

JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Lesson 28: DAVID – Part 2

Psalmist & Prophet

Aim: To demonstrate how Jesus's death, burial, and resurrection, can be seen in the Psalms of David.

Key Scriptures: Psalms 2, 16, 22, & 110; Matthew 27:33-46; Luke 20:42-44; 24:44-46; Acts 2:24-31; 13:35-37; Hebrews 1:13-14.

In our last lesson on 'Saul & David', we discovered they were the first 2 kings to rule over the nation of Israel following a time when Israel was ruled by Judges. By way of review, let's answer the following questions:

Q: Who was the last judge to rule Israel, and also sent by God to anoint first Saul, then David, as king?

A:

Q: Saul was the 1st king of Israel. Of whom is he a type and what position does that individual hold?

A:

Q: Why was Samuel sent to anoint David to be the future king before Saul had died?

A:

Q: David was the 2nd king of Israel. Of whom is he a type and what position will He fulfill?

A:

Q: Who did David successfully fight using only his slingshot?

A:

David the Musician & Psalmist

During the early years of King Saul's reign, following the LORD's rejection of him as king, Saul was often plagued by distressing spirits sent from God, and when David skillfully played the harp for him, Saul would become refreshed, and the distressing spirit would depart from him.

In addition to being a skilled musician with the harp, David wrote many of the Psalms, and several of the ones he wrote are prophetic. The title of today's lesson is **David, Psalmist & Prophet**, and our aim is to see how David, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, wrote prophetically about Jesus Christ in his Psalms. Let's return once again to our study's foundational chapter - Luke twenty-four. After the 2 disciples encountered Jesus on the road to Emmaus on the day of His resurrection, they returned to the other disciples in Jerusalem to tell them that they had seen the risen Lord. Jesus then appeared in their midst:

***Luke 24:44** Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me."*

45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

When we looked at these verses previously, we noted that in **v. 44** Jesus mentioned the Psalms in connection with all things written about Him in the OT Scriptures which were to be fulfilled. Then, having opened their understanding of those Scriptures, He specified what those Scriptures revealed that they had failed to grasp:

***Luke 24:46** Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day,*

Q: What was it that was written, and that was necessary?

A:

Let's explore the Psalms to see how they could have contributed to the disciples understanding that '*it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day*'.

The Psalms

Psalms were written for singing in worship and praise to God in the Tabernacle, Temple, or Assembly. They included songs, prayers and poetry and were set to music. The Psalms could be deeply emotional pieces, where Israelites could express their praise and thanks to God. In some of the Psalms, the writers expressed their distress and anguish regarding their circumstances, such as when enemies surrounded them, and they questioned where God was in the midst of their trials. But however dark their situation, they would always find a reason to praise and honor the LORD God.

Many of the Psalms are also **prophetic** when they refer to events that would happen at Christ's 1st Advent, namely His **death, burial, and resurrection**. Others were prophetically looking further ahead to the glorious **reign of Christ in His Millennial Kingdom**.

There are 150 Psalms recorded in the Book of Psalms, which is sometimes referred to as 'The Psalms of David', although David did not write all of them. But he is the only one mentioned in the NT by name as a Psalmist. Jesus said:

***Luke 20:42** "Now David himself said in the Book of Psalms: 'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, 43 Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.'"*

44 "Therefore David calls Him 'Lord'; how is He [the Christ] then his [David's] Son?"

We ended our last lesson by looking at **Psalm 110** to demonstrate how Jesus is not yet ruling. Compare Psalm 110:1 with Luke 20:42-43 above and you will see that Jesus is quoting from a Psalm of David.

***Psalm 110:1** A Psalm of David. The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, **till** I make Your enemies Your footstool.”*

(We shall come back to how Jesus Christ is the Son of David in our next lesson.)

The writers of the NT often quote from the Book of Psalms, along with quoting other OT Scriptures. In fact, **Psalm 110** is also quoted in the first chapter of Hebrews:

***Hebrews 1:13** But to which of the angels has He ever said: “Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool”? 14 Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?*

Task: In the 3 sets of verses above highlight or underline the repeated sentence in each, then write it out here:

A:

Q: How does this knowledge equate with David’s activities and long wait from his anointing by Samuel, to when David was eventually made king, as we studied last lesson?

A:

Both the Old and New Testament verses are demonstrating that the LORD (God the Father), said to the Lord (God the Son), that He was to sit at His right hand for a period of time, following which Christ’s enemies would be contained and controlled firmly under His feet, referred to as a footstool. That period of time when Jesus is waiting is now, whilst Satan is still the god of this age.

The Crucifixion in the Psalms

Let's now look at **Psalm 22** which prophetically reveals several details from the day of Christ's death. As we read through, underline any references to things that you know happened on the day of the Crucifixion and write down the cross references for them:

Psalm 22:1 To the Chief Musician. Set to "The Deer of the Dawn." A Psalm of David. [Notice that David specifies to the Chief Musician which tune the psalm is to be sung to: "The Deer of the Dawn"]

My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?

7 All those who see Me ridicule Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,

8 "He trusted in the LORD, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!"

14 I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me.

15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death.

16 For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;

17 I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me.

18 They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.

How did you do? Did you begin to see how David was prophetically writing about Christ's crucifixion, whilst also writing figuratively about his own suffering?

Let's now read one of the NT accounts of the crucifixion to compare and notice how the underlined parts directly relate to what David said in **Psalm 22**.

Matthew 27:33 *And when they had come to a place called Golgotha, that is to say, Place of a Skull,*

34 they gave Him sour wine mingled with gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, He would not drink.

35 Then they crucified Him [pierced His hands & feet], and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet [David]: "They divided My garments among them. And for My clothing they cast lots."

36 Sitting down, they kept watch over Him there.

37 And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him: THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

38 Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and another on the left.

39 And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads

40 and saying, "You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross."

41 Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said,

42 "He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him.

43 "He trusted in God: let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'"

44 Even the robbers who were crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing.

45 Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land.

46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

The Burial & Resurrection in the Psalms

We have looked at how Psalm 22 was prophetically talking of Jesus's crucifixion. Now let's consider His burial and resurrection in **Psalm 16**:

Psalm 16:8 *I have set the LORD always before me; Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved.*

9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope.

10 For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

11 You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Q: What is the 'hope' that David refers to in **v.10**?

A:

David was confident that when he died, his soul would not remain 'in Sheol'. '**Sheol**' is the place of the dead where the soul goes when someone physically dies. It is often translated as '**the grave**'. In the NT it is referred to as '**Hades**'.

Q: Who is the ‘Holy One’ who will not ‘see corruption’?

A:

David is saying that the ‘Holy One’ will not remain in the grave, but will be resurrected and, ‘He will not see corruption’. We can know that David is referring to Jesus if we compare Scripture with Scripture.

The Apostle Paul said in:

Acts 13:35 *"Therefore He also says in another **Psalm** [Psalm 16]: 'You will not allow Your Holy One to see corruption.'*

36 "For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption;

*37 "but He whom God raised up saw **no** corruption.*

Q: How shall we understand David seeing corruption, whereas ‘Your Holy One’ did **not** see corruption?

A:

On the Day of Pentecost, Peter stood up and preached to the crowds in Jerusalem following the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Peter quoted directly from **Psalm 16** with respect to the **resurrection of Jesus Christ**:

Acts 2:24 *“whom God raised up [resurrected], having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.*

25 “For David says [in Psalm 16] concerning Him: 'I foresaw the LORD always before my face, For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken.

*26 Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; **Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope.***

27 For You will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

28 You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.'

29 "Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

*30 "Therefore, being **a prophet**, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne,*

31 "he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.

As Peter taught the men of Israel that day concerning the resurrection of Christ, he made mention of King David and his tomb which was still there 1,000 years later. David's body, 'his flesh', having been in the tomb such a long time would have, and still is, experiencing 'corruption', yet David wrote, my flesh will rest in hope, for You will not leave my soul in Hades (Sheol). Furthermore it says in **v.30** that God swore an oath to David that from his own body, according to his flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on David's throne. That **oath** will be the subject of our next lesson.

Let's pray...