



river west church

Thy Kingdom Come

Psalm 2

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4.29.2012

Psalms 1 and 2 form a two part introduction to the whole Book of Psalms.

Psalm 3 is where the prayers actually begin. Psalm 3 is a Psalm of David, a prayer he prayed in the midst of a real life drama. That's the beauty of the Psalms They are prayers prayed in the middle of real life situations. In the Psalms we learn to apply THE REALITY OF GOD to the reality of our lives, through prayer. It's "GOD and _____." You fill in the blank!

But Psalms 1 and 2 aren't actually prayers at all. Instead, they are our introduction to prayer. These two Psalms set the stage for everything that follows. So pay attention! It's as if God is saying, "Grab onto the truth in Psalms 1 and 2. Let that truth guide you every time you pray!" Let it become the "framework" for every prayer you pray!

Word of God | Son of God

Psalm 1 is a message about the Word of God. It challenges us to listen to the right voice – the voice of God. It guides us to pay attention above all to the written Word of God. Don't form your view of God primarily from your own personal experience or personal ideas. The reality of God is revealed above all in His Word! If you want to know God, focus on His Word. If you want to pray in faith, dive deep into His Word. As you see Him in His Word, your faith will grow stronger. Then, you will begin to connect the reality of God with the reality of your own life through prayer. Let your prayers be rooted in the Word of God. This is the first message of the Psalms. It forms the first half of a framework for all our prayers. This leads the way as we seek to know God through the Psalms.

Psalm 2 is a message about the Son of God. It's a type of Psalm called a "Royal Psalm." That means it's a Psalm about God as King and the Kingdom of God. Royal Psalms are regal and imposing. They have lots of talk about God's throne, His power, His purposes, and His ultimate victory over all things. Royal Psalms also talk a lot about God's "anointed." In Israel, whenever there was a new king enthroned, he would be "anointed" with oil as a sign of his royal kingship. The "anointed one" rules on earth as a representative of the almighty King who rules in heaven. In Hebrew the word for "anointed one" is: "Messiah." In Psalm 2, the "anointed one" is also called the "Son of God."

It's pretty obvious that Psalm 2 is a prophecy about Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who is the risen king and Lord of all!

God is King! He has a purpose and a plan. He IS working to establish His kingdom in this fallen world! He does this through His Son Jesus Christ, the "anointed one," the Messiah. This is the second message of the Psalms. It forms the second half of a framework for all our prayers. This also leads the way as we seek to know God through the Psalms.

Thy Kingdom Come

Jesus taught us to pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be thy name, let thy kingdom come, let thy will be done." This is Psalm 2 in action. It shows us that our prayers aren't only about ourselves – our experiences, hurts, hope, or desires. Our prayers may include all those things, of course; but they should also be way bigger than that. We pray knowing that God is at work in our world, accomplishing His grand purpose and plan. God is on MISSION, through HIS SON. In all our hurts,

hopes, needs and desires, we need to keep this in mind. It's not just about us. There is something way bigger going on; and we get to be a part of it! When we pray, we join God in His kingdom mission in our broken world.

And there's one thing more. We are on a quest to know God. In this quest, Psalm 2 reminds us that knowing God means not just knowing who He is, but also what He does. For sure, we need to know who God IS. That means knowing His attributes and His character. The Psalms will teach us much about who God is. But we also want to know what God DOES. That means knowing His ways, His purposes, and His actions in our world as He establishes His kingdom and reigns as king. This too, is the message of the Psalms.

So let's dig into the Psalms! And let's pray the Psalms – always framing our prayers in the light of these two things: The Word of God and The Son of God, Jesus Christ our Lord and King!