

**Psalm 89:20-38 (19-37)**

This passage focuses on David as the "Anointed" or the Messiah and the blessings promised to him, and then touches on the subject of curses (verses 30-32) from Leviticus 26.

**Psalm 89:19** - "Then thou spakest in vision to thy holy one, and saidst, I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted one chosen out of the people."

"thy holy one" - really plural - "holy ones"

Rashi - Your pious ones: Nathan the prophet and Gad the seer. Others would say Samual concerning God's choice of David as king (**1 Samuel 16:1**), and Nathan concerning the perpetuity of the kingdom in David's family (**2 Samuel 7:4**).

The "mighty one that was chosen" is David, and prophetically the son of David, the Messiah.

**Psalm 89:20** - "I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him:"

I found him among the sheepfolds in humble life and anointed him with wisdom and grace from on high to qualify him for his office, with the gifts and graces of the Holy Spirit.

- **1 Samuel 16:13** - "Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward."

Paul quotes this passage in recounting the history of Israel in the synagogue in Antioch in Pisidia:

- **Acts 13:22** - "And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will."

Fulfilled in Jesus the Messiah - Christ (christened / anointed)

- **Acts 10:37-38** - "You yourselves know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee with the baptism that John proclaimed: How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him."

**Psalm 89:21-22** - "With whom my hand shall be established: mine arm also shall strengthen him. The enemy shall not exact upon him; nor the son of wickedness afflict him."

Targum: "for my hands are prepared for his help"

Septuagint: "My hand shall aid him."

Luther: "My hand shall hold him."

This passage is applied to the Messiah (Yalkut Simeoni, par. 2. fol. 56. 3.)

The enemy "shall not surprise him;" Symmachus has, "lead him astray." - deceive, oppress or afflict him

- For instance, in Jesus' temptation in the wilderness.

This is taken from God's word to Nathan for David:

- **2 Samuel 7:9-10** - "And I was with thee whithersoever thou wentest, and have cut off all thine enemies out of thy sight, and have made thee a great name, like unto the name of the great men that are in the earth. Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime,"

**Psalm 89:23** - "And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague them that hate him."

- **1 Corinthians 15:25** - "For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet."

**Psalm 89:24** - "But my faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted."

- **Luke 1:68-69** - "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, because He has visited and redeemed His people. And hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;"

**Psalm 89:25** - "I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers."

Targum: "I will set or place his government in the provinces of the sea, the power of his right hand in those that dwell by rivers"

- **Revelation 10:1** - "He (the angel) placed his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land"

From the Mediterranean Sea to the Euphrates was the boundary of the land according to ancient promise (**Deuteronomy 11:24**). But this probably signifies universal power and authority.

**Psalm 89:26** - "He shall cry unto me, Thou art my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation."

- **Psalm 2:7** - "I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee."

- **Acts 13:33** - "God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee."

- **Matthew 3:17** - "And a voice from heaven said, 'This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased!'"

**Psalm 89:27** - "Also I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth."

This passage is interpreted of the Messiah by the Jews (Shemot Rabba, s. 19. fol. 104. 4.)

- **Hebrews 1:6** - "And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him."

"he is the firstborn of every creature"; **Colossians 1:15**

"he is the firstborn among many brethren", **Romans 8:29**

"the first begotten of the dead", **Colossians 1:18**

"higher than the kings of the earth"

- **Revelation 19:16** - "And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

**Psalm 89:28-29** - "My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him. His seed also will I make to endure for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven."

Compare **Psalm 103:17** - "But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;"

- **2 Samuel 7:13** - "...I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever."

"days of heaven" taken from the Shema:

- **Deuteronomy 11:21** - "That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth."

"It shall be as unchangeable and durable as the heavens themselves, which are of an incorruptible nature." - *Matthew Poole's Commentary*

- **Isaiah 9:7** - "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this."

## Warning of Curses

This is the portion that corresponds to the curses in Leviticus 26

**Psalm 89:30-32** - "If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments; If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments; Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes."

This is also from Samuel's word to David:

- **2 Samuel 7:14** - "...If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men:"

The sins of David's descendants will bring chastisement to them, but they will not annul the promise to David and the Messiah.

## Further Promises

**Psalm 89:33-34** - "Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail. My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips."

**Psalm 89:35** - "Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David."

- **1 Samuel 15:29** - "The Strength of Israel will not lie..."

- **Hebrews 10:23** - "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised)"

**Psalm 89:36-37** - "His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me. It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah."

Targum: "and his throne light as the sun before me"

John in his vision references this:

- **Revelation 12:1** - "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:"

- **Isaiah 30:26** - "Moreover the light of the moon shall be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun shall be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day that the LORD bindeth up the breach of his people, and healeth the stroke of their wound."

- **Revelation 22:5** - "And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever."

