

PREMILLENNIALISM: GOD'S PROMISE TO DAVID: Part Three

Continuing to discuss premillennialism, we devote a third and final article to God's promise to David concerning the seating of his offspring on the promised Messianic throne. It is to be expected that the Psalms of David would have much to say on this subject, far more in fact than we have room to discuss here. However, we will notice three Psalms bearing on this point that were so significant Peter cited them when he declared Jesus of Nazareth to be Lord and Christ by virtue of his resurrection from the dead and his subsequent ascension to heaven.

The first is Psalms 16:9-12 in which David expressed his strong faith in the certainty of God's power to free one's soul from sheol, the realm of the dead, and do so even before its body would be subjected to the normal course of decay.

The second is Psalms 132:11 in which David said the LORD (that is, Yahweh) promised him that the fruit of his own body, his own fleshly descendent, would be seated on his throne.

The third is Psalms 110:1 in which David said the LORD (Yahweh) promised his Lord (that is David's master) a place at Yahweh's right hand till his enemies should become his footstool.

Powerful and beautiful Psalms, indeed! But what did they mean? Peter, an apostle of Christ, provides the answers.

Psalms 16:9-11 recorded God's promise, not to David, but to Jesus assuring the certainty of his resurrection from the dead (Acts 2:25-32).

Psalms 132:11 saw its fulfillment in seating Jesus as the Christ on David's throne, not by military conquest and not on earth, but by virtue of his resurrection from the dead and his ascension to heaven there to reign at the Father's own right hand (Acts 2:29-33).

Psalms 110:1, promising the Christ that his enemies would be made his footstool, would be fulfilled, not while reigning on a literal earthly throne, but while reigning at the right hand of his Father in heaven over a spiritual kingdom of eternal redemption (Acts 2:22-35).

"Therefore," Peter concluded, "let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord (master, ruler) and Christ (God's Anointed One—The Messiah) (Acts 2:36).

Therefore, we conclude that God's promise to David to seat the Christ on his divinely authorized throne is fulfilled. —Jerry F. Bassett