

Psalm 89:20-29 Part 4, IV

Introduction: My goal in this portion of the Psalm has not been to minimize how the promises of the Covenant relate to King David, but to bring forward the Greater meaning in how Christ is our Prophet, Priest, and King. Remember the Words of our Lord that was spoken to those blessed disciples in the closing of the Gospel of Luke. [Luke 24:44-45 NASB] **44 Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."** **45 Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,** Thanks be to our Redeemer that in His Mercy He does the same for His people this very day.

Read Psalm 89:20-29

I want to close this portion of the Psalm 89 by examining the three offices that our Savior executes in both His state of Humiliation and His state of Exaltation (**Philippians 2:8-9**) as well as the promises that spring from His execution of those offices. First, the offices our Lord in these states are that of Prophet, Priest, and King. The Word of GOD teaches us that our Lord carries out or executes these offices because each is necessary for our salvation. Again, I want to be careful using plural pronouns that might dismiss our examining our own lives and walks to see if this is true in "my" life. So, the goal is that each soul would consider if this be true of "me". Does my knowledge of these things go beyond the intellect? Is there more than mere acknowledgement of these Truths? Is my journey through this life effected so that sin is awful and His Mercy precious? Do I know these Truths by experience? Does hearing these Truths of Christ cause me to delight in Him and praise His Glorious Grace?

I recently heard a comment by Paul Washer in which he reworded something the puritans used to convey regularly when they spoke. For every look you take at yourself, take ten long looks at GOD. I compel you, as was I, to ask GOD to reveal if these things are indeed the source of joy and delight – that is the understanding to the degree which Christ has gone and is going that I am saved and kept because He is Prophet, Priest, and King. Because Christ is Prophet, Priest, and King to His people; the believer's benefit is declared in [1 Corinthians 1:30 NASB] **30 But by His doing you are in Christ**

Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,

How are the Offices of Christ related to the Promises? [2 Corinthians 1:20 NASB] **20 For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.** The Promises, which are declarations and assurance that GOD has given in His Word toward the blessing of His people, flow out of the Offices of Christ. The assurance of the believer is a great Mercy of GOD that is settled on His perfect Justice, Power, Unchanging Truth, and His great Love that cannot fail. I am not saying we do so perfectly and without struggle. I make allusion to this because in the next portion of this Psalm we see this struggle as it seems to the psalmist that the LORD GOD has spurned His covenant people. LORD willing, our focus will be on this great dilemma which is one of the main subjects of this Psalm – not only the struggle because we see the psalmist praise the LORD GOD for His faithfulness, mercy, and love prior to laying out his complaint in faith and humility.

Let's begin by looking at the Office of Christ as our Prophet, the promises, and that which is inferred due to Christ being our Prophet. We know Him to be a Prophet because it is written in the Word: [Acts 3:22 NASB] (which is quoted from Deuteronomy 18:15; 18:18-19) [Acts 3:22 NASB] **22 "Moses said, 'THE LORD GOD WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR BRETHREN; TO HIM YOU SHALL GIVE HEED to everything He says to you.** The promises that flow from Jesus as Prophet is seen in how He executes this Office. Christ does so by revealing to us by His Word and the Spirit the will of GOD for our salvation. His prophetic office implies man's natural blindness and ignorance of the Truth. [I Corinthians 2:14 NASB] **14 But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.** It is a great Mercy and Work of GOD that we can understand the Truth of the Word – that we can understand the Gospel. With this understanding comes an experiential knowledge for His people that we can with joy walk in or live upon this Truth to His Glory – that we thirst and hunger for Righteousness. (**Matthew 5:6**) This is what it is to believe “resulting in righteousness” and to confess “resulting in salvation” (**Romans 10:10**) With this there is a warning. The puritans referred to the act of professing to believe in Christ, but not truly and savingly believing as “closing partially”. We are shown an example of such misery in [John 12:42-43 NASB] **42 Nevertheless many even of the rulers believed in Him, but because of the**

Pharisees they were not confessing Him, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue; 43 for they loved the approval of men rather than the approval of God. Conversely, we are given in the closing of the Gospel Record of Luke our Lord's Mercy for His people.

[Luke 24:45 NASB] **45 Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,** The promises of illumination, guidance, and direction flow out of our Lord's prophetic office.

We are given that Christ is our High Priest in the Word, particularly in the Letter to the Hebrews. The Bible proclaims Christ to be the Apostle and High Priest of our confession (**Hebrews 3:1**), that He is a Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek (**Hebrews 5:6**), that when He appeared as High Priest of good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is through His blood; that He entered the holy place once for all having obtained eternal redemption (**Hebrews 9:11-12**), that 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 His people (**Hebrews 2:17**), that we have a High Priest who has passed through the heavens, and that He can sympathize with our weaknesses because He has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. (**Hebrews 4:14-15**) Christ our Lord executes or accomplishes this office by Him having offered up Himself as a Sacrifice to satisfy Divine Justice, to reconcile His people, and His making continual intercession for us. It is by His offering His body as the Sacrifice that the stain and guilt of sin is removed as His people are covered or clothed in imputed righteousness that Christ Jesus our Priest earned so that we may obtain the Father's favor. That is a peace that man may only know by being covered by our High Priest's perfect Righteousness. The Offering to satisfy GOD's wrath against sin had to be perfect; without spot or blemish. Christ kept the Law of GOD perfectly in the flesh that we may have peace through the blood of the cross. (**Colossians 1:20**) Think of all the animals that were slaughtered and the blood that was shed to hold off the wrath of GOD until such time as the Perfect Lamb would come and offer Himself once for all to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself, by means of His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. (**Hebrews 9:12,26**) The Priests of the Old Covenant had to continually offer the blood of beasts for a temporary peace; yet our Lord Jesus Christ gave Himself to secure an eternal peace for His people. As our Priest, He cleanses our consciences from dead works to serve the living GOD. (**Hebrews 9:14**) The promises of being pardoned and peace flow out of His priestly office.

Christ executes the Office of King in that He conquers us to Himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all His and our enemies. We will certainly struggle and trials will come; yet they will not have any sort of final triumph. Trials and difficulty is given that we may be refined and purified, not destroyed. **(II Corinthians 2:9)** Christ's Kingship makes it certain that the final end of the believer is to forever behold His Glory. Christ ruling and reigning is not to begin when He returns; He is doing so now. All things have been put in subjection under His feet and He is Head over all things to the church. **(Ephesians 1:22)** In the seventh chapter of Daniel, the prophet is given a vision of four great and terrible beasts that would have authority in this world for a time. Then Daniel speaks of the One Who has been given an everlasting dominion. [Daniel 7:13-14 NASB] **13 "I kept looking in the night visions, And behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, And He came up to the Ancient of Days And was presented before Him. 14 "And to Him was given dominion, Glory and a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations and [men of every] language Might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion Which will not pass away; And His kingdom is one Which will not be destroyed.** His Dominion and Kingdom are not only universal, but personal. It is presently in the souls of His people. We may safely trust Christ and His provision. No more or no less will the believer's condition be than that which He has determined. The promise as spoken by the prophet Isaiah is universal and personal as well. [Isaiah 9:6-7 NASB] **6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. 7 There will be no end to the increase of [His] government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.** All the promises of defense, protection, deliverance, and perseverance flow from Christ's kingly office.

Thanks be to our LORD which grants the faith that is necessary so that we are given eyes to behold Him in all of His Glory, the Glory that is hidden until the Holy Spirit imparts this mighty Truth to the soul so that we can love and treasure Him and His Glorious Grace. Salvation is not just that we are forgiven, but that we marvel at, are in awe of, and praise the Glory of His Grace. If we do not see the Glory of Christ, then we are blind and are strangers to the illuminating Grace of the Holy Spirit. May each soul see, know, and live upon the reality of His Kingship, His Glory, His Grace, and the reality of His being our Prophet and Priest. Amen