

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

1. What do you find yourself daydreaming about most often on an average day? How could the truth of Jesus being our righteous king effect your daily musings?
2. Psalm 45 captures the joy of a king you want to obey merged together with a husband-king on your wedding day. Consider discussing this rich theme with a brother or sister this week.
3. In what way has today's text challenged you to change your thinking? In what ways has your expectations been too high or too low?
4. While the truth of the good news is not built on our feelings, why is it still important to ask, "how are you feeling about belonging to Jesus?" (Do you think the fruit of joy is important?)
5. As we think about the whole "Good News" story, what part of that story was being emphasized in this week's text?
6. How does it help our confidence in our salvation to learn that Jesus never changes?



Sunday, July 12, 2020

The Joyful Hope of a Royal Wedding

Hebrews 1:8-12

Longing for Principled Leaders

Presidents, Legislators, & Judges

Proverbs 29:2, 4

² When the righteous increase, the people rejoice, but when the wicked rule, the people groan. ...

⁴ By justice a king builds up the land, but he who exacts gifts tears it down.

Husbands & Fathers

• No Fault Divorce!?

"David Blankenhorn writes,

The United States is becoming an increasingly fatherless society. A generation ago, an American child could reasonably expect to grow up with his or her father. Today, an American child can reasonably expect not to. Fatherlessness is now approaching a rough parity with fatherhood as a defining feature of American childhood."ⁱ

The Joy of a Husband & a King!**1 Corinthians 2:9**

⁹ But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, *what God has prepared for those who love him*"—

Meditate Again on the Divinity of Jesus

⁸ **But of the Son he says**, (Psalm 45:6–9, Messianic Royal Wedding)

"Your throne, **O God**, is forever and ever,
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.

⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore **God, your God**, has anointed you
with **the oil of gladness** beyond your companions."

¹⁰ **And**, (Psalm 102:25-27, Lament...Promised Future)

"**You, Lord**, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹ they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like a garment,

¹² like a robe you will roll them up,
like a garment they will be changed.

But you are the same,
and your years will have no end."

ⁱ Wilson, Douglas. Father Hunger (p. 19). Thomas Nelson. Kindle Edition. David Blankenhorn, Fatherless in America (New York: HarperCollins, 1995), 1.

I want us to celebrate our unbreakable betrothal to Jesus who is the eternal God-king.

Enter into the Joy of Our Royal Wedding – Psalm 45

I. Understanding the Wedding Procession (Ps. 45:1-9 & 10-17)

TO THE CHOIRMASTER: ACCORDING TO LILIES. A MASKIL OF THE SONS OF KORAH; A LOVE SONG.

II. Consider the Joy Granted to Our Husband

A. Consider the Joy of a Righteous King

Psalm 45:6–9

⁶ *Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.* The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness; ⁷ you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness. Therefore **God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;**



B. Consider the Joy of the Bride of a Righteous King

⁸ your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia. From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad; ⁹ daughters of kings are among your *ladies of honor*; **at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.**



¹⁰ **Hear, O daughter**, and consider, and incline your ear: forget your people and your father's house, ¹¹ and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him. ... ¹⁵ *With joy and gladness* they are led along as they enter the palace of the king. ...¹⁶ In place of your fathers shall be your sons; you will make them princes in all the earth. ¹⁷ **I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations**; therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

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Enter into the Hope of an Unchangeable (Husband) – Psalm 102

I. Focus Our Attention on the Future (Consistent w/ Hebrews)

Hebrews 2:1–3a, 5

Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. ...

³ how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? ...

⁵ For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking.

II. We Are in Need of Hope for Endurance

Psalm 102 is a Lament

A PRAYER OF ONE AFFLICTED, WHEN HE IS FAINT AND POURS OUT HIS COMPLAINT BEFORE THE LORD.

¹ Hear my prayer, O Lord; let my cry come to you! ² Do not hide your face from me *in the day of my distress!* Incline your ear to me; answer me speedily in the day when I call! ³ **For my days pass away like smoke**, and my bones burn like a furnace.

III. Root Your Hope in Our Unchangeable Husband

Psalm 102:16–28

¹⁶ For the **LORD** builds up Zion; he appears in his glory; ¹⁷ **he regards the prayer of the destitute and does not despise their prayer.** ¹⁸ Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet to be created may praise the **LORD**: ¹⁹ that he looked down from his holy height; from heaven the **LORD** looked at the earth, ²⁰ to hear the groans of the prisoners, **to set free those who were doomed to die**, ²¹ that they may declare in Zion the name of the **LORD**, and in Jerusalem his praise, ²² when peoples gather together, and kingdoms, to worship the **LORD**. ²³ **He** has broken my strength in midcourse; **he** has shortened my days. ²⁴ **“O my God,”** I say, “take me not away in the midst of my days— **you** whose years endure throughout all generations!” ²⁵ Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of **your** hands. ²⁶ **They will perish, but you will remain**; they will all wear out like a garment. **You** will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, ²⁷ but **you are the same**, and your years have no end. ²⁸ **The children of your servants shall dwell secure**; their offspring shall be established before you.



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Pay More Attention to Jesus... For Joy & Security

- I. Remind Each Other of this Joy and Security...Endurance
 - A. Security: Our Imperishable Inheritance (1 Peter 1:3–5)
 - B. Joy: A Better Desire (2 Peter 1:3–4)

- II. Remember this Joy when Witnessing (e.g. **Jesus at the Wedding in Cana** – John 2:1–11)

