Psalms VI Royal/Messianic Psalms

Psalm 110 King Jesus

We have looked at Psalms of Lament Ps 42, Ps 73

We have looked at Praise Psalms Psalm 19

We have looked at Confession Psalms Psalm 51

We have looked at Wisdom Psalms Psalm 119 (sermon) and Psalm 1 (Bible talk)

Today: Royal/Messianic Psalms.

There are many “royal” psalms. They emphasize the kingship of God, or of the Messiah

King Jesus is all over the Psalms.

In the Psalms, is David talking about himself, or is he talking about Jesus? answer: yes!

Psalm 2 A psalm about king Jesus!

Read Psalm 2:1-6 v6 “I have installed my king—King Jesus on Zion, my holy mountain.”

v. 1-2 The people plot against the Messiah in vain against the Lord’s anointed.

All the powers-that-be aligned themselves against the Messiah.

The Jewish leaders—the Pharisees and Sadducees opposed Jesus.

The Romans followed suit, agreeing to kill him.

Satan opposed him as well:

Revelation 12:4-5 “The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth so that it might devour her child the moment it was born. But she gave birth to a Son, a male child, who “will rule all the nations with an iron scepter.”

v. 2 The kings, and rulers and bosses and mayors and principals, and power-brokers, Wall Street bankers and fat-cat rich people align themselves against Christ.

v. 3 “Let’s break the chains” Let’s rebel. Let’s do whatever we want. Let’s throw off restraint. We don’t need some sort of forced morality. We acknowledge no moral authority.

But where does that take them? To a healthy place?

But guess what, if we hold faithful to king Jesus, v. 1 “the peoples plot in vain.”

They thought they had him. Let’s get him arrested. Let’s kill him. That will end the career of this upstart moral and ethical revolutionary who is upsetting all of our apple-carts. He even had the nerve to overturn our money-changing tables. Who does he think he is?

But, the people plot in vain.

Who will you stand with; King Jesus or the powers of the world?

But king Jesus will be victorious. This prophecy played out in Acts 4:1-7

The scene: They killed Jesus, but he raised from the dead. Now Jesus’ followers are preaching the gospel boldly. The wealthy, the powerful feel threatened. So… they go after those preaching. Let’s stop it right here!!!

v. 2 They were greatly disturbed because we were proclaiming Jesus. Praise the Lord!

v. 5 Note, rulers, elders and teachers of the law. “the kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed.”

Brothers and sisters, this will happen to us.

What will you do? Will you back down? Will Peter and John back down?

No! Acts 4:8-17 “Rulers and elders” You grand poobah’s You religious power-brokers

Are you calling us out for helping a lame beggar? V 10 Know this!

Your plot did not work. You killed him, but God raised him from the dead!

Instead, Peter quotes Psalm 118:22 (read psalm 118:22-24) The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. (also in Mt 21:42 1 Peter 2:7)

The stones you builders (you Jewish leaders) rejected is now the cornerstone of God’s kingdom. He is king and he is cornerstone.

The world will reject the kingship of Jesus.

They say he can be a “good person.” He can be a social justice revolutionary.

He can even be copilot. But he cannot be king!

But Jesus will never settle for that. He is king. He is cornerstone. He is the basis for our entire life or he is nothing at all.

No! The stone the religious people have rejected is the cornerstone. (Ephesians 2:20)

He is the one you build your life on. He is your King, or your life will come crashing down.

He is the one with whom you align your life. He decides the direction of your life.

Ps 118:24 Let us rejoice today and be glad!

Back to Acts 4

v. 12 There is no other name!

Look at Peter’s boldness. There is no other name by which we can be saved.

v. 13 The rulers are confused. What is this? We are plotting against this upstart pretender Jesus. We killed him, and now here are these “unschooled, ordinary men” who were with Jesus.

v. 13 What is it about these people? Ahhh… They have been with Jesus.

v. 16 We have to do something…. V 17-18 Let’s tell them to stop preaching.

Sisters and brothers: are you going to be intimidated? Are you going to close your mouths?

Acts 4:19-22 As prophesied, the kings and rulers plot in vain.

v. 20 “We cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

Q: Is that you?

Acts 4:23-31 They realized that they were fulfilling Psalm 2:1-2.

This is so cool. We see God’s promise fulfilled before our eyes.

What about you? Today, things are different, but they are the same. Jesus is still king, and the powers of the world are still lining up in opposition to him. Where do you stand? Will you stand with Jesus? If so, you will be a stumbling block to the world.

They will (v. 17) warn us to speak no longer to anyone in this name.

They will (v. 18) command us not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

Will you, like them, (v. 29) “speak God’s word with great boldness.” You can make Psalm 2 come true in your day.

If you do, who knows, maybe God will shake up Merced (v. 31)

Back to Psalm 2

Psalm 2:7-8

Quoted in Acts 13:33-35 (and Hebrews 1:5) as Paul preaches in Antioch.

Which also quotes Psalm 16:10

The kings of the earth plot in vain. Why? Because

1. Jesus is the Son of God! (Ps 2:7) and

2. Jesus is alive (Ps 16:10) “you will not let your faithful one see decay.”

You can try to kill us, but we will be raised from the dead.

And there is also Psalm 89:3-4 I swore to David my servant (ie Jesus) I will establish your line forever.

King Jesus will be triumphant.

Psalm 89:35-37 I have made a covenant… I will not lie…I have sworn to David my servant, “I will establish your line forever.”

Mark it down!!!

But back to Psalm 2

Ps 2:9-12 Be warned you rulers… Jesus says to the high mucked-mucks

Kiss the Son or you will be destroyed.

v. 12 God says to us: Blessed are all who take refuge in king Jesus.

Where else do we find King Jesus?

Psalm 22:1 “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (also Psalm 31:5 “Into your hands I commit my spirit.”)

They thought they had him.

Psalm 22:7-8 They mock me and hurl insults at me. “Let the Lord rescue him.”

They mocked him. Who will save him. They mock us as well.

Psalm 22:14-18 bones out of joint (and none will be broken Psalm 34:20 John 19:32-33, 36 Exodus 12:46), heart turned to wax, mouth dried up, pierced hands and feet, divide and gamble clothing.

Jesus is forsaken, mocked, humiliated, naked and, finally dead. But… Ps 16:10 “You will not let your Holy One see decay.”

The tide will turn. Defeat will be turned into victory.

King Jesus conquers. “I have installed my King on Zion, my holy mountain.” (Psalm 2:6)

But the greatest royal Psalm of all is Psalm 110. Quoted 20 times in the NT.

Psalm 110:1-7

The Lord (the Father) says to my Lord (the Son)

Those people who plotted in vain. They will become a footstool for king Jesus

Messiah is God. He is king (mighty sceptre) Messiah is the Lord. Messiah’s reign begins from Zion/Jerusalem.

v. 3 We are those troops, arrayed in holy splendor.

Will you be willing on the day of spiritual battle?

v. Messiah is king, but also a high priest of a new sort—of the order of Melchizedek.

King and priest. Both? Unheard of in Judaism. King AND Priest? Yes!

v. 7 Messiah/Priest/King Jesus will lift his head high.

Will you join with king Jesus as he triumphs over the kings, rulers, powers, and authorities of this decaying world?

Will you heed their advice to “not speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.”

Or will you, like Peter and John “speak God’s word with great boldness?”

And imitate King Jesus, who said in Psalm 69:9 “Zeal for your house consumes me.”

Let the people plot as they will. Their plots will be in vain.

I, for one, will stand with king Jesus.