

July 6, 2025 Session 6 God's Messiah Psalm 110:1-7

Intro: Kings and priests in ancient Israel had completely separate roles, and they had completely different job descriptions. Kings and priests came from different blood lines, and were members of different tribes. The kings and priests of ancient Israel were not to do each other's jobs. It would not go well, and such out-of-job description acts would have a negative impact. An example is in the Old Testament when Saul, the king of Israel, decided not to wait for Samuel, who was Israel's priest. Saul took it upon himself to offer the burnt offering before going into battle. When Samuel arrived just after Saul made the offering, he condemned the king for what he had done and proclaimed that God had rejected Saul as king because of his actions.

1 Samuel 13:13-14 *"And Samuel said to Saul, 'You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you. For now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you.'"* Another incident in the Old Testament is when King Uzziah started out by doing right in the sight of the LORD, but later he let his pride lead him to think that he could do as he pleased. **2 Chronicles 26:16** *"But when he [Uzziah] was strong his heart was lifted up, to his destruction, for he transgressed against the LORD his God by entering the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense."* **God's Messiah would be different. He would be both King and High Priest.** The Messiah's reign and priestly service is forever. Jesus is the New Covenant!

Jesus as King (Psalm 110:1-3) p. 53

Psalm 110 is quoted in the New Testament by Jesus, Peter, and Paul. In the phrase, "declaration of the LORD to my Lord," it is important to notice the different spellings of the word Lord. The Hebrew word translated "LORD (using all uppercase letters)" is Yahweh. It is the personal name of God. The Hebrew word for Lord is Adonai. It is a term for a title of authority and honor. The two words, Lord and LORD, represent God the Son doing the will of God the Father. Or the two high medals awarded in the Olympics, gold on top and silver to the right. These opening verses are a conversation between Yahweh and the Messiah-Jesus. Yahweh said to Adonai, "Sit at My right hand ... "

King David when he wrote the words “my Lord” was referencing the Messiah. The LORD, Messiah’s Father, was making a declaration. Jesus quoted Psalm 110. He applied the words to Himself. **Matthew 22:41-45** *“While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, ‘What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?’ They [Pharisees] said to Him, ‘The Son of David.’ He [Jesus] said to them, ‘How then does David in the Spirit call Him ‘Lord’ saying: ‘The LORD said to my Lord, ‘sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool!’” If David then calls Him ‘Lord,’ How is He his Son?”* Do you see how Jesus was identifying Himself as Messiah to the Pharisees? The Messiah must be more than a human descendant of David. The Messiah is King David’s Lord. David saw his Lord as being co-ruler with Yahweh, and Yahweh would make the enemies of David’s Lord His footstool. The Messiah sits at the right hand of Yahweh, sharing His power and rule. After Jesus was arrested, He was taken before the Sanhedrin (the supreme court of Judaism). When the high priest asked Him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?” **Mark 14:62** *“Jesus said, ‘I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.’”* Jesus chose to say the truth knowing that it would put Him on the cross. While Jesus came first as the suffering Servant who atoned for our sins through His sacrifice, when He returns He will come as the reigning King of all the world. Sitting at Yahweh’s right hand signifies Jesus’s place of supremacy over all, and points to His finished work on the cross. Yahweh would make the enemies of David’s Lord (Jesus) His footstool.

Vs. 2 Yahweh gives His Messiah the authority to rule (extend Your mighty scepter), and have dominion over His enemies. The symbol of an outstretched scepter denoted the king’s authority, and the Messiah’s mighty scepter extends from Zion. Zion symbolizes the rule of God in Jerusalem and is the place where God will dwell in the coming Messianic Age. **Matthew 28:18** *“And Jesus came and spoke to them/us saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.’”* The Messiah will rule over His surrounding enemies. The Messiah’s enemies are the nations, kings, rulers, and the peoples who reject Him as Yahweh’s chosen Ruler.

Vs. 3 Unlike the nations that reject God's Messiah, God's people will give themselves completely to Him and His work.

When reading these two phrases together, "*womb of the dawn, the dew of your youth,*" it offers a fresh hope of a brand-new day. This verse describes a freshly rested, youthful, vigorous, and willing army, absolutely ready for the day of battle. The apostle Paul writes about being in God's army. **Romans 12:1** "*I [Paul] beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.*" It is more than reasonable to give God everything.

Jesus as Priest (Psalm 110:4) p. 55

The LORD swore to David that there would always be a descendant on the throne of Israel. God also declared that David and his descendants would rule over the earth as His representatives forever. The Gospels clearly state that Jesus was of the line of David through Joseph. **Luke 2:4** "*Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David.*" The oath the LORD swore to David has to do with the priesthood. God's Messiah would have a different kind of reign. The Messianic King in verse 2 is also the priest in verse 4. He will reign forever both as King and Priest. Recall that in ancient Israel the king and the priest served separate functions, and kings were reprimanded for doing things the priest should do. Kings represented God before the people, and priests represented the people before God. Both were necessary. Jesus fulfills both roles. Jesus rules over the kingdom of God, and He serves as our High Priest before God. He offered the once-and-for-all atoning sacrifice for sin. Messiah-Jesus is a priest forever according to the pattern of Melchizedek.

Who was Melchizedek? He was the king of Salem. Salem means peace and later became Jerusalem, the city God chose to dwell with His people. Melchizedek means: "my king is righteousness." He is first mentioned in Genesis and in the New Testament book of Hebrews. Melchizedek brought out bread and wine and blessed Abraham by the God Most High after Abraham had defeated a coalition of enemies. **Genesis 14:18** "*Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High.*" Abraham gave a tithe to Melchizedek. The person of less importance gave to the person of greater importance. Melchizedek the king-priest and Jesus the righteous king-priest were not a descendant of

Aaron, which would not qualify them for Jewish priesthood under the Law of Moses, but Melchizedek is a foreshadowing of the future king-priest, Jesus. Jesus's priesthood is superior to the priesthood of Aaron. The book of Hebrews in chapters five and seven deal with this topic at greater lengths. Jesus, who is the eternal Son of God, will fulfill the priestly role for His people for all time.

Jesus as Victor (Psalm 110:5-7) p. 57

Just as Yahweh invited David's Lord (the Messiah) to sit at His right hand, God the Father will empower His Son as He defeats His enemies. He stands at His Messiah's right hand. In this contest, being at the right hand emphasizes support, protection, and victory. He, Yahweh, *"will crush kings."*

Deuteronomy 32:39 *"Now see that I, even I, am He [God], and there is no God besides Me, I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; Nor is there any who can deliver from My hand."* The temporary kingdoms of this world will be replaced by the eternal kingdom of God. The new eternal kingdom will be consummated on the day of His [the Lord's] anger. The day of His anger is known in the Old Testament as the day of the LORD. This is the time when God will deliver His people and judge those who stand in rebellion against Him. **Revelation 6:15-16** *"And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, and said to the mountains and rocks, 'fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!'"* Remember how Adam and Eve hid themselves from God, after they sinned?

Vs. 6 The imagery of warfare continues. The day of the Lord's anger is the day of God's judgment. God will judge the nations. The judgment of all humanity will be done by Jesus, God's Messiah. Part of this judgment involves heaping up corpses and crushing the leaders of the nations of the entire world. Revelation 19 describes Jesus returning to earth as a warrior with the armies of heaven following Him into battle. **Vs. 11** *"Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war."* Those who have turned to Jesus in repentance and faith receive forgiveness and eternal life. Those who have rejected God and His Messiah receive justice for all their actions, meaning judgment and condemnation. Revelation also describes how the armies of the world led by the beast gather to fight against Jesus at His return. Jesus slays all His enemies with the sword of His mouth, and the birds of the air are invited to

feast on all of the dead. **Vs. 21** *“And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.”* This feast is called *“the great supper of God [vs. 17].”* Yuck!

Vs. 7 It is the end of the battle. The victor vanquishes His enemies and sits down to have an ice cool drink of water. Like the drink from a brook after a long battle, the phrase, *“He will lift up His head”* is a picture of strength and dominion. I know how a drink of cool water refreshes me after a long ride. This description also anticipates the completed work of reconciliation and redemption climaxed by the glorious exaltation of the Lord Jesus Christ.