

J. Exegesis of Messianic Psalms.

1. Definition of a Messianic Psalm.

A Messianic Psalm is a Psalm which makes predictions about the Messiah who was to come.

-See predictions of death, burial, resurrection, 2nd coming, ascension, God-man nature.

2. Proof of the Existence of Messianic Psalms.

Jesus said that there were things written in the Psalms concerning Him (cf. Luke 24:44).

-Jesus opened the Apostle's understanding.

3. Principles for Identifying Messianic Psalms.

-Just because a Psalm's content "fits" with the life of Jesus, this does not prove it is messianic, as it may fit the life of David (or the author) also.

-Better criteria:

a. If the New Testament says that a portion of a Psalm is Messianic, then that portion of the Psalm is Messianic.

-John 19:23-24 (Clothes of Jesus divided up).

-John says Psa. 22:18 is a prediction of this event.

-Note that "my" in Psa. 22:18 refers to Jesus.

-Thus if the same person as v.18 is speaking throughout the Psalm, then the entire Psalm is messianic.

-If the entire Psalm is messianic, then it is a prediction and has nothing to do with the life of David.

-Psalm 22 reflects the last words of Jesus on the cross.

v.1 "My God, my God ..." (4th words of Jesus, spoken just before 3 o'clock).

-Jesus says the rest to the Father silently.

v.15 (mouth dry/suffering) "I thirst" (5th saying).

-Says rest of Psalm to the Father; "It is finished." (6th)

-Then commends his spirit to the Lord (7th) and dies.

Psalm predicts the suffering of the Messiah through v.21:

"Save me from the mouth of the lion.
and from the horns of the wild oxen"

-Expect something like: "... deliver me." to follow a synonymous parallelism.