

# COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

## PSALMS

### LESSON 2

#### PSALM 2

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21 – SEPTEMBER 26

### MAN'S REBELLION- GOD'S MERCIFUL CALL TO REPENT

Shortly after the crucifixion of Christ, the early Christians looked to Psalm 2 to confirm that Christ was the promised king, the promised Messiah. Psalm 2 is quoted or referred to more frequently than any other Psalm in the New Testament.

Psalm 2 is a poetic work, "having four Stanzas of three verses each. The first stanza reports the plan of the nations to rebel against the Lord and His anointed king (vs. 1-3); stanza 2 reveals the response of God to their ridiculous plan (vs 4-6); stanza 3 recounts the King's claims to the throne in spite of opposition (7-9); and the last stanza records the sage advice to those foolish nations."(vs.10-12)

Commentary on the Psalms, Allen P. Ross, Vol. 1, p.200.

"The theology of this Psalm portrays the Lord as the sovereign king of the universe who reigns from heaven. It is His prerogative to control nations (Isa.40:15-17), establish borders (Deut.32-8) and set up or remove kings. (Daniel 2:21). It was He who put His king on the throne. No matter how well planned or powerful the opposition was, it was doomed to fail if God was against it." Commentary on the Psalms, Allen P. Ross, Vol. 1, p.200.

### Read Psalm 2:1-3. Man's Rebellion Against God

1. From **Psalm 2:1-2** what is revealed about the rebellion of sinful man against God's authority?
2. Read **Acts 4:25-28**. Luke, the writer of Acts, stated with clarity that in the crucifixion of Christ the actions by Herod, Pilate, the gentiles and the Jews were a fulfillment of Psalm 2:1-2. The Sovereignty of God is defined as His absolute rule and authority over all things. In the Acts passage, what does John say about God's sovereign control over man's rebellion when Christ was crucified?
3. From **Psalm 2:3**, fetters and cords (NASB and LSB) provide a word picture of the restraints of God's commands and moral law. From this passage what did the rebellious nations hope to accomplish?

"On a graceless neck Christ's yoke is intolerable" (as seen in Psalm 2:3), "but to the saved sinner His yoke is easy and His burden is light. (**Matt. 11:30**). Judge yourself! Do you love that yoke or do you want to throw it away?" The Treasury of David, C.H. Spurgeon, p.9

### Read Psalm 2:4-6. God's Response

4. How does the Psalmist in verse 4 portray the initial response of the sovereign Lord to man's rebellion?
5. The rebellious men and nations desire to be independent and free from any moral or ethical restraints imposed by God. They desire to be in charge of their lives and world. From **Psalm 2:5-6**, how does God respond (**vs.5**) and what is God's powerful pronouncement in **vs 6** to end the rebellion of man?

### Read Psalm 2:7-9. Divine Rule of God's Chosen King

6. The Trinity is the doctrine that God is one and yet exists eternally in three persons, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. What aspect of the trinity is found in **Psalm 2:7**?
7. What does God promise Christ in **verse 8** that establishes Christ's dominion over rebellious man?
8. How does **verse 9** describe the way in which the Anointed One, the Son who is the appointed King, will break or crush His enemies and bring judgment upon the rebellious nations? (Read also **Rev. 19:15** for the future time this will occur)

### Read Psalm 2:10-12. Offer of Mercy and Opportunity to the Rebellious to Repent

9. **Verse 9** closes with the prospect of immediate judgment on rebellious people. However, by contrast, what is the message of **Psalm 2:10-12**?
10. How does the Psalmist communicate in **verse 12** a sense of urgency in the response to this offer to repent and believe? What is the promise to those who turn to Him by faith?
11. God's sovereignty is displayed in this passage. How are you currently comforted by God's rule and authority over all things (His sovereignty)?
12. How does Psalm 2 affect your love for and your worship of the Son of God who is the source of mercy and grace and yet the powerful ruler of all?

For believers the message (of Psalm 2) is of great comfort. The antagonism in the world to God in general and to Christianity specifically will end. The outcome is not in question, even though it seems it is. Believers then can be strengthened in their faith in God's plan that Christ will come to put down all wickedness and rule the world. Related to this point is a second application for believers: just as the Psalmist exhorted people to submit to the Messiah, so too Christians should warn the world not to act foolishly but to submit to the Christ and escape the wrath to come. [Commentary on the Psalms](#), Allen P. Ross,