

The Chosen Man

Jesus in the Psalms

Psalm 65

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I. Jesus in the Psalms (cf. Lk 24:44; Heb 2:11, 12; 10:5)

Why study the psalms around Christmas? As we've emphasized each year, *the psalms are Christ's songs*. Paul exhorts the Colossians, "Let the word of _____ dwell in you richly, speaking to one another in psalms..." (Col 3:16). When we sing the Psalms to one another, Christ Himself speaks to us through our brethren. *The psalms are _____ songs*. In addition, because we have been baptized "into Christ", these songs are also _____ songs. So Paul commands us to "speak to one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord" (Eph 5:19).

Psalm 65 – To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. A Song.

¹Praise is awaiting You, O God, in Zion; And to You the vow shall be performed. ²O You who hear prayer, To You all flesh will come. ³Iniquities prevail against me; As for our transgressions, You will provide atonement for them. ⁴Blessed is the man You choose, And cause to approach You, That he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Of Your holy temple.

⁵By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation, You who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth, And of the far-off seas; ⁶Who established the mountains by His strength, Being clothed with power; ⁷You who still the noise of the seas, The noise of their waves, And the tumult of the peoples. ⁸They also who dwell in the farthest parts are afraid of Your signs; You make the outgoings of the morning and evening rejoice.

⁹You visit the earth and water it, You greatly enrich it; The river of God is full of water; You provide their grain, For so You have prepared it. ¹⁰You water its ridges abundantly, You settle its furrows; You make it soft with showers, You bless its growth. ¹¹You crown the year with Your goodness, And Your paths drip with abundance. ¹²They drop on the pastures of the wilderness, And the little hills rejoice on every side. ¹³The pastures are clothed with flocks; The valleys also are covered with grain; They shout for joy, they also sing.

II. The Chosen Man

A. The King Awaits God's Salvation (1-4)

David is confident that the Lord will answer his prayer and provide deliverance and is prepared, with all *Zion*, to praise Him when He does (1). David's confidence stems from God's character – He is the God *who hears prayer* and to whom "*all flesh*", all the nations of the earth, "*will come*" (2 cf. Gen 12:3). Though our sins are great, David is confident that God *will provide atonement for them* (3b cf. Gen 22:8). David's confidence is buttressed by God's election (4).

B. The King Expresses Confidence in God's Salvation (5-8)

David expresses supreme confidence in God's ability to save His people. The God of our salvation will answer. How does David know? Because our God is the Almighty One (6). He rules all *nature* and all *nations* (7). All the earth fears His works and simultaneously experiences His bounty (8).

C. The King Revels in God's Power to Save (9-13)

The creation displays the wonder of God's care. God crowns the year with His goodness. In other words, the goodness of God anticipated in worship (4d) is confirmed in creation (11).

III. Awaiting God's Salvation

A. Salvation encompasses all of life (1 Tim 4:10)

Salvation encompasses all of life. Paul writes that *"God is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe"* (1 Tim 4:10). Paul is not teaching Timothy some form of universalism. But salvation encompasses all of life. Salvation is not less than the forgiveness of sins, but it is more. God is the *"one who hears prayer"* (2a). Hence, *God is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.*

B. Salvation comes to us through our chosen King (Mt 1:20-21)

Salvation comes to us through our chosen King. As the angel Gabriel spoke to Joseph:

"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

David reflects a biblical theology of _____ in the way he speaks of the work of the coming Son of David, Jesus (cf. Rom 5:17-19; 1 Pet 1:11). David insists that the fate of the king and the fate of his people are intertwined – note the pronouns that the psalm employs (3, 4, 5). When Jesus sang, *iniquities prevail against me* (3), of whose iniquities did He sing? Ours. Our iniquities prevailed against Him. But Jesus did not turn away from them. He expressed confidence that God would *atone for our transgressions*. He did not distance Himself from our sins but owned them as His own. He became sin for us (2 Cor 5:21).

So how would God provide atonement for Israel's transgressions? Through the Man whom He had chosen to enter His very presence and bring a blessing to His people (4). So who is the Chosen Man? He is our Lord Jesus, *"the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David"* (Rev 5:5). *By awesome deeds in righteousness, the God of our salvation* has answered our prayer for salvation.

⁶⁸*Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, For He has visited and redeemed His people,* ⁶⁹*And has raised up a horn of salvation for us In the house of His servant David,* ⁷⁰*As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets, Who have been since the world began,* ⁷¹*That we should be saved from our enemies And from the hand of all who hate us,* ⁷²*To perform the mercy promised to our fathers And to remember His holy covenant,* ⁷³*The oath which He swore to our father Abraham:* ⁷⁴*To grant us that we, Being delivered from the hand of our enemies, Might serve Him without fear,* ⁷⁵*In holiness and righteousness before Him all the days of our life.* (Lk 1:68-75)

C. Salvation comes in God's time not ours

1. When you are awaiting God's salvation, wait with _____ on your lips for the Lord who purposes the salvation of all nations (2) and of the ends of the earth (5b).
2. When you are awaiting God's salvation, do it in _____, meditating on God's power over all nature and all nations (5-13 cf. Mt 6:25-34).
3. When you are awaiting God's salvation, beware shortcuts that seek satisfaction in _____ rather than in the Lord (4d) and His provision (11a). Paul writes:

⁷*Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.* ⁸*For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.* ⁹*And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.* ¹⁰*Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.* (Gal 6:7-10)

IV. Conclusion