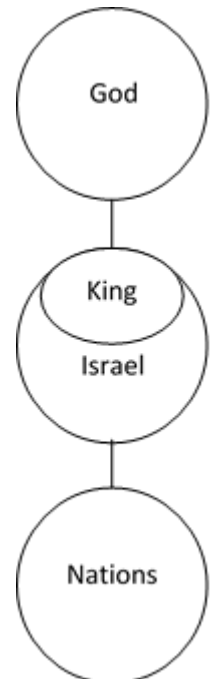

Day 1

- † Read Psalm 110:1. Several hundred years before Jesus was born, David wrote this psalm about a vision he had of a future event in Heaven. In v.1, David is talking to us. The key is to understand the difference between “the LORD” and “my Lord.” As we discussed last week with Psalm 2, when you see “the LORD” in all capitals in the Old Testament, it refers to the name God gave himself. We have lost the knowledge of how to say that name, so the convention is to translate it this way. We think God’s name might be pronounced “YAH-way,” but what is important here is that we know that “the LORD” refers to God always. “Lord” with just the first letter capitalized translates the word “Adonai,” which means “master” or “ruler.” This word can refer to God, but also can refer to someone else who is a master or ruler. In this verse, Adonai cannot refer to God, because God is talking to Adonai.
- † Read Matthew 22:41-46. While playfully stumping his religious opponents, Jesus quoted our verse in Psalm 110 and revealed that Adonai in this verse referred to the Messiah [or Christ]. Since we now know that Jesus is the Messiah [Christ], we can know that in Psalm 110.1, God the Father is talking to the Son of God.
- † Read Ephesians 1:18-20. This passage tells us that Jesus sat down at the right hand of God after his death and resurrection, when he ascended to Heaven. Read Colossians 3:1. From this verse, we see that Jesus is still sitting now, during our time period. According to Psalm 110.1, Jesus will sit until God the Father is ready for him to come back to Earth as God’s victorious king.
- † Pray that you can respect Jesus as the all-powerful and righteous ruler he is, as God the Father’s supreme representative among people and as the Son of God himself. Jesus deserves every bit of reverence from us! Jesus will return as the king of Israel, but he will rule the whole Earth through Israel, so try to begin thinking of him as your king.

Day 2

- † Read Psalm 110:1-3. In v.1, the narrator was talking to us, but in vv.2-3 he begins talking to Adonai, to Jesus. Zion is the hill where Jerusalem is built and where Psalm 2 said Jesus would reign as king. The narrator says God the Father will extend Jesus’ power and authority out from Jerusalem, to allow him to conquer his enemies. Remember, Jesus is the supreme representative of God the Father here on Earth, not only God’s one true image as man, but also God the Father’s eternal anointed King of Israel. So any enemy of God the Father is an enemy of Jesus, and vice versa. V.3 suggests that when Jesus returns, his army of believers will be vigorous, numerous, and a blessing from God the Father.
- † So, when the time is right, God the Father will send Christ the Son back to Earth, to rule on his behalf as the anointed King of Israel, his representative to the whole world. And then Jesus will bring justice to the whole earth.
- † Pray that you can take comfort in knowing that God has a plan to establish justice, that the apparent chaos in the world is not a surprise to him. Try to trust in God’s plan and in Christ’s judgment.



Day 3

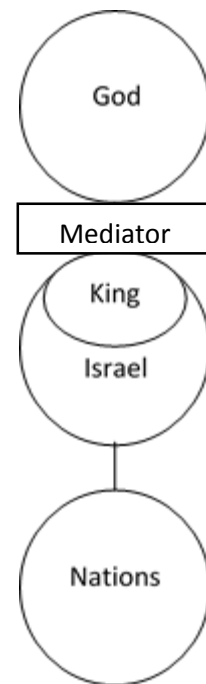
- † Read Psalm 110:4. In v.4, the narrator is still talking to Adonai, or Jesus. He says that God the Father has sworn that Jesus is a priest. This is significant, since Jesus also is the King: God is merging the two offices of King and High Priest. Three chapters of Hebrews [5:6-10; 6:13-20; 7:17-21] quote this verse, say it refers to Jesus, and point out that this appointment of Jesus to be high priest is cause for great hope, for Jesus has ushered in a New Covenant between God and man, which allows us to draw near to God, and is a guarantee that God will keep his eternal promises. Because Jesus is our High Priest, we know we are never alone. Jesus is perfect in his deity and compassionate and understanding in his humanity, making him the ideal high priest for us. For the most part, this is what Hebrews is about.

[continued on next page]

- † Read Hebrews 10.11-14. How is Jesus' sacrifice different from those the priests used to make? What does Jesus sitting down in Psalm 110 signify, according to Hebrews? If Jesus' sacrifice was sufficient for all time, what does that imply about what we have to do to "make up" for our sins?
- † Pray that you can fully accept the gift of grace God has given you through the sacrifice of Jesus, that you will no longer feel guilt or shame, but instead thrive in the love and forgiveness of Christ. Try to live up to your new identity in Christ, by passionately pursuing a life that reflects God's image and represents God to others.

Day 4

- † Read Psalm 110.1-4. Jesus is a special type of high priest, the order of Melchizedek. Read Genesis 14.17-24 and Hebrews 7.1-2. Melchizedek was a priest for God and he was king of Salem [which we believe became Jeru-Salem later], combining the roles of king and priest. Also, his name means "king of righteousness" and being king of Salem means "king of peace." What significance do you see in these facts?
- † Abraham recognized Melchizedek as someone sent from God, so he gave Melchizedek a tithe [10%] of the spoils of the battle and accepted from Melchizedek a blessing from God. Abraham was God's top representative on Earth, the patriarch of the family God had chosen to represent him ["king" in the three circles of the Abrahamic Covenant], so it is significant that he recognized the benefit of a mediator between himself and God. God used mediators throughout history, including prophets and priests. When the religious leaders of Israel had Christ executed, they rejected their rightful king and the mediator God had sent, making doubly sure they were not right with God the Father at that time. The book of Hebrews warns that God was about to bring judgment on that generation of Jews who had forsaken God's anointed, and that judgment came in AD70, when the Romans destroyed Jerusalem.
- † The Levitical priests of the nation of Israel became priests *by heritage* and made *continual animal* sacrifices to appease God's wrath about sin *temporarily*. Jesus is *appointed by God* as a priest [like Melchizedek was] and made *a single* sacrifice of *himself* to appease God the Father's wrath about sin *permanently*. Do you see the significance in the differences? Jesus is a suitable permanent sacrifice for us, because he is the unique perfectly pure human being. Jesus is able to pay the penalty for all our sin and bear all our punishment from God's wrath, because he is the divine Son of God.
- † Read Hebrews 7.25. Jesus sacrificed for us and now he is our mediator. He is at the right hand of God, ensuring that God the Father remembers that the penalty for our sin is paid by him, watching over us, giving us access to God through prayer and the Holy Spirit. Pray that you can take comfort in knowing this, that you can let go of your stress and anxiety, knowing Jesus is in charge and taking care of you.



Day 5

- † Read Psalm 110.5-7. In these verses, the narrator is talking to God the Father. He tells God the Father that Adonai/Jesus is at God's right hand, but is ready to return to Earth to defeat God's enemies and impose justice. Jesus is not only God's anointed king and mediator-high priest, he also is God's anointed judge. When he returns, he will bring punishment for God's enemies and will judge all the people who have ever lived.
- † Jesus will judge when he returns: now is not the time for judgment and we are not given the right to judge. Thus, we should never think we are better than someone else, for we are all sinners who need the Savior; and we should never condemn another person, because that is not our job. While we look forward to Christ's return and victory, our job as followers of Christ in this time period is to follow Christ in reflecting God's character and representing God to others, especially as it leads to making disciples through evangelism with non-believers and teaching/encouraging other believers.
- † Pray that you can experience the miraculous transformation of character the New Testament promises through the process of "Progressive Sanctification," so you can become more like Christ, more like the image of God the Father you were created and saved to be. Try each day to put God first in your life and to live for him.