

SBC – July 16, 2023
Psalm 110:1-7 (NKJV)
“The King-Priest Psalm”

Intro:

- David is the author of this Psalm as clearly identified by Jesus in the NT (cf. Mk. 12:36).
- The occasion for David writing it is unknown.
- It presents Christ as both king and priest and is most clearly a Messianic Psalm.
- Psalm 110 is the most quoted Psalm in the NT. One commentator counts 27 direct quotations or indirect allusions to Ps. 110 in the NT.

Slide # 1

Psalm 110

• **Theme:** Messiah the KingPriest

• **Outline:**

- A. The Character of Messiah - vv. 1-2
- B. Honored by His people – v. 3
- C. Established as Eternal Priest – v. 4
- D. Conquest of the Messiah - vv. 5-7

Psalm 110 (NKJV)
A Psalm of David.

David is the human author but Jesus in Mark 12:36 said David was speaking “in the Holy Spirit”. So, clearly, David spoke this my way of inspiration.

1 The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”

This verse is one of the most quotes OT verses in the NT. Jesus quoted it (Mt. 22:43-45; Mk. 12:36-37); Peter on the Day of Pentecost quoted it (Acts 2:34-35); Paul referred to it (1 Cor. 15:25); and the author of Hebrews also quoted from it (Heb. 1:13; 10:13). So this verse gets a lot of traction in the NT. It was clearly recognized by all as a Messianic Psalm having the Messiah in view.

This is very important because this is the verse that Jesus used to prove His deity and silence the Pharisees.

Slide # 2**Matthew 22:41–44 (NKJV)**

41 While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, **42** saying, “What do you think about the Christ? **Whose Son is He?**”

They said to Him, “**The Son of David.**”

43 He said to them, “**How then does David in the Spirit call Him ‘Lord,’** saying:

44 ‘The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool” ’?

45 If David then calls Him ‘Lord,’ how is He his Son?”

This was a masterful use of Scripture. All the Jews recognized that Psalm 110:1 was talking about the Messiah.

The language specifically is, “The LORD [that is YHWH] said to my Lord [that is Adonia]. Both YHWH and Adonia are names used for God. Adonai means Master.

Since David was the highest ruler in the kingdom then his Adonai (Master) had to be the Lord Himself. And that is why Jesus insightfully asked the Pharisees, “If David then calls Him ‘Lord,’ how is He his Son?”

Now we know the answer to the riddle is that the Messiah (Jesus) was both Lord-God and man. As God, He was David’s Lord, but humanly speaking He was the son of David. And this really did a number on the Pharisees.

Slide # 3**Matthew 22:46 (NKJV)**

46 And **no one was able to answer Him a word,** nor from that day on did anyone **dare question** Him anymore.

Jesus’ precision use of Scripture consistently silenced His critics. And by the way, this is also how Jesus defeated the devil when tempted by Him. Three times the devil tried to tempt Jesus and three times Jesus answered with “It is written” (Mt. 4:1-11).

David prophetically was given insight into the future conversation between God the Father and God the Son which would take place at the time of Christ’s ascension after His resurrection.

Slide # 4

The NT writers leave no room for doubt that the One who is seated at God's right hand is none other than Jesus of Nazareth (Matt. 26:64; Mark 14:62; 16:19; Luke 22:69; Acts 2:34, 35; 5:31; 7:55, 56; Rom. 8:34; 1 Cor. 15:24ff; Eph. 1:20; Col. 3:1; Heb. 1:3, 13; 8:1; 10:12,13; 12:2; 1 Pet. 3:22; Rev. 3:21). – **William MacDonald**

Hebrews makes it very clear that the time when Christ sat down at the Father's right hand was after His sacrifice for sin.

Slide # 5**Hebrews 10:12–13 (NKJV)**

12 But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God,

13 from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool.

After His sacrifice for sins Christ's work of paying for sin was completed – so He could sit down. The priests in the OT never sat down. There were no chairs in the temple. Their work was never completed. But Christ's sacrificial work was completed. It was a one time offering for sin that was a sufficient and forever offering. That is why it is so offensive to add anything to the finished work of Jesus on the cross. Jesus paid it all in a one time offering. To try and add anything else to this is offensive to His finished work.

Slide # 6**Hebrews 1:3 (NKJV)**

3 who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Hebrews 10:14 (NKJV)

14 For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

Christ sitting at the right hand of God the Father forever answers to the fact that sin has been sufficiently paid for once and for all.

And what is Christ doing there? He is just waiting for God's timing until the Father makes His enemies His footstool.

God the Father promised Jesus that He is going to eventually put down all His enemies. In the OT when a king would defeat his enemy he would often put his foot on his neck showing complete dominance (Josh. 10:24).

To make someone your footstool is to put them down under you in a position of humiliation. This is going to be the fate of all Christ's enemies. They are going down. They are going to be His footstool (so to speak).

The space between verse 1 and verse 2 has been called, "The Great Parenthesis". You see right now during the Church Age Christ is seated at the right hand of God the Father, but one day He is going to get off that seat and judge the world which is what verse 2 goes on to describe.

Right now we are living in the Church Age – the age of grace. Christ is seated on the right hand of the Father and right now judgment is being withheld. Right now the scepter of grace is being extended offering forgiveness to all who will come to Him in faith. But one day that is going to change. Christ is going to rise up and judge the whole world as seen in Rev. 6-18.

2 The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

YHWH (God the Father) is going to extend the strong scepter of His rule out of Zion. Jesus is going to return to Zion (the poetic name for Jerusalem) and from there He is going to rule over all His enemies.

Slide # 7

Psalm 2:2 (NKJV)

2 The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,

Psalm 2:5–6 (NKJV)

5 Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, And distress them in His deep displeasure:

6 "Yet **I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion.**"

When Jesus comes He is going to rule from Zion. It will be the capital of His worldwide kingdom rule (cf. Isa. 59:20; Ps. 132:13-18).

3 Your people shall be volunteers In the day of Your power; In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

When the people of God see the victory of their glorious Messiah they will gladly give themselves to His service. They will be an army of volunteers. It will be an honor to serve Him. His people want to serve. Volunteers is the idea of “willingness”. They willing want to serve Him.

God loves a cheerful giver. He loves volunteer service where people want to do it.

David then uses poetic language to describe them in their service. They serve in the beauty of holiness – in their set apart commitment to the Lord. And they do so with vibrancy – with youthful strength that is fresh with vitality. And its all for the Lord.

I got saved when I was 21. I remember telling the Lord I wanted to give Him the vitality of my youth – I wanted to serve Him with my strength. That is the picture here.

4 The LORD has sworn And will not relent, “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.”

Here we have one of the GREATEST Messianic verses in all the Bible. According to the order of -means according to the pattern of Melchizedek.

Verse 2 presents Messiah as a ruling King and verse 4 presents Him as priest forever. Christ uniquely occupies the offices of prophet, priest, and king. In the OT no person ever occupied all three of these offices. This is unique to the Messiah. He is uniquely both priest and king.

Slide # 8

Zechariah 6:12–13 (NKJV)

12 Then speak to him, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying: “Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, And He shall build the temple of the LORD;

13 Yes, He shall build the temple of the LORD. He shall bear the glory, And shall sit and **rule on His throne**; So He shall **be a priest on His throne**, And the counsel of peace shall be between them both.” ’

Concerning the priesthood of Christ God the Father has sworn with an oath and will not change His mind. This is as sure as anything can ever be! This oath is so important that it is referred to 5 times in the book of Hebrews (Heb. 5:6, 10; 6:20; 7:17, 21).

When God wants to really emphasize something in the strongest way possible He confirms it with an oath (cf. Gen. 22:16-18, Heb. 6:13-14). It's not that God's Word by itself is in any way insufficient. The bare Word of God alone is totally 100% certain. That's why Hebrews 6:18 speaks of "two immutable things". The promise or the Word of God itself is absolutely certain, but then God adds to it His oath making it DOUBLY CERTAIN in terms of emphasis.

We have this same reality in regard to the priesthood of Christ. God not only said it would be, but He affirmed it with an oath. In doing so God is affirming the reality of Christ's eternal priesthood in the strongest fashion possible.

And what God so strongly affirms is that Christ is a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek. Now this is most interesting.

Melchizedek is only mentioned twice in the OT - in Gen. 14:18-20 and then again in Ps. 110:4.

Slide # 9

Meaning of Melchizedek

Melek = *king*

Zedek = *righteousness*

Melchizedek by sovereign design is a mysterious person. It is by design so that he could be a type of priest that Christ would be. For example, there is no record of Melchizedek's beginning or end (cf 7:1-3). As such he typifies an eternal priesthood. He was a real person but God arranged it so he is a fitting type.

Melchizedek was a contemporary of Abraham. His ancestry is completely unknown. He was a king-priest from the city of Salem (the ancient name for Jerusalem). So he was a royal priest from the city of the great King as Jerusalem is stated to be in Psalm 48.

Slide # 10***Melchizedek***

Genesis 14:18-20 – History – c. 2000 B.C.

Ps. 110:4 – Prophetic/Poetic – c. 1000 B.C.

Heb. 5-7 – Theological – c. 65 A.D.

Melchizedek is simply a TYPE of Christ. How do you illustrate that which is eternal? How do you illustrate an eternal priesthood? The only way it can be done is in TYPE!

And that is exactly what God did in the person of Melchizedek. He illustrates the eternal priesthood of Christ – that He is a King-Priest – that He is a King of Righteousness and King of Peace. All of this is illustrated in the TYPOLOGY of Melchizedek.

The phrase “according to the order of Melchizedek” is interpreted for us in Hebrew 5-7. There the priesthood of Melchizedek is compared and contrasted with the Aaronic or Levitical priesthood.

– William MacDonald

The book of Hebrews emphasizes the superiority of Jesus Christ in various ways including His superior priesthood. It unpacks what it means that Christ is a priest after the order of Melchizedek. Hebrews 7 in particular deals with this at great length although it is mentioned in other chapters as well.

There would be great gaps in our understanding if we did not have Hebrews 7. Hebrews 7 completes the picture and connects all the dots showing us what kind of a priest we have in Christ as typified and prefigured in Melchizedek.

Slide # 11**The Order of Christ’s Priesthood (Hebrew 7).**

1. Christ’s priesthood is of a **different order** than the Levitical Priesthood.
2. It is of a **superior order** – being after the order of Melchizedek.
3. It is a **replacement order** – completely replacing the Levitical order.
4. It is an **eternal order** – being a forever priesthood.
5. It is a **sufficient order** – accomplishing the priesthood objective of bringing us to God.

5 The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

Slide # 12

The Lord (Adonai – referring to the Lord Jesus) is at Your (YHWH's) right hand; He (Messiah) shall execute kings in the day of His wrath.

The last three verses of the Psalm picture the Lord Jesus getting off of His seated position at the right hand of the Father and coming as a mighty Conqueror putting down all rebellion as He takes the reigns to rule the world.

Today is the “day of salvation” – the day of grace where God in grace inviting sinners to get right with Him. As Paul says, “Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” (2 Cor. 6:2). The call is to right now be reconciled to God through Jesus Christ the God provided Savior (2 Cor. 5:21). During this time – (the age of grace we call the Church Age) God is withholding His judgment.

But there will come a day of wrath in which God will judge the world in righteousness. This is the tribulation period (otherwise known as the 70th week of Daniel) which is dealt with at length in Rev. 6-18. It won't be pretty! The rebellious leaders of the world are coming down. The enemies of Christ are coming down.

Slide # 13

Revelation 6:15–17 (NKJV)

15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains,

16 and said to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from **the wrath of the Lamb!**

17 For the **great day of His wrath has come**, and who is able to stand?”

Jesus at this point comes from the throne at the right hand of the Father to execute judgment!

With the authority mentioned in [Psalm 110:2](#), the strength of the Messiah extends out of Zion and brings the righteous judgment of God against even the greatest **kings**. – **David Guzik**

6 He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

This anticipates the slaughter of the battle of Armageddon (Rev. 16:16; 19:11-21). In His conquest Messiah will exercise His authority over all the nations bringing His judgment against all who oppose Him. All the rebel leaders of the world will die. The heads of many countries will go down (cf. Joel 3:9-17; Zech. 14:3; Rev. 19:11-21).

Slide # 14

Isaiah 2:17 (NKJV)

17 The loftiness of man shall be bowed down, And the haughtiness of men shall be brought low; **The LORD alone will be exalted in that day,**

7 He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; Therefore He shall lift up the head.

This is a poetic way of describing the victory Messiah will have. He is pictured as refreshing Himself by the brook with His head lifted high in victory. He comes through the battle unscathed and refreshed – this is the picture (Zech. 14:9).

The Lord Jesus Christ is right now in the exalted position in heaven at the Father's right hand, but one day He will come as the mighty conqueror of the entire world and set up His kingdom and rule forever and ever.

In Rev. 3:21 Christ makes this promise to overcomers who believe in Him.

Slide # 15

Revelation 3:21 (NKJV)

21 To him who overcomes I will **grant to sit with Me on My throne,** as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

In the end, people are either going to be Christ's footstool – in the place of humiliation under His feet or they are going to sit with Him on His throne.

It all depends on what one does with Jesus!

Slide # 16

1 John 5:4–5 (NKJV)

4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

So, the ultimate issue is where are we at with Jesus. Are we an overcomer through faith in Him or are we His enemy?

1 Corinthians 15:57 (NKJV)

57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 7:24–25 (NKJV)

24 But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood.

25 Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Thanks be to God for Jesus the wonderful Savior and Lord – the forever faithful high priest of all those who believe in Him!

Hallelujah, what a Savior Who ever lives to represent us!