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Messianic Psalms

The following psalms represent a collection of all those considered in some sense to be Messianic by comparison of A. F. Kirkpatrick on *The Psalms* in the *Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges*, Gerard Van Groningen's *Messianic Revelation in the Old Testament*, and Van Gemeren's *Psalms* in *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Some are overtly Messianic, others Messianic by implication.

1. **Psalm 2** - This psalm is frequently quoted in the New Testament. It is both Messianic and prophetic. The psalm present *Yahweh* and His Son. In this psalm Christ is exalted as the King of Zion who is set up as ruler of the world by Yahweh. The psalm is directly quoted or alluded to at least nine times in the New Testament in Acts 2:33; 4:25-28; 13:32-33; Phil 2:10-11; Heb 1:5; 5:5; 12:22; Rev 2:26-27; 12:5.
2. **Psalm 8** - This psalm refers to the Son of Man who was made "a little lower than the angels" and then exalted to His proper place as the Lord of all creation. It is found in Mt 11:25; 18:1-6; 21:15-16; Heb 1:6; 2:5-10; 1 Pet 3:22 and it was a favorite psalm of Paul found in 1 Cor 15:25-27; Eph 1:20-22; Phil 2:6-7.
3. **Psalm 12** - Sometimes considered to have messianic overtones, this psalm can only be considered to be so in the most general sense. If it is used to characterize these general senses as messianic, such as verses 6-8, then most all of Scripture could in this sense be considered messianic.
4. **Psalm 16** - This psalm is referenced directly by Peter in his sermon at Pentecost in Acts 2:24-31 and by Paul in Acts 13:35-37. Peter says plainly that David was speaking prophetically of Christ.
5. **Psalm 20** - This is a royal psalm that speaks of a promised descendent of David who will be forever seated on Zion as the one who secures salvation with His saving strength.
6. **Psalm 21** - This psalm is closely related to psalm 20 and celebrates thanksgiving for the victory that is prayed for in 20:9.
7. **Psalm 22** - The king is taken from his throne in Psalm 20 to assurance of a victory in Psalm 21 and then to the cross in Psalm 22. This psalm is highly prophetic and many of the words echo from the lips of Jesus on the cross. Psalm 22:1 is found in Mt 27:46; 22:7 in Mt 27:39; 22:8 in Mt. 27:43; 22:15 in Jn 19:28; 22:16 in Mt 27:35; Jn 19:23-25, 37; 22:17 in Mt 27:39; 22:18 in Lk 23:34; 22:21 in 2 Tim 4:17; 22:22 in Heb 2:12; 22:24 in Heb 5:7; 22:31 in Mt 28:18-20. Psalm 22 presents the unparalleled suffering of Christ on the cross and his final triumph over death and the grave.
8. **Psalm 40** - This psalm presents Christ's voluntary entry into the world for the purpose of suffering for all and to finally be delivered, Heb 10:5-10.

9. **Psalm 41** - This psalm was quoted by Jesus in Jn 13:18 at the last supper and referenced as a fulfillment of Scripture by Judas betrayal of Him.
10. **Psalm 45** - The Messiah is presented as God's anointed who has been appointed to sit on His eternal throne. This psalm is a marriage song of the king and his bride. It may have been written for Solomon but ultimately applies the Christ and His bride, the church, Heb 1:8-9.
11. **Psalm 68** - This psalm celebrates Christ ascension on high after winning a great victory, Eph 4:8-10.
12. **Psalm 69** - Because of His zeal for the House of the Lord, Christ was hated and abused by the religious authorities, Jn 15:25; 19:28-30; Acts 1:16-20. Ultimately his enemies will be judged.
13. **Psalm 72** - The Messiah will reign over a universal and righteous Kingdom.
14. **Psalm 78:1-8** - God announces that he will speak to His people in parables (Mt 13:1-58).
15. **Psalm 89** - God's covenant with David is irrevocable in spite of all appearances that might indicate otherwise, Acts 2:30.
16. **Psalm 93** - This psalm of five verses celebrates the eternal reign of the Lord, it often is considered to have Messianic implications.
17. **Psalm 101** - This psalm of David is in praise to God for his justice, mercy, and right judgment similar to Psalm 2.
18. **Psalm 102** - God's eternal love is presented in this psalm, see also Heb 1:10-12
19. **Psalm 109** - The one who betrays the Messiah will suffer a terrible fate, Acts 1:16-20.
20. **Psalm 110** - The Messiah will ascend as our great High Priest, Mt 22:43-45; Acts 2:33-35; Heb 1:13; 5:6-10; 6:20; 7:24.
21. **Psalm 118** - The Messiah survives death and becomes the chief cornerstone (cf. 1 Pet 2:6-8; Mt 21:42-44; Acts 4:11).
22. **Psalm 129** - This is a song of victory that praises God for deliverance from affliction similar to the Messianic ideals of Psalm 22.
23. **Psalm 132** - God has personally chosen David and Mount Zion, Lk 1:32.