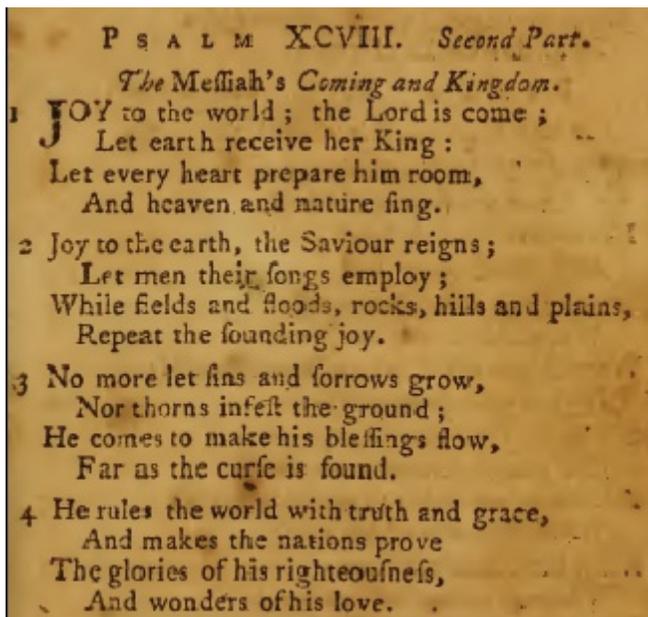


The Second Advent of Jesus Psalm 98:4-9

4 Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth; Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises. 5 Sing to the LORD with the harp, With the harp and the sound of a psalm, 6 With trumpets and the sound of a horn; Shout joyfully before the LORD, the King. 7 Let the sea roar, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell in it; 8 Let the rivers clap their hands; Let the hills be joyful together 9 before the LORD, For He is coming to judge the earth. With righteousness He shall judge the world, And the peoples with equity.

Isaac Watts wrote a hymn book of the Psalms. When he came to the last half of Psalm 98 he wrote:



Today, *Joy to the World*, is one of the favorite Christmas songs. As a matter of fact Wikipedia is more concerned to tell you what recent artists have performed it than to tell you about the author.

A clear reading of the hymn shows that it does not refer specifically to the first advent of Christ but His second advent.

As you can tell, Isaac Watts took quite a bit of latitude in forming the Hebrew Psalms to make them singable by the English speaking world. But all that he has put in is found in the original to a great degree.

The first two verses could be sung for either advent of Christ.

It is in the 3rd verse that the words no longer world for the first advent.

No more let sins and sorrows grow

I think that sins and sorrows still grow.

Nor thorns infest the ground ;

And the curse of thorns is still around

He comes to make his blessings flow.

Far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace.

And makes the nations prove

The glories of his righteousness,

And wonders of his love.

Truth and grace do not rule or we would
have no earthly rulers

Someday the glories of His righteousness
will cover the earth as waters cover the sea.
And His love will rule over all. But not now.

I. In some ways His two advents are similar.

- A. They both were predicted by prophets long ago.
- B. They both were expected by the faithful.
- C. The world is unprepared for either advent.
- D. To the world the idea is foolishness.

II. In other ways His two advents are very different.

A. In the first He came as a lamb, in the second He will come as the Lion of the tribe of Judah.

- 1. Joh 1:36 And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!"
 - a. Jesus proclaimed the mercy and longsuffering of God.
 - b. He was gentle and kind, allowing Himself to be mocked and tortured.
- 2. Re 5:5 But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals."
 - a. When He returns the time for mercy and longsuffering will be over.

B. In the first He came to be mocked and scorned, in the second every knee will bow to Him and every tongue will confess Him as Lord.

- 1. Isa 53:4 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. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. 7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is

silent, So He opened not His mouth.

2. Phil 2:9 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, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

C. In the first He came to offer mercy, in the second He will come to bring judgment and justice.

1. Mt 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
2. Re 19:15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

D. In the first He came to be a Savior, in the second He will come as a destroyer taking vengeance on those who do not know God.

1. Mt 1:21 "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."
2. 2 Thess 1:6 Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

E. In the first He came to offer peace, in the second He will rule with a rod of iron and there will be peace.

III. When Jesus returns His work will be immediate and irresistible.

- A. He will destroy this world's government systems and set one of righteousness.
- B. Sickness and disease will be no more.
- C. There will be not hungry children or abused or forgotten children.
- D. His will will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
- E. No more gangs, or political corruption and the children of East St. Louis will be able to sleep at night without fear.
- F. Sin that has ravaged this world for 6,000 years will cease.

1. Isa 11:9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD As the waters cover the sea.
- G. Satan will be bound for a 1,000 years.
1. Rev 20:1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; 3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished.
- H. No nations will have a military budget or develop weapons of any sort.
1. Mic 4:3 He shall judge between many peoples, And rebuke strong nations afar off; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war any more.
- I. Even the animal kingdom will be in harmony and the lion will eat grass with the ox.
1. Isa 65:25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, The lion shall eat straw like the ox, And dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain," Says the LORD.

I know that this world is filled with sadness and disappointment. But for the Christian this the worst we will ever have it. But for those who continue to reject the Lord Jesus Christ, this is the best they will ever have it.