

SOUL SONG

A Study in the Psalms



GROUP/FAMILY

Session 1

- Watch the sermon titled: “How to Sing to God” on Jesse Campbell Ministries YouTube Channel.
- Dive deeper into the text through Devotions 1303-1308 (on [YouTube/podcast](#)) and share them with the one you are discipling.
- Apply your life to the Bible alongside your group or family with the honest questions in this lesson.



This Week's Sermon exposit's Psalm 1

Devotions 1303-1308 cover Psalms 3-6

For more resources, visit: jessecampbellministries.com

Context

Jesus, the crucifixion, and even the victorious millennial reign of Christ are in full view in this text. It is the first use of the term “Anointed One” (מָשִׁיחַ), or “Messiah” in the Psalms, making this the first messianic Psalm.

This was written over 900 years before the birth of Christ, but fulfilled in Christ and further explained in the prophetic texts of the New Testament.

In ancient Near Eastern culture, kingship was divinely sanctioned, and the king was seen as God's chosen instrument of justice and rule. In Israel, however, this concept was heightened: the Davidic king was not only God's anointed but also the covenantal figure through whom God's purposes would unfold (2 Samuel 7). The nations' rebellion in Psalm 2 reflects the geopolitical climate where Israel's neighbors resisted her growing influence under David and Solomon. The psalm anticipates opposition to God's rule but affirms Yahweh's sovereign decree. Culturally, the psalm juxtaposes the arrogance of human rulers with the invincible authority of God, warning all nations to submit to God's chosen king. It served both a liturgical and prophetic function, used to inspire confidence in God's rule and to declare the future universal reign of the Messiah, the truest and greatest King forever.

The Big Idea of the Text

Nations raged, but God laughed. God would install His own King. Some would repent and most would rebel, but those who take refuge in the Messiah are happy.

Connecting the Session to the Sermon

Psalm 1 and Psalm 2 form a literary and theological introduction to the Psalter. Psalm 1 presents the contrast between the righteous and the wicked on a personal level, while Psalm 2 expands that contrast to a national and cosmic level. Both psalms emphasize the blessing of aligning with God's will and the destruction that comes from rebellion. In Psalm 1, the righteous meditate on God's law; in Psalm 2, the wise take refuge in God's Son. In both texts, God is in control and He blesses those who belong to Him.

NOTES:

[illegible]

Biblical Text (CSB) - Psalm 2

Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
2 The kings of the earth take their stand,
and the rulers conspire together
against the Lord and his Anointed One:

3 “Let’s tear off their chains
and throw their ropes off of us.”
4 The one enthroned in heaven laughs;
the Lord ridicules them.
5 Then he speaks to them in his anger
and terrifies them in his wrath:

6 “I have installed my king
on Zion, my holy mountain.”
7 I will declare the Lord’s decree.
He said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have become your Father.

8 Ask of me,
and I will make the nations your inheritance
and the ends of the earth your possession.
9 You will break them with an iron scepter;
you will shatter them like pottery.”

10 So now, kings, be wise;
receive instruction, you judges of the earth.
11 Serve the Lord with reverential awe
and rejoice with trembling.
12 Pay homage to the Son or he will be angry
and you will perish in your rebellion,
for his anger may ignite at any moment.
All who take refuge in him are happy.

Applying Our Lives to the Text

- Scan through the text again and shout out what you see as prophetic about Jesus.
- Revisit verses 4-9 and explain why a Christian can keep an eternally unshakeable sense of peace despite geopolitical turmoil.
- Think hard about why God would laugh at nations that rebel according to verse 4. For example, is this a condescending laugh in a good way? Is this vengeful malevolence? Is it God's divine confidence? Why does God laugh in verse 4?
- Using a Bible search app, concordance, or cross-reference resource; find the verse in Revelation that best expounds upon verse 9. The winner gets to bring pulled pork to the next small group meeting.
- Describe what it would be like to serve in the court of a king who does exactly what verses 10 and 11 instruct kings to do. Explain why.
- In our "post-Christian" culture, the idea of rejecting Jesus is framed as harmless at worst and enlightened at best. How does verse 12 punch that idea in the face?

The Takeaway: So What Church?

Read Matthew 3:17, Acts 13:33, and Hebrews 1:5. These passages confirm that Jesus is the Son made King in today's text of Psalm 2. Acts and Hebrews even quote this very text! This Psalm is about Jesus.

- We will find eternal peace despite international turmoil!
- We will experience the happiness and blessings promised to those who bow to Jesus as Lord!

For Parents:

SHOW YOUR KIDS JESUS IN THIS PASSAGE

Psalm 2 tells us that people did not want to listen to God's King, but God was not scared—He already picked His Son, Jesus, to be the forever King. God said, "You are My Son," and promised to give Him the whole world. That means Jesus is in charge of everything, even when people disobey. God invites everyone to love and listen to His Son. If we trust Jesus and follow Him, we will be safe and happy. God's plan always wins. Even when people try to fight it, Jesus is still the King.

FOLLOW ALONG

To cover the subsequent scripture in Daily Devotions 1303-1308, subscribe to Jesse Campbell Ministries on YouTube or on most podcast apps.

OTHER OFFERINGS

With an abundance of Bible Books to cover just like this study, there's plenty more to explore and learn from JCM, such as:

- Dear Skeptical Friend: The Gospel of Luke for Groups
- Holy Dissident: Isaiah for Groups
- Letters to My Sons: The Pastoral Epistles
- Into The Fray: I Corinthians
- The God of All Comfort: II Corinthians
- Reason For Hope: 6 Apologetic Sessions for Groups
- The Sacred Acts: Ordinances of the Church
- The Revival Project: A Transformative Study of Nehemiah
- And many more!

Start your free 30-day trial with JCM by visiting us online at:
jessecampbellministries.com

ABOUT JCM

Dr. Jesse Campbell is the founder and head Pastor of The Redemption Church, located on the outskirts of Seattle, WA. Jesse has a strong calling to preach the Bible as it is written. In the midst of a socially and religiously starving culture, his biblical foundation for understanding and preaching the gospel in a strong, clear, and concise manner has earned him a large following in a short amount of time. He's grown the JCM platform quickly, has been featured on national radio shows, and has been a guest speaker across the nation at many churches and large events.

Originally from the Pensacola, FL area, Jesse moved with his family to Nashville and worked at Lifeway Publishing for a while before completing his pastoral education. He was led to launch his own biblically-based church, The Redemption Church, in 2020.

Jesse is married to his wife, Jessi, and they have 4 children. Together they also run a conference for bereaved parents, in memory of their son, Aiden, called Aiden's Hope. When Jesse and Jessi aren't investing their time in JCM or The Redemption Church, you can find them on the bleachers cheering on many baseball games or hiking in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.