

THE FRIENDS OF ISRAEL TODAY

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Chris Katulka, Psalm 110, Part 3: Our High Priest

Hello friends and I'm glad you're with us... it's a joy to be with you today. We are going to finish our message series where we've been looking at Psalm 110... we've actually been looking at Psalm 110 and the various roles and titles of Jesus in this prophetic Psalm... Remember Psalm 110 is a psalm that paints a picture of who Jesus is and it is also a prophetic psalm that casts a vision forward of what Jesus will do.

Now this is just a friendly note... I will be on the road next week... I will be down in the great state of Texas in the dallas-fort Worth area speaking at one of our friends of Israel Prophecy Up Close conferences... now if you've never been to a prophecy of close conference that is hosted by the Friends of Israel I really hope that you visit our website FOIRadio.org and there you will find a section on our homepage to all of our up and coming Prophecy Up Close Conferences... and if you are in the dallas-fort Worth area or some of the surrounding cities and you're interested in attending I encourage you to go to foiradio.org to register or you could also call 1 800 257 7843... our Ministry Services team is available to help you Monday through Friday 8:30 - 5 Eastern Time... that's 1800-257-7843

Now getting back to Ps 110:

Over the past few weeks we've been looking at how Jesus is sitting at the right hand of the Father and what that means... the idea of Jesus sitting at the right hand of the Father... this phrase means that Jesus has all authority and power that God the Father has bestowed on Him as Jesus the King... the Messiah. But that we also want to remind ourselves that even though Jesus has all power and authority over all of God's creation Satan still has control over God's creation... he still has dominion over all things, yet but that there's a day coming when all things will come under Christ control... Jesus will make ALL of His enemies His footstool.

And last week we look at what it will look like when Jesus returns this this idea that when Jesus comes back his kingdom is going to be a kingdom that is not confined to the boundaries of Israel but that from Israel the values and the law and and and Christ government will go forth throughout all of the world that's really been the whole point of God's desire to use Israel and the Jewish people to impact the world and so and we see this in Psalm 110 when it says the Lord send forth from Zion you're mighty scepter rule in the midst of your enemies this idea that out of Zion... Christ will triumph over all of the enemies.

But today I want to transition, we've seen that Jesus is both a King and a Warrior, but there is another title that shows up when we are looking at Psalm 110 from a Christocentric perspective... this means that we are looking at Psalm 110 with Christ in mind!

Listen to this section in Psalm 110:4

The LORD has sworn

And will not relent,

“You are a priest forever

According to the order of Melchizedek.”

Wow... what an amazing verse... thus far we have seen that Jesus from Psalm 110... a prophetic psalm is a King, a warrior, and here He is also given the title... priest. Now, this is unusual... especially during the days of David when this was written. It's unusual because a King and a Warrior can easily go hand in hand. These two titles can easily lend themselves to one another. Many great kings in human history were also strategic warriors... just off the top of my head i'm thinking of Alexander the Great, who was King of the Greek kingdom... he conquered what was considered the largest empire of his time. He was both king and warrior, but he wasn't a priest.

It's unusual even in Israelite history to have a King-Priest... in fact the offices were designed to be separated. The priestly office was always dedicated to a son of Aaron from the Levitical priesthood, which came from the tribe of Levi... now a king could technically come from any tribe... but we know from the prophetic word that the Messiah... the King of Israel was supposed to come from the tribe of Judah according to Genesis 49.

So how can the King of Israel be a priest if He is from the Tribe of Judah and a priest has to be from the Tribe of Levi? Look at what the Lord has sworn: “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” Notice it's not the

order of Aaron or the tribe of Levi... it's Melchizedek... so where in the world does this come from?

Well... Melchizedek is a very mysterious figure in the Bible who has no genealogy, just appears out of nowhere to bless Abraham... and Abraham considered him a superior of some type... and from what we know from Genesis 14 Melchizedek was the King of Salem... and Salem at that time was the place of Biblical and historical Jerusalem. So it's fitting... that the King of Salem who is also a priest of the Most High God would become the basis for the Kingly priesthood of Jesus!

Now when the King is called a priest in Psalm 110... the Hebrew word used there is Cohen. Cohen means priest in Hebrew. I've always loved that word "cohen" because a "cohen" was designed and designated by God to connect people with God. A Cohen or a Priest's full time job was to help keep the Israelite believers in a proper relationship with God. It's a beautiful picture of God's grace. In fact, we named one of our twin sons Cohen... so that maybe the Lord would use Him to connect a lost and broken world with Jesus Christ. We named his twin brother Preston... which we came to find out is an old english word that means a Priest's Village. We thought that name was perfect, because when our son Cohen is financially broke from connecting people to God... instead of coming to move back in with his parents... he can just go to the Priests Village... his brother Prestons house.

You know when you think about the various titles of shown to us in Psalm 110 the first two seem extremely impersonal and even disinterested. When we think

of a King we think of this important figure that has completely removed himself from common life... he lives behind the castle walls protected by a motte. And a warrior typically isn't a personable type of figure that you want to sit down and connect with... Do you get what I'm saying.

But then all of a sudden in this prophetic psalm God shares that the King of Israel... Jesus Christ... will also be a priest... someone who understands us, knows us, and wants to know us, desires to connect us to the Father. That Jesus the High Priest wants a relationship with us. Listen to what the writer of Hebrews says about Jesus being our High Priest: For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

When we feel like we are all alone, betrayed, hurt, beaten down, tired, anxious, or sad... we have a King who is in control, a warrior who is fearless... and a priest who sympathizes with our weakness.

I hope you've enjoyed our series on Psalm 110 as we've talked about Jesus being our King... our Warrior... and our High Priest... if you missed any of the previous messages be sure to visit foiradio.org!

