**Christ in the Books of Psalms and Proverbs**

1. How many psalms are about Jesus (messianic)?
   1. Bruce Waltke goes on to say this: “The specific predictions of the Psalms that find their fulfillment in Jesus Christ combined with the use of the Psalter in the New Testament suggest that the entire Psalter pertains to Jesus Christ and his Church.”
   2. Augustine, “The voice of Christ and His Church is well-nigh the only voice to be heard in the Psalms.”
   3. Martin Luther, “[The Psalms should be] precious and dear to us if only because it most clearly promises the death and resurrection of Christ, and describes his kingdom.”
   4. William Horsley, “There is not a page of this Book of Psalms in which the pious reader will not find his Savior.”
2. The Psalms are about Christ
   1. Luke 24:44: “Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."
   2. Christ’s humiliation
      1. Crucifixion (Ps. 22)
      2. Rejection (Ps. 35:19-21)
      3. Christ’s obedience (Ps. 40:6-10)
   3. Christ’s glory
      1. Resurrection (Ps. 16:8-11)
      2. Christ’s ascension (Ps. 110:1-4)
      3. Christ’s final judgment of the nations (Ps. 110:5-6)
      4. Christ’s kingdom and everlasting reign (Ps. 2:8)
3. Praying/singing the Psalms with Jesus
   1. Union with Christ
      1. Blessed with every spiritual blessing in Christ (Eph 1:3)
      2. Buried with him and raised to newness of life (Rom 6:4)
      3. Union with him in his suffering and glory
         1. Humiliation/suffering: 2 Timothy 3:12
         2. Exaltation/glory: Romans 8:18, 35-39
   2. Summary: “Finding Jesus in the Psalms is not simply about the prophecies of his work in the line or in that line. We find Jesus in the Psalms by hearing his voice leading our praise in every line” (Michael Lefevbre, *Singing the Songs of Jesus*).
4. Christ in the book of Proverbs: Overview
   1. Overview: a book about practically godly wisdom rooted in the fear of the Lord.
5. Four ways Proverbs points us to Christ
   1. #1: As applications of the Ten Commandments, proverbs point us to Christ.
      1. Proverbs 11:1 🡪 8th commandment
      2. Proverbs 11:9 🡪 6th commandment
         1. “If the Ten Commandments are like ten blinding spotlights, the proverbs are like hundreds of burning lasers, targeting our sins more specifically and painfully.”
   2. #2:The book of Proverbs reveals the perfect wisdom of Christ
      1. Jesus lives out the wisdom of Proverbs
   3. #3: The wisdom we are called to choose in Proverbs is Jesus Christ (8:27-35)
      1. Wisdom personified in Proverbs 8
         1. The distinct identity of the Son from the Father (8:27)
         2. The eternality of the Son (8:27-30)
         3. The Son’s active involvement in creation (8:30)
         4. The Father’s delight in his beloved Son (8:30)
         5. The Son’s delight in God’s creation, especially man as its crown (8:31)
         6. Knowing the Son is life; rejecting the Son brings death (8:32-36)
      2. New Testament support
         1. Christ is the wisdom from God (1 Corinthians 1:24, 30)
         2. In Christ are all the treasures of knowledge and wisdom (Colossians 2:3)
         3. Jesus associates himself with Lady Wisdom (Matthew 11:18-19)
   4. #4: Proverbs and evangelizing for Christ
      1. Lady folly vs. Lady Wisdom
      2. Wisdom cries aloud in the streets, calling men and women to come and eat at her table.

**Christ in the Psalms[[1]](#footnote-1)**

✧ deity: Psalms 8:4–6; 27; 45:6–7; 102:25–26; 104:4 (Heb. 1:5–2:9)

✧ incarnation: Psalms 22:9–10; 40:6–8; 98 (Heb. 10:5–7)

✧ adoration of the magi: Psalm 72:9–15 (Matt. 2:1–11)

✧ baptism: Psalm 2:7–8 (Mark 1:9–11)

✧ temptation: Psalm 91:11–12 (Matt. 4:1–11)

✧ministry: Psalm 146:7–9 (Luke 4:16–26)

✧ obedience: Psalm 40:6–10 (Heb. 2:10; 10:5–7)

✧ teaching: Psalm 78:1–6 (Matt. 13:34–35)

✧ triumphal entry: Psalm 118:20–29 (Matt. 21:1–11)

✧ cleansing of the temple: Psalm 69:9 (John 2:13–17; Matt. 21:12–17)

✧ betrayal: Psalm 41:7–9 (John 13:12–30; cf. Ps. 55:12–14)

✧ rejection: Psalm 35:19–21 (John 15:18–27)

✧ trial and mocking: Psalm 69:17–21 (Matt. 27:24–34)

✧ cruciﬁxion: Psalm 22:13–18 (John 19:17–24)

✧ insults: Psalm 22:6–8 (Matt. 27:35–44)

✧ forsaken: Psalm 22:1–3 (Matt. 27:45–49)

✧ committal: Psalm 31:1–5 (Luke 23:46–49)

✧ death: Psalm 34:15–20 (John 19:28–37)

✧ resurrection: Psalm 16:8–11 (Acts 2:22–32)

✧ ascension: Psalm 110 (Acts 2:33–36)

1. Terry L. Johnson, <http://hymnal.ws/public/Restoring%20Psalm%20Singing%20to%20our%20Worship.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)