kind.

93:8.1 It was shortly after the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah that **Machiventa decided to end his emergency bestowal** on Urantia. **Melchizedek's** decision to terminate his sojourn in the flesh was influenced by numerous conditions, chief of which was the growing tendency of the surrounding tribes, and even of his immediate associates, to regard him as a demigod, to look upon him as a supernatural being, which indeed he was; but they were beginning to reverence him unduly and with a highly superstitious fear. In addition to these reasons, **Melchizedek** wanted to leave the scene of his earthly activities a sufficient length of time before Abraham's death to insure that the truth of the one and only God would become strongly established in the minds of his followers. Accordingly Machiventa retired one night to his tent at Salem, having said good night to his human companions, and when they went to call him in the morning, he was not there, for his fellows had taken him.

93:9.1 It was a great trial for Abraham when **Melchizedek** so suddenly disappeared. Although he had fully warned his followers that he must sometime go as he had come, they were not reconciled to the loss of their wonderful leader. The great organization built up at Salem nearly disappeared, though the traditions of these days were what Moses built upon when he led the Hebrew slaves out of Egypt.

93:9.2 The loss of **Melchizedek** produced a sadness in the heart of Abraham that he never fully overcame. Hebron he had abandoned when he gave up the ambition of building a material kingdom; and now, upon the loss of his associate in the building of the spiritual kingdom, he departed from Salem, going south to live near his interests at Gerar.

## A few things from the Urantia Papers about Machiventa Melchizedek

- ❖ He was not only the great “high priest” and “king of Salem” but he is also our world’s “vicegerant Planetary Prince” on behalf of Michael, replacing that arch-rebel Caligastia who once held position as Earth’s Planetary Prince—500,000 years ago, and who succumbed to the Lucifer rebellion.
- ❖ He lived 92 years, then disappeared as mysteriously as he did appear.
- ❖ “Melchizedek” is an order of beings in our universe having unique administrative function. They are the teachers/instructors to other universe personalities.
- ❖ Inside every mortal on earth, there dwells inside a “fragment of God” which the Urantia Book also calls the Thought Adjuster. In Melchizedek’s 92 years as a mortal, he had a Thought Adjuster on loan so-to-speak assigned to him. This was the same Thought Adjuster that was also on loan to Jesus of Nazareth. In other words both Jesus and Machiventa had the same ‘fragment of the Eternal Father’ from Paradise, indwelt. This is the reality meaning behind what is said of Jesus, that he “was after the order of Melchizedek.”
- ❖ Never has there been one of the Melchizedek order go astray, (as did Lucifer).
- ❖ They can act independently and do so often on “emergency” missions, as did our Melchizedek appearing in Abraham’s day, and can at will ‘pop in and out’ of material realms when they see fit.
- ❖ The “emergency,” was, in part, to proclaim a One God through the lineage of Abraham, when it was decided On High that Earth (Urantia) would host the Universe Creator himself—as Jesus of Nazareth.
- ❖ He volunteered to incarnate in the likeness of mortal flesh and did so with the approval of the **Melchizedek** receivers of the planet, who feared that the light of life would become extinguished during that period of increasing spiritual darkness. And he did foster the truth of his day and safely pass it on to Abraham and his associates.
- ❖ It is a mystery, known only to their order, of ‘how’ they materialize in human form, but they are not born of woman nor do they taste death.
- ❖ A Melchizedek emergency mission lasts long enough only to transfer the responsibilities over to a mortal to carry on, as Melchizedek did to and through Abraham.
- ❖ The **Melchizedeks** occupy a world of their own near Salvington, the universe headquarters. This sphere, by name **Melchizedek**, is the pilot world of the Salvington circuit of seventy primary spheres, each of which is encircled by six tributary spheres

devoted to specialized activities. These marvelous spheres — seventy primaries and 420 tributaries — are often spoken of as the **Melchizedek** University.

- ❖ The highest course of training in universe administration is given by the **Melchizedeks** on their home world. This College of High Ethics is presided over by the original Father **Melchizedek**.
- ❖ The **Melchizedeks** are the directors of that large corps of instructors — partially spiritualized will creatures and others — who function so acceptably on Jerusem and its associated worlds but especially on the seven mansion worlds.