

Zion's King Shall Reign Victorious! - 21

We have seen how the promise was fulfilled in God's covenant with David, "in his (bearing* of) iniquity I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. 15 But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul..." - 2 Samuel 7:14.

Isaiah foresaw how these blows would fall on Jesus - "Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed... * the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" - Isaiah 53:4-6.

God removed His mercy from Saul because he would rather cater to the demands of his subjects than obey the commandments of God - 1 Samuel 15:23. But the mercy of God did not depart from Jesus because "in the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission" - Hebrews 5:7 NRS.

The contrast of the character of Christ with that of Saul is seen in the Messianic psalm - "I have set the Lord always before me; Because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved. 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope. 10 For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. 11 You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore" - Psalms 16:8-11.

The psalm which we saw earlier commented on the covenant with David, declared of David's promised Seed, "I will make him MY FIRSTBORN, The highest of the kings of the earth. 28 My mercy I will keep for him forever, And My covenant shall stand firm with him. 29 His SEED also I will make to endure forever, And HIS THRONE as the days of heaven" - Psa 89:27-29.

This cannot be made to refer to Solomon, because "The Lord became angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned from the Lord God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice, 10 and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not keep what the Lord had commanded."

11 "Therefore the Lord said to Solomon, 'Because you have done this, and have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom away from you and give it to your servant'." - 1 Kings 11:9-11.

But Paul declared of Jesus,

- "He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence" - Colossians 1:18, and -
- "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow..." - Philippians 2:9-10.

However, Jesus has not yet fulfilled all the conditions of the covenant made with David. Peter, preaching on the day of Pentecost, referred to God's covenant with David, "... God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne" - Acts 2:30.