

“Praying the Psalms” CCCC Sermon Handout 01-02-21

Jesus quoted from the Psalms more than any other OT book.

Here are some of the many occasions when Jesus quoted from the Psalms:

Quoted Ps 8:2 and 110:1 outwitting the Pharisees (Mt 21:16, 22:44; Mk 12:36, 14:62; Lk 20:42–43).

Quoted Ps 22:1 while dying on the cross (Mt 27:46; Mk 15:34).

Quoted Ps 31:5 when He commits His spirit to the Father (Lk 23:46).

Quoted Ps 41:9 when talking about his betrayal (Jn 13:18).

Quoted Ps 78:24 after feeding a multitude (Jn 6:31).

Quoted Ps 82:6 when the Jews want to stone Jesus for claiming to be God (Jn 10:34).

Quoted Ps 110:1 when Pilate asks if He is the son of God (Mt 26:64).

Quoted Ps 118:22-23 when calling himself the chief cornerstone (Matt 21:42; Mk 12:10; Luke 20:17).

Quoted Ps 118:26 when foretelling Jerusalem’s destruction (Matt 23:39; Lk 13:35).

Quoted Ps 35 and Ps 69 – **major “imprecatory” Psalms** - said that he’d be “hated without cause” (Jn 15:25).

Prayer from: Dr. A.O. Itiola, *Praying the Psalms for Spiritual Warfare* (Westbury, NY: Fresh Word, 2002, pgs 29-37)

Ps 18:3 I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies.

Lord, let our prayer and praise save us from our spiritual enemies, in Jesus’ Name.

4 The cords of death entangled me; the torrents of destruction overwhelmed me.

Lord, we refuse to surrender to the threat of death, in Jesus’ Name. We refuse to be intimidated by [the ungodly], in Jesus’ Name.

5 The cords of the grave coiled around me; the snares of death confronted me.

Lord, we claim victory over every power of death and hell working against our lives. They will not succeed at hindering Your plan for our lives, in Jesus’ Name.

6 In my distress I called to the Lord; I cried to my God for help. From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came before him, into his ears.

Lord, give us the strength to call upon you in times of trouble, in Jesus’ Name.

7 The earth trembled and quaked, and the foundations of the mountains shook; they trembled because he was angry.

Lord, let your wrath make the foundations of the high places of our spiritual enemies shake and tremble, in Jesus’ Name.

8 Smoke rose from his nostrils; consuming fire came from his mouth, burning coals blazed out of it.

Lord, send out your smoke and fire to devour all the works of the spiritual enemies against us, in Jesus’ Name.

11 He made darkness his covering, his canopy around him — the dark rain clouds of the sky.

Lord, You who made the darkness your secret place, arise, locate and attack every spiritual enemy that hides under darkness to do us harm, in Jesus’ Name.

12 Out of the brightness before him hailstones and coals of fire broke through his clouds.

13 The Lord also thundered in the heavens, and the Most High uttered his voice, hailstones and coals of fire.

14 He shot his arrows and scattered [the enemies], great bolts of lightning and routed them.

Lord, send down your hail stones, coals of fire, thunder, arrows and lightning to scatter and discomfit all those that are waging war against us, in Jesus’ Name.

15 The valleys of the sea were exposed and the foundations of the earth laid bare at your rebuke, O Lord, at the blast of breath from your nostrils.

Lord, rebuke our spiritual enemies and let the blast of the breath of Your nostrils uncover their secrets, in Jesus’ Name.

16 He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters.

Lord, draw us out with your mighty power from many waters that are trying to drown us.

17 He rescued me from my powerful enemy, from my foes, who were too strong for me.

Lord, deliver us from our strong enemies and those that hate us, in Jesus’ Name.

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18 They confronted me in the day of my disaster, but the Lord was my support.

Lord, rescue us from those who try to hinder our deliverance in the day of our calamity and put them to shame.

27 You save the humble but bring low those whose eyes are haughty.

Lord, save us from every form of affliction and turn the pride of our spiritual enemies into shame, in Jesus’ Name.

28 You, O Lord, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light.

Lord, make a light for us whenever darkness surrounds us, in Jesus’ Name.

29 With your help I can advance against a troop; with my God I can scale a wall.

Lord, give us the strength to run through every demonic troop and leap over every demonic wall erected to hinder our progress.

32 It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect.

Lord, gird us with your strength and make our way perfect, in Jesus’ Name.

33 He makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he enables me to stand on the heights.

Lord, make us run faster than our enemies and lift us higher than them, in Jesus’ Name.

34 He trains my hands for battle; my arms can bend a bow of bronze.

Lord, teach us spiritual warfare and strengthen us for battle, in Jesus’ Name.

35 You give me your shield of victory, and your right hand sustains me; you stoop down to make me great.

Lord, give us the shield of your salvation. Hold us up with your right hand. Make us great by Your gentleness, in Jesus’ Name.

37 I pursued my enemies and overtook them; I did not turn back till they were destroyed.

In the Name of Jesus, we receive anointing to pursue and overtake our enemies, and render them powerless.

38 I crushed them so that they could not rise; they fell beneath my feet.

In the Name of Jesus, we receive power to wound our spiritual enemies. We decree that they will not be able to rise against us but will be forever banished under our feet.

39 You armed me with strength for battle; you made my adversaries bow at my feet.

Lord, strengthen us for battle and subdue under us those who rise up against us, in Jesus’ Name.

40 You made my enemies turn their backs in flight, and I destroyed my foes.

We take authority over all our spiritual enemies and we destroy their power, in Jesus’ Name.

41 They cried for help, but there was no one to save them — to the Lord, but he did not answer.

Lord, let the cries of all our spiritual enemies go unanswered, in Jesus’ Name.

42 I beat them as fine as dust borne on the wind; I poured them out like mud in the streets.

Lord, give us power to crush all the powers of darkness working against us. Let them become as the dust and dirt in the streets, in Jesus’ Name.

44 As soon as they hear me, they obey me; foreigners cringe before me.

Lord, make us a terror to all demonic spirits that as soon as they hear of us, they shall submit and obey us, in Jesus’ Name. Amen!

Additional suggested books:

James E. Adams, *War Psalms of the Prince of Peace: Lessons from the Imprecatory Psalms* (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 1991, 2016 Second edition).

Charles H. Kraft, *I Give You Authority: Practicing the Authority Jesus Gave Us* (Grand Rapids, MI: Chosen Books, 1997, 2012 Revised Edition).