

Life-Study of Psalms Summaries – Messages 21-25

Praising Christ as the King

Psalm 45 can be considered the sixth station in the unveiling of Christ in the Psalms. In this psalm we see the **praise to Solomon as a type of Christ, the King appointed by God to rule over His people and over the entire universe.**

The Old Testament type in Psalm 45 shows us that **we the believers are Christ's counterpart.** The King is Christ and Christ has only one queen, a corporate queen composed of the overcomers. In verse 13 the word "abode" refers to the church's taking Christ as her abode. First we take Christ as our abode, and then we become His abode. This means that the abode becomes the abode. **If we take Him as our abode, we become His abode.** Because Christ is the King and we are the queen, **eventually this mutual abode becomes the palace, which signifies the New Jerusalem.**

Praising God in His Greatness and Exaltation Particularly in His City

Psalm 46 speaks concerning **a river gladdening the city of God.** God is our refuge, strength, and a help in distress; He is most readily found. God is all this to us in the city. In verse 4, the river signifies the flowing of the Triune God as life to us. The streams of this river gladden the city of God, which is the holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city to be our high retreat.

Psalm 47 speaks concerning **God as a great King over all the earth.** Psalm 48 is about **the city of the great King.** The city signifies the church, the universal church, but the palaces in the city signify the local churches. **If we want to know God, we need to come to the local churches, which are a high retreat.**

Three Categories of Persons Regarding the Enjoyment of God in Christ

Psalms 49-51 cover three categories of persons regarding the enjoyment of God in Christ. The first category consists of those who **trust in their wealth** (that is, in anything other than Christ). In the second category are those who **call upon the Lord according to His covenant.** The third category is a single person, **King David, repenting, confessing his sins to God, and asking God for His purging.** Those in the first category have no share in the enjoyment of God; those in the second category participate in the enjoyment of God; and the one in the third category has a full portion of the enjoyment of God in Christ.

The Pious Expressions of the Psalmists Uttered Out of Their Complex Sentiments While Enjoying God in His House

Psalms 52-62 are not merely the sentiments of the psalmists but their *complex sentiments*. Their sentiments are a matter of mixture. To **trust in God** is certainly right, and part of Psalm 54 is an expression of David's trust in God. But in the same psalm, David prayed for the **annihilation of his enemies.**

Many of today's Christian readers of the Psalms do not have any realization concerning the learning of lessons. They do not see David's defects and shortages displayed in each of the psalms. David did not learn any lessons or deal with his defects by God's mercy and grace. Instead, he prayed that his enemy would be plucked up and uprooted from the land of the living.

As New Testament believers, it is not right for us to take, without adequate discernment, all the psalmists' pious expressions uttered out of their complex sentiments. **We should not pursue the justice, uprightness, and integrity we see in the Psalms.** Instead, we should **pursue the genuine spirituality we see in the New Testament**—a spirituality which is actually the divine life lived out of us by the bountiful supply of the Spirit.

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