

# Psalms 87-89 – 18 May 2025

## “So We May Live, Jesus Took Death”

### Introduction

\*Though all OT passages are about God’s plan to redeem mankind thru His Son Jesus, some passages are very easy to see it – like today’s passage

\*To believe God’s Word is to believe that it is all about Jesus Christ (Read John 5:46)

\*Jesus Himself tells us that the OT is all about Him (Read Luk 24:25-27)

\*We finish Book 3 of the Psalms w/ the final 3 Psalms being a clear representation of Jesus’ final entrance into Jerusalem just before going to the cross

\*We begin w/ a representation of the joy of entering Jerusalem – Hosanna, Hosanna to the King!

\*To the agony of the cross & finally the Great Exchange of His righteous for our sin & death

**\*So today we’ll see 3 foreshadowing of Jesus coming to Jerusalem & the cross that fateful week**

# #1: Beloved Jerusalem – Jesus comes to bring life (Psm 87)

Read Psm 87:1-3

1. Now where is it that glorious things are spoken of Jerusalem & Mt Zion?
  - a. What's so special about Zion's foundation?
  - b. Read Isa 28:16 – Both Paul (Rom 9) & Peter (I Pet 2) quote this as speaking of Jesus
2. *Zion's gates* is reference to the leader's meeting
  - a. When Jesus is your foundation, there is righteous leadership & judgement in the city

Read Vs 4-5

1. The Psalmist gives a comparison here
2. When speaking to the small nations around Israel; Philistia, Tyre & Ethiopia, he says...
  - a. When someone is born in Egypt (Rahab) or Babylon, it's worth mentioning (citizenship)
  - b. BUT when someone is born in Jerusalem, now THAT'S special b/c God will establish those people

## Read Vs 6

1. We've spiritually been born in Jerusalem (Heb 12:18, 22-24)
2. Gal 4 says we're born of Mt. Sinai (natural birth) but need born of Mt. Zion by Christ's work

## Read Vs 7

1. All ability to prosper & bear fruit comes from You
2. Read Jer 2:13 – Jesus Christ has everything we'd every need
3. He's placed his identity in Jerusalem today & the New Jerusalem for eternity

## **#2: Engulfed In Darkness: Jesus came to the cross (Psm 88)**

Intro – Set to the tune of or played on a musical instrument of *Mahalath Leannoth* meaning sickness & depressed

*Heman* is 1 of 4 very wise men in Solomon's days

## Read Psm 88:1-5

1. As a picture of Jesus Christ, interesting that it starts with a note that there is a relationship w/ God, yet vs 5 says it is like He's cut off from God
  - a. He isn't cut off, but He's *like* those cut off
2. Jesus cried out, My God, My God why...

## Read Vs 6-9

1. There's the feeling of darkness in which no earthly help is there to support
  - a. From vs 8 my friends are afar off
2. Jesus quoted (Read) Psm 41:9 of Himself
  - a. Not only have betrayers left like Judas, but even dear friends like Peter are nowhere to help
3. Notice vs 6-7 God Himself brings this wrath
  - a. *Jesus bore God's wrath, so we wouldn't*

## Read Vs 10-12

1. The call is to save him from death so he can yet have relationship & praise God

- a. Now, no man can rise again to praise God, but the Godman Jesus did...b/c He was perfect
- b. No greater way to see this than to see Jesus' resurrection never to return to this separation

Read Vs 13-18

- 1. Here maybe the best expression of loneliness
- 2. On that cross, the only time Jesus ever experienced separation from the Father
- 3. Separation *IS* death
  - a. The 1<sup>st</sup> death is separation from the body
  - b. The 2<sup>nd</sup> death is separation from God
    - i. Read Isa 59:2 - If we die in our sins, we're eternally separated from God
  - c. Thus the 2<sup>nd</sup> death is called Outer Darkness

### **#3: The Great Exchange: Jesus' resurrection brings eternal life...at a price (Psm 89)**

Intro – *Maskil* – to be contemplated

*Ethan* is 1 of 4 very wise men in Solomon's days

## Read Psm 89:1-4

1. As if it's a celebration at Jesus' resurrection that mercy has finally be established forever
  - a. All b/c of, not us, but God's faithfulness
2. David's descendant, the Messiah, has finally been established permanently

## Read Vs 5-10

1. We celebrate the faithfulness of the Lord
  - a. Faithfulness - to do what you said you would
  - b. We can count on Him to deliver us
2. We celebrate the strength of the Lord
  - a. He not only wants to deliver, but He CAN
3. Great reference to crushing Egypt (vs 10) b/c this is 1<sup>st</sup> & most vivid pic God gave of defeating death

## Read Vs 11-14

1. This is the victory of the cross that Jesus won all things back under His authority

## Read Vs 15-18

1. To have relationship with the risen King is to know abundant blessing thru His strength

## Read Vs 19-24

1. He's speaking of King David, but ultimately the great Son of David, Jesus
2. Formerly, Jesus received visions at the end of Satan's temptations
3. Jesus was exalted by John at His baptism
4. Certainly, in Jesus' life, no enemy could deceive Him

## Read Vs 25-29

1. Only Jesus is God's firstborn
2. Read John 1:14 – Only begotten of Father...
3. 1stborn mainly indicates the son of inheritance
  - a. Notice (vs 27) He's made higher than kings

## Read Vs 30-37

1. Now the promise to the church
  - a. Though we may need corrected, we won't ever be forsaken (Read John 10:28-29)
2. Our security is b/c Jesus' rule is immovable
  - a. Why? B/c God made a one-way covenant

## Intro to 38-45

1. These next verses take a hard turn
2. After talking of the joy of what we receive,  
now we see the price Jesus paid to give it to us

## Read Vs 38-40

1. He was wounded for our transgressions
2. Jesus took God's wrath on the cross

## Read Vs 41-43

1. At His arrest said He could've called 12  
legions of angels to be loosed but withheld

## Read Vs 44-45

1. Surely on the cross He was beaten so severely  
He no longer looked like a man & died young

## Read Vs 46-48

1. These verses cry out for a Savior that is beyond  
a mere man
2. Only one man could ever promise eternal life  
to you & men



- a. Jesus said, ‘Destroy this temple & in 3 days I’ll raise it up again.’ (Read John 2:19)

Read Vs 49-51

1. As Isaiah prophesied, the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all’
2. He was wounded for our transgressions
3. Read Heb 2:9b-10 – It was all for us
  - a. To bring many people into glory forever

Read Vs 52

1. Each book of the Psalms ends with a version of ‘Blessed be God forever Amen & Amen’
2. Reminding us - focus should never be off of Him

## Conclusion

So, what a beautiful picture of Christ's love for us

1. **He came into His beloved Jerusalem to bring us life**
2. **He was willingly engulfed in darkness on the cross**
3. **He performed the great exchange by taking our sin & death, while gifting us eternal life**