

I Take Refuge in You

Psalm 2

Questions you can use: Please adjust to your needs and to the order that serves your study the best.

1. Identify the different voices in Psalm 2? In which verses do you hear the poet, the King, God and the nations (peoples of the world and their rulers).
2. Psalm 2 is a Royal Psalm. Can you identify other Royal Psalms in the book of Psalms? One example is Psalm 110. What are the Royal psalms about?
3. What was significant about the Royal Psalms to Israel? Why is it significant to Christians? Hebrews 1 quotes Psalm 2 among other Psalms. Read Hebrews 1 together and reflect on why the psalms are essential to understanding the person of Jesus and his reign.
4. It is argued by many that Psalm 1 and 2 are conjoined as a pair. Pastor Jim compared them to the Sedin twins. What are the similarities and differences? What unifies them as a twin set of Psalms? At this point in our Psalm series, what do they suggest to you about what to expect in the rest of the Psalms?
5. The Psalms are rooted in an OT understanding of God's laws and commands. Psalm 1 invites us to meditate on God's laws and commands. This seems to be in contrast to the NT which bases salvation not on works but on faith in Christ. How do we resolve this? Jesus in Matthew 5: 17ff says, "I have fulfilled the laws." Read together and discuss. Refer to other passages. Pastor Jim suggested that when the Psalms refer to delight in God's laws and commands this is now NT code word to meditate on Jesus and his ways? Do you agree or not? Why?
6. Jewish people today do not read Psalm 2 the way Christians read Psalm 2. Is it appropriate to read Psalm 2 through the lens of a Christ-centered perspective?
7. Verse 9 describes the King of Israel as one who will smash his enemies with a rod of iron (sceptre). Considering Jesus' path to the cross, his washing of the feet of the disciples, and his description as the Lamb in the book of Revelation how does Jesus overpower the enemy? Is his power like the power of the world? Instead of harmonizing Psalm 2:9 with Christ does the NT pose a contrast in terms of Christ's power?
8. Psalm 1 begins with a blessing and Psalm 2 ends with a blessing? Reflect on this combination of blessing. Blessed who don't walk in the counsel of the wicked..but delights in the law of the Lord and "all who take refuge in him."
9. Pastor Jim suggested that one of the critical questions that arise from these psalms is whether we will have strength and courage to live God's way in a world that rejects God's way. Talk about that. Perhaps end by praying for each other and for your small group and for your family and for the church to be people who live strongly and courageously in God's way.

