

DISCUSSION IDEAS
THE REIGN OF GOD'S SON
Psalm 2

April 30th, 2017

Page 1 of 6

Key Truth in this Psalm:

**WORLD LEADERS WOULD BE WISE TO HEED GOD'S WARNING
AND NOT RESIST JESUS AT HIS SECOND COMING.**

♦ **DISCUSSION POINT ONE: OVERVIEW.**

Read through Psalm 2 looking for these issues:

1. What is the importance of the term "anointed"?
2. Who is it that is rebelling?
3. God loves all people, so why is He laughing in derision at these rebels?
4. Verses 7-9 were stated at the coronation of every King descended from David. What specific statements and promises are made?
5. Who are addressed in the remainder of the psalm?

♦ **DISCUSSION POINT TWO: AN ANOINTED ONE.**

Remember the process of anointing in the Old Testament?

Who is anointed in Psalm 23:5?

What about in 2 Samuel 12:20?

What was anointing used for in Exodus 29:4-7?

What was its significance in 1 Sam. 15:1, and in 1 Sam. 16:1-3 and 12-13?

The word "anointed" is what we translate as "messiah" and as "christ".

We do use the name "Christ" for Jesus, but the word "christ" is merely the Greek word for "anointed".

So how was a king of Judah commissioned?

How did the term Anointed One apply to each king?

How does that term apply to Jesus today?

♦ **DISCUSSION POINT THREE: SON OF GOD.**

Look at Psalm 2:7: "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."

It would be easy to mistake this for a specific prophecy about Jesus only, wouldn't it?

BUT --- look at 2 Samuel 7:8-17.

Who is being spoke to here?

What is being promised?

What does God promise as His relationship with David's descendent?

DISCUSSION IDEAS
THE REIGN OF GOD'S SON

Psalm 2

April 30th, 2017

Page 2 of 6

Now look at the second part of verse 14: what statement proves that this was not specifically about Jesus? (hint: the word "iniquity" is in it)

With this in mind, read John 1:47-49. As a devout Jew, what did Nathanael's reference to "The Son of God" mean?

Discuss the difference between being father and son as a genetic source, or as a relationship.

Were the Jewish kings birth sons of God? How were they His sons? What does John 3:16-18 mean when it calls Jesus the "Only-begotten Son of God"?

Jesus as God is eternal, but His body did have a birth.

Is John speaking about Jesus birth? or about His relationship to God the Father? or both?

How do you deal with an unsaved person's confusion about Jesus being fully God and also being the "Son of" God?

Are you also a son or daughter of God? In what way?

Reference verses: John 1:12-13, Rom. 8:14-17, Gal. 4:4-7.

How should this affect my daily life?

♦ **FOR PRAYER:**

Our Grace Church Elders: Pray for our elders as they continue to guide Grace Church, always seeking God's will.

Shelter Valley: Continue to uphold the Shelter Valley believers, and the GCC team that serves there.

Pray for Scott and Leslie Stevens as Scott heads up this ministry.

Pray for the developing local leaders and for continued growth in understanding among those who attend about God's Plan and what it really means to follow Him.

Home Groups: Pray for our home groups.

Pray for the leaders to grow in understanding and skill so that those in each group will truly grow in their walk in the Spirit and in true agape love.

Pray that more folks will take part in a home group and be encouraged as a result.

Pray that each one of us would seek to learn how to use our individual spiritual gift(s) to build up the Body of Christ.

DISCUSSION IDEAS
THE REIGN OF GOD'S SON
Psalm 2

April 30th, 2017

Page 3 of 6

Gettises: Pray for the Gettis family in San Jose, Costa Rica.

Praise God for:

- David is fitting in at ESEPA. Everyone is making him feel very warmly welcomed.
- He is excited to be able to tackle various immediate technology needs, including improving the seminary's frustrating Internet speed (shared by professors, staff, and students) and automating the student registration process, which will save the Academic Dean a lot of time and frustration and provide more accurate and up-to-date information.
- David is also grateful for daily opportunities to practice his Spanish and will be starting Greek I (in Spanish!) in a few weeks to work on his Master's degree (needed for teaching at the seminary).
- Good health for everyone.

Please pray for:

- Finding a church home soon.
- Building solid relationships.
- Continued faith and patience during a time of learning and waiting on God in many areas (learning new language/culture/career, making friends, obtaining residency, purchasing vehicle, etc.).

Pearsons: Continue to pray for John and Bobbie Pearson. Their son, John Caleb is on hospice care with advanced cancer. He and his wife Cheri are now staying at a rental condo near John and Bobbie in Forest, VA. He is bedridden and on two meds for pain control. John and Bobbie take a turn in the around the clock family schedule for sitting with him. Thanks for prayers during this stressful time.

Barangonan Island: Let's continue to pray for the Lord's love and power to be seen in Barangonan Island.

Continue to pray for wisdom and encouragement for the Ingvoldstads and the Binders as they adjust to a changed way of life.

Uphold the island church leaders in prayer. Remember, God wants YOU to be a part of what He is doing.

Pray the Elders in Training: Eddie and Ted, the teacher geeks, Jeremy who has the gift of discernment to protect the flock, and Sid who leads in outreach to other islands. Pray that the evil one will not attack them.

Continue to uphold the Tagbanwa believers who go to a neighboring island every Friday to teach about God. Pray too for the hearers to respond.

DISCUSSION IDEAS
THE REIGN OF GOD'S SON

Psalm 2

April 30th, 2017

Page 4 of 6

Continue to pray for strength and endurance for those who go, as well as understanding for those who hear.

Thank God and uphold in prayer the "TFG" (Time For God) group of children and young folks who meet every day!

Pray with the strong, self-motivated women's group as they study God's Word and grow to be mature believers.

Persecuted Believers:

Let's not forget to uphold our fellow believers around the world who are experiencing real and intense persecution for following Jesus.

THIS WEEK:

1. **SRI LANKA:** On March 25, a Buddhist monk led a group of about 50 people into a church and demanded that the Christians cease worship activities. When police arrived, they scolded the Christians for disturbing the peace and ordered the pastor to go to the station for an interview.

Pastor "Ishara" visited the police station twice but never met the officer in charge. A week later, the pastor, who had led worship in the area for 17 years, received a letter stating that his church must register with the government.

When he again visited the police station, he was met by a mob of about 200 people. Police demanded that he immediately stop all religious activities, warning him that he would face severe consequences if he failed to comply.

Police subsequently charged Pastor Ishara with disturbing the peace, and villagers have attacked him on several occasions, throwing rocks at his house.

Pray for Pastor Ishara's strength and peace during these difficulties, and pray that he will find favor with the government so his church can continue to worship.

2. **NIGER:** After attending a VOM-led training session with her husband, "Christina Saleh" has begun to meet with women in four villages, teaching Christians and witnessing to Muslims.

Before attending the training session, Christina had been afraid to openly share the gospel. Muslim women had frightened her by showing her the graves of missionaries, and some vendors in the local market had stopped accepting her money when they learned she was a believer. But Christina gained encouragement from

DISCUSSION IDEAS
THE REIGN OF GOD'S SON

Psalm 2

April 30th, 2017

Page 5 of 6

sessions on evangelism and church planting, and she praises God for the new method of sharing the gospel that she learned during the training.

The training session, which included more than 100 pastors and evangelists along with their wives, offered courses in biblical storytelling, church planting and worship with traditional instruments, among other topics. Pray for Christina as she grows bolder in her faith, shares the gospel with Muslims and disciples Christian women.

3. RUSSIA: "Missionary Activity" Results in Deportation

Prosecutions continue under Russia's severe "missionary activity" restrictions, resulting in the first known deportation of a foreigner.

In February of this year, an Indian pastor, Victor-Immanuel Mani, was forcibly separated from his Russian wife and one-year-old child for allegedly violating the new restrictions on "sharing beliefs," according to the Religion Law and Code of Administrative Offences.

Accused of advertising religious gatherings on social media, and giving religious literature to a non-member of his church, the pastor was sentenced by the Naberezhnyye Chelny City Court in Tatarstan on December 20th, 2016. He also received a fine of 30,000 Roubles (about \$724 CAD).

During the trial, lawyers asserted that the meeting notices on the church's social media group were not aimed at non-members but were purely informational. The pastor also testified before the court that the accusing visitor, on his own accord, had purchased the books and helped himself to flyers.

During a subsequent hearing on January 25th, an appeal was presented to the local court. As the appeal had been denied, Pastor Mani was ordered to leave the country -- even though he is also a legal Russian resident.

His lawyers and the Love of God Evangelical Church are now preparing an appeal which will be presented to the Supreme Court of Tatarstan, arguing that the deportation order is in contradiction of a 2013 Supreme Court ruling: "Expulsion from the country, which is home to members of (the defendant's) family, may violate the right to respect family life."

In two other legal cases, separate appeals have been made against court orders to destroy confiscated Bibles (including an edition used by the Russian Orthodox Church) and other religious texts. This

DISCUSSION IDEAS
THE REIGN OF GOD'S SON
Psalm 2

April 30th, 2017

Page 6 of 6

occurred despite the courts having no legal right, as the confiscated materials were not legally classified as "extremist."

Additionally, religious organizations are receiving large fines for not displaying their "official full names" on publications, websites or buildings. Nizhny Tagil Evangelical Christian Church is appealing such a conviction.