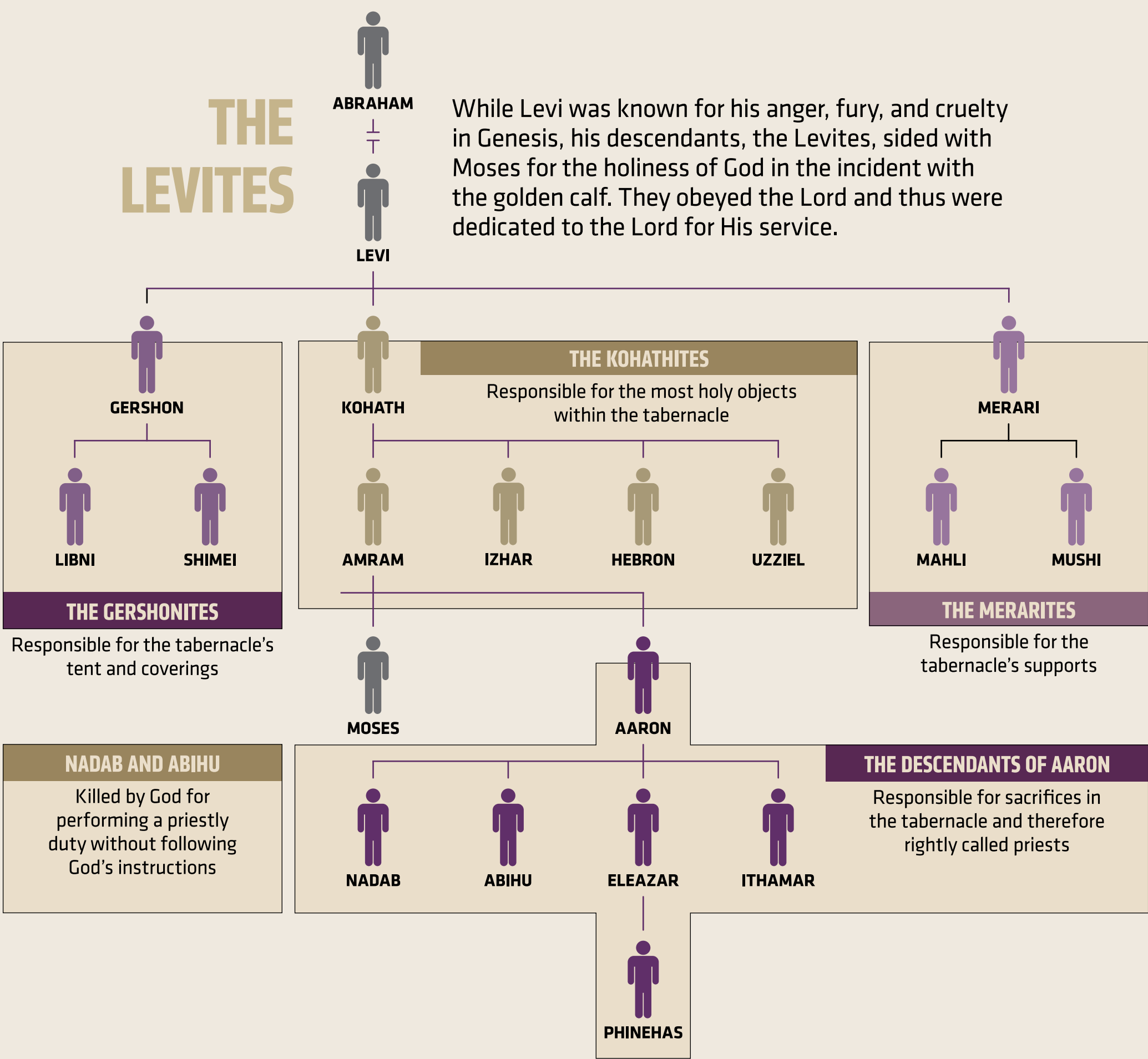


CHRIST AS PRIEST

WHAT WAS AN OLD TESTAMENT PRIEST?

REQUIREMENTS	DUTIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Levite, a descendant of Levi• Specifically a descendant of Aaron• Holy to the Lord<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Physically without blemish– Ceremonially clean– Morally clean by virtue of prescribed sacrifices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Offer sacrifices to God on behalf of the people• Bless the people on behalf of God• Teach the people the law of God



WHO WAS AN OLD TESTAMENT HIGH PRIEST?

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A specific descendant of Aaron• Appointed by God• Expected to serve for life• Expected to remain ritually clean, pure, and holy at all times• Wore highly symbolic vestments to emphasize the holiness the Lord required and to represent the twelve tribes of Israel, for whom the high priest interceded as a mediator before God• Had the responsibility of entering the most holy place once a year to make atonement for the people's sins on the Day of Atonement
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WHO WERE SOME OF THE PRIESTS?

AARON (Exodus 28:1; Hebrews 5:1-4) Aaron, along with his descendants after him, was appointed by God for the priestly ministry of offering sacrifices to God on behalf of the people and for blessing the people in the name of the Lord.	ELI (1 Samuel 1:9) AHIMELECH (1 Samuel 21:1) ABIATHAR (1 Samuel 23:9; Mark 2:26) ZADOK (1 Kings 2:35) JEHOIADA (2 Kings 12:2) HILKIAH (2 Kings 22:8) JOSHUA (Haggai 1:1; Zechariah 3:1) ELIASHIB (Nehemiah 3:1)
ELEAZAR (Numbers 20:25-28) PHINEHAS (Judges 20:27-28) Phinehas was zealous among the Israelites with the Lord's zeal when he put a man and woman to death for blatant disobedience against God (Numbers 25:1-13).	

A Priest: Appointed by God to offer gifts and sacrifices to God on behalf of his people for their sins and out of gratitude for God's provision and grace; a mediator between God and His people (Exodus 28–29; Leviticus 9:7; Hebrews 5:1).

HOW WAS JESUS A PRIEST?

REQUIREMENTS	JESUS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Levite, a descendant of Levi• Specifically, a descendant of Aaron• Holy to the Lord<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Physically without blemish– Ceremonially clean– Morally clean by virtue of prescribed sacrifices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The King, the Messiah, a descendant of the tribe of Judah (Hebrews 7:14)• Holy to the Lord<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens (Hebrews 7:26)– Ceremonially clean– Tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:15)• A priest in the order of Melchizedek, based not on genealogy but on the power of His indestructible life, having been raised from the dead never to die again (Hebrews 7:15-17)

WHO WAS MELCHIZEDEK?

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Genesis 14:17-20; Psalm 110:4; Hebrews 7<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Name means “King of Righteousness”– King of Salem, or “King of Peace”– A priest of the Most High God– Blessed Abraham after a battle and received from Abraham a tithe, or tenth, of Abraham's possessions– Appears in Genesis, a book of beginnings/genealogies, without father, mother, or genealogy, without a specified beginning of days or end of life– A priest-king who remains a priest forever, foreshadowing the Son of God (Hebrews 7:3)

HOW IS JESUS THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST?

THE LEVITICAL HIGH PRIEST	JESUS, THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST
Mediator of the old covenant given to the people on Mount Sinai (Hebrews 9:1-10)	Mediator of a new, better covenant (Hebrews 9:11-28)
Offered a sacrifice first for his own sin (Hebrews 5:3)	Tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:15)
Appointed by God according to physical descent from Aaron (Hebrews 5:4)	Appointed by God not according to physical descent but in the order of Melchizedek (Hebrews 5:5-6)
A temporary intercessor who remained in the office of priest until death (Hebrews 7:23)	The permanent, eternal intercessor who remains a priest forever because He lives forever (Hebrews 7:24-25)
Offered sacrifices daily for the sins of the people and himself (Hebrews 7:27)	Offered Himself once for all time for the sins of the people (Hebrews 7:27)
Entered the most holy place only once a year with the blood of an animal to make atonement for himself and the people, but this sacrifice could never perfect the worshiper's conscience (Hebrews 9:7,9)	Entered the most holy place in heaven once for all with His own blood to make eternal atonement for the people and to cleanse their consciences from dead works to serve the living God (Hebrews 9:14)
Offered the same sacrifices year after year that could never perfect the worshiper (Hebrews 10:1)	Offered Himself once for all time to sanctify the worshiper (Hebrews 10:10)
Stood day after day offering the same ineffectual sacrifices (Hebrews 10:11)	Offered Himself as the one effectual sacrifice for sins and sat down at the right hand of God (Hebrews 10:12)