

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH
PSALMS-LESSON 21
WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22–FEBRUARY 27
PSALM 110
JESUS – PRIEST AND KING

Psalm 110, a Psalm of David, is the most quoted Psalm in the New Testament. Verse one of this psalm is the most quoted Old Testament verse in the New Testament.

“This marvelous psalm is a prophecy of the coming victory of the Messiah over the world. It declares that He has been exalted to God's right hand, that He will come to establish His dominion over the world, and that He will put down all His enemies with a sudden and final blow. But He will be much more than a king-- He will be a high priest, so that His followers will be sanctified and prepared to worship and serve the Lord.”

The Psalms, Vol. 3, Allen P. Ross, pg 358.

Psalm 110 offers hope and comfort to His redeemed. Believers can find comfort in knowing that no matter how evil or wicked the world becomes, the final outcome is certain. Because of that great hope, we can encourage one or another with a confident eye on the future return of Christ, and until that day of His return, exhort one another to devote ourselves to the work of the proclamation of the gospel.

Read Psalm 110:1-3 Christ - The King

1. **Verse 1** is rich in theological content. Who communicates the words quoted in **verse 1a**? Read **Matt. 22:41-45** where Christ quotes **Ps. 110:1**. How did Christ use this verse to declare that He is the promised Messiah?
2. How do the following verses show Christ's fulfillment of the prophecy of **Ps. 110:1**?
 - **Acts 2:33-35**
 - **Eph.1:19-23**
 - **Hebrews 1:1-4**
 - **Hebrews 10:11-14**

“What does it mean to sit at God's right hand? In the ancient world, to sit in a person's right hand was to occupy a place of honor; a seat at the right hand of the host would be a place of honor at a dinner. To sit at a King's right hand is more than a mere honor; it was to share in his rule. It signified participation in the royal dignity and power.” Psalms Vol. 3, James Montgomery Boice, pg. 894

3. Recall that **Psalm 2**, like **Psalm 110**, is a prophecy of Christ's earthly return and rule from His throne on Zion in Jerusalem. Reread **Psalm 2:6-9** together with **Psalm 110:2** and describe Christ's coming judgment of the wicked from His throne in Jerusalem.
 - What encouragement and hope does this judgment on the wicked provide to you?

Ps. 110:3 is a challenging passage to translate and understand. Ross explains it “Thus, when the king appears to put down His enemies and establish His earthly reign, He will be accompanied by a myriad of willing servants who will be adorned in holy array, meaning that they have been set apart to His service and are characterized by holiness.” The Psalms, Vol.3, Allen P. Ross, pg. 353

Read Psalm 110:4 Christ –The High Priest

4. In **Ps.110:1**, Christ is declared to be King. In **110:4**, God declares, You (Christ) are a “*priest forever*”. In Israel no one person could serve as a king and a priest. A king must be from the line of Judah and a priest from the line of Levi. Here God declares Christ’s priesthood is according to the order of Melchizedek. Read **Genesis 14:17-20** and describe Melchizedek and his encounter with Abram.
5. Read **Hebrews 7:1-10** and describe additional details about Melchizedek. (if time, read all of **Hebrews 7** for understanding of the significance of Christ as High Priest)

“Melchizedek is not Jesus Christ, but although he is not, he is nevertheless an important Old Testament type of Christ.” *Psalms, Vol.3*, James Montgomery Boice, pg 900 (If someone is a “type of Christ”, we are saying that a person in the Old Testament exhibits characteristics or behaves in a way that corresponds to Jesus’ character or actions in the New Testament.) Here, Melchizedek appears in history with no record of a genealogy or ancestral line; no record of his birth or his death(**Heb.7:3**) Melchizedek is a type because he appears to transcend earthly existence, but only Christ does transcend earthly existence as the eternal King- Priest, with no predecessor and no successor to His eternal, high office.

6. From **Hebrews 7:25**, what does the High Priest do for His redeemed ones? How are you encouraged and comforted by that?

Read Psalm 110:5-7 Christ – The Warrior/Judge

7. In **verse 5**, the Father is standing at the right hand of the Son providing for the defeat of His enemies, the wicked, unredeemed of the nations. How is that time of judgment described in **verses 5 and 6**?
8. How is that judgment described in **Ps.2:1-9** and in **Rev.19:11-21 & 20:7-10**?
9. In **verse 6b**, David describes the shattering of the “*chief men*” (NASB) or in the LSB “*the head over the wide earth*”. How does **Genesis 3:15** connect to this judgement?
10. What is described in **verse 7** at the conclusion of this great judgment? How does **Psalm 3:3** and **Psalm 27:6** help explain **verse 7**?

How does this truth help you now in personal struggles or times of uncertainty?

“Those who believe in Jesus the Messiah and who have been sanctified by His sacrificial blood, have nothing to fear. They will be with Him as He comes to rule on earth... Because of that hope, believers should (1) comfort and encourage one another, (2) purify themselves to be clothed in white linen, which are the righteous acts of the saints (**Rev 19**), and (3) be about the work of the Kingdom, obeying the king, serving the king, and extending his kingship to people in the world.” Ross, pg 360