

*September 6, 2020*

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## TIME OF REFLECTION

“God created the world to provide a spouse and a kingdom for His Son: and the setting up of the kingdom of Christ, and the spiritual marriage of the spouse to Him, is what the whole creation labours and travails in pain to bring to pass.”

~ Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758), American preacher

“We love him, because he first loved us.”

~ 1 John 4:19

“We should be astonished at the goodness of God, stunned that He should bother to call us by name, our mouths wide open at His love, bewildered that at this very moment we are standing on holy ground.”

~ Brennan Manning (1934-2013), American author, former priest, and public speaker

“The Christian does not think God will love us because we are good, but that God will make us good because He loves us; just as the roof of a sunhouse does not attract the sun because it is bright, but becomes bright because the sun shines on it.”

~ C.S. Lewis (1898-1963), British writer and theologian

“And what a comfort is this, that, seeing God’s love rests on Christ, as well pleased in him, we may gather that he is as well pleased with us, if we be in Christ!”

~ Richard Sibbes (1577-1635), *The Bruised Reed*

“When we are securely rooted in personal intimacy with the source of life, it will be possible to remain flexible without being relativistic, convinced without being rigid, willing to confront without being offensive, gentle and forgiving without being soft, and true witnesses without being manipulative.”

~ Henri Nouwen (1932-1996), Dutch Catholic priest, professor, writer and theologian

“To love God with heart and soul and mind and strength... is the first and greatest commandment, so the first and greatest sin is not to love God with heart and soul and mind and strength. For this there is no remedy, save what God himself has provided—in love.”

~ D.A. Carson, Professor of New Testament

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## *Worship through the Word*

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**SERMON** – “A Song of Love” – *Pastor Chris Audino*

**SERMON PASSAGE** – *Psalms 45 (ESV) A Maskil of the Sons of Korah; a love song.*

- <sup>1</sup> My heart overflows with a pleasing theme;  
I address my verses to the king;  
my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.
- <sup>2</sup> You are the most handsome of the sons of men;  
grace is poured upon your lips;  
therefore God has blessed you forever.
- <sup>3</sup> Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one,  
in your splendor and majesty!
- <sup>4</sup> In your majesty ride out victoriously  
for the cause of truth and meekness and  
righteousness;  
let your right hand teach you awesome deeds!
- <sup>5</sup> Your arrows are sharp  
in the heart of the king's enemies;  
the peoples fall under you.
- <sup>6</sup> Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.  
The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of  
uprightness;  
<sup>7</sup> you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.  
Therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;
- <sup>8</sup> your robes are all fragrant with myrrh  
and aloes and cassia.  
From ivory palaces stringed instruments  
make you glad;
- <sup>9</sup> daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor;  
at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
- <sup>10</sup> Hear, O daughter, and consider,  
and incline your ear:  
forget your people and your father's house,  
<sup>11</sup> and the king will desire your beauty.  
Since he is your lord, bow to him.
- <sup>12</sup> The people of Tyre will seek  
your favor with gifts,  
the richest of the people.
- <sup>13</sup> All glorious is the princess in her chamber,  
with robes interwoven with gold.
- <sup>14</sup> In many-colored robes she is led to the king,  
with her virgin companions following behind her.
- <sup>15</sup> With joy and gladness they are led along  
as they enter the palace of the king.
- <sup>16</sup> In place of your fathers shall be your sons;  
you will make them princes in all the earth.
- <sup>17</sup> I will cause your name to be remembered  
in all generations;  
therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.