

Psalm 21

This is a jubilant Psalm that celebrates victory before God the source of that victory.

Psalms 21:1-2 [Amplified Bible] *“The King [David] shall joy 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. Selah [Pause and think of that]”*

Psalms 21:3-7 [Amplified Bible] *“For you send blessings of good things to meet him; You set a crown of pure gold on his head. He asked life of You, and You gave it to him, long life for ever and evermore, his glory is great because of Your aid, splendour and majesty You bestow upon him. For You make him to be blessed and a blessing for ever; You make him exceedingly glad with the joy of Your presence, [Psalms 16:11; Matthew 25:21, 23]. For the king trusts, relies on and is confident in the Lord, and through the mercy and steadfast love of the Most High he will never be moved.”*

Only the king [David] and the Lord are pictured in these verses.

The picture of long life for ever in the Old Testament was to the reader an allusion to an endless dynasty as promised to David in 2 Samuel 7:16-17, the New Testament has filled in the picture firmly with the figure of the ultimate King, the Messiah, Jesus Christ, for whom the whole stanza is true without any exaggeration.

As David meditated on the many blessings that he as king had received from God and was able to use to bring glory to his Creator God.

Only when we realise from where all our blessings come from [James 1:16-18] can we use them to give glory and honour back to our Creator God.

A good leader, like King David, trusts in the Lord and depends on His unfailing love.

Too often leaders trust in their own cleverness, popular support or military power, but the Creator God is above such “gods.”

If we aspire to leadership, as all true Christians should, [Revelation 20:4] if not at this time, certainly in our future life in the Kingdom of God, we must keep the Lord God at the centre of our lives and always depend on Him, [John 15:1-5].

Psalms 21:8-12 [King James] *“Thine hand shall find out all thine enemies: thy right hand shall find out those that hate thee. Thou shalt make them as a fiery oven in the time of thine anger: the LORD shall swallow them up in his wrath, and the fire shall devour them. Their fruit shalt thou destroy from the earth, and their seed from among the children of men. For they intended evil against thee: they imagined a mischievous device, which they are not able to perform. Therefore shalt thou make them turn their back, when thou shalt make ready thine arrows upon thy strings against the face of them.”*

This Psalm originally celebrated a specific deliverance, it saw in this the promise of final triumph over evil.

It has the crusading spirit to hunt out every enemy, not allowing them to have the initiative to “find out” [verse 8] and to rid the world of his kind, [verse 10].

This again outruns the power of any physical leader, for the scale of events once more call for the Messiah to come, [2 Thessalonians 1:7-10].

Paul may owe something to these verses in this Psalm when writing his letters to the Church in Thessalonica and to every generation of Christians since.

Psalms 21:13 [King James] *“Be thou exalted, LORD, in thine own strength: so will we sing and praise thy power.”*

Our part is to admire and give thanks to God as He fulfils His purpose in all He has chosen. To lead us into a deeper understanding of His purpose for all humanity.

For the vast majority of true Christians this life is a time of preparation, using the gifts and talents we have been given to become spiritually prepared to teach others God’s way of life in the future after Jesus Christ’s Second Coming.