

(Psalm 45:1) - Some scholars claim that “*Shoshannim*” was a musical instrument upon which a particular tune was played in singing this psalm. Others say it is literally the word for “lilies” which could refer to Christ and His church as we stand in Him by God’s grace (*Song 2:1*). Of all of the psalms in the Bible, eleven are attributed to “*the sons of Korah*.” “*Maschil*” indicates that this is an allegory that uses earthly images to instruct us in spiritual and heavenly matters. It is called a “*Song of loves*” because the Holy Spirit inspired the writer to express a spirit of great love, gratitude, and humility to the Lord God and to express a longing of deep devotion and worship. The grand subject is the glory of Christ and His church, His bride, whom, by God’s grace, He saves and blesses in His own glory - the glory of His Person and power of His finished work of redemption as the Surety, Substitute, and Redeemer.

“*My heart is inditing a good matter*” - Literally, “my heart is overflowing, or “bubbling over” a matter that pertains to the goodness of God Who alone is good (*Matt. 19:17*). Whenever we meditate upon a right relationship with and blessings from God, our focus cannot be on any natural goodness of our own (*Rom. 3:10-12*). Our focus must be on Christ, the Good Shepherd, and His goodness, grace, and truth as it leads us to God our heavenly Father. This is stated as, “*I speak of the things which I have made touching the King*.” This is our Shepherd-King, the Lord Jesus Christ, and knowing Him makes us eager, ready, and willing to write and speak of Him, the glory of His Person and the power of His righteousness - “*my tongue is the pen of a ready writer*” (*cf. Psalm 22:30-31*).

(Psalm 45:2) - “*Thou art fairer than the children of men*” - Christ was born the “seed of woman” by the power of the Holy Spirit. Although His human nature was never contaminated with the sins of His people which He bore to the cross, His beauty was not in outward physical appearance (*Isa. 53:1-3*). His beauty and glory were in the constitution of His Person as God manifest in the flesh, and as the sinless Godman Who perfectly submitted Himself to the will of His Father for the salvation of His people. Although He ate with publicans and sinners, He never became or was made a sinner Himself. Although He was made sin by the imputation of the sins of God’s elect to Him, and He suffered, bled, and died justly under the wrath of His Father for their sins, He remained within Himself “*holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens*” (*Heb. 7:26*). We are all born in a state of sin, spiritual death, and depravity. Christ was born of the Spirit. We are children of the dust; Christ is the Lord from heaven. We are darkness; He is light. We are spiritually empty; He is the fullness of the Godhead bodily and has the Spirit without measure. “*Grace is poured into Thy lips*” - All grace is found in and by Him (*John 1:17*). And all grace is revealed in Him and from Him in power and in His Word, the Gospel of grace. “*Therefore God hath blessed Thee for ever*” - As Godman and Mediator of His people, the Father blessed Him as He earned all grace here and all glory hereafter for His people. All spiritual blessings for His people are found only in Him (*Rom. 8:31-32; Eph. 1:3*).

(Psalm 45:3-4) - Christ’s “*sword*” is His Word (*Heb. 4:12; Eph. 6:17; Rev. 1:16*). By His Word the worlds were created and are governed. By His Word His enemies are defeated. By His Word sinners are conquered and slain and brought to submit to Him as the Lord our righteousness. His cause is “*truth and meekness and righteousness*” - Christ is Himself the truth, and He comes in obedience to His Father to work righteousness for His people through His death and resurrection and against His enemies in divine justice to condemn them for their sins. His “*right hand*” refers to His just acts to do both, and these teach us “*terrible*” (awesome) things.

(Psalm 45:5) - His “arrows” always hit the target of our hearts, either to convict and bring us to salvation by His grace, or to condemn in His strict justice. He aims for the heart of His enemies, so they are brought to fall at His feet in worship and love (*Rom. 5:10; Eph. 2:16; Col. 1:21*). The arrows of His judicial wrath are sharp, but the arrows of subduing grace are the sharpest of all (*John 6:37; John 10:16*).

(Psalm 45:6-7) - These words are repeated in *Hebrews 1:8-9* and show that this is describing our Savior-King, the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ is God manifest in the flesh Who established an eternal throne with His sceptre of righteousness. His kingdom is of grace. His subjects are all the elect of God given to Him before the foundation of the world and whom He redeemed righteously by His blood. He is the very righteousness of God Who loves righteousness and hates wickedness. And because of His effectual and powerful work of righteousness He is given the place of eternal preeminence as Lord and King (*Col. 1:14-18; Php. 2:9-11*).

(Psalm 45:8) - His garments of righteousness are a sweet-smelling savour unto His Father and His people to whom He has revealed His glory in salvation (*2 Cor. 2:14-16*). The “ivory palaces” are His heavenly abode, where He is made glad in the presence of the Father and by the faith of His saints (*Isa. 53:11; Luke 15:7*). His people are clothed in His righteousness imputed to them for their justification and from which they are given the gifts of spiritual life and blessedness (*Eph. 1:3*).

(Psalm 45:9-12) - This is the church of the Lord Jesus Christ that shares His honor and happiness. She is His bride, and she bears His name (*Jer. 23:5-6; 33:15-16*). He sets her in the place of dignity “upon Thy right hand” and clothes her with the best, the priceless, and the beautiful garments of His righteousness and all salvation (*Isa. 61:10*). They hear and follow His voice and their own natural kinships when it comes to a right relationship with God in Christ and with their new spiritual and eternal family. This is because HE is her Lord, and she worships Him

(Psalm 45:13-15) - She is “all glorious within” because of Christ’s abiding presence within her by His Spirit and His Word. “Her clothing” is more valuable than gold as it is His righteousness imputed to her and all the garments of salvation and glory (*Isa. 61:10; Eph. 6:11-17*). The bride’s new name is “the king’s daughter” because she is born of God and espoused to the Son of God. Her companions are all the chosen, justified, redeemed, and called of all ages. The bride’s home going is “to be brought into the King’s Palace: (*John 14:1-3*). Her reception shall be “with gladness and rejoicing.” There is no secret entrance but a triumphant and joyful acclaim (*Psalm 24:7-10*).

(Psalm 45:16-17) - The ancient fathers, such as Moses, Abraham, and Isaac, are all gone, but their children and grandchildren are made kings and priests. And the name of Christ is remembered, exalted, and magnified in all generations and among all nations.