




SUMMER IN THE PSALMS



“Christus Victor”
Psalm 110

¹The LORD says to my Lord:
“Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool.”

²The LORD sends forth from Zion
your mighty scepter.
Rule in the midst of your enemies!
³Your people will offer themselves freely
on the day of your power,
in holy garments;
from the womb of the morning,
the dew of your youth will be yours.

Psalm 110:1-7

⁴The LORD has sworn
and will not change his mind,
“You are a priest forever
after the order of Melchizedek.”
⁵The Lord is at your right hand;
he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.
⁶He will execute judgment among the
nations, filling them with corpses;
he will shatter chiefs over the wide earth.
⁷He will drink from the brook by the way;
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Psalm 110:1-7

Introduction

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B. Psalm 110 shines as bright Christologically as the noon-day sun. King David served as the poetic prophet, receiving a revelation from God about the coming Messiah.

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D. In these verses Jesus affirmed that David was the author of the psalm, that he wrote as inspired by the Holy Spirit, and that the Christ would be more than a mere human descendant of David.

Introduction

**E. “Psalm 110 is entirely about a divine King who has been installed at the right hand of God in heaven and who is presently engaged in extending his spiritual rule throughout the whole earth. It tells us that this divine Messiah is also a priest, performing priestly functions, and that additionally he is a judge who at the end of time will execute a final judgment on the nations and rulers of the earth”
(James Montgomery Boice).**

Introduction

F. Big Idea: Christ is the reigning King, the faithful High Priest, and the triumphant Warrior.

I. Christ Is the Reigning King (110:1-3)

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Psalms 110:1-3

I. Christ Is the Reigning King (110:1-3)

A. The first stanza sings of Yahweh and His chosen King. David overheard a heavenly conversation between Yahweh and David's Lord (Adonai), between the Father and His Messiah-Son.

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A. The first stanza sings of Yahweh and His chosen King. David overheard a heavenly conversation between Yahweh and David's Lord (Adonai), between the Father and His Messiah-Son.

B. The Father made three promises to His Messiah-Son: (1) I will defeat Your enemies (110:1); (2) I will extend Your kingdom (110:2); and (3) I will give You a great army (110:3).

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(1) Jesus cited this verse to prove that Messiah is more than a mere physical descendant of David (Matthew 22:41-46; Mark 12:36-37; Luke 20:41-44);

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(2) Peter quoted it on the Day of Pentecost to demonstrate that Jesus is the Messiah-Lord (Acts 2:34-36);

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(3) The writer of Hebrews quoted the verse to argue that Jesus is greater than the angels (Hebrews 1:13);

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(4) The writers of the New Testament cited the verse to show that after Jesus' crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension, He is now seated at the right hand of God the Father in heaven (Acts 2:33-35; Hebrews 6:20);

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and (5) The New Testament writers stated that God the Father puts His enemies under His Son's feet (1 Corinthians 15:25-28; Ephesians 1:22; Hebrews 10:13).

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D. “Sit at My right hand”—A command to sit in the place of honor, authority, and power. Messiah rules. Jesus is enthroned by God the Father.

E. “Footstool”—God’s chosen King will put His feet on the necks of His defeated enemies. The footstool is a symbol of complete and total victory.

I. Christ Is the Reigning King (110:1-3)

F. 110:2. The “strong scepter” depicts the King’s domination, strength, power, and authority. The strong scepter extends from Zion but it does not stop until all His enemies are His footstool and He rules in their very midst.

I. Christ Is the Reigning King (110:1-3)

G. This verse reminds us of Matthew 28:18-20. Jesus will get all the nations (Psalm 2:8). His strong scepter will prevail one way or the other. The ends of the earth will be His possession (Psalm 2:8).

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H. 110:3. The redeemed join in the spiritual battle to fight with their King. We are commanded to go and make disciples, from your living room to the ends of the earth.

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I. Christ the King does not grow old, tire, or faint. He is perpetually empowered by the very life of God in Him. He goes forth in youthful vigor, holiness, and glory as He leads His army.

II. Christ is the Faithful High Priest (110:4)

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B. The uniting of the offices of king and priest was never realized in the Old Testament. It was forbidden by the Law of Moses. But there would come a day. It is prophesied here in Psalm 110 and in Zechariah 6:12-13.

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D. Melchizedek was both the king of Salem (“peace”) and a priest of “God Most High” (El Elyon).

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F. Messiah would be a priest for all nations, not just Israel. He would be a King-Priest, combining the two offices.

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G. His reign would be without beginning and without end, just as Melchizedek, in that his origin and destiny were not revealed in Scripture.

H. And as Abram saw Melchizedek to be associated with the victory God had granted him, so Messiah will be victorious in battle against His enemies.

II. Christ is the Faithful High Priest (110:4)

I. Christ is our merciful and faithful High Priest who satisfies the wrath of God for His people (Hebrews 2:17-18; 4:14–16; 7:25-28).

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B. Jesus said: “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it” (Matthew 16:18).

III. Christ Is the Triumphant Warrior (110:5-7)

C. Jesus doesn't paint a picture of hell on the march and His people fleeing. He paints a picture of His church on the offensive storming the gates of Hades. And the gates of hades lose, not the church!

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C. Jesus doesn't paint a picture of hell on the march and His people fleeing. He paints a picture of His church on the offensive storming the gates of Hades. And the gates of Hades lose, not the church!

D. Psalm 110:5-7 depict Christ on the move pursuing His enemies until He has vanquished all His enemies.

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**F. He will crush kings and render justice
among the nations.**

III. Christ Is the Triumphant Warrior (110:5-7)

**G. “Therefore, God also highly exalted Him,
and bestowed on Him the name which is
above every name, so that at the name of
Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in
heaven and on earth and under the earth, and
that every tongue will confess that Jesus
Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father”
(Philippians 2:9-11).**

Conclusion

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C. Christ is the Victor! He is both Lord and Christ.

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D. How does this truth affect you? Have you bowed before Him? Are you faithfully serving Him?

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E. The Gospel Definition

The gospel is the good news that the just and gracious God of the universe looked upon hopelessly sinful people and sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, God in human flesh, to bear His wrath against sin on the cross and to show His power over sin in the resurrection so that everyone who turns from their sin (repentance) and believes in Him (faith) will be reconciled to God forever.