Messianic Psalms Parts 1-2

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday March 25th, 2018

Text: Ps. 22; 110; 16

### Intro (Part 1)

1. “Messianic” Psalms refer to psalms that, in one way or another, pertain to the Messiah *(H4899: Anointed One)* or Christ *(Jn. 1:41: Greek equivalent to Hebrew; G5547: Anointed One).*
2. Though not often considered a book of prophecy, the psalms are certainly full of prophecy!
   1. The Messianic Psalms speak of Jesus from His birth to His betrayal, from His torture to His death, from His resurrection to his ascension to Heaven, and from His world-wide reign to His 2nd Coming.
   2. They speak of the Messiah as King, Priest, and Prophet.
   3. Jesus said all that was contained in the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms concerning Him had to be fulfilled – Lk. 24:44
3. The term “Messiah” or “Anointed One” can be in reference to a king or even David specifically, but often goes beyond the short term and references Jesus in the long term.
   1. Example – Psalm 41: At first glance it appears to only be in reference to an event at the time of the psalmist, David (“For the choir director. A Psalm of David”).
   2. It speaks of scheming foes, being betrayed by friends (41:9), and of being triumphant, which David certainly experienced in the betrayal of Ahithophel and his own son Absalom, and the victory over them by the grace of God *(II Samuel 15-18).*
   3. It also refers to Jesus’ betrayal by Judas – *Jn. 13:18; Mt. 26:20-25; Lk. 22:47-48*
4. We will study three Messianic Psalms *(22, 110, 16)* and see how they relate to Jesus!

#### Psalm 22: The Psalm of the Cross

* 1. Ps. 22:1: “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Jesus was forsaken.
     1. While He hung on the cross dying, shortly before He died, Jesus cried out, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?” (Mt. 27:46: “Eli, Eli” is Hebrew for “My God, My God” and “Lama Sabachthani” is Aramaic; Mk. 15:34: Translates the whole quote in Aramaic, thus the “Eloi, Eloi” part)
     2. Jesus quoted Ps. 22:1 as one of His final sayings on the cross (this scene was foretold hundreds of years earlier)!
        1. It is possible that Jesus’ quoting the first passage of Psalm 22 was to draw the people’s minds to the whole psalm, which foretold His agony on the cross.
     3. This is also the only recorded time where Jesus addressed God and didn’t call Him “Father.”
  2. Ps. 22:14: “…all my bones are out of joint…” Jesus dies in excruciating agony.
     1. EXCRUCIATE: to cause great agony, torment. Latin roots, ex: out of, from; cruciate: cross. The word is Latin for, “from, or out of, the cross” (Webster’s).
     2. “When the cross was erected upright, there was tremendous strain put on the wrists, arms and shoulders, resulting in a dislocation of the shoulder and elbow joints” (Excerpt from: *Medical Aspects of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ* by Dr. David Teraska)
     3. “Within a few minutes of being placed on the cross, the shoulders will become dislocated. Minutes later the elbows and wrists become dislocated. The result of these dislocations is that the arms are as much as 6-9 inches longer than normal. With the arms dislocated, considerable body weight is transferred to the chest, causing the rib cage to be elevated in a state of perpetual inhalation. Consequently, in order to exhale the victim must push down on his feet to allow the rib muscles to relax. The problem is that the victim cannot push very long because the legs are extremely fatigued. As time goes on, the victim is less and less able to bear weight on the legs, causing further dislocation of the arms and further rising of the chest wall, making breathing more and more difficult (Excerpt from: *The Crucifixion in Excruciating Detail*, 2012)
     4. “Due to the shallow breathing, the victim's lungs begin to collapse in small areas, causing hypoxia and hypercarbia. A respiratory acidosis, with lack of compensation by the kidneys due to the loss of blood from the numerous beatings, resulted in an increased strain on the heart, which beats faster to compensate. Fluid builds up in the lungs. Under the stress of hypoxia and acidosis the heart eventually fails” (Dr. Teraska).
     5. Death by Crucifixion: Slow Asphyxiation (Suffocation)
        1. Shallowness of breathing causes small areas of lung collapse.
        2. Decreased oxygen and increased carbon dioxide causes acidic conditions in the tissues.
        3. Fluid builds up in the lungs. Makes situation in step 2 worse.
        4. Heart is stressed and eventually fails. *(Dr. David Teraska)*
     6. Every time Jesus spoke He had to push Himself up on his nail-pierced feet! *(Also shows the strength needed for the thieves to hurl insults and defend Him in Luke 23:39-42)*
        1. It is recorded that Jesus made 7 utterances while hanging on the cross:
           1. “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do” (Luke 23:34).
           2. “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise” (Luke 23:43).
           3. “Woman, behold your son! . . . Behold your mother!” (John 19:26-27).
           4. “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? . . . My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” (Ps. 22:1; Mt. 27:46; Mark 15:34).
           5. “I thirst!” (John 19:28).
           6. “It is finished!” (John 19:30).
           7. “Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit” (Luke 23:46; also see Ps. 31:5; Mt. 27:50; Mark 15:37).
     7. Breaking the legs would hasten the death as they could no longer lift themselves up for a breath of air! (John 19:31-34)
     8. Despite the agony and dislocated bones and joints, no bones were broken, just as was foretold *(Ex. 12:46: The Passover Lamb was to have no broken bones; Ps. 34:20; Jn. 19:32-33, 36; I Cor. 5:7: Christ our Passover was sacrificed!)!*
  3. Ps. 22:16: “They pierced my hands and my feet.” Jesus’ hands and feet would be “pierced.”
     1. None of the accounts of Jesus' crucifixion specifically say that He was nailed to the cross *(Mt. 27:35; Mk. 15:24; Lk. 23:33; Jn. 19:18),* but we know that He was *(Jn. 20:25, 27; Acts 2:23; Col. 2:14)* and was foretold in *Ps. 22:16 & Zech. 12:10: “They will look on Me whom they have pierced” – Jn. 19:37*
     2. Israel’s method of execution at the time of David was stoning, so not a reference to this time period, but pointing to Jesus!
  4. Ps. 22:7-8, 16: “All who see me sneer at me.” Jesus would be mocked while on the cross!
     1. “The crucifixion site ‘was purposely chosen to be outside the city walls because the Law forbade such within the city walls...for sanitary reasons... the crucified body was sometimes left to rot on the cross and serve as a disgrace, a convincing warning and deterrent to passersby. Sometimes, the subject was eaten while alive and still on the cross by wild beasts!’” (Dr. David Teraska)
     2. Those who saw Him mocked Him, even the thieves on the crosses next to His (one had a change of heart) & the soldiers – *Mt. 27:39-44; Mk. 15:29-32; Lk. 23:35-43*
     3. Jesus said He would “be lifted up” (Jn. 3:14-15) – “Lifted up” implies for all to see, since the reference to the bronze serpent the people had to look to in order to be healed *(Num. 21:9)!*
  5. Ps. 22:17: “They look, they stare at me.” Jesus would be stared at!
     1. The death of Jesus was predicted to be, and was, a spectacle.
     2. Naked, or nearly so, His body stretched out unnaturally, blood, sweat, flies, groaning, and dogs circling, it was a scene that riveted the eyes of all who were there to see it!
     3. We partake of the Lord’s Supper every first day of the week, to “proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes” *(I Cor. 11:26)* so we remember what our salvation cost!
  6. Ps. 22:18: “They divide my garments among them, And for my clothing they cast lots.” Jesus’ garments would be divided and lots cast for them.
     1. The soldiers gambled for the only thing of value they saw in Jesus, His seamless tunic and outer garments (Jn. 19:23-25).
  7. Psalm 22 foretells Jesus’ loss of human dignity, ridicule, the physical effects of fear, terror, and a deteriorating body, including the impact upon the heart, bones, hands and feet.
  8. Psalm 22 depicts a totally broken man (Jesus), physically, and emotionally!

## Conclusion (Part 1)

1. Psalm 22 depicts the cross, not an instrument for execution at the time of its writing but a future mode of execution at a time of God’s choosing (Gal. 4:4), and the Son of God Who would die there for all of mankind.
2. Jesus was the perfect sacrifice for sins for all time *(Heb. 9:28; 10:12).*
3. Just as the story of the Messiah doesn’t end at the cross, neither do the Psalms end at the cross but they further prophesy of His being a King and Priest and gives the hope of His resurrection!
4. We will study through Psalms 110 & 16 in Part 2!
5. Jesus’ death on the cross was to fulfill the will of God in order to save mankind from sin!
6. Eph. 1:7: In His blood we have forgiveness and redemption and the hope of Heaven (Col. 1:5)
7. Have you obeyed the gospel that you might be washed in His blood and freed from your sins?
8. If you are not a Christian, you need to be. Repent and be baptized into His name!
9. If a Christian in error, don’t wait till it’s eternally too late. Repent and be renewed!
10. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!

### Intro (Part 2)

1. “Messianic” Psalms refer to psalms that, in one way or another, pertain to the Messiah *(H4899: Anointed One)* or Christ *(Jn. 1:41: Greek equivalent to Hebrew; G5547: Anointed One).*
2. In Part 1 we looked at Psalm 22: often referred to as “The Psalm of the Cross”
   1. Psalm 22 depicted the agony, both physically and emotionally, of Jesus on the cross!
   2. By the end of the psalm we have a picture of a broken and dying man.
   3. But the Psalms don’t leave us with the picture of the Messiah dead on a cross!
3. In Part 2 we will look at Psalms 110 & 16 and see that they foretell of Jesus’ Lordship and the hope of His resurrection!

#### Psalm 110: Jesus is Both King and Priest

* 1. Ps. 110:1: “The LORD says to my Lord: ‘Sit at My right hand Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.’” Jesus is Lord! *(This is one of the most quoted Psalms in NT)*
     1. David wrote this psalm (Ps. 110:1; Mt. 22:43, 45) – Despite some Jewish scholars claiming it was written by Abraham’s servant about Abraham and David compiled it.
        1. Both Jesus (Mt. 22:43) and Peter (Acts 2:34) say David wrote it, and Jesus points to inspiration by saying, “David in the Spirit…”
     2. David speaks of God *(YHWH, H3068),* speaking to his (David’s) Lord *(Adonay, H136).* David was king at the time so to whom was *YHWH* speaking, who was higher in authority than King David of Israel?
     3. The NT makes the conclusion obvious:
        1. Lk. 2:10-11: The angel announced to the shepherds that Jesus was born and said He would be a “Savior” and “Christ the Lord.” The Messiah (Christ, “Anointed One”) would be “Savior” and “Lord!”
        2. Mt. 22:41-46: Jesus asked the Pharisees whose son the Christ is, and they answered, “The son of David.” Jesus then used this psalm to show the “Son” of David was not a physical son in that He was higher in authority than David because He is Lord *(G2962 Kurios, Supreme Lord = YHWH).*
        3. Acts 2:34-36: Peter used this psalm to end his sermon on the day of Pentecost to show they crucified Jesus, who was “both Lord *(G2962: Kurios)* and Christ *(G5547: Anointed One)!”*
  2. Ps. 110:2, 4: “Scepter…Priest…” Jesus is not only a King but a Priest!
     1. This one spoken of in Ps. 110:2 holds a “strong scepter from Zion” and will “Rule in the midst of Your enemies.” He would be Lord and King.
        1. David certainly ruled as lord and king and brought peace to his nation – handed over a peaceful Israel to his son Solomon *(I Kings 4:24).*
     2. This one spoken of in Ps. 110:4 will be “a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek” *(A King/Priest in Abraham’s time – Gen. 14:18-24).* Not only Lord and King, but also a Priest.
        1. From a human and Israelite standpoint, no king over Israel in the line of David could be king and priest, because David was of the tribe of Judah, and priests were from the tribe of Levi *(Heb. 7:11)!*
        2. This is not speaking about David *(II Sam. 7:12-16: House of David established forever as king)* as a priest!
     3. This could be no ordinary human king – God was inviting this individual to sit at His own side!
        1. Acts 2:33; 7:56; Heb. 1:3; 12:2: Jesus is the One who sat at the right hand of God!
        2. *Heb. 6:20-8:6:* Jesus is the Priest forever *(Heb. 7:24)* according to the order of Melchizedek and is our “Great High Priest – Heb. 4:14
        3. *Hebrews 7:* The Hebrew writer contrasts the priestly order of Aaron (Levitical Priesthood) to the priestly order of Melchizedek and shows the superiority of the order of Melchizedek over the Levitical priesthood!
  3. Ps. 110:5-7: “He will judge among the nations.” Work of the Messiah foretold: Judge!
     1. *I Cor. 15:24-28:* After His resurrection from the dead and ascension to Heaven where He sits at the right hand of God, He reigns till His enemies are made a footstool (Psalm 110:1; I Tim. 6:15: Jesus is “the King of kings and Lord of lords”).
     2. *Mt. 25:31-46:* Jesus will judge the nations with reward & punishment!
  4. Levitical priests (human) could only serve a few years, but Jesus will serve “forever!” *(Heb. 7:23-24)*

#### Psalm 16: Hope of the Resurrection

* 1. Ps. 16:9-10: “You will not abandon my soul to Sheol…” The hope (NKJ: Ps. 16:9) of the Resurrection of Jesus! *(Sheol is Heb. equiv. to Gr. Hades – see Acts 2:27)*
     1. This psalm of David expresses his total trust in God, not only for the present but also for the future.
     2. He wrote, “My flesh also will rest in hope” (NKJ: Ps. 16:9) and “You will not abandon my soul to Sheol; Nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay” (NAS: Ps. 16:10).
     3. ***What did he mean?***
  2. Ps. 16:8-11: Speaking of the hope (NAS: “dwell securely”) of Jesus’ resurrection.
     1. *Acts 2:25-32, 36:* Peter applied Ps. 16:8-11 to Jesus! He said David spoke of the hope (Acts 2:26) of Jesus’ resurrection from the dead.
     2. *Acts 17:30-31:* Paul later states that the resurrection of Jesus is proof that He will judge the world! *(Ps. 110:5-7; Mt. 25:31-46)*
  3. Just as David put his trust and hope in God, saints have the hope of Heaven because Jesus was raised from the dead, defeating the power of death and Satan *(Heb. 2:14)!*

## Conclusion (Part 2)

1. Jesus was unlike any human or Israelite king, who could only be King/Prophet, for He was King *(I Tim. 6:15),* Prophet *(Acts 3:22-26),* and High Priest *(Heb. 4:14; 6:20)!*
2. The Psalms contain these and many more prophecies concerning the Messiah, Jesus Christ, and left the Jews of His day without excuse *(Jn. 1:11).*
3. As these things were foretold a thousand years before Jesus’ birth and left the Jews without excuse for not knowing Him, how much more now ought we to see these things and believe?
   1. *Lk. 24:44:* Jesus declared they were fulfilled!
   2. *Acts 4:10-12; Phil. 2:9-11:* Jesus is highly exalted and salvation is found in no other name!
   3. One day all knees will bow and confess Him as Lord *(G2962 Kurios: YHWH)!*
4. The Scriptures of old give us instruction and hope (Rom. 15:4).
5. May we study these things and be strengthened in our faith and hope in Jesus, who is both Lord and Christ *(Acts 2:36)!*
6. If you are not a Christian, you need to be. Repent and be baptized into His name!
7. If a Christian in error, don’t wait till it’s eternally too late. Repent and be renewed!
8. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!

**Resources:**

* *Psalms* in Bible Text Books (BTB) by Randy Blackaby, Lessons 8-9, [www.onestone.com/btb-psalms.html](http://www.onestone.com/btb-psalms.html) / [www.ceibooks.com/bible-class-materials/btb-psalms/](http://www.ceibooks.com/bible-class-materials/btb-psalms/)
* *Medical Aspects of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ*, Compiled by David Terasaka, M.D. ©1996 @ <https://www.blueletterbible.org/comm/terasaka_david/misc/crucify.cfm>
* *The Crucifixion in Excruciating Detail*, 2012, @ <http://mudpreacher.org/2012/04/03/the-crucifixion-of-jesus-in-excruciating-detail/>
  + Dr. C Truman David, *“The Crucifixion”*, New Wine Magazine, April 1982. Originally published in *Arizona Medicine*, March 1965, Arizona Medical Association.
  + *The Agony of Love* by Dr. Mark Eastman
  + <http://www.frugalsites.net/jesus/crucifixion.html>