

Psalm 2

The Lord's Plan for the Human Race: The Rule of God's Son, the Savior of the World, Psalm 2:1-12

DEEPER STUDY #1

(Psalm 2:1-12) Psalm 2 in the New Testament: this is a prophetic psalm that is mentioned more in the New Testament than any other psalm. It is either quoted or referenced at least eighteen times. The best interpreter of Scripture is Scripture; therefore, the use of this psalm so many times helps us to accurately interpret and understand this passage. In fact, the New Testament usage sheds light on meanings that are not readily apparent in the reading of the psalm alone. Note these occasions when Psalm 2 is cited in the New Testament:

1. At the baptism of Jesus, the Father spoke from heaven as in Psalm 2:7 (Matthew 3:17; Mark 1:11; Luke 3:22).
2. Jesus alluded to it in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 7:23).
3. The Father again cited Psalm 2:7 at the Transfiguration of Jesus (Matthew 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:35).
4. Upon meeting Jesus, Nathanael recognized Him as the fulfillment of Psalm 2:6-7 (John 1:49).
5. Peter and John identified its fulfillment both in their persecution by the Jewish leaders, and in the gathering together of government officials, Jews, and Gentiles against Christ at His crucifixion (Acts 2:23-31).
6. Paul interpreted Psalm 2:7 as referring to Christ's resurrection (Acts 13:30-37).
7. Paul alluded to Psalm 2:11 in exhorting the Philippians to continue in faithful service to the Lord (Philippians 2:12).
8. The author of Hebrews cited Psalm 2:8 and quoted Psalm 2:7 in his introduction of Jesus (Hebrews 1:2, 5).
9. The author of Hebrews quoted Psalm 2:7 in his discussion of Christ's high priestly work when He offered Himself as the Sacrifice for eternal salvation (Hebrews 5:5-10).
10. Jesus exhorted the church to be faithful. If we are faithful, we will share in His reign over the nations (Revelation 2:26).
11. The book of Revelation stresses that the rule of Christ over the nations will be fulfilled when Christ returns to Earth (Revelation 2:27; Revelation 11:18; Revelation 12:5; Revelation 19:15).