

Christ in the Old Testament, Class #3

Christ in the Historical Books/ Psalms



I. Introduction

Throughout this series, we have been considering the New Testament teaching that Jesus Christ and His (forthcoming) work is the central message of the Old Testament. We saw numerous passages that affirm this (John 5:39-47, Acts 17:1-3, 1 Cor. 15:1-4, 2 Timothy 3:14-15, etc.) Our theme verse for this series is Luke 24:44-47:

“He told them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—**that everything written about me** in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. He also said to them, “**This is what is written:** The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead the third day, and repentance for forgiveness of sins will be proclaimed in his name to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”

Each word and phrase is significant.

Messiah
Suffer
Rise from the dead
Repentance for forgiveness of sins
Proclaimed in His name
To all the nations

According to Jesus, this summarizes the message of the Old Testament. Therefore, as we read the OT, we should expect to see one or more of these themes showing up, most often in the form of _____, _____, or _____.

II. Christ in the Historical Books

Last week, we saw snapshots of Christ in Joshua, Judges, Ruth and 1 & 2 Samuel. We continue this week with 1 & 2 Kings

a. 1 & 2 Kings

The reign of Solomon fulfills the first stage of God's promise to David to establish the kingdom of his offspring (2 Sam. 7:12). Solomon in some ways is a model king, prefiguring Christ. But his decline into sin (1 Kings 11), the sins of his offspring, the division and strife between Israel and Judah, and the continual problems with false worship indicate the need for a perfect king and an everlasting kingdom (Isa. 9:6-7) surpassing the entire period of the monarchy.

Following the history in 1 Kings, Israel and Judah continue to decline through their false worship and disobedience, leading to exile (2 Kings 17; 25). Some good kings (notably Hezekiah and Josiah, chs. 18-20; 22:1-23:30) prefigure the need for Christ the perfect

king, while Elisha prefigures the need for Christ the final prophet (Heb. 1:1-3). Many passages in 1 & 2 Kings have parallels in 1 & 2 Chronicles.- ESV Study Bible

Once the kingdom divided after Solomon's death, there were forty kings total over the next 340 years or so. 20 in Israel and 20 in Judah. We see the divine assessment of each King. Either "He did _____ in the sight of the Lord" or "He did _____ in the sight of the Lord". How many of the 40 did what was right? _____. How many in Israel? _____. How many in Judah? _____. The result of this was exile, for Israel in _____ b.c. and for Judah in _____ b.c.

b. 1 & 2 Chronicles

David, as the righteous leader and king prefigures Christ the king, not only in his rule over the people of God but in his role in preparing to build the temple. First Chronicles looks back on the faithfulness of God to his people in the entire period from Adam (1:1) to David (3:1) and even beyond (3:10-24; 9:1-34), indicating the steadfastness of God's purpose in preparing for the coming of the Messiah as the offspring of Adam (1:1; Gen. 3:15; Luke 3:38), offspring of Abraham (1 Chron. 1:28; Gal. 3:16), and offspring of David (1 Chron. 3:1; 17:11, 14; Luke 3:23-38; Acts 13:23).

Solomon as a wise king and temple builder prefigures Christ the king and temple builder. After Solomon the line of Davidic kings continues, leading forward to Christ the great descendant of David (Matt. 1:6-16). But many of the later kings go astray from God, and they and the people suffer for it, showing the need for Christ as the perfect king. Hezekiah (2 Chronicles 29-32) and Josiah (chs. 34-35) as righteous kings prefigure Christ. Second Chronicles has parallels in 1-2 Kings but focuses on the southern kingdom (Judah) and the line of David, and it shows focused concern for the temple and its worship, anticipating the fulfillment of temple and worship with the coming of Christ (John 2:19-21; 4:20-26; Eph. 2:20-22; Rev. 21:22-22:5).

c. Ezra & Nehemiah

The restoration and rebuilding after the exile, in fulfillment of prophecy (1:1), prefigure Christ's salvation (Col. 1:13) and the building of the church (Matt. 16:18; Eph. 2:20-22). They also look forward to the consummation of salvation in the new heaven and new earth (Rev. 21:1). The restoration and rebuilding after the exile prefigure Christ's salvation (Col. 1:13) and the building of the church (Matt. 16:18; Eph. 2:20-22).

d. Esther

God providentially brings deliverance to his people through Esther, prefiguring final deliverance through Christ.

III. Christ in the Psalms

In His earthly ministry, Jesus quoted from the book of Psalms more than any other book. The book of Psalms is the most quoted OT book in the NT. There are almost 150 direct quotations from the psalms in the NT and close to _____ allusions to the Psalms. Of the 150 psalms, _____ are alluded to. Virtually every important aspect of Jesus' ministry is referenced in the Psalms.

The Incarnation itself- Psalm 40:7 "Then I said, "Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me: I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."

That He would be God- Psalm 110:1-"The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

That He would teach in parables- Psalm 78:2 “I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,”

That He would be rejected- Psalm 118:22 “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone”

That He would be betrayed- Psalm 41:9 “Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.”

The death and replacement of His betrayer- Psalm 109:8 “May his days be few; may another take his office!”

That His hands and feet would be pierced- Psalm 22:16 “For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet.”

That they would give him sour wine to drink- Psalm 69:21 “and for my thirst they gave me sour wine to drink.”

That his bones would not be broken- Psalm 34:20 “He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken.”

His last words before He died- Psalm 31:5 “Into your hand I commit my Spirit”-

That He would be raised from the grave- Psalm 16:10 “For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption”

That He would ascend into heaven- Psalm 68:18 “You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your train”

a. Christ as the Ultimate Psalmist

Hebrews 2:11-12

¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying: I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; I will sing hymns to you in the congregation.”

b. Psalm 22 as a key to reading the Psalms Christocentrically.

c. Categories of Psalms

Psalms of Thanksgiving to God (136)

Psalms of Praise to God (Ps. 145)

Psalms of Lament (Ps. 88)

Psalms of Confession (Ps. 51)

The Royal Psalms (Ps. 20, 72)

Imprecatory Psalms (Ps 35)

Historical psalms (Psalm 78)

The Wisdom Psalms (Ps. 1, 37)

Application:

1. Sing the Psalms. (Isaac Watts, Trinity Psalter) 2. Pray the Psalms 3. Memorize the Psalms. 4. See the Psalms as sung by Jesus 5. See the Psalms as fulfilled by Jesus 6. See the Psalms as given by Jesus that we might join Him in praising God for the salvation that He has accomplished through Christ.

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; I will praise you in the assembly.” (Psalm 22:22)

Upcoming Classes

Christ in the Prophets (12/22)

If you have questions or comments on this class, please contact Davey Walker at daveyW@hinsonchurch.org.