



**THE PRIESTHOOD IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS:
A THEOLOGICAL STUDY ON DIFFERENCE AND CONTINUITY**

RESEARCH PAPER

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By

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PREFACE

This research paper is the result of the author's efforts to gain a deeper understanding of the concept of priesthood as presented in the two main sections of the Christian Scriptures: The Old Testament and the New Testament. The author's interest in this topic stems from an awareness of the vital role of priesthood in the history of God's salvation for humanity, as well as the dynamic development of this concept over time. Through this theological study, the author seeks to identify significant differences in the understanding and practice of priesthood between the two Testaments. At the same time, the author attempts to trace the theological continuity that links the priesthood in the Old Testament with its fulfilment in the person of Jesus Christ as the High Priest in the New Testament.

The author acknowledges the indispensable support and contributions of many individuals who have assisted in the writing and completion of this academic work. First and foremost, the author gives thanks for the immense love of God, whose blessings and guidance have sustained the author throughout the writing process. The author also humbly extends heartfelt gratitude to the following:

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Finally, the author respectfully dedicates this academic work to the beloved alma mater, IFTK Ledalero, the Camillian Order in Indonesia, the author's family, and all who may read this work. The author is fully aware of the limitations and imperfections within this paper and therefore warmly welcomes all forms of constructive criticism, input, and suggestions for its improvement.

Ledalero: 11, June 2025



The Author

ABSTRACT

Adeel Robin. *The Priesthood in the Old and New Testaments: A Theological Study of Difference and Continuity*. Scientific Paper. Diploma Program, in Catholic Religious/Theology, Institute of Philosophy and Creative Technology of Ledalero. 2025.

This scientific paper presents a theoloogical study of the concept of priesthood in both the old and New Testament, highlighting both the elements of continuity and transformation within Biblical narrative. The research has two main objectives. First, to explore and explain the theology of priesthood as portrayed in the Old and New Testament and second, to analyse the differences and continuities between them in the light of salvation history. Using a qualitative method with a literture study approach, this paper examines three central themes: (1) the priesthood in the old Testament,(2) the priesthood in the New Testament, and (3) the theological continuity and diferences between the two. The data is processed using desriptive analytical techniques.

The findings show that while there are essential differences such as the foundation of priesthood, the nature of offerings, the focus of worship, the character of priestly service, and the degree of lay participation there are also strong lines of continuity. These include the role of the priest as mediator between God and His people, as leader of liturgical worship, teacher and proclaimer of divine low, santify the faithful, and as one chosen and consecrated by God.

Theologically, the study emphasizes God,s sovereignty and plan of salvation, the uniqueness and eternal priesthood of Christ, the universal priesthood of all believers, and the transformation of liturgical worship in the New Covenat. Pastorally, the implications encourahe the Church to recognize priests not merely as litual functionaries, but to promote active partticipation of the faithful in the litugical and ecclesial life of the Church.

Keywords: Priesthood, Old Testament, New Testament, Difference and Continuity, Christ the High Priest.

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