

Communion on Psalm 45

By Phillip G. Kayser at DCC on 9-18-2011

For our communion meditation this morning I want to briefly look at Psalm 45:5. But first let me read the first seven verses of this Messianic Psalm.

**Psalms 45:1 ¶ My heart is overflowing with a good theme;
I recite my composition concerning the King;
My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.**

**Psalms 45:2 You are fairer than the sons of men;
Grace is poured upon Your lips;
Therefore God has blessed You forever.**

**Psalms 45:3 Gird Your sword upon *Your* thigh, O Mighty One,
With Your glory and Your majesty.**

**Psalms 45:4 And in Your majesty ride prosperously because of
truth, humility, *and* righteousness;
And Your right hand shall teach You awesome things.**

**Psalms 45:5 Your arrows *are* sharp in the heart of the King's
enemies;**

The peoples fall under You.

**Psalms 45:6 Your throne, O God, *is* forever and ever;
A scepter of righteousness *is* the scepter of Your kingdom.**

**Psalms 45:7 You love righteousness and hate wickedness;
Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You
With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.**

Hebrews 1 quotes this Psalm as describing the Lord Jesus Christ in His glorified state. It is a beautiful description of the advance of His kingdom and the preparation of a bride for Himself. The bride is described in the second half of the Psalm. But what is amazing in this Psalm is that the very enemies who are destroyed in the first half become the bride and friend of Jesus in the second half. Unlike the wars of some kings that plunder and ruin, this king's warfare brings new life and prosperity. He tears down the old and rebuilds the new. He destroys our old identity and makes all things new by His grace. And I just want to focus on the spiritual weapons that Christ uses to accomplish this. Grace is poured upon Christ's lips in verse 2. Without that grace, His words would only judge us and destroy us. And then this weapon of His Word is described as the sword by which he conquers in verse 3. And of course, the New Testament identifies the Word of Christ as the sword of the Spirit and as a means of grace. And the weapons listed in the next verse of truth, humility, and righteousness become the arrows in verse 5 – arrows that pierce through to the heart. Who would think that truth would win the day on planet earth, or that humility would conquer, or that righteousness would succeed. But He promises that God's enemies will fall under Christ's feet. Then it speaks of Christ's kingdom and rule in verse 6, the righteousness that He promotes, and the oil which anoints both Christ and His people – representative of the work of the Holy Spirit. Now with that as a background, let me read a poem that Charles Spurgeon wrote to summarize the work of this Psalm. I think poem will cause your heart to gladly embrace

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the One who has conquered you and to express your love and commitment to Him once again in this table. Spurgeon said,

A Battle Hymn

Forth to the battle rides our King; He climbs the conquering car;
 He fits His arrows to the string, and hurls His bolts afar.
 Convictions pierce the stoutest hearts, they smart, they bleed, they die;
 Slain by Immanuel's well-aimed darts, in helpless heaps they lie.

Behold, He bares His two-edged sword, and deals almighty blows;
 His all-revealing, killing Word 'twixt joints and marrow goes.
 Who can resist Him in the fight? He cuts through coats of mail.
 Before the terror of His might the hearts of rebels fail.

Anon, arrayed in robes of grace, he rides the trampled plain,
 With pity beaming in His face, and mercy in His train.
 Mighty to save He now appears, mighty to raise the dead,
 Mighty to staunch the bleeding wound, and lift the fallen head.

Victor alike in love and arms, myriads around Him bend;
 Each captive owns His matchless charms, each foe becomes His friend.
 They crown Him on the battle-field, they press to kiss His feet;
 Their hands, their hearts, their all they yield: His conquest is complete.

None love Him more than those He slew; His love their hate has slain;
 Henceforth their souls are all on fire to spread His gentle reign.
 Charles H. Spurgeon

As we come to the Lord's Table this morning, let's thank and praise Jesus that He fought us and conquered us and added us to the bride of which this Psalm speaks so much. Let's thank Him that though His Word does deal death blows to our flesh, yet it also heals and strengthens and draws us to Christ. Let's bow our knees before Him and kiss His feet as it were and declare that we love the fact that He is our Lord and Savior. I especially love those last two lines:

None love Him more than those He slew; His love their hate has slain;
 Henceforth their souls are all on fire to spread His gentle reign.
 Let's make that our commitment as we come to the Lord's Table. Let's pray.

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