

I. Who is this Psalm about? Who is speaking in it?

1. A first read, a casual read, would indicate David –

A. It bears his name –

^{NKJ} Psalm 69:1 <To the Chief Musician. Set to "The Lilies." A Psalm of David.> (Psalm 69:1 NKJ)

B. Parts of it seem to match his life –

⁵ O God, You know my foolishness; And my sins are not hidden from You. (Psalm 69:5 NKJ)

Now David tried to hide his sins, but no one can hide from God!

2. Real STUDY points to Christ being the MAIN, if not only speaker in this Psalm –

This Psalm is extensively quoted in the New Testament:

⁴ Those who hate me without a cause Are more than the hairs of my head (Psalm 69:4A NKJ) / Christ references Psalm 69:4 while teaching His disciples about persecution and the hatred He and they did and would receive from sinners –

²⁵ "But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, They hated Me without a cause." (John 15:25 NKJ)

⁹ Because zeal for Your house has eaten me up, (Psalm 69:9A NKJ) / When the disciples witness Jesus cleansing the Temple they remember – ¹⁷ Then His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up." (John 2:17 NKJ)

And the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me. (Psalm 69:9B NKJ) / is quoted by Paul in reference to reproaches Christ endured - ³ For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me." (Romans 15:3 NKJ)

²¹ They also gave me gall for my food, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. (Psalm 69:21 NKJ) / Here is the prediction of Jesus' tormentors giving Him vinegar as He hung from the cross –

^{NIV} Matthew 27:48 Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. (Matthew 27:48 NIV)

²² Let their table become a snare before them, And their well-being a trap. ²³ Let their eyes be darkened, so that they do not see; And make their loins shake continually. (Psalm 69:22-23 NKJ)

The imprecatory prayers of verses :22 & :23 are applied by Paul to the Jews who rejected Jesus Christ –

⁹ And David says: "Let their table become a snare and a trap, A stumbling block and a recompense to them. ¹⁰ Let their eyes be darkened, so that they do not see, and bow down their back always." (Romans 11:9-10 NKJ)

²⁵ Let their dwelling place be desolate; Let no one live in their tents. (Psalm 69:25 NKJ)

The disciples apply Psalm 69:25 to Judas -

²⁰ "For it is written in the book of Psalms: 'Let his dwelling place be desolate, And let no one live in it'; ... (Acts 1:20 NKJ)

Surely, Psalm 69:25 spoke about others in addition to Judas; the fact the disciples apply it to him does not contradict that fact; he is one of many ultimately condemned by Christ. The point here is many of the verses in Psalm 69 are used in reference to Jesus Christ and those connected to Him.

II. If this Psalm is about Jesus Christ, why does it speak about "sins" as it does?

⁵ O God, You know my foolishness; and my sins are not hidden from You. (Psalm 69:5 NKJ)

1. IMPORTANT FACT: Jesus Christ never sinned –

¹⁵ For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet **without sin**. (Hebrews 4:15 NKJ)

2. Yet, while Jesus NEVER SINNED Himself, He takes on our problem and treats it so much like His own He is said to be made sin, for us –

²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (2Corinthians 5:21 NKJ)

See this is what Psalm 69 is saying, Jesus came DOWN, even into our mess, into our mire, into our worst place, to pull us out –

3. Note the dread description given to sin here –

Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck. ² I sink in deep mire, Where *there is no standing*; I have come into deep waters, Where the floods overflow me. ³ I am weary with my crying; My throat is dry; My eyes fail while I wait for my God. (Psalm 69:1-3 NKJ)

A. Deep mire –

Sin is compared to filthy mire, Jesus cries to escape from it! How WRONG and IGNORANT are we when we frolic in and enjoy sin?

B. Note Jesus is crying, serious, He does not play with sin as we often foolishly do -

Frolic - to amuse oneself : make merry : make fun : to move gaily or sportively : play about happily

4. Why then does this verse use the words “my foolishness” and “my sins”

A. Definitely more mine or yours than they are Jesus’

B. They “foolishness” and “sins” can only belong to Jesus if He takes our place. Like a father who would go to a neighbor and both pay for and apologize for a window broken by his son. So Jesus as the Son of Man identifies with us, even in our plight and takes responsibility to pay for our sins –

¹³ Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”), (Galatians 3:13 NKJ)

¹⁸ knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. (1Peter 1:18-19 NKJ)

"You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, (Revelation 5:9 NKJ)

Jesus became a fool for us –

... we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. (1Corinthians 1:23-25 NKJ)

III. We are God’s House and Christ is zealous to cleanse us –

⁹ Because zeal for Your house has eaten me up, (Psalm 69:9A NKJ)

¹³ Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the moneychangers doing business. ¹⁵ When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers’ money and overturned the tables. ¹⁶ And He said to those who sold doves, “Take these things away! Do not make My Father’s house a house of merchandise!”

¹⁷ Then His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up.” (John 2:13-17 NKJ)

We sell our hearts for lesser things, we fill them full with MIRE, Our heart is home to the KING of kings, to clean it is His DESIRE –

¹⁶ Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? ¹⁷ If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which *temple* you are. (1Corinthians 3:16-17 NKJ)

¹⁸ Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s. (1Corinthians 6:18-20 NKJ)

¹⁹ Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:19-22 NKJ)

What Jesus Christ did for us, read Psalm 69:1-14 again ...

¹⁴ Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink; Let me be delivered from those who hate me, and out of the deep waters. (Psalm 69:14 NKJ)

NKJ Romans 6:1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? (Romans 6:1 NKJ)

Shall we continue in the mire? Should that be our desire?

Arnold A. Brevick