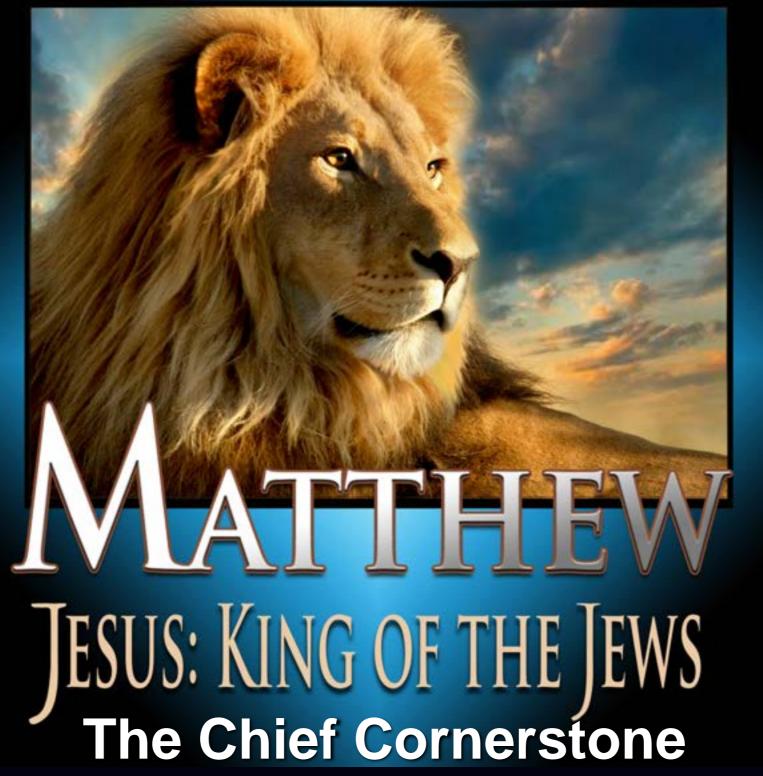
Matthew Series
Lesson #121
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The Chief Cornerstone
Matthew 21:1–10; Psalm 118:10–26

Psa 118:26 is quoted by the crowds welcoming Jesus during His Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem in Matt. 21:9.

Matt 21:9, "'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!"

Psa. 118:22–23 is quoted by Jesus as He denounces the religious leaders in Matt. 21:42

Matt. 21:42, "Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD'S doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes"?'

Psa. 118:26 is again quoted by Jesus in Matt. 23:39 to state the spiritual condition necessary for His return.

Matt. 23:39, "for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'"

Psa. 118:26, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We have blessed you from the house of the LORD."

- 1. Psalm 118 is the last of a set of Psalms referred to as the hallel Psalms.
- 2. In the original context this is a Psalm that would have been sung by a procession of people being led by a political or religious leader up to the Temple Mount.
- 3. This Psalm is a communal thanksgiving song.

Basic elements in a Thanksgiving Psalm:

- a. Proclamation to praise God. Psa. 118:1-4
- b. Introductory summary. Psa. 118:5–7
- c. Report of the deliverance. Psa. 118:10-18
- d. Renewed vow of praise. Psa. 118:19-28
- e. Praise or instruction. Psa. 118:8, 9, 29

- 4. We don't know who wrote it.
- 5. The occasion for the Psalm is God's deliverance of the people from a time of severe divine discipline.

Psa. 118:6, "The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

Psa. 118:7, "The LORD is for me among those who help me; Therefore I shall see my desire on those who hate me.

Psa. 118:8, "It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.

Psa. 118:9, "It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes."

Psa. 56:11, "In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"

Psa. 118:10, "All nations surrounded me, but in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.

Psa. 118:11, "They surrounded me, Yes, they surrounded me; But in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.

Psa. 118:12, "They surrounded me like bees; They were quenched like a fire of thorns; For in the name of the LORD I will destroy them."

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Psa. 118:12, "They surrounded me like bees; They were quenched like a fire of thorns; For in the name of the LORD I will destroy them."

אור (mûl) II, circumcise, let oneself be circumcised, be cut off (a few forms maybe taken as from לְּלֵלִל).

Deut. 30:6, "And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live."

Rom. 2:29, "but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God."

Col. 2:13, "And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,"

Psa. 118:13, "You [singular—the nations] pushed me violently, that I might fall, but the LORD <u>helped</u> me.

Psa. 118:14, "The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation."

עזר 'azar qal perf 3 masc sing "to help, to assist"
The noun is etzer,
Gen. 2:18, 20.

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2 ่ comm masc sing constr strength, power, related to the omnipotence of God

Psa. 18:1-2,

"I will love You, O LORD, my <u>strength</u>. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer;

"My God, my <u>strength</u>, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold." Ex. 15:2, "The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will exalt Him."

Psa. 118:15, "The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tents of the righteous; The right hand of the LORD does valiantly."

Psa. 118:16, "The right hand of the LORD is exalted; The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.

Psa. 118:17, "I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.

Psa. 118:18, "The LORD has chastened me severely, but He has not given me over to death."

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י yasar-1
piel infinitiveAbs
to instruct, warn,
rebuke, discipline,
judge, chasten

Psa. 118:19, "Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go through them, and I will praise the LORD.

Psa. 118:20, "This is the gate of the LORD, through which the righteous shall enter.

Psa. 118:21, "I will praise You, for You have answered me, and have become my salvation."

Psa. 118:22, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

Psa. 118:23, "This was the LORD'S doing; It is marvelous in our eyes.

Psa. 118:24, "This is the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it."

Historical Event

The stone = Judah/Israel

The builders = the nations

In restoration, Israel (a type of Christ) becomes the foundation for God's Kingdom program.

Typological Event

The stone = The Messiah

The builders = the religious leaders of Israel

In restoration, the Messiah becomes the One who will establish the Kingdom.

Isa. 28:16, "Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: 'Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; Whoever believes will not act hastily."

Zech. 3:9, "'For behold, the stone that I have laid before Joshua: Upon the stone are seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave its inscription,' says the LORD of hosts, 'And I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day.'"

Dan. 2:34, "You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces."

Dan. 2:45, "Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure."

Matt. 21:42, "Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD'S doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes"?'"

Eph. 2:20, "having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,"

1 Pet. 2:6, "Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, 'Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.'" Psa. 118:25, "Save now, I pray, O LORD; O LORD, I pray, send now prosperity.

Psa. 118:26, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We have blessed you from the house of the LORD."

הוֹשִׁיעָה נָא hoshiy'a na

John 11:27, "She said to Him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

Comparison Between Psa. 118 and Matt. 21

- 1. The nation is partially restored from divine discipline in Psa. 118.
- 2. The nation is on the edge of another divine discipline in Matt. 21.
- 3. The solution in Psa. 118 is the restoration of the Temple and the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
- 4. The solution in Matt. 21 is to welcome the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Comparison Between Psa. 118 and Matt. 21

- 5. In Psa. 118 God alone delivered the nation from the plans of the nations.
- 6. When the Coming One comes He will deliver the nation, Ps. 2; Rev. 19.
- 7. The solution is rejected in Matt. 22; but the promise of a future recovery is indicated by Matt. 23:39.
- 8. The solution for every believer is to trust in God, rather than human solutions based in government, politics, human methods, or works.