

Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs: The Master Musician's Melodies

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by
William D. Barrick, Th.D.
Professor of OT, The Master's Seminary



Easter in the Psalms

Introduction

- Does the Old Testament speak of Messiah's resurrection?
- Several New Testament texts indicate that it does.
 - ✓ Luke 24:44
 - ✓ John 20:9
 - ✓ Acts 26:22-23
 - ✓ 1 Corinthians 15:4

The New Testament Speaks

- In the Book of Psalms the references to the death and resurrection of the Messiah are found in several passages.
- New Testament writers and speakers are authoritative for interpreting the Old Testament.
- Acts 2:24-36 provides us with Peter's appeal to Psalms for confirmation of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.
- Acts 2:25-28 is a direct citation of Psalm 16:8-11.
- Peter specifically eliminates David from being the person to be resurrected (v. 29).
- Peter identifies the text's reference to the Messiah's resurrection (v. 31).

Two or Three Witnesses

- Paul likewise appeals to Psalm 16:10 in Acts 13:35.

Resurrection by Implication

- In Hebrews 2 the author cites Psalm 22:22 in the midst of a passage speaking of the death of Christ. The passage implies Christ's resurrection. In Psalm 22 the immediately preceding context also speaks of the death of Christ.

2:9 But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, *namely*, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.

2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.

2:11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one *Father*; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren,

2:12 saying,

“I WILL PROCLAIM YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN,
IN THE MIDST OF THE CONGREGATION I WILL SING YOUR PRAISE.”

- In Acts 2:32-35 Peter cites Psalm 110:1 while speaking of the resurrection of Christ. The ascension of Christ into heaven implies His resurrection.

110:1 The LORD says to my Lord:

“Sit at My right hand

Until I make Your enemies footstool for Your feet.”



- In Acts 4:10-12 Peter cites Psalm 118:22 while speaking of the resurrection of Christ. The glorification of Christ implies His resurrection (cp. 1 Peter 1:11, “the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow”).

118:22 The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief corner *stone*.

- In Acts 13:33 Paul refers to the statement of Psalm 2:7 when he preached that God “raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm.” Jesus could not remain dead if He is going to rule all the nations with a rod of iron and be King on Mount Zion.

2:6 “But as for Me, I have installed My King
Upon Zion, My holy mountain.”

2:7 “I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD:
He said to Me, ‘You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You.

2:8 ‘Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance,
And the *very* ends of the earth as Your possession.

2:9 ‘You shall break them with a rod of iron,
You shall shatter them like earthenware.’”

Resurrection Sunday Readings in the Psalms (NAU)



- 16:8** I have set the LORD continually before me;
Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
- 16:9** Therefore my heart is glad and my glory rejoices;
My flesh also will dwell securely.
- 16:10** For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol;
Nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay.
- 16:11** You will make known to me the path of life;
In Your presence is fullness of joy;
In Your right hand there are pleasures forever.
- 8:1** O LORD, our Lord,
How majestic is Your name in all the earth,
Who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens!
- 8:2** From the mouth of infants and nursing babes
You have established strength
Because of Your adversaries,
To make the enemy and the revengeful cease.
- 8:3** When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,
The moon and the stars, which You have ordained;
- 8:4** What is man that You take thought of him,
And the son of man that You care for him?
- 8:5** Yet You have made him a little lower than God,
And You crown him with glory and majesty!
- 8:6** You make him to rule over the works of Your hands;
You have put all things under his feet,
- 8:7** All sheep and oxen,
And also the beasts of the field,
- 8:8** The birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea,
Whatever passes through the paths of the seas.
- 8:9** O LORD, our Lord,
How majestic is Your name in all the earth!
- 110:1** The LORD says to my Lord:
“Sit at My right hand
Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.”
- 110:2** The LORD will stretch forth Your strong scepter from Zion, *saying*,
“Rule in the midst of Your enemies.”
- 110:3** Your people will volunteer freely in the day of Your power;
In holy array, from the womb of the dawn,
Your youth are to You *as* the dew.
- 110:4** The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind,
“You are a priest forever
According to the order of Melchizedek.”

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

- 1** Christ, the Lord, is risen today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high,
Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth, reply,
Alleluia!
- 2** Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Lo! the Sun's eclipse is over, Alleluia!
Lo! He sets in blood no more, Alleluia!
- 3** Vain the stone, the watch, the seal,
Alleluia!
Christ hath burst the gates of hell,
Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids His rise, Alleluia!
Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!
- 4** Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Alleluia!
Once He died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!
- 5** Soar we now where Christ hath led,
Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise,
Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,
Alleluia!
- 6** Hail, the Lord of earth and Heaven,
Alleluia!
Praise to Thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!
Hail, the resurrection, thou, Alleluia!
- 7** King of glory, Soul of bliss, Alleluia!
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, Thy power to prove,
Alleluia!
Thus to sing and thus to love, Alleluia!
- 8** Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave,
Alleluia!
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
- 9** But the pains that He endured, Alleluia!
Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky He's King, Alleluia!
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
- 10** Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

— Words: Charles Wesley (1739)
Music: Unknown composer (1708)

