

**Summer in the Psalms**  
**Group Discussion Questions**  
**Psalm 2**

*Psalm 2:1-3 - Enemies of God and His Anointed*

- How would you answer the main question posed in this section of Psalm 2 for today? Why do nations and individuals today “rage” against and resist God’s will and kingdom?
- Who is the Lord’s “Anointed” (2:2)? What about God’s “King” (2:6) and God’s “Son” (2:7)? Why are these terms/titles significant?
- In verse 3, the enemies of the Lord seem to think that God’s authority over them is a bad thing (that it is binding and restrictive). What false belief(s) underlies this assumption?
- This passage is directly quoted in Acts 4. Read Acts 4:23-30 and explore how this passage sheds light on how the New Testament interpreted Psalm 2.

*Psalm 2:4-6 - God’s perspective on His enemies*

- In your own words, how does God respond in verses 4-6 to those who resist his will?
- What is “Zion, my holy hill” (2:6)? Look in your Bible’s study notes or cross references to understand the significance of this reference. For starters, read 2 Sam. 5:6-10; Isa. 46:12-13, 59:20.
- Application: How might Psalm 2:1-6 help us properly respond to individuals, nations, or institutions that seek to overthrow and ignore the will of God? How does this text bring us comfort as we live in a culture that, in many ways, seems to mock Christian beliefs and values?

*Psalm 2:7-9 - The Reign of God’s “Son”*

- Read 2 Sam. 7:8-16. How does this passage shed light on Psalm 2:7-9 in its *Old Testament* context?
- Read Acts 13:33; Heb. 1:5; Matt. 3:17, and 17:5-8. How do these passages shed light on Psalm 2:7-9 in its New Testament context?
- Notice that 2:8 speaks of the Son of God receiving “the nations” (i.e., the gentiles) as his heritage, not only the OT nation of Israel. How does this foreshadow the NT’s understanding of the identity of the people of God and the mission of the Apostles? See Acts 13:44-48.

- How do we square verse 8's mention of the Son's "possession" of the nations, while verse 9 speaks of his discipline or wrath towards the nations?

*Psalm 2:10-12 - The Blessing of Submission to God*

- This section functions as a practical conclusion to Psalm 2. In your own words, what is the overall message of verses 10-12?
  - In your own life, what does it look like to "rejoice with trembling" (2:11)?
  - How have you seen the last line of verse 12 come true in your walk with Christ: "Blessed are all who take refuge in him"? Give an example of how you have taken refuge in God.
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**Summer in the Psalms**  
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**Psalm 1**

This opening psalm contrasts the blessed and the wicked. Read aloud the psalm and create a list of how each is described.

*Blessed is the man  
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;*

- What does “blessed” mean in the context of Psalm 1, and how does it differ from worldly ideas of happiness?
- Notice the verbs used in this verse. What kind of progression do you see? What does this tell us about the nature of compromise or temptation?

*but his delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and on his law he meditates day and night.*

- Describe delight. Share an activity that brings you delight and why. Does reading scripture feel more like a "delight" or a dutiful "discipline" to you?
- How is meditating different from reading or studying?

*He is like a tree  
planted by streams of water  
that yields its fruit in its season,  
and its leaf does not wither.  
In all that he does, he prospers.*

- Read Jeremiah 17:13, John 4:10-14, and John 7:37-39. Who is our water from whom we draw nourishment?
- The psalm states that the righteous tree "yields its fruit in its season". Why is it significant that fruit appear at specific "proper times" rather than all at once?
- How can a believer "prosper" even when facing losses and sorrows?

*The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.*

- What are the characteristics of chaff? What is this metaphor teaching us about a life lived apart from God?

*Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;*

- What does it mean to "stand" in this context, and what does it reveal about God's holiness and justice?

*for the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.*

- What does "the way" represent in this psalm? What does it mean that "the Lord watches over the way of the righteous"?

### **Application**

Who or what has shaped your thinking the most in the past year? Are there areas in your life where you have subtly transitioned from just "walking past" a worldly idea to "sitting down" and making yourself comfortable with it?

What does "meditating day and night" look like in a busy modern schedule? What practical rhythms have helped you keep truth at the center of your mind throughout the day?

Looking at your life over the past few months, what kind of "fruit" is God producing in you? Are there areas where you feel spiritually stagnant or fruitless, and why might that be?

What is one concrete step you can take this week to walk more fully in the way of the righteous?