

Psalm 89:20-29 Part 4, III

Introduction: Christ, our Great and Perfect High Priest, being truly GOD, He became truly man. (flesh), two natures in One Person without mixture, confusion, division, or separation by which He is our Intercessor and Mediator. The Father has appointed the Son heir of all things through Whom He also made the world. Jesus is the Radiance of the Father's Glory and the exact Representation of the Father's Nature, and Jesus Christ upholds all things by the Word of His Power. The Lord Jesus Christ has made purification for sins and He is now at the Right hand of the Majesty on High. (**Hebrews 1:2-3**). With this knowledge of the Son being GOD, so that we may marvel at, grow in our love, faith, worship, and service to our King, by His Mercy and for His Glory, let's look closer at the aspect of the Person and Work of Christ in the flesh – being truly man – His state of Humiliation. We truly are saved by works; certainly not our own that is as filthy rags, but our LORD's Work. The Work of Christ that earned a perfect Righteousness that is imputed or given to His people as our own is the means and how we are rescued from the Holy and Perfect Wrath of GOD.

Read Psalm 89:20-29

Exposition:

That which we are continuing to look at in this portion of the Psalm is Christ Jesus is the fulfillment of the Covenant that the psalmist makes reference to in verse 4: [Psalm 89:4 NASB]

4 I will establish your seed forever And build up your throne to all generations." Selah.

We are presented with a "Selah" at the end of this verse which is a call to meditate, ponder, and to consider. And this is what we are doing in our time together in that we are presented with the Truth – that Christ is the King of an Eternal Kingdom, ruling and reigning, mediating and interceding for His people. What does this mean to us as believers? My hope is that we see the miracle of GOD the Son setting aside the Glory with the Father and Spirit to come to this world in the flesh, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born under the Law, born of a virgin, entering this

world in the lowliest manner possible – there wasn't any room at the Inn for GOD. He was laid in a manger – GOD the Son, the Creator and Sustainer of all of creation was laid in a manger wrapped in clothes. Our Redeemer and LORD was laid in a manger. Such as this helps us to understand our LORD's state of Humiliation – the extent to which He went to save His people to the Glory of the Father.

Let's look at some of the aspects of this miracle and mystery of GOD the Son becoming flesh. First, we are given in verse 22 that our LORD will not be deceived by the enemy nor the son of wickedness afflict Him. Notice the Word does not proclaim that our great enemy would not attempt to deceive and afflict Him. We know that our LORD, being made like us in every respect, yet without sin, was indeed tempted and that He suffered as man. And dear Church, this was done to the Father's Glory and for the good – for the benefit of those called out of darkness into the marvelous Light. We are given this Truth of our LORD being tempted in the Gospel Records. **[Luke 4:1-2 NASB] 1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness 2 for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And He ate nothing during those days, and when they had ended, He became hungry.**

Again, we are given the extent to which GOD the Son went to in the Salvation of His people. Not only has He come in the flesh but subjected Himself to be tempted so that as we see in **[Hebrews 2:17-18 NASB] 17 Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted. And :**

[Hebrews 4:15 NASB] 15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as [we are, yet] without sin. The Gospel of Matthew gives us further insight by proclaiming very directly that Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. This should set our hearts and minds in awe – not only had GOD come in the flesh, but He allowed Himself to be tempted. We have a High Priest who can sympathize with our weaknesses. What weaknesses? disease and sickness, persecution from men, temptations from our enemy to name a few. Even though the tempting by the enemy was in vain, the temptations of the devil toward the Lord was

troublesome and disagreeable to His holy and pure nature and were a source of His suffering. He was scorned and neglected by His own family. He was held in contempt and questioned at every turn. He was deserted by His disciples. He suffered the wrath of the Father and the worst of all He experienced a separation from the Father as He paid the penalty for His people's sin. All of this shows His grace, strength, and faithfulness. He is able to come to the aid of those who are being tempted. I pray that this causes us to marvel, be in awe, to fear and love Him more, and that our thirsting and hungering for righteousness will increase.

The Word of GOD gives us glimpses of Jesus as a boy growing to be a man. [Luke 2:52 NASB] **52 And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.** Increasing in wisdom and stature is an amazing phrase. This shows us the extent of the Truth that our Lord was made like us in every respect that He might become a merciful and faithful High Priest in the service of GOD, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. GOD the Son, Who is perfect and pure in every way, condescended to man to the Glory of the Father in such a way that causes us to marvel at Him and what He has done and is doing. As man, Jesus kept "increasing" in wisdom and stature – which again reinforces the Truth that He is truly man. As the Son of GOD, as truly GOD, He was and is perfect and His perfection, His holiness and righteousness cannot be increased. There can be no increase in the perfections of His deity, but only in His human nature that He assumed. The Eternal Word, the One Who is perfect and pure in every sense, the One Who took on flesh, went through a progression common to men – He grew or increased. This sheds light on the Truth that He was made like His brethren in all things. So, Christ condescended to being a baby, a child, a youth, and a man. As Christ grew or increased so did the fact of Who He is – the image of GOD showed brighter as He increased. As all of this being in the perfect will and according to the counsel of GOD; His favor with GOD and man increased. So as GOD the Son went through the progression in His state of humiliation, from infant to child to manhood, the image of GOD was more clearly displayed as He grew – the Light became brighter. The Word is faithful to proclaim these infirmities common to man to show that our Savior is truly man – He grew weary, hungry, thirst, angry, and experienced agony that is greater than we can understand.

As to our LORD suffering as man: [Hebrews 2:9-10 NASB] **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. 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.** Therefore, when we are in the midst of trials and difficulty or suffering persecution, Christ in His humanity is our Help – He is like us in that He partook of flesh and blood and allowed Himself to suffer things common to man. We can trust Christ because He has tasted death for His people. It is His perfect Righteousness imputed to or covering us that we are rescued from the Father’s Holy, Righteous, and Perfect Wrath. It is His Righteousness His Obedience that is our anchor that keeps us, causing us to persevere, and to not falter or fall or compromise with the world and with that which the world offers to soothe or seduce us toward that evil bent that we are born with. The believer will find no peace, hope, or joy from the world or it’s methods. We can only have this comfort in affliction by looking unto Christ Jesus. We can only suffer to GOD’s glory with “joy” by His Righteousness as our own. As our faithful High Priest, He stood condemned in our stead; we now stand justified by His shed blood. Because He was despised and rejected by men; we are loved and accepted by GOD as His, as belonging to Him. He was bruised and battered, not for our pity, but so that we can be with Him forever. He humbled Himself to the point of taking on flesh and becoming a bond-servant and died a criminal’s death so that His people might live. Joy defined Biblically is an unwavering, granted or given confidence in the Person and Work of Christ. It is a steadfast hope in Him. It may manifest itself differently in believers and we may at times struggle and waiver, but it is certain that it will be in the one who belongs to Him. May this miracle and mystery be our great Hope, Confidence, and Joy.

Amen