



Psalms 89

11/8/20 AM

OUR COVENANT-KEEPING GOD

Introduction:

Superscription: "A Maskil of Ethan the Ezrahite"

I. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DAVIDIC COVENANT

(vs. 1-37)

A. God's Person (vs. 1-8)

emphasis on God's attributes:

- lovingkindness - vs. 1,2,14,24,28,33,49
- faithfulness - vs. 1,2,5,8,24,33,49
- eternal (all references to "forever")
- wonders - vs. 5
- creation - vs. 2,5,6,12,47
- might - vs. 8,10,13,17, 21

- awesome - vs. 7
- rule - vs. 9,14
- righteousness - vs. 14,16
- justice - vs. 14
- truth - vs. 14
- light - vs. 15

- glory - vs. 17
- holiness - vs. 18, 35
- unchanging - vs. 34
- wrath - vs. 46

B. God's Power (vs. 9-14)

- He rules over the "swelling of the sea" (vs. 9)
- He rules over spiritual opponents (vs. 10)
- He rules over the surrounding earth (vs. 11-12)
- He rules over the strongest powers (vs. 13-14)

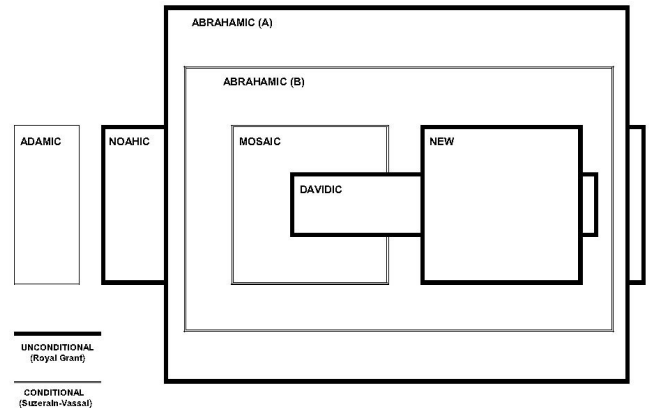
C. God's Provision (vs. 15-18)

- "How blessed are the people who know the joyful sound!"
- "O LORD, they walk in the light of Your countenance."
- "In Your name they rejoice all the day and by Your righteousness they are exalted."
- "For You are the glory of their strength and by Your favor our horn is exalted."
- "For our shield belongs to the LORD, and our king to the Holy One of Israel."

D. God's Promises (vs. 19-37, c.f. vs. 3-4)

II Sam. 7:8-16

THE COVENANTS



details of God's covenant with David found here:

- "sworn to David" (vs. 3)
- "establish your seed forever [*olam*]" (vs. 4)
- "build up your throne to all generations" (vs. 4)
- "chosen from the people" (vs. 19)
- "with My holy oil I have anointed him" (vs. 20)
- "I shall make him My firstborn" (vs. 27)
- "highest of the kings of the earth" (vs. 27)
- "I will keep him forever [*olam*]" (vs. 28)
- "my lovingkindness I will keep for him forever" (vs. 28)
- "my covenant shall be confined" (vs. 28)
- "establish his descendants forever [*lad*]" (vs. 29)
- "his throne as the days of heaven" (vs. 29)
- "I will not lie to David" (vs. 35)
- "his descendants shall endure forever [*olam*]" (vs. 36)
- "throne...as the sun...and moon" (vs. 37)

Psalm 132:10-12

II. THE APPARENT SUSPENSION OF THE COVENANT (vs. 38-52)

A. The Psalmist's Perplexity (vs. 38-45)

Both the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants seem to be in jeopardy - it appears that God has...

- rejected the king (vs. 38)
- renounced the covenant (vs. 39)
- ruined the city (vs. 40-41)
- rewarded the enemies (vs. 42)
- reduced the kingdom (vs. 43-45)

What brought about this terrible situation?? - Jeremiah 7:17-20

B. The Psalmist's Prayer (vs. 46-51)

Remember my condition. (vs. 46-49)

Remember Your covenant. (vs. 50-51)

C. The Psalmist's Praise (vs. 52)

"Blessed be the LORD forever! Amen and Amen."

Conclusion:

"When sin causes God's anointed king to be abandoned and humiliated, the faithful may pray confidently for his kingdom to come, because God promised David an everlasting kingdom said he is faithful to his covenant promises."
– Alan P. Ross

Food for Thought:

- 1) What attributes of God stand out in this psalm? Why?
- 2) What is the place and over-all significance of this psalm in the organization of the Psalter?
- 3) What do you learn about prayer from this psalm?
- 4) How may we best understand the on-going significance of the Davidic Covenant?