

The Baby is a Conquering King

“Light: Experiencing Christ in the Psalms”

Psalms 2 & 110

December 2, 2018

BIG IDEA

Jesus is King of the present and King of the future. He will one day conquer evil in one seismic moment and with one wave of his majestic hand. We see this side of Christ in the Psalms. And we can be encouraged that the One we worship at Christmas is more than a baby, and more than a leader of a movement. This baby is a Conquering King!

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

Context:

In Psalm 2, we witness David's amazement at the ludicrous plan devised by pagan nations to overthrow the Lord. Psalm 110 paints a picture of the Lord's complete victory over his enemies. He is a victorious and forever King!

Psalm 2:4-6

He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. ⁵Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, ⁶“As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.

Psalm 110:1-4

The 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. 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; therefore he will lift up his head.

1. Jesus Is Enthroned In Heaven

Psalm 2:4-6 – *He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. ⁵ Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, ⁶ “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.*

The phrase in Psalm 2:4, *he who “sits” (“enthroned” in the NIV) in the heavens laughs*, is an anthropomorphic phrase to help us understand that these plans are foolishness to God. Not only are these plans to overthrow the King seen as foolish, but it is also a warning that his burning wrath will come as a response. Jesus Christ is so much more than a baby in a stable. He is enthroned in heaven and endowed with complete and absolute authority!

- a. **Are there times when you have underestimated Jesus? Describe a time when he did something so unusual that you can only attribute it to his power. Did that event build your faith?**

- b. **Do you live in fear? What is it that you are afraid of? Don’t ever forget that Jesus is enthroned in heaven and rules the universe.**

- c. **Pray and ask God to help you put your complete trust in him.**

2. Jesus Will Gain Final Victory

Psalm 110:1-2 – *The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.” ² The LORD sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your enemies!*

In this oracle, Yahweh said that David’s Lord, Jesus the Messiah, is seated at Yahweh’s right hand, the place of authority, until the consummation of the end times. At that time the LORD will send David’s Lord, Jesus, to make his enemies subject to him. A “footstool” pictures complete conquest. With his scepter (his ruling power) Jesus will rule over his enemies forever.



- a. **The Lord will defeat his enemies completely and decisively. What enemies do you face? Are they emotional, physical, spiritual, or another person? Do you believe that Jesus will have complete victory over them? If you did, how would your life change?**

- b. **Sometimes we picture the “manger scene” as something that is separate from the eternal rule of Christ. Did you know that the ministry of Jesus began in eternity past and will never end? Does this motivate you to make him known to non-believers?**

3. Jesus Will Crush His Enemies

***Psalm 110:5-7** – The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath. ⁶ He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with corpses; he will shatter chiefs over the wide earth. ⁷ He will drink from the brook by the way; therefore he will lift up his head.*

Jesus is seated at the Father’s “right hand,” which is a place of authority. When Jesus comes he will “shatter” (crush) kings. He will also “judge the nations.” The idea of “drinking from the brook by the way” is a figurative way of picturing the Lord renewing his vigor. “Lifting up his head” speaks of his final exaltation.

Sometimes it seems like the world is spiraling out of control, but it’s not. Jesus is very much on the throne. You have nothing to worry about, and nothing to fear. Jesus doesn’t answer to 24-hour news cycles or the fad of the day. Jesus is *the* Conquering King! The Psalms are definitively clear regarding the care that he exercises over us:

***Psalm 27:1** – The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?*

***Psalm 55:22** – Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall.*

***Psalm 46:1** – God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*

***Psalm 2:12b** – Blessed are all who take refuge in him.*



- a. **Do these Psalms comfort you? How much time each day do you spend meditating on God's Word? How would your thought processes change if you spent more time immersing yourself in the wonderful promises of God?**

David spent a great deal of time on the run. He was sought after by many and his life was often in danger. Yet, he found comfort in God's power and sovereignty.

- b. **[Read Ephesians 1:1-14](#). Discuss the incredible nature of God's sovereignty. Amazingly, this passage is speaking about the baby in a manger! Does Jesus' sovereign rule encourage and secure you? Why or why not?**

4. It's Time To Humble Yourself Before This Conquering King

The gospel is made possible through the ministry of the Conquering King. It has nothing to do with doing everything right. In fact, it is all about our *inability* to be righteous on our own. The gospel is about grace. All that is needed to be a child of God is to submit to Jesus.

Have you ever asked Jesus to come into your life? Did you know that:

- **He promises to forgive you for all of your sin if you ask ([1 John 1:8-9](#))?**
- **By giving him control over your life and trusting him with your future, you can start over and have eternal life ([John 3:16](#))?**
- **That when he comes and conquers his enemies, Jesus will rescue you and you will reign with him ([Revelation 20](#))?**

All of that can happen if you submit to the Conquering King. You have a choice. You can try and earn all of this on your own, at which time you will most certainly fail and live a guilt-based life. Or you can submit to Jesus and have joy, peace, and a secure future.

Why don't you pray the prayer written below, right now and with all of your heart, and become a child of the Conquering King!



PRAY

Jesus, I believe that you are the Son of God. I believe that you died on the cross to pay the penalty for my sins. Thank you. Please forgive me for all of my sin, for I know that my sin separates me from you and leads to spiritual death. I now accept your forgiveness and look forward to living as your child and disciple, fully alive, forever! Amen.

DIG DEEPER

For further study this week:

- Read the books of Ephesians and Hebrews. You will develop a deeper and more intimate view of the Conquering King.

NEXT WEEK'S BIG IDEA

Our Advent Series Continues: "Light: Experiencing Christ in the Psalms"

Next week's theme: Jesus Would Die and Be Resurrected! (Psalms 16 & 22)

