

Psalm 21

by Henry Law

Psalm 21 celebrates Christ's joy in God's strength and salvation, and His present and future blessedness.

Scripture: Psalm 21

Topics: "Christ's Victory", "God's Sovereignty"

Description

Henry Law preaches on the triumphant exaltation of our King of kings, Jesus Christ, who rejoices in God's strength and salvation, having His heart's desires fulfilled and crowned with honor and majesty. Through Christ's victory over death and His everlasting life, believers share in His glory and blessings, finding joy in the Father's countenance. Those who trust in the Lord, like the King, shall not be moved, as God's strong right hand will defeat all enemies and bring final judgment upon those who oppose Him.

Transcript

This ode of triumph celebrates our exalted Head. May we thus sing on earth by faith, and lengthen out the strain through endless days!

1, 2. "The king shall rejoice in Your strength, O Lord; and in Your salvation how greatly shall he rejoice! You have given him his heart's desire, and have not withheld the request of his lips."

We fall far short of this psalm's precious teaching if we restrict our musings to the type. Let David first be seen rejoicing in his royal crown, but let him soon fade before the rising of the King of kings. Here we may bathe our souls in the deep waters of Christ's truth. For the joy set before Him, He endured the cross, despising the shame. But the joy then in prospect is joy now fully realized. He sits rejoicing on the Father's right hand. The conflict is past; the battle is fought; the victory is won; every peril is escaped; every foe is vanquished. He has been strong to conquer, and He ascribes the strength to God's empowering hand. Salvation is achieved; it is salvation through the will and help of God, and in it greatly He exults. The utmost desires of His heart are granted. He could not wish nor ask for more. The cup of gladness overflows.

3. "For You welcomed him with the blessings of goodness; You set a crown of pure gold on his head."

During the struggle and the deep abasement, God ever went before Him, strewing blessings in His path; God's goodness ever paved His way. And now He is crowned--crowned as Conqueror, crowned as King. High is the throne on which He sits; omnipotent is the scepter which He wields. The government is placed

upon His shoulders. All power is given to Him in heaven and in earth. Happy the subjects of this triumphant Lord!

4. "He asked life from You, and You gave it to him, even length of days forever and ever."

In deepest agony He cried to God, who was able to save Him from death, and His prayer was heard. The word is fulfilled, "With long life will I satisfy Him, and show Him my salvation." Our High Priest appears, and His happy testimony is, "I am He who lives and was dead; and behold I am alive forevermore, Amen, and have the keys of hell and of death." He is the resurrection and the life. He is our life. All who are one with Him have for their portion the everlasting life of glory.

5, 6, 7. "His glory is great in Your salvation; You have laid honor and majesty upon him. For You have made him most blessed forever; You have made him exceeding glad with Your countenance. For the king trusts in the Lord; and through the mercy of the Most High he shall not be moved."

The Spirit multiplies to show Christ's present blessedness. Great is His glory through God's saving hand. He is heir of all the majesty which heaven can give. He is God over all, blessed forevermore. Blessed Himself, He holds all blessings for His people. We, also, are blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Him. But what is His all-surpassing joy? It is to bask forever in His heavenly Father's smile. If He has sympathy with us, should not we, also, have sympathy with Him? If our sorrows are His sorrows, should not His joy be ours? It is added that His joy is the fruit of faith. He trusted and is thus exalted. Let us believe and we shall similarly triumph.

8 - 12. "You will capture all your enemies. Your strong right hand will seize all those who hate you. You will destroy them as in a flaming furnace when you appear. The Lord will consume them in his anger; fire will devour them. You will wipe their children from the face of the earth; they will never have descendants. Although they plot against you, their evil schemes will never succeed. For they will turn and run when they see your arrows aimed at them."

Jesus arises from His throne to consummate His final victory. Then obstructing refuges shall fail. They shall call upon rocks and mountains to conceal. They shall flee into every hiding-place which terror can devise. But wrath shall drag them forth. Fearful images portray their hopeless ruin. They shall agonize as in the flames of burning ovens. Fire shall seize them as its prey. Unceasing anguish shall devour them. How vain will be their flight when the arrows of the Most High pursue them! When that day shall come, may we be on the Conqueror's side!

13. "Be exalted, Lord, in Your own strength; so will we sing and praise Your power."

Such is the fitting chorus to this song of triumph. Let every believer's voice call Jesus to His final exaltation. When that great day shall come, may we lift up the voice and celebrate His glorious power! Let us exalt Him now in heart, by life, in lip, by every faculty, and at each moment. Let the eternal song be no new song to us!

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