

# The Kingdom Hope in Psalms

## Psalm 9

### Messiah's Victory Over His Enemies in the Day of the Lord

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February 2007

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- 1 I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
I will tell of all Your marvelous works.  
2 I will be glad and rejoice in You;  
I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.  
3 When my enemies turn back,  
They shall fall and perish at Your presence.

This Psalm contemplates Messiah's victory over His enemies in the Day of the Lord (the second coming). The phrase, "at Your presence" in Verse 3 should be translated, "from your presence." This verse is probably alluded to in 2 Thessalonians 1:9.

9 These shall be punished with everlasting destruction **from the presence** of the Lord and from the glory of His power, 10 when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

- 4 For You have maintained my right and my cause;  
You sat on the throne judging in righteousness.  
5 You have rebuked the nations,  
You have destroyed the wicked;  
You have blotted out their name forever and ever.  
6 O enemy, destructions are finished forever!  
And you have destroyed cities;  
Even their memory has perished.  
7 But the LORD shall endure forever;  
He has prepared His throne for judgment.  
8 He shall judge the world in righteousness,  
And He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness.  
9 The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed,  
A refuge in times of trouble.  
10 And those who know Your name will put their trust in You;  
For You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.

The Antichrist, his followers, Armageddon and the judgment seat of Christ are all clearly in view in this passage.

*"You sat on the throne judging in righteousness"* is the judgment seat of Christ, the judgment He executes when He *"sits on the throne of His glory"* (Matthew 25). It is mentioned again in Verse 7.

The word for *"the wicked"* in verse 5 is in the masculine singular. It may be translated *"the wicked one"* or *"the man of sin"* and refers to the Antichrist. *"The nations"* includes those who follow him to destruction.

The Antichrist is specifically addressed in verse 6 with the words *"O enemy."* The word for enemy means *"one who is an adversary, one who hates, one who persecutes."* The word is used almost exclusively in Scripture to refer to the enemies and persecutors of Israel and of the saints, of whom the Antichrist is the archetype. The first time this word occurs is in Genesis 22:17, which incidentally, also refers to the just reward of Israel's enemies.

*"... blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of **their enemies.**"*

The Antichrist is further addressed with the words, *"...destructions are finished forever!"* The work of the enemy – the Antichrist – is destruction. He will be a destroyer of entire cities. But his destruction (the destruction he causes) will be brought to an abrupt end.

The *"throne"* in Verse 5 is mentioned again in verse 7. It is *"the throne of His glory"* upon which the Messiah will sit for judgment at His second coming. The Lord Himself spoke of this throne and this judgment of the nations with these words.

*31 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. Matthew 25"*

This righteous judgment will literally take place on a specific day, a day which draws ever closer with the passing of time. The apostles believed strongly enough in this day that it formed the substance of their warnings to men to repent.

*30 "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, 31 because **He has appointed a day on***

**which He will judge the world in righteousness** by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.” Acts 17

On that day He will be a refuge for the oppressed and for those who trust in Him. But He will destroy the wicked and the impenitent.

*11 Sing praises to the LORD, who dwells in Zion!  
Declare His deeds among the people.  
12 When He avenges blood, He remembers them;  
He does not forget the cry of the humble.  
13 Have mercy on me, O LORD!  
Consider my trouble from those who hate me,  
You who lift me up from the gates of death,  
14 That I may tell of all Your praise  
In the gates of the daughter of Zion.  
I will rejoice in Your salvation.*

As always, we are amazed at the perfect harmony with which the details of the prophetic Scriptures fit together. When the Lord returns to dwell with His people, Zion (Jerusalem) will be the place of His dwelling. This simple truth is repeated many times in Scripture.

*In Salem also is His tabernacle, And His dwelling place in Zion. Psalm 76:2*

*The LORD loves the gates of Zion More than all the dwellings of Jacob.  
Psalm 87:2*

*For the LORD has chosen Zion; He has desired it for His dwelling place.  
Psalm 132:13*

*Blessed be the LORD out of Zion, Who dwells in Jerusalem! Praise the LORD!  
Psalm 135:21*

*“ So you shall know that I am the LORD your God, dwelling in Zion My holy mountain. Then Jerusalem shall be holy, And no aliens shall ever pass through her again.” Joel 3:17*

*“Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion! For behold, I am coming and I will dwell in your midst,” says the LORD. Zechariah 2:10*

*“Thus says the LORD: ‘ I will return to Zion, And dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth, The Mountain of the LORD of hosts, The Holy Mountain.’ Zechariah 8:3*

*Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads. Revelation 14:1*

*15 The nations have sunk down in the pit which they made;  
In the net which they hid, their own foot is caught.  
16 The LORD is known by the judgment He executes;  
The wicked is snared in the work of his own hands.  
17 The wicked shall be turned into hell,  
And all the nations that forget God.  
18 For the needy shall not always be forgotten;  
The expectation of the poor shall not perish forever.  
19 Arise, O LORD,  
Do not let man prevail;  
Let the nations be judged in Your sight.  
20 Put them in fear, O LORD,  
That the nations may know themselves to be but men. Selah*

The remainder of this Psalm continues the theme of judgment on the nations. Notice the expression, "Arise, O Lord" in verse 19, which we have previously identified as an eschatological expression referring to the second coming of Christ. The only other thing we wish to emphasize here is the doctrine of **Retribution**. The doctrine of final judgment is the doctrine of retribution. During the present age, we routinely see injustice and cruelty. The wicked and bloodthirsty prevail over the innocent. God will remember every single act of injustice, brutality and cruelty. God Himself will execute vengeance against every oppressor on behalf of the weak and the poor. We will see much more of this as we progress through the Psalms and in particular, in the next.