

Session 3: “Shadows” of Jesus Christ in the Psalms

What is God Like?

Abstract and Concrete

Abstract: “truths about God” (head knowledge)

These are amazing thoughts and ideas about God for your mind to think about. God is ...

omnipotent

omnipresent

omniscient

Concrete: “descriptions about God” (heart knowledge)

These are word pictures and images (similes and metaphors) that help your mind understand and see what God is like.

The Lord is ...

my shepherd.

my rock and my fortress

my deliverer

the Prophet

the Priest

the King

the Son of David

the Lamb of God

the House of God

the Suffering Servant

the Righteous One
the Light
the Divine Warrior
our Brother
the One Who Became Sin
Living Water
Bread of Life

The Parables of Jesus ...

The kingdom of heaven is like ...

Shadows of Christ in the Old Testament and the Psalms

The “MAN” – the “Righteous One”

Psalm 1:1: “Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. His delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.”

Psalm 15:1-2: “Lord, who may dwell in your sanctuary? Who may live on your holy hill? He whose walk is blameless and who does what is righteous ...”

Psalm 31:1: “In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.”

Jesus ...

Acts 3:14: “You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead.”

Hebrews 2:11: “Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.” (Psalm 22:22)

1 John 2:1: “But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.”

Romans 3, 5

“no one righteousness”

“the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus”

“Adam” and the “Second Adam”

The “Sinner”

Psalm 40:12: “For troubles without number surround me; my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see. They are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart fails within me.”

Psalm 69:5: “You know my folly, O God; my guilt is not hidden from you.”

Jesus ... the “Righteous One who Bore and Became Sin for Us”

Isaiah 53:6f: “Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgression, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:9-10: He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.

Yet it was the Lord's will to crush Him and cause Him to suffer, and though the Lord makes His life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days.

Galatians 3:13: Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written; 'Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.' ”

2 Corinthians 5:21: “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

the Active Obedience of Jesus

- Committed no sin
- Perfect. Spotless. Holy.
- The “Righteous One”

the Passive Obedience of Jesus

- Jesus becomes SIN, for us
- Jesus bears the curse of sin, for us
- Jesus pays the price of sin, for us

Because of the sole merit, complete obedience, bitter suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus, whose obedience is reckoned to us for righteousness ...

- We are absolved and declared free from all sins.
- We are exempt from the sentence of condemnation
- We are adopted and heirs of God

The Solid Declaration of the Formula of Concord

III. The Righteousness of Faith

9] *Concerning the righteousness of faith before God we believe, teach, and confess unanimously, in accordance with the comprehensive summary of our faith and confession presented above, that poor sinful man is justified before God, that is, absolved and declared free and exempt from all his sins, and from the sentence of well-deserved condemnation, and adopted into sonship and heirship of eternal life, without any merit or worth of our own, also without any preceding, present, or any subsequent works, out of pure grace, because of the sole merit, complete obedience, bitter suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord Christ alone, whose obedience is reckoned to us for righteousness.*

10] *These treasures are offered us by the Holy Ghost in the promise of the holy Gospel; and faith alone is the only means by which we lay hold upon, accept, and apply, and appropriate them to ourselves.*

11] *This faith is a gift of God, by which we truly learn to know Christ, our Redeemer, in the Word of the Gospel, and trust in Him, that for the sake of His obedience alone we have the forgiveness of sins by grace, are regarded as godly and righteous by God the father, and are eternally saved.*

12] *Therefore it is considered and understood to be the same thing when Paul says that we are justified by faith, Rom. 3:28, or that faith is counted to us for righteousness, Rom. 4:5, and when he says that we are made righteous by the obedience of One, Rom. 5:19, or that by the righteousness of One justification of faith came to all men, Rom. 5:18.*

13] *For faith justifies, not for this cause and reason that it is so good a work and so fair a virtue, but because it lays hold of and accepts the merit of Christ in the promise of the holy Gospel; for this must be applied and appropriated to us by faith, if we are to be justified thereby.*

14] *Therefore the righteousness which is imputed to faith or to the believer out of pure grace is the obedience, suffering, and resurrection of Christ, since He has made satisfaction for us to the Law, and paid for [expiated] our sins.*

15] *For since Christ is not man alone, but God and man in one undivided person, He was as little subject to the Law, because He is the Lord of the Law, as He had to suffer and die as far as His person is concerned.*

For this reason, then, His obedience, not only in suffering and dying, but also in this, that He in our stead was voluntarily made under the Law, and fulfilled it by this obedience, is imputed to us for righteousness, so that, on account of this complete obedience, which He rendered His heavenly Father for us, by doing and suffering, in living and dying, God forgives our sins, regards us as godly and righteous, and eternally saves us.

16] This righteousness is offered us by the Holy Ghost through the Gospel and in the Sacraments, and is applied, appropriated, and received through faith, whence believers have reconciliation with God, forgiveness of sins, the grace of God, sonship, and heirship of eternal life.

17] Accordingly, the word justify here means to declare righteous and free from sins, and to absolve one from eternal punishment for the sake of Christ's righteousness, which is imputed by God to faith, Phil. 3:9. For this use and understanding of this word is common in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament.

Prov. 17:15: He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the Lord. Is. 5:23: Woe unto them which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him! Rom. 8:33: Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth, that is, absolves from sins and acquits. (from Triglot Concordia)

For further reference concerning Martin Luther's language and imagery concerning Jesus Christ as "the sinner" see:

- Luther's Works, vol. 58, pages 44–45, American Edition
- Luther's Works, vol. 26, pages 279-280, American Edition

Prophet, Priest and King

(Luther's Small Catechism With Explanation, question 125)

Prophet - the "Word"

Psalm 19, 119 - "the Word of the Lord"

Psalm 78:1-2: "O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old ..."

Jesus ...

John 1:14: "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us."

Mark 13:34-35: "Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet:

'I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.' "

Matthew 17:5: "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" (the Transfiguration)

Priest

Psalm 110:4: "The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: 'You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.' "

Jesus ...

Hebrews 4:14 - 5:10: Jesus the Great High Priest

Hebrews 7:11 - 9:28: Jesus Like Melchizedek and High Priest of a New Covenant

Sacrifice

Psalm 40:6-8: “Sacrifice and burnt offering you did not desire, but my ears you have pierced; burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require. Then I said, ‘Here I am, I have come – it is written about me in the scroll. I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.’ ”

Jesus ...

John 1:29: “Look, the lamb of God, that takes away the sin of the world.”

Hebrews 9 – 10: The Blood of Christ, a Sacrifice Once for All

King and Kingdom

Psalm 2:6f: “I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.” I will proclaim the decree of the Lord: He said to me,

“You are my Son; today I have become your Father. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. You will rule them with an iron scepter; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.”

- Kingdom of Power (all creatures)
- Kingdom of Grace (the Church on earth)
- Kingdom of Heaven (the Church in heaven)

Jesus ...

Matthew 3:17: “And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, who I Love; with him I am well pleased.” (the Baptism of Jesus)

Matthew 17:5: “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!” (the Transfiguration)

Matthew 28:18: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

John 18:36-37: “Are you a king?”

Philippians 2:5-11: “God exalted him to the highest place ... every knee should bow in heaven and on earth.”

The Face of God (ears, eyes, mouth)

Psalm 27:8: “My heart says of you, ‘Seek his face!’ Your face, Lord, I will seek.”

Psalm 67:1-2: “May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.

Psalm 115:3-8: Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him.

But their idols are silver and gold, made by the hands of men. They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but they cannot see; they have ears, but cannot hear, noses, but they cannot smell; they have hands, but cannot feel, feet, but they cannot walk; nor can they utter a sound with their throats. Those who make them will be like them, and so will all who trust in them.

Jesus ...

John 1:14,18: “The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us ... We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 14:9: “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.”

2 Corinthians 4:6: “For God who said, ‘Let light shine out of the darkness,’ made his light shine in our hearts, to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.”

Revelation 22:3-4: No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.”

Shepherd

Psalm 23: “The Lord is my shepherd ...”

Psalm 80: “Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock; you who sit enthroned between the cherubim ...”

Psalm 82: “Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”

Jesus ... the Good Shepherd

(see also Ezekiel 34)

Matthew 2:6: “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.”

John 10:11f: “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep ... I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.”

Hebrews 13:20-21: “May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 2:25: “For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.”

Revelation 7:17: “For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Israel's History and Exodus

Psalm 78

Psalm 103

Psalm 104

Psalm 105

Psalm 106

Psalm 107

Jesus ...

1 Corinthians 10:2-4: "They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ."

John 6:30 f: So they asked him, "What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' "

Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

John 4:10 f: Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?"

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again,

but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

1 Peter 2:9: But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Signs of the Messianic Age

Psalm 107

3	Matt 8: 11 Luke 13: 29
9	Luke 1: 53
10	Luke 1: 79
10- 16	Acts 12: 17
13- 16	Acts 16: 26
14	Luke 1: 79
20	Acts 10: 36
25- 27	Mark 4: 37
25- 29	Matt 8: 26
26	Rom 10: 7
28f.	Mark 4: 39
30	John 6: 21

Luke 4:16 f.: He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

The "Name:

Psalm 20:7: "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."

Psalm 79:9: "Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory of your name; deliver us and forgive us our sins for your name's sake."

Psalm 116: "Then I called on the name of the Lord; 'O Lord, save me!'"

vs. 13, 17

Psalm 118:10-f: "... in the name of the Lord I cut them off"

Jesus ...

Matthew 1:21: "... you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Matthew 21:9: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord ..."

Matthew 28:28-f: "... baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ..."

Acts 4:12: "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Acts 10:43: "All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness through his name."

Philippians 2:9f.: "Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."