

## Prophet, Priest, and King

### Commentary for June 1, 2015 — David and Christ Were All Three

"Israel and Judah: 10. The End of Absalom" is the title of this month's article. This should be read after the "[June 2015 Newsletter](#)" which has further information on the subject of the article, and how this relates to you. Also in this article are two excellent maps by Henry Dye to help you better understand the flow of the story.

### *David and Jesus: Prophet, Priest, and King*

The angel Gabriel told Mary about her son, who would be Israel's king:

**"He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever [for the eon]; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."**

• *Luke 1:32–33*

Jesus himself told his apostles:

**"Then answered Peter and said unto him, 'Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed you; what shall we have therefore?'**

**And Jesus said unto them, 'Verily I say unto you, That you which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.'"**

• *Matthew 19:27–28*

King David was a type of Christ in more than one way. Of course, both are kings. Both are also prophets, as we are told by Peter at Pentecost:

**"Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him [him being David], that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne [David's throne]; he [David] seeing this before spoke of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell [*hades*, the grave], neither his flesh did see corruption."**

• *Acts 2:29–31*

So, David is a king and a prophet. But few understand that King David was also a priest. How was David a priest? For that matter, how was Jesus a priest? Both of them came from the tribe of Judah, and all Israelite priests, without exception, came out of the tribe of Levi, according to God's law given to Moses. However, both David and Jesus were Melchizedek priests, a different priesthood by virtue of their both being Kings of Jerusalem. Psalm 110:

<sup>1</sup> **"YHWH said unto my Lord, 'Sit you at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.'**

<sup>2</sup> **YHWH shall send the rod of your strength out of Zion: rule you in the midst of your enemies.**

<sup>3</sup> **your people shall be willing in the day of your power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: you have the dew of your youth.'**

<sup>4</sup> **YHWH has sworn, and will not repent, '[You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.](#)'**

<sup>5</sup> **The Lord at your right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath.**

<sup>6</sup> **[Then] He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill the places with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries.**

<sup>7</sup> **He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift up the head."**

• **Psalm 110:1–7**

Psalm 110 (a psalm of David) applied first partially to David, and identified with Jesus later in Luke 20:42; Acts 2:34; and Hebrews 1:13, 5:6, 7:17. Christ has accomplished actions of verses 1–4 of Psalm 110. Verses 5–7 are yet to be fulfilled. Peter says later in Acts chapter 2:

**"He [David] seeing this before spoke of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell [*hades*], neither his flesh did see corruption. This Jesus has God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.**

**Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted [at that moment], and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he has shed forth this [the Holy Spirit to the disciples, a few minutes past], which you now see and hear. For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he [David] said himself, 'The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit you on my right hand, Until I make your foes your footstool.'"**

• **Acts 2:31–35**

When Christ returns and fully comes into His kingdom on earth with the full scope of Psalm 110 applied to Him, only then will the partial application of the promise of Psalm 110 to David begin to occur when he is raised at the first resurrection. David is only seated **"at my right hand"** in symbol because David's tomb is located just south of the correct Temple location.<sup>1</sup>

For a complete explanation of Christ (and David) as Melchizedek priests by virtue of each being King of Jerusalem, see Dr. Martin's article "[Christ as High Priest](#)" and my article, "[Who Was Melchizedek.](#)" See especially the comparison in Hebrews chapter 7 and a bit of chapter 8 where the Levitical and Melchizedek priesthoods are compared. If David was a prophet, priest, and king, then he fulfilled in type the offices of Christ. David was a poor type because he was a sinner born of Adam, as are all of us. Christ was sinless. He was a fully righteous prophet. He was a perfectly righteous priest. He was an absolutely righteous king.

## **Byte Shows**

A quick note. John Evans, GeorgeAnn Hughes' son, and I recorded Chapter 20 of [Essentials of New Testament Doctrine](#) this past week, but the show is not online yet on either the Guests page or on my Byte Show page. Please be patient. John is still learning his mother's system. The show went well, and John enjoyed himself and said he learned much about the Sabbath. After my reading we talked about his mother which I am sure you will find interesting.

David Sielaff  
[david@askelm.com](mailto:david@askelm.com)

<sup>1</sup> See my article, "[The Location and Future Discovery of King David's Tomb.](#)"