

The SONGS OF ZION

DISCUSSION

"IN THIS 'SECOND PSALM', ONE OF THE MOST FREQUENTLY QUOTED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT, DAVID EXHORTED THE PAGAN NATIONS SURROUNDING ISRAEL TO FORSAKE THEIR EFFORTS TO OPPOSE THE LORD AND HIS ANOINTED KING. HE URGED THEM TO SUBMIT TO THE AUTHORITY OF THE SON WHOM GOD HAS ORDAINED TO RULE THEM. THE FIRST AND SECOND PSALMS WERE ALWAYS UNITED AS ONE IN THE RABBINICAL TRADITIONS. AS PSALM 1 DEALS WITH TWO WAYS THAT INDIVIDUALS MAY FOLLOW, PSALM 2 DEALS WITH TWO WAYS THAT NATIONS MAY FOLLOW."

- DR. THOMAS CONSTABLE

1. Based on what you know about the Old Testament, and King David's reign, what was going on that might have been the cause of Psalm 2's opening question?
2. Now bringing our minds to the current age, what rebellion against God do you see in international, national, or local events? Is there any importance to noticing these acts of rebellion? Why or why not?
3. What do you learn about God's sovereignty from the psalm?
4. Charles Swindoll comments that "*God finds it hilarious that any person or nation would raise their puny fist and challenge Him... The Lord laughs at the thought.*" How have you, in the past or currently, challenged God's sovereignty and goodness?
5. Furthermore, how does knowing God is sovereign help you face life's challenges?
6. Do you find a mention of Jesus in this psalm? If so, where is He mentioned?
7. Where else have you seen the connection of Jesus and this psalm in the New Testament? (Acts 13:33; Hebrews 1:5; 5:5)
8. In the introductory paragraph above, we see that Psalm 1 and Psalm 2 were likely considered one psalm at one point in time. How is there a connection between Psalm 1 and Psalm 2? (Specifically look at Ps 1:1 & Ps 2:12b in the ESV)
9. What else stands out, or what can you learn from and/or apply because of this psalm? Share with the group.

PSALM 2 {ESV}

- 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.