

Psalm 45

A Righteous King

Text: Psalm 45

Introduction:

1. God had promised that the seed of woman would crush the head of the serpent and the enemy of man would be defeated (Genesis 3:15).
2. He showed that this victory would include blessedness for all through the seed of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3).
3. This Victor would be a mediator (Job 19:23-27), a ruler (Genesis 49:10), a star (Numbers 24:17), a prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15-19), a priest (1 Samuel 2:35), and a king (1 Samuel 2:10) - ruling from the throne of David (1 Chronicles 17:11-14).
4. During the time of David, the "sweet psalmist of Israel" (2 Samuel 23:1) recorded many prophecies of Jesus in the Psalms.
5. Psalm 45 reveals the Messiah as a righteous King...

I. THE SETTING OF THE PSALM

- A. The author of this psalm is unknown
- B. It was intended for public worship as the heading indicates: "To the Chief Musician."
- C. The word "Shoshannim" is translated as "lily" in other passages (cf. 1 Kings 7:19, 22, 26).
 1. Perhaps it refers to an instrument that was shaped like a lily (maybe a trumpet).
 2. It is possible that it refers to a particular melody or tune.
 3. Likely, it is used in a poetic sense due to the nature of this psalm as a "song of loves" (cf. Song 2:1-2, 16; 4:5; 5:13; 6:2-3; 7:2).
- D. It is described as a "Maschil," meaning a teaching song or instructive ode.
- E. It was written for the sons of Korah.
 1. Perhaps the psalm was dedicated to them.
 2. Perhaps it was to be arranged musically or led by them.
 3. Perhaps it was written by them.
- F. This psalm is described as "A Song of Loves."
 1. Obviously, it is not concerned with carnal lust or merely sentimental love.
 2. Instead, it is a spiritual and noble song concerning the highest form of love - that which God has toward His people and the Lord has for His church.
- G. This psalm is wholly Messianic.
- H. It pictures an ideal scene rather than an actual one - the marriage of the King and His Bride.
 1. "Some here see Solomon and Pharaoh's daughter only - they are shortsighted."
 2. "Others see both Solomon and Christ - they are cross-eyed."
 3. "Well-focused spiritual eyes see here Jesus only."
 4. "This is no wedding song of earthly nuptials, but an Epithalamium for the Heavenly Bridegroom and his elect spouse" (Spurgeon, *Treasury of David*).

II. THE STUDY OF THE PSALM (PSALM 45)

- A. 45:1 - Introductory announcement
 1. The psalmist was so enthused over the subject that he was bubbling over (inditing).
 2. The message he was to deliver was "good" - beautiful, joyful, and precious.

Prophecy of Jesus

3. He could sing with the ease of the writing of a skilled writer.
4. The subject of the psalm is “the King” – and it was written for His honor.
- B. 45:2-9 – In praise of the Bridegroom
 1. The Bridegroom is the King who is also the Messiah.
 2. He is blessed of God forever for He will always do right and never do wrong.
 3. He is a mighty warrior who will protect and defend His honor and His bride.
 4. He rides forth in majesty, sealed with truth, meekness, and righteousness.
 5. He never misses His mark but conquers all enemies.
 6. His reign is eternal, and His authority is righteous.
 7. He is anointed above all others.
 8. He condescends from a place so high and holy to rescue men.
 9. By His side stand honorable women and His Queen.
- C. 45:10-15 – To the Bride
 1. The bride leaves all others to be joined to her Husband.
 2. His love for His bride deserves such a sacrifice.
 3. She is beautiful both within and without.
 4. In her purity she is brought to the Bridegroom.
 5. Rejoicing together, they enter into the King’s palace.
- D. 45:16-17 – The eternal fame of the King of kings
 1. Their children are princes throughout the entire world.
 2. The King is remembered and praised forever.

III. THE SAVIOR IN THE PSALM (PSALM 45:6-7)

- A. This passage is quoted in Hebrews 1:8-9 and applied directly to Jesus.
- B. Jesus is the King who reigns over His spiritual kingdom from the throne of David in Heaven!
- C. It is an eternal kingdom (cf. Daniel 2:44; Luke 1:32-33).
- D. It is ruled by the highly exalted King of kings (Hebrews 2:9; Philippians 2:9).