

PSALM 45

This psalm penned by the sons of Korah involves some questions not easily answered. Who is the king addressed in verse 1? Is the entire psalm Messianic? Who is the daughter referred to in verse 10? It is perhaps best to regard this psalm as an example of metonymy, a figure of speech that consists of the use of the name of one object or concept for that of another to which it is related. In Psalm 45, therefore, David was appointed to be a symbol and pledge of God's kingdom on earth. In other words, what God was in heaven, David represented on earth. And this representation of the mighty God was to continue in his line until the Messiah came. In describing this most marvelous relationship, the sons of Korah can hardly find adequate words to express it.

**For the choir director; according to the Shoshannim.
A Maskil of the sons of Korah. A Song of Love.**

- 1 My heart overflows with a pleasing theme; I address my verses to the king;
my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.
- 2 You are the most handsome of the sons of men; grace is poured upon your lips;
therefore God has blessed you forever.
- 3 Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your splendor and majesty!
- 4 In your majesty ride out victoriously for the cause of truth
and meekness and righteousness; let your right hand teach you awesome deeds!
- 5 Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies;
the peoples fall under you.

- 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;
- 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.
- 12 The people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts, the richest of the people.

- 13 All glorious is the princess in her chamber, with robes interwoven with gold.
- 14 In many-colored robes she is led to the king,

with her virgin companions following behind her.

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.

PRAYER

O blessed Jesus, the King of Glory, the sceptre of your kingdom is a righteous sceptre. Have mercy upon your people, and let the oil of gladness refresh them amid the multitude of their sorrows and afflictions. And let the sound of your gospel go forth throughout all the earth by enabling us, your disciples, to advance your honor by sowing the precious seed with zeal and faith. Then shall we enter our heavenly rest, bringing our sheaves with us. Amen.