

## WILLING AND READY FOR JESUS

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### Psalm 110:1-7

#### The Psalm of the King-Priest

"The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool." The Lord shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power; In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.

The Lord has sworn and will not relent, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek."

The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath. He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; Therefore He shall lift up the head."

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There a lot of information in this short Psalm with only seven verses. It is quite relevant to us today as we are in the last of days. The Apostle Peter spoke of us being in the last of days, saying "But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers." (1 Peter 4:7) It then should be mentioned what Peter says right after that. He says, "And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins." Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen." (1 Peter 4:8-11) What that SHOULD say to each of us is that this is serious business. God is presently building His eternal kindom through His only begotten Son, Jesus, and He is getting us ready to reign with Him, now and forever.

In what way must we take the gospel of Jesus Christ seriously? The answer is in our passage of Scripture for today, which speaks of the absolute certainty, based on God's Word, that Jesus is indeed coming back soon, and not as the Suffering Servant but as the Conquering Christ. Once again though, Christ is the Greek word meaning "Anointed One" while the Hebrew word, Mashiach is where we get the word "Messiah", which also means "Anointed One".

This Psalm speaks of the role of Christ Jesus as being the great high priest, according to the order of Melchizedek and as the King of kings. Jesus is the King of Kings, He is the great High Priest, and He is soon to come and take possession of what He has already won the victory over. Our focus though isn't intended to be looking for Jesus to conquer our enemies but to anticipate the perfection of our union in Christ, as Paul said, "till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." (**Ephesians 4:13**) Only God knows when that day will be.

An analogy to our hope in Christ, for His return, and His gathering together all of His saints, is in our present-day sharing and showing the love and the gospel of Jesus Christ with others. We can anticipate and have the hope that God is going to save, heal, and deliver those who we've been praying for and those whom we have been sharing and showing the love and the gospel of Jesus Christ. But don't you long for that day to where WE WILL BE PERFECTED IN CHRIST together, rejoicing in the awesome glory of God? "After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" "**(Revelation 7:9-10)**

The Apostle Paul spoke of how Christ has already won the victory, and that as we are received into the family of God by being born again, that is, we were born of the Spirit of Christ, and we WILL MOST CERTAINLY reign with Christ in that victory. As Paul explained, "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed— in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory. "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?" The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, **who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ**. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." (**1 Corinthians 15:50-58**)

Paul said to continue to be "abounding in the work of the Lord" and the Apostle Peter said to, "above all things have fervent love for

one another". To add to those words, Jesus stated, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect." Our perspective really isn't on looking for the Conquering Christ to come and annihilate our enemies right? For starters, no matter how bent on evil someone may be, no matter how despicable they may live their lives, it should always be our hope and prayer that God will get ahold of them, as He did us, to save them and to set them free. "If the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed." (John 8:36) The Apostle Paul made it clear to us who our true enemy is, "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." (Ephesians 6:12)

We are though to continue "looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:2) If our focus changes to be looking at the works of the enemy, if our hope is in Jesus eliminating our enemies, then we likely won't be looking to continue to be abounding in love and having a fervent love for one another. Jesus is presently making us into the likeness of Himself as He is working in us the fruit of the Spirit, "love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, [and] self-control." (Galatians 5:22-23) We won't be looking for Jesus to work in us His Wisdom, Righteousness, Sanctification, or Redemption. (1 Corinthians 1:30) And we certainly won't be looking for Christ to be working in others. Our focus must remain on Jesus!

Getting to our Scripture in Psalm 110, which is said to be a Psalm of David and was confirmed by Jesus to be as much. Jesus quoted the first verse of this Psalm. "While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool" '? If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?" And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore." (Matthew 22:41-46) Little did the Pharisees realize, that they had before them, the Son of David and the Son of God. Nicodemus was one of the Pharisees, that

Jesus told one must be born-again, that is, receive the Holy Spirit, in order to be saved and inherit eternal life (**John 3**). It is likely that Nicodemus finally got it, for He is mentioned at the end of the gospel of John as being one who brought myrrh and aloes to prepare Jesus' dead body for burial.

'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool" ' Being at the right hand of God is a place of honor. We want to be on the right hand of Jesus, so to speak. "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left." (**Matthew 25:31-33**) I want to make sure that I am one of those sheep on the right hand of Jesus and not one of the goats on His left hand. Jesus continued by saying, "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'" (**Matthew 25:34-40**) We can't take what Jesus was saying out of context though. Jesus wasn't saying that we are saved by good works.

Jesus clearly said that one must be born-again, that is, born of the Spirit of Christ. As the Apostle John put it, "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." (**John 1:12-13**) We do the works of Christ though when we ARE SAVED and have His Holy Spirit working in us. As the Apostle Paul confirmed to us, was exactly what Jesus was teaching, saying, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." Yet then he continues by saying, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." (**Ephesians 2:8-10**)

David states, in Psalm 110, "Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power". In all that we say and do should all be done with the focus of how God is presently building His eternal kingdom, and

we can be part of God's blessings, His goodness that leads others to repentance (**Romans 2:4**), or in sharing and showing the love and the gospel of Jesus Christ we are His agents of His wonderful mercies and grace. That day of His power is even now. As Paul said, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes". (**Romans 1:16**) The choice is ours though, to be willing vessels in sharing and showing the love and the gospel of Christ, or not. Then as Paul also said, "whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men". (**Colossians 3:23**) Likewise, Paul said to the folks of Corinth, "whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." (**1 Corinthians 10:31**) This is God's plan and purpose, in building His eternal kingdom. We have the incredible honor and blessing to be used by God in that.

That leads us to our need for understanding that we are able to receive God's mercy and grace, as we ARE in Christ Jesus, that we ARE a child of God. In speaking of Jesus, as being our great High Priest, the writer/writers of Hebrews says, "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (**Hebrews 4:15-16**) Hopefully, that says to us that we aren't just seeking God's mercy and grace for ourselves. We too are part of God's holy and anointed priesthood! Jesus is our great High Priest but we are His priests in going to His throne of grace, which is also full of His mercies. "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy." (**1 Peter 2:9-10**)

Our focus is always to be on Jesus, looking for His mercies and grace, for ourselves and for others. Nevertheless, we are given a bit of a teaser, so to speak, I think, in the last verse of the Psalm 110. "He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; Therefore He shall lift up the head." What that reminded me of is from the last book in the Bible, in the book of Revelation. "After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen." Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" And I said to him,

"Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." (**Revelation 7:9-17**)

What David was meaning when he said, "He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; Therefore He shall lift up the head", is anyone's guess. But what I envision is that when Jesus goes to the brook to drink the water and He lifts up the head, He will have a host of His people, whom He purchased by His blood, and gave His life for, right before Him, lifting up their head, looking unto Jesus, our Savior, our Lord, and our God!.

Do you long to be with your Lord and Savior wherever He leads you? God certainly promised Jesus, "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool. The Lord shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies!" Yet our perspective is to be looking unto Jesus and follow Jesus wherever He leads us, as He works in us, in sharing and showing the love and the gospel of Jesus Christ.

To close, let us read together the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. Hopefully we will all meditate on this Psalm as well as Psalm 110 this week, while we continue to trust Jesus, and be willing and ready for wherever He leads us, and to be ready for when He calls us home.

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me to lie down in green pastures;  
He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul;  
He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; For You are with me;  
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

AMEN.