

**Advent Sunday ~ Sunday, December 3, 2023**  
**Advent in the Psalms: The Only Begotten King**  
**Psalm 2:1-12**

**INTRODUCTION**

“Joy to the World” calls us to \_\_\_\_\_ amidst the busyness and rush of the season to intentionally prepare our \_\_\_\_\_ for the coming of Jesus—not just as a baby in Bethlehem; but also as King of Glory at the end of the age.

Psalm 2 is one of the most frequently quoted psalms in the NT in reference to Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_ and mission. It is a helpful place to begin in our Advent preparations because while it focuses our attention very clearly on Jesus, God’s Anointed, it does so in a way that acknowledges the \_\_\_\_\_ of our world and yet, is enormously \_\_\_\_\_ at the same time.

The world tells us that hope and realism are \_\_\_\_\_—which is a tempting conclusion to reach, given how grim things can sometimes appear to be. However, Psalm 2 begs to differ; holding out the possibility of \_\_\_\_\_ no matter how dark things get.

**THE 4 SECTIONS & 4 VOICES OF PSALM 2**

**Section 1:** \_\_\_\_\_.

“Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?” (Psalm 2:1)

In asking this question, he isn’t so much looking for an \_\_\_\_\_, but is rather pointing out how \_\_\_\_\_ it is to rebel against God. And so, the psalm doesn’t actually start with the nightmare of human evil, plotting and scheming in all its malice, threatening to snuff out the flickering candle of hope; it doesn’t start from \_\_\_\_\_ with the mess of a broken, sinful world, but rather from above, with the One who \_\_\_\_\_ over it all in complete \_\_\_\_\_.

It’s on this \_\_\_\_\_ that the psalmist firmly \_\_\_\_\_ his hope. And so, as he considers the raging of the nations, he sees the whole thing as \_\_\_\_\_ because he’s confident that God reigns.

It’s this perspective that enables him to face a dark world with complete \_\_\_\_\_ and not lose hope.

“The kings of the earth set themselves and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord and against his Anointed, saying, ‘Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.’” (Psalm 2:2-3)

There’s no sugarcoating it. Here’s the human \_\_\_\_\_ laid bare in all its ugliness, sin, and malice for all to see, \_\_\_\_\_ refusing to submit to the sovereignty of God.

We need to look beyond what we can see with our \_\_\_\_\_ eyes to the spiritual.

“...our battle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.” (Ephesians 6:12)

The raging of the nations that we see all around us is a spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ by the rulers of the earth taking counsel together against the Lord and his Anointed.

Psalm 2 provided the lens or \_\_\_\_\_ grid for their experience of suffering. If we want to cling to hope amidst difficult days, if we want to stand firm in the face of challenge and adversity, we need to let the \_\_\_\_\_ provide the interpretive grid through which we make sense of things, and not our own \_\_\_\_\_, suffering, fears, or insecurities.

Psalm 2 can help us face a raging world with \_\_\_\_\_ and honesty about how dark and hard things can be; and instead of \_\_\_\_\_ it, hiding, or running from it, it can provide us with the resources to face it head on with \_\_\_\_\_ and faith.

**How do you respond to the raging world?**  
**Where do you find hope in the midst of darkness?**

**Section 2:** \_\_\_\_\_.

“He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, ‘As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.’” (Psalm 2:4-6)

God isn’t \_\_\_\_\_ by the raging world; He doesn’t fear the leaders of the nations who conspire against Him. Instead, He’s so \_\_\_\_\_ in His sovereignty and in His governance of all His creatures and their actions, that the mere suggestion of human rebellion even coming close to unseating His dominion or thwarting His purposes is \_\_\_\_\_ of the highest caliber

Knowing God in this way, when we turn in dismay from the raging world and hear the laughter of the only One who truly rules over all things, we can’t help but find \_\_\_\_\_ and hope.

Advent and Christmas celebrates the birth of Christ who came to obey and to bleed and die for us sinners in order to secure our \_\_\_\_\_.

Sometimes, we're so quick to focus our lens \_\_\_\_\_ on the subject of personal salvation, that we lose sight of the wide angle truth that clearly shows that Jesus' first advent was also God's \_\_\_\_\_ to the raging world.

Jesus' first advent is all about the laughing God who appoints His Son as King, in \_\_\_\_\_ to the rulers of the world, and in gleeful delight, to reign over all things, knowing that no matter what a rebellious world does in opposition to Christ, "of the increase of His government and of His kingdom there will be no \_\_\_\_\_."

**Do you trust in God when the world—when your world—is raging?  
Where do you find reassurance and hope?**

**Section 3:** \_\_\_\_\_.

"I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, 'You are my Son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.'" (Psalm 2:7-9)

### 3 THINGS ABOUT THE REIGNING SON

**#1:** \_\_\_\_\_. "You are My Son; today I have begotten you."

This begetting is an \_\_\_\_\_ begetting. And the today, is the eternal \_\_\_\_\_, the everlasting today of the divine life, so that this Son, has \_\_\_\_\_ been the Son of the Father and there was never a time when He wasn't.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God." (John 1:1-2)

The Psalmist is clear: this only begotten Son who is in the bosom of the Father and whom God has appointed as King is none other than the second person of the \_\_\_\_\_ Himself.

Unlike other kings who plot and scheme, and yet for all their machinations, don't really possess true \_\_\_\_\_, this King that God has appointed, is God's only begotten Son, and so He's able to perfectly \_\_\_\_\_ the Father's plan.

**#2:** \_\_\_\_\_.

There's no place, no people group, no tribe, no language where the divine Son's \_\_\_\_\_ will not one day be \_\_\_\_\_.

Advent is all about \_\_\_\_\_ our heads and looking past the strutting, preening fools who set themselves up as trend-setters and culture-shapers.

It's about remembering that the true King has come and will \_\_\_\_\_ again.

There's no place beyond His \_\_\_\_\_ and no one will escape His dominion.

**#3:** \_\_\_\_\_.

The kings of the earth think themselves to be \_\_\_\_\_; however, the truth is, the \_\_\_\_\_ wrath of Jesus Christ is an iron rod, and our rebellious lives are only \_\_\_\_\_ in comparison. There's no resisting the just judgment of God's appointed King.

What we really need isn't a Hallmark card nativity scene, but a \_\_\_\_\_ who will one day execute judgment and justice, upon the whole world; a justice that cannot be ignored, \_\_\_\_\_, or evaded by anyone!

**What is your view of that first Christmas?  
What kind of King do you need in your life?**

**Section 4:** \_\_\_\_\_.

"Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, with trembling kiss his feet, or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way; for his wrath is quickly kindled. Happy are all who take refuge in him." (Psalm 2:10-12)

The psalmist is reminding us here of the absolute \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ. He is the King of kings and the Lord of lords; and all who reject, oppose, or deny Him will \_\_\_\_\_. However, it doesn't have to be that way.

The book of Psalms opens in the first psalm, by talking about two ways to live: the way of the \_\_\_\_\_ that leads to destruction and the way of the \_\_\_\_\_ that leads to blessing. Here, in the last line of Psalm 2, we find the \_\_\_\_\_ to this blessed life.

Jesus came in His first advent to provide \_\_\_\_\_ for rebel sinners like you and me. He obeyed, bled, died, and rose that every \_\_\_\_\_ might be made for anyone, anywhere, who wants the \_\_\_\_\_ and forgiveness of God. Nobody needs to \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus died a cursed death under the \_\_\_\_\_ of God so that the way could be opened for guilty sinners into the \_\_\_\_\_ life.

**Do you hear this pleading word? What will you do with Jesus this Advent?**

**NOTES:**