Christ in the Psalms

How is Luke 24:44-49 realized in the Psalms?

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The Bible Is Christ-Centered

Luke 24:25-27: ... And beginning with <u>Moses and all the Prophets</u>, he interpreted to them <u>in all the Scriptures the things</u> <u>concerning himself</u>.

The Bible Is Christ-Centered

Luke 24:25 And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" 27 And beginning with Moses and all the <u>Prophets</u>, he interpreted to them <u>in all the</u> Scriptures the things concerning himself.

Pervasive Witness

all canon



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." 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

Main Theme of OT

summary

international focus of Acts is in the OT

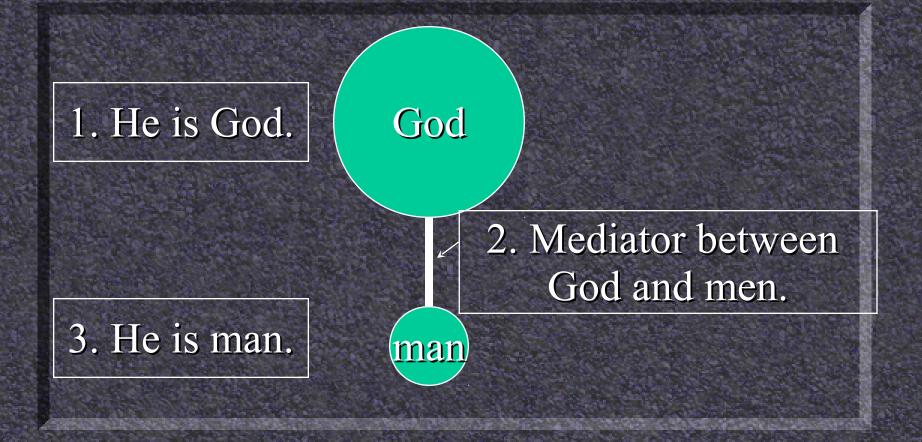
46 and said to them, "Thus is it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem."

Other Passages about Christocentricity

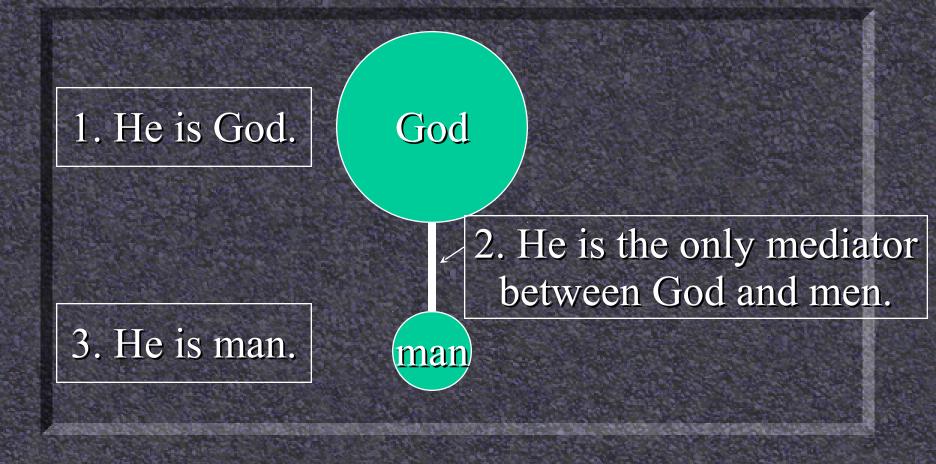
- 2 Cor. 1:20
- 1 Pet. 1:10-12
- John 5:39; 5:46-47; 8:56
- Matthew

1. Functions of Christ in the Old Testament

Christ as God and Man



Christ as God and Man



Christ as Speaker

- Christ is God.
- The Bible is God's speech.
- Speech of all three Persons.
- Christ speaks every word.
- Christ speaks the Psalms.

Easy and direct!

Christ as Speaker

- Christ is God.
- The Bible as <u>God's</u> word is the speech of all three Persons of the Trinity.
- In particular, Christ speaks every word.
- Christ speaks the Psalms.

Easy and direct!

Christ as Mediator

- Christ is the only mediator (1 Tim. 2:5).
- OT mediatorial figures prefigure Christ.
- Included are
 - prophets,
 - kings,
 - priests,
 - Levitical singers,
 - wise men.

Christ as Mediator

- Christ is the only mediator between God and man (1 Tim. 2:5).
- Mediatorial figures in the OT prefigure Christ's mediatorial work.
- Included are
 - prophets, kings, priests,
 - Levitical singers, wise men.

Christ Is Representative Man

- Christ is a human being.
- Like Adam, he is representative.
- Christ as a man hears OT.
- Christ with Israelites sings the psalms (Heb. 2:12).

Sometimes forgotten.

Christ Is Representative Man

- Christ is a human being.
- Like Adam, he is the representative for many.
- Christ as a man hears and appropriates for himself the words of the OT.
- Israelites are invited to sing and meditate on the psalms. Christ is the preeminent singer (Heb. 2:12).

Christ as Singer

Hebrews 2:12: "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise."

(Quoted from Ps. 22:22.)

• Hebrews 2 interprets "I" as applying to Christ.

2. Christ in Psalm 23

Christ Is Divine Author

Christ speaks and teaches Psalm 23.
To human author, then to all.
He declares that <u>God</u> is the Shepherd.

Christ Is Divine Author

 Christ speaks and teaches Psalm 23 first of all to the human author, then to all God's people.

• He declares that <u>God</u> is the Shepherd.

Christ Is Mediatorial Shepherd

Christ mediates divine shepherding.

- In John 10, Christ is "the good shepherd."
- John 10 fulfills Psalm 23.

Christ Is Mediatorial Shepherd

- Christ mediates the divine shepherding presence of God, as promised in the psalm.
- In John 10, Christ is "the good shepherd," fulfilling Psalm 23.

Christ Is a Human "Sheep"

• On earth, Christ trusts in the Father. The LORD is my shepherd, I He receives shall not want. 2 He makes me lie the Spirit down in green pastures. He leads spiritual me beside quiet waters. 3 He prosperity restores my soul. He leads me in perfect paths of righteousness for his righteousness name's sake.

Christ Is a Human "Sheep"

• In his earthly life, Christ trusts in the Father and receives his shepherding care.

He receives the Spirit spiritual prosperity

perfect righteousness The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside quiet waters. 3 He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Christ's Inheritance as "Sheep"

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your vindication staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a from enemies table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; rich blessing my cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and love of God mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever. eternal life

presence of God

rescue

from death

3. Christ in Psalm 22

Participation in Psalm 22

David experienced distress

All OT worshipers participate

culmination of distress in Christ

A regular pattern

All NT worshipers participate

Stages in Psalm 22

Lament (1-2)Expression of confidence (3-5) Lament (6-8)Trust and prayer for deliverance (9-11) Lament (12-18) Deliverance (19-21) Thanksgiving (22-31)

Being Forsaken (1-2)

(1).



OT worshipers

Christ

"My God, my God, why have you <u>forsaken</u> me?"

Pattern of suffering



Expressing Confidence (3-5)

David

OT worshipers

NT worshipers

Christ

"Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel." (3)

"In you our fathers trusted; they <u>trusted</u>, and you delivered them." (4)

Past Intimacy (9-11)

David



Christ

"Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts." (9)



Thanksgiving (22-31)

David

OT worshipers

Christ

NT worshipers

"From you comes <u>my praise</u> in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him." (25).

A pattern of thanks

Salvation Spreads (27-31)

OT worshipers

Christ

David



"All the ends of the <u>earth</u> shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the <u>nations</u> shall worship before you." (27)

Psalm 22 as a Model Psalm

• Psalm 22 contains distinct moods. • Moods can be expanded. • Whole psalms have a dominant mood: -lament (groaning) - confidence (trust) -request (cry for deliverance) - thanksgiving (praise for deliverance)

Psalm 22 as a Model Psalm

Psalm 22 contains elements that can be expanded to produce whole psalms with a dominant mood:
– lament (groaning)
– confidence (trust)

- request (cry for deliverance)
- thanksgiving (praise for deliverance)

4. The General Pattern of Christ's Suffering and Glory

Emotional Expression in Psalms

<u>Depths</u>: suffering, groaning (lament)

<u>Heights</u>: exaltation, deliverance (thanksgiving, praise)

<u>Reflection</u>: recital, meditation (wisdom, history)

Christ as Man

- Christ shares in humanity.
- He shares in emotional life.
- He <u>represents</u> pure emotional life.
- He is <u>perfect</u>, <u>representative</u> man.

"Was it not necessary that the Christ should <u>suffer</u> these things and enter into his <u>glory</u>?" (Luke 24:26).

Christ as Man

- Christ shares in humanity.
- He shares in emotional life.
- He expresses emotional life with supreme intensity and purity, as <u>perfect</u> and <u>representative</u> man.

"Was it not necessary that the Christ should <u>suffer</u> these things and enter into his <u>glory</u>?" (Luke 24:26).

Emotional Expression in Christ

<u>Depths</u>: supreme suffering (crucifixion)

<u>Heights</u>: supreme triumph (exaltation)

<u>Reflection</u>: supreme wisdom (divine council) Fulfillment in Christ

Types of Psalms

- Trust
- Lament
- Thanksgiving
- Songs of Zion
- Royal psalms
- Praise; Wisdom

- Earthly life
- Crucifixion
- Resurrection
- Ascension
- Session
- Session,
 Sending the Spirit

Psalms of Confession

• Psalms confess sin (Pss. 32, 51).

- But Christ was sinless (Heb. 4:15).
- Ps. 69 contains both confession (verse 5) and Christ (verses 9, 21).

Christ is the perfect priestly confessor on our behalf.

Psalms of Confession

- Psalms confessing sin (Pss. 32, 51) are an exception because Christ was sinless (Heb. 4:15).
- But Ps. 69 contains both confession (verse 5) and elements alluded to in the NT with reference to Christ (verses 9, 21).

Christ is the perfect priestly confessor on our behalf.