



Lesson 6 January 11th, 2025

The Lord Is Robed in Majesty

Study Scripture – Psalm 93

Background Scripture – Psalm 93

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

Key Verse:

“The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, wherewith he hath girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved.”

Psalm 93:1

INTRODUCTION

Do you believe that the stately and grand looking processions at royal events and church events look great? You know that these processions of dignified and well-dressed persons with crown on their head and with expensive jewellery or ornate pieces designating their authority and positions are set up to impress you.

But they are pale resemblances to the real power and authority. They try to look impressive, but you know that all of them are just frail and weak human beings, and they get sick and are helpless, and they die one after another.

Human beings whether they are kings, princes, or princesses, Presidents and Prime ministers, Church officials and other dignitaries often create these grand processions at coronations weddings or funerals, walking in dignified fashion and style, or riding in elegant and well decorated carriages, or riding powerful looking horses to make you think they are what they are not. They dress in stately looking robes or elegant suits and dresses.

But no matter what they do you know they are just ordinary men and women trying to make you think they are something great.

But they all suffer, get sick and die like the rest of us. They are not really great though they try to create systems to elevate themselves and give us a spectacle we might enjoy.

But as human beings they all are very limited in what they do. The great looks do not last long, and you soon forget what they have done until they stage the next charade.

But there is a real power, and a real grand procession, with unimaginable beauty and grace. This can only happen when God is present.

We know for example that when King Solomon builds that great Temple in Jerusalem with gold, silver, precious metals, and expensive wood and elaborate curtains, it only became something of grandeur when the glory of God came and filled that building. It might have looked good before, but the presence of God transformed it in a way human beings could not.

Our Study focuses you on what real glory is and the only way that real beauty and power and grandeur can be displayed. This is when the LORD reigns and shows His glory. This can only happen when government is set up the way He wants. This form of government is shown in its magnificence when the LORD rules and reigns for all to see. It is called a theocracy. It is unlike what human beings like to create.

“Psalm 93 describes a theocracy, as do the seven psalms that follow it. The words Yahwehmelek (‘Jehovah reigns’ or ‘Jehovah is king’) are the watchwords of these theocratic psalms.” (James Montgomery Boice)

We are now examining ideas which are out of the realm of human beings for our Study is on a Psalm which describes the Lord God as the Creator and Sustainer of His creation, We are taught that the world was firmly established for eternity by a decision made by the Lord God in eternity. The Psalms later therefore stresses the majesty and strength of the Lord God, and it then leaves the realm of human beings to point to powerful angelic beings which serve this Lord God and do His bidding.

The intense and frightening power of nature with its violent weather changes, earthquakes and churning waters and pounding waves over which man has no control and which presents a limit for mankind come under the control of this Mighty God.

The Psalms, the music of the King therefore rejects any other claim to sovereignty, for the rule of God laughs at the conflict that will arise as the nations tremble at this reign of God.

Note there are powerful implications to the rule and reign of the LORD.

We therefore face a succession of the pounding of this idea about the Lord God for there is emphasis that there is no word or action that can challenge this rule of the Lord God with any hope of success.

Therefore Psalm 96:10 will shout, *“Say among the nations, “The LORD reigns; The world also is firmly established, It shall not be moved; He will judge the people righteously”.*

And again in Psalm 97:1
*“The LORD reigns;
Let the earth rejoice;
Let the multitude of the isles be glad!”*

And again in Psalm 99:1
*“The LORD reigns;
Let the people tremble!
He dwells between the cherubim;
Let the earth be moved”.*



The Oxford Dictionary defines the word “Majesty” as:

1. Impressive beauty, scale, or stateliness. Similar dignity, pomp, solemnity, grandeur
2. Royal power...Similar sovereignty, authority, power, dominion, supremacy.

Another Dictionary comments on how the Bible states this matter biblically:

“The word translated “majestic” is a superlative meaning “mightier than everything else’.

By combining these three terms, David celebrates the supreme power of God over everything. He declares from the beginning that God has no rival. He is subject to no other power, and He reigns supreme. God has no rival.”.

This LORD is therefore not simply clothed with the emblems of majesty but one scholar points out The LORD literally according to the language is clothed with majesty itself.

There is no sense in honouring false gods even though the results might be temporarily impressive. Economies grow and they diminish in strength. Human beings come up with new ideas which are impressive and become prominent but often they become incapable of solving everything that they claim they can solve. Problems pop up and they are no longer revolutionary ideas which can solve many problems.

We therefore must understand that the impressive sounding word ‘scientific method’ and the word science itself changes over time and science is not a stable structure. What was regarded as science 100 years ago or even a decade ago is often no longer a dependable way of thinking.

Men are always being forced to rethink their former ideas about the universe and about matter as they make new discoveries. But they have ‘faith’ in what is called ‘science’ even though it is an unstable entity.

Do not be fooled. Scientists have faith. Their ‘faith’ is as powerful as what religious persons call ‘faith’ even though they will assume quite falsely their kind of ‘faith’ is of a superior kind. Empires always decay. Ideas always get stale.

There is no Pharaoh, Caesar, Emperor, CEO, President or Priest that is sovereign. There is no lasting throne in the ever-changing capitals of the world.

The LORD reigns. Only He reigns. So David can say in Psalm 94:2-7, “*Rise up, O Judge of the earth*”.

THE TEXT

Verse 1. In the beginning of this verse, we see the author declaring in a wondrous manner that Yahweh rule, or the LORD rules. This is meant for the readers of the Psalm to understand who they consider as their God. It puts the covenant keeping God, the LORD God of Israel, as the only true God, the sovereign God, over every idol and pretender that exists in human history. There is no ambiguity here in the affirmation that the LORD reigns in glory, and no other deity. So pay special attention to this:

Theocracy is an expression coined by Josephus. In contrast with the monarchical, oligarchical, and democratic form of government of other nations...The coining of the expression is thankworthy... The alternating forms of government were only various modes of its adjustment. The theocracy itself is a reciprocal relationship between God and men...Hence the theocracy is an object of prediction and of hope. (Keil & Delitzsch)



God's throne stands exalted above all dominions that might exist from this present time to the beginning of time. Our God moves outside the immemorial and the immeasurable. The throne and nature of the LORD of Israel are not incipient in time, and therefore too are not perishable; but as without beginning, so also they are endless, infinite in duration. As His creation, we should understand that He is the owner and proprietor of all persons and everything in existence, and all of it should proclaim God's dominion. He is the God of right, He is a sovereign God, and He will direct and dispose of all the creatures and all their actions according to the counsel of His own will. This Psalm and the next seven psalms demonstrate this.

The LORD reigns gloriously and powerfully.

When speaking of God we sometimes separate these qualities of God, but they exist in Him in the fullest measure and are not separate, but help us to get some understanding of who God is.

The LORD reigns gloriously; it mentions that He is clothed with majesty.

“Majesty is a hard idea to define, but it has to do with dignity, authority of sovereign power, stateliness, and grandeur. It is the proper characteristic of earthly monarchs, who have often gone to great lengths to enhance the impression of their majesty by multiplications of trappings of power. But it is supremely the attribute of him who is the Monarch overall and who does not need to multiply the trappings of his power.” [Boice]

You cannot compare God to anything on Earth or in heaven. However, we may be able to get the slightest bit of insight into how far God is from us. We can compare the best and well-dressed individual on the planet, and even that image is as if they have on the filthiest rags possible, or *like the glimmerings of a glow-worm compared with the brightness of the sun when he goes forth in his strength [Matthew Henry]*.

With this glimpse of understanding we should appreciate that we should only fear God, and not any earthly or heavenly enemy of God, as His majesty eclipses theirs.

The LORD reigns powerfully; as mentioned He is clothed with strength, honour and with armour with the robe, as the best, greatest and only general in the camp fit to lead His people. The supreme ruler with His soldiers in the midst of the battle, He displays His greatness and formidability for all to see, to encourage those that serve Him, and to convict those that do not serve Him.

In His power alone, He has dressed Himself fit to show He rules and leads His armies. This power comes not from an outside source, nor is it dependent on anything, but He has it of Himself and with that does whatsoever He pleases.

With that said, we, His creation, His children should not fear the power of man, as this is but power that is borrowed and bounded; it is the LORD who we should fear as He has the power to kill and cast all that oppose Him into Hell. Charles Spurgeon therefore comforts us:

“What should give greater joy to a loyal subject than a sight of the king in his beauty Let us repeat the proclamation, *“the Lord reigneth”*, whispering it in the ears of the desponding, and publishing it in the face of the foe”.



As a testament of His great power and ability, God has established the Earth. He had made it and sustained it. But He has also created rules in how the Universe works and how the Earth survives within this Universe.

Notice, God's majesty is not only limited to who He is, but it is also seen in what He does. Notice it speaks of nature, yet this aspect of nature is under the control of God. How the seas move, the earth or ground is on the planet, He even controls how the moon effects the Earth. God is in control and is sovereign.

Even though God is high and lifted up, He reigns in majesty, He still acts as the caretaker for the lower world and to settle its affairs. He has set rules to govern the world, the universe, and He has also set rules for His church, and it will not be moved from His direction.

Verse 2. As the majestic God, He is described as being clothed in garments of majesty and strength. All around God shows that He is.

God's right to rule is in the fact He created everything and sustains everything. God's right to rule the world is because He founded it. To make it clear, He, the LORD, holds the deed to the world, and so only He has the right to the government of it, and it cannot be successfully challenged, as no one else has the knowledge, power and ability to do what He has done, and continues to do.

As mentioned in Gen. 1:31, what God has made is perfect, and without a flaw in it. It was established from a very long time ago, and even the way it should function, how rules and principalities, and powers shall run it were set up from the beginning, but still under His control (1 Cor. 15:24,25).

Clearly, the point here is that there will exist others who will challenge God's authority, but it should be known that they do not have the slightest chance of success, God will reign supreme.

"Earthly thrones are temporary; they are set up and cast down against, neither is any trust to be reposed in them. But the throne of Christ is eternal and unchangeable. Constituted before the foundation of the world, it is to endure when no traces of such a system having once existed shall any more be found." [Horne]

God's eternal authority extends to His very being. He is eternal in a sense none other is; His life is without a beginning and without an ending. In these and in other ways, God stands majestically above and beyond His creation. As such, His throne, His counsel, and all His determinations are everlasting, because from an eternal mind are eternal thoughts and actions birthed.

"There never was a time in which God did not reign, in which he was not a supreme and absolute Monarch; for he is from everlasting. There never was a time in which he was not; there never can be a period in which he shall cease to exist." [Clarke]

Verse 3. In the world, there may be strong things (Ps. 2:1 – 4) that seem to oppose God. For instance there are strong winds that buffet the land and reshape all structures that are on top of the land, or waters on the surface of the Earth, that when unbridled seem to be unstoppable and unsparing in its destruction. It is in this last example that the writer of Psalm uses to show once again, God's majesty.

As fearsome and powerful as the waves of the sea are, or the waters that move upon the earth, they are not stronger or higher than God. To ancient people these stand for chaos.



They remind us of the earth in Genesis 2 in its intensely frightening state that only the Lord God could form to suit His purposes.

It uses these waters as a metaphor of those who would challenge God (Isa 57:20, 21). And as such, God reigns over all that might challenge or oppose Him, He reigns over the mightiest things on Earth.

“Observe that the Psalmist turns to the Lord when he sees the billows foam, and hears the breakers roar; he does not waste his breath by talking to the waves, or to violent men.”
[Spurgeon]

“The sea with its mighty mass of waters, with the constant unrest of its waves, with its ceaseless pressing against the solid land and foaming against the rocks, is an emblem of the Gentile world alienated from and at enmity with God.” [Delitzsch, cited in Boice]

Interestingly, the voice of God is pictured as sounding like many waters.

Verse 4. Every child of God should rest in the knowledge that God is mightier than all that would oppose Him.

God is on high, meaning He is higher than them, He reigns in a place of safety, and we will be with Him, in eternity one day.

For all their efforts of men, God will teach them all His ways and make them to understand why they will always bow down to Him (Ex. 18:20 & Ps. 29:10).

The world, or the rulers in it cannot disturb God's rest or rule; they cannot defeat His designs and purposes. It might seem in these verses that the power of the church's enemies is as the noise of many waters; there is more of sound than substance in it.

Pharaoh, the king of Egypt is but a noise, Jeremiah 46 17.

God is mightier than all the noise that is heard. He is mighty to preserve His people's interests from being ruined by these many waters and His people's spirits from being terrified by the noise made from them.

At all points in time, God when He pleases, commands peace to the church (Ps. 65:7), and peace in the soul (Isa. 26:3). We should never forget or waver in knowing and doing well to the Father, as the unlimited sovereignty and irresistible power of the great Jehovah are very encouraging to the people of God, in reference to all the noises they meet up within this world, (Ps. 46: 1, 2).

Verse 5. All of God's people have a responsibility to their God and ought to be conscientiously pure. God is holy, and He expects His children to also be holy.

God's church is His house; it is a holy house, cleansed from sin, consecrated by God, and employed in His service.

You form God's house. The holiness of it is its beauty (nothing better becomes the saints than conformity to God's image and an entire devotedness to His honour), and it is its strength and safety.

It is this standard of holiness that exists because of God, that God's house is secure against the many waters and their noise.

Where there is purity there shall be peace. Fashions change, different seasons will bring many different trends, but God is unchanging, so that when we speak of holiness, this trait always becomes God's house and family, and those who belong to it; it is perpetually decent.



God's great being and character — His might, sovereignty, strength, and holiness — are His eternally. He is from everlasting (Psalm 93:2) and unchanging; He is forever. He will not diminish or devalue with time.

"Is all this so? Does Jehovah reign? Then let us offer the sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving. He is worthy to receive; and in our giving, there is also the receiving of the benefits of His reign which enrich and glorify our lives." [Morgan]

CONCLUSION

Always remember that the testimonies of God, His words, are sure, infallible, and unquestionably guaranteed.

God is Lord forever and that means there is no limitation to the time He reigns.

Note however human beings and nature come under the reign of the Lord God. We have to show care and concern for all of God's creation for we have a relationship to all of creation. It groans because of what man did, and creations groans for the completed redemption. We must never forget that nothing is outside of God's universal control. This control will never be shaken.

This means that the world is stable even though it may seem quite unstable sometimes.

But the decrees or commands of God and the rules He established for the earth tell us that fear and anxiety have little place in the lives of the people of God.

The sin, the trials, the world and our spiritual foes are all working together to unravel our peace and stability in God. The imagery is of the floods versus God Almighty. The floods can roar, threaten, thunder, and destroy much in their path.

But God is bigger than all of these and that it what makes the people of God have the victory.

So, are you anxious and stressed because you forget who God is, and what His capability is?

Why are you loading more burdens and troubles on your shoulders?

For rest and comfort to your heart, follow the path that David followed for he had many troubles, and he learned that there was only one way to peace. He tells us:

The LORD reigns. He is clothed with majesty.

