

Lesson 9

The Messiah and Marvelous Works (Psalms 110-112)

1. Why do you think Psalm 110 is quoted so often in the New Testament? What is it about verse 1 that makes it so quotable? Go through the psalm and circle phrases and words that support the claim that this is a messianic psalm. Why is that important to consider when reading the psalm?
2. Choose one verse or phrase from Psalms 110—112 that stands out to you. This could be something you're intrigued by, something that makes you uncomfortable, something that puzzles you, something that resonates with you, or just something you want to examine further. Write that here.
3. How does Psalm 110 establish Jesus as the King? Who is "speaking" in the various verses? In what ways does this psalm help reveal David's role as prophet?
4. Read Hebrews 7. How is Melchizedek a "type" of Jesus? (A type is something that foreshadows something that comes later.) Why might Psalm 110 have shocked the Israelites? Why, if they understood the messianic message in the psalm, did the Jewish people still reject Jesus when He came to earth? What does all of this teach us about the way God reveals Himself to His people?
5. What do you think Psalm 110:7 is saying? Does the fact that David knew something about battles add any insight to the meaning? Is it important to understand every word of a psalm in order to benefit from it? Why or why not? What's the difference between careful study and overanalyzing?

6. Psalm 111 is a very upbeat psalm that comes from a time when things were difficult. What are some of the clues in this psalm that suggest times weren't always easy for the Israelites? What does this psalm teach us today about how we ought to respond when we're in the midst of struggles or challenges? How is the season the Israelites faced after the return from Babylon like and unlike the season the church is going through today?
7. What can today's church learn about praise from "hallelujah" psalms like Psalm 111? What does this form of praise say about the role (or lack thereof) our feelings ought to play in our praise life? What does the phrase "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom" in verse 10 mean?
8. What attributes of God are revealed in Psalm 111? Circle them. How do God's actions in history reveal His character? What are some ways God's character has been revealed in your church experience?
9. What happens to our theology today if we take Psalm 112's message from the context of God's covenant with Israel? How can passages like this one offer struggling Christians false hope about wealth and success? What is the real message in this psalm? Not everything in this psalm is sunshine and roses. What are some of the challenges the "man who fears the Lord" has faced?
10. What are some of the ways God rewards the righteous today (apart from material wealth)? How have you seen evidence of the truth in Psalm 112:10 in the life of believers at church or home or even in the workplace? How does the fact that the wicked are bothered by good deeds affect the practical actions of Christians today?
11. What makes Psalm 110 relevant to your life today? How do promises about the future affect you in the present? What would it mean to your faith life if God made your enemies "a footstool"?

12. How do you relate to Jesus as King? How is this different from relating to Him as Savior or friend?

13. Have you ever felt as if God “owed you” riches or wealth for good behavior? Why or why not? What prompted that feeling? How does the context of Psalms 111 and 112 help you understand the way God’s blessings worked in Old Testament times versus the way God blesses today?

14. Think of one or two things that you have learned that you’d like to work on in the coming week. Remember that this is all about quality, not quantity. It’s better to work on one specific area of life and do it well than to work on many and do poorly (or to be so overwhelmed that you simply don’t try). **Do you want to better understand Jesus’ role as King? Be specific. Go back through Psalms 110—112 and put a star next to the phrase or verse that is most encouraging to you. Consider memorizing this verse.**

15. Write a prayer below (or simply pray one in silence), inviting God to work on your mind and heart in those areas you’ve previously noted. Be honest about your desires and fears.