



Study Guide: Week 4 - Psalm 2

Opening Prayer:

Thanks be unto you, O Lord Jesus Christ, because you were once dead, and by your blood redeemed us from sin and everlasting torment. We desire to serve you all the days of our life. Preserve us in the midst of so many enemies, and by your mighty hand preserve us for your eternal kingdom. Amen. *

Psalm 2

- 1 Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
- 2 The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the Lord and against his Anointed, saying,
- 3 “Let us burst their bonds apart
and cast away their cords from us.”

- 4 He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord holds them in derision.
- 5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,
- 6 “As for me, I have set my King
on Zion, my holy hill.”

- 7 I will tell of the decree:
The Lord said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have begotten you.
- 8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.
- 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron

and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.”

10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.

11 Serve the Lord with fear,
and rejoice with trembling.

12 Kiss the Son,
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Additional Scriptures:

Acts 4:23-31, Proverbs 1:26-27, Romans 1:3-4, Acts 13:33, Matthew 3:16-17 & 17:1-5. Isaiah 11:4 & 30:14, Jeremiah 19:10-11 & 17:7.

Questions:

1. Read the first three verses out loud. What does raging against God look like in today's context?
2. Discuss why people and nations rage against God. Can you think of any reasons and times you have raged against God? Is it accurate to say that most instances of rage are a result of people not being in control, not having the ability to do what God does?
3. The video speaks of people raging against God, because He places His Son in charge of our lives, and His Son forgives us our sins. In what way does forgiveness cause rage in the world? (Hint: Does forgiveness mean people are good at the law, specifically the law of loving your neighbor, treating people equally, or being inclusive and welcoming?)
4. Why is God laughing in heaven? Could this relate to the fact that futility can be funny?
5. Think of the definition of derision: contemptuous ridicule or mockery. How does it make you feel to think of God holding in derision those who are trying to be in control of their lives (be their own god)?
6. Who is the Lord talking to in verse 7, “You are my Son...” What other story, or stories, in Scripture does this make you think of?
7. In ancient texts, a king's rule was often likened to breaking pottery; so “break” in verse 9 means to rule. How does that understanding impact your understanding of these verses? And how does Jesus rule?
8. What does it mean to take refuge in the Lord (v. 12)?

PRESENTED BY:



**LUTHER HOUSE
OF STUDY**