

Psalm 110:1-7

Introduction: This psalm is in book 5 of the Psalms, focusing on the blessings for the Gentile nations in the return of the King. This psalm is quoted in the NT more than any other psalm.

- Superscription: *a Psalm [mizmor] (of praise) of David* (cf. Matthew 22:43)
  - But David does not write about himself

**The actions of God the Father—110:1-2a (Messiah as King awaiting His coronation)**

- 1) The Father grants honor to the Son—110:1 <sup>1</sup> *The utterance of Yahweh to my Adonai, “Sit [Qal impv.] at My right hand,*
  - a) What is the limitation? *until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.”* (cf. Joshua 10:24-25; 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 5:3)
    - i) Those enemies referred to in Psalm 107-109
    - b) Cf. Philippians 2:9-11
- 2) The Father grants authority to the Son—110:2 <sup>2</sup> *Yahweh will extend [Qal impf. shalach] Your strong [oz] scepter (royal authority and dominion) from Zion.*
  - a) Cf. Psalm 2:9; Revelation 19:15

**The words of God the Father to God the Son—110:2b-4 (Messiah as King-Priest)**

- 1) A command to the Son—110:2b *Rule [Qal impv. radah] (with authority) in the midst of Your enemies!*
  - a) Cf. Genesis 49:8-12
- 2) A promise to the Son—110:3
  - a) <sup>3</sup> *Your people will be free will offerings in the day of Your power [chayil], in holy garments, from the womb of the dawn;*
  - b) *the dew of Your youth (youthful warriors) is Yours.*
  - c) Cf. Romans 11:26-27
- 3) A reminder of God’s oath to the Son—110:4 <sup>4</sup> *Yahweh has sworn [Niphal pf. shaba] and will not change His mind [Niphal impf. nacham],*
  - a) God’s two previous oaths to Abraham (Genesis 22:16-18) and David (Psalm 89:35-36)
  - b) What did the Father say to the Son? *“You are a (non-Levitical, distinct from Aaron’s line) priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.”*
    - i) Cf. Melchizedek in Genesis 14:18-20; Hebrews 5-7
    - ii) David functioned as a King-Priest at various times (cf. 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles 15; 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 6), as did Solomon (1<sup>st</sup> Kings 8).
    - iii) The Son functions as a King-Priest by exercising authority of the Levites, and at times leading corporate worship (offering sacrifices and prayers).
- 4) Cf. Zechariah 6:12-13
- 5) Jesus’ 3-fold work as our priest:
  - a) As Advocate He addresses our sin—1<sup>st</sup> John 2:1
  - b) As Intercessor He addresses our prayer—Hebrews 7:24-25
  - c) As Great High Priest He addresses our sorrows—Hebrews 4:14-16

**Words to God the Father—110:5-7 (Messiah as Warrior)**

- 1) Where is this King-Priest (God the Son)?—110:5a <sup>5</sup> *Adonai<sup>pl</sup> is at Your right hand;*
  - a) Negatively: not a reminder because the Father has forgotten
  - b) Positively: a recognition of the Father's work
- 2) What will this King-Priest (God the Son) accomplish?—110:5b-7 (because the Son has been granted honor and authority, He will accomplish the following) (cf. Numbers 24:15-19 & Revelation 19:11-21 and the Battle of Armageddon at the end of the Tribulation)
  - a) *He will crush* [Qal pf. *machats*] (Gentile) *kings in the day of His anger.*
  - b) <sup>6</sup> *He will judge* [Qal impf. *diyn*] *among the (Gentile) nations, filling them with corpses;*
  - c) He will defeat Anti-Christ—*He will crush* [Qal pf. *machats*] *the head* [*rosh*] *over a great land.*
  - d) <sup>7</sup> *From the brook by the road He will drink* [Qal impf.];
    - i) Renewed physically and emotionally: *therefore He will lift up* [Hiphil impf.] *His (own) head* [*rosh*].
- 3) Cf. Zechariah 14:2-3

**Used in the NT**

- 1) Psalm 110:1—Proves Jesus is the Messiah
  - a) Tuesday of the Passion Week, used by Jesus—Matthew 22:44; Mark 12:36; Luke 20:42-43—The Pharisees respond with silence
  - b) Friday of the Passion Week, used by Jesus—Matthew 26:64; Mark 14:62; Luke 22:69
  - c) Peter contrasted Jesus with David on the Day of Pentecost—Acts 2:34-35
  - d) Contrasted with angels—Hebrews 1:13
- 2) Psalm 110:4
  - a) Priest by God the Father's design—Hebrews 5:6, 10
  - b) Priest outside the line of Aaron by God's design—Hebrews 7:17, 21

**Take-home truth:** This is why Psalm 2:12 says, “*Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.*”