

# “Deliver us from the Evil One” (vv. 1-11) & “Thy Kingdom Come” (vv. 12-15)

## A Messianic Exposition of Psalm 144

Background: We continue our series on the Psalms, focusing on the structure of the book and how, according to many recent interpreters, it points to a Messiah whose identity and ministry echo that of Jesus. Today we look at Psalm 144.

Excursus: Personal note as an Old Testament scholar

Excursus: The need for people today to know Jesus (the tragic case of Matthew Perry a star on *Friends*)

### Review:

Five Book Structure: 1 (1-41), 2 (42-72), 3 (73-89), 4 (90-106), 5 (107-150)

What is the message of the book? (See handout)

How the Psalter ends: With the last of five collections attributed to David (138-45), and with five concluding Hallelujah Psalms (146-150)

Last week: 149-50 where we saw in 149 a reaffirmation of God’s commitment through his Messiah in Psalm 2 to put wrongs to right (even with might!). In Psalm 149 we saw that the Messiah’s followers partner with Him (though not with the war-like stuff).

138 (individual), 139 (pervasive), 140-143 (supplicatory laments), 144, 145 (David-Messiah leads the way to praise!)

### An Evolutionary Look at Psalm 144

1. Its original phase, relating to the historical David (Psalm 18 & 2 Samuel 7)
2. Its being tied to the narrative of Samuel (2 Samuel 22)
3. Its latter phase, relating to the future Messiah (2 Samuel 23)

### Three Ways Psalm 144 Applies to the Ministry of Jesus and the Church

1. The Temptation of Jesus (Matthew 4:1-11)
2. The Prayer of Jesus in the Garden
3. The Struggle of the Church against Satan/The Antichrist

### Conclusion

#### Summative Quote

*“By rephrasing Psalm 18 in a new version, the future Messianic son of David appeals to the Lord to do what the Lord had done for David himself, to rescue him and his people from what is this time a formidably deceptive enemy. That enemy was likely thought to be Greco-Roman, but in hindsight it applies better in the case of Jesus’ Temptation, His angst in the Garden, and in the Church’s struggle against the Father of Lies. The blessings in vv. 12-15 have been secured through Christ’s victory over*

*Satan, accomplished on the cross, and await complete fulfilment in the New Heaven and the New Earth in Revelation 22, prior to which of course comes the defeat of the enemies of Christ in Revelation 19.”*