“The King’s Invitation: Be Wise, Be Warned, Be Blessed”

**Psalm 2**

(notes based on the sermon by Pastor Steve Massey, Hayden Bible Church, 1/30/22)

 As Pastor Steve said last week, there are two kinds of people: those who live with affection for God’s Word and allegiance to Him, and those who don’t. There is no middle ground. Psalm 2:9 says that God’s power will be brought to bear against rebellious people. But the church (those who believe and follow Jesus) lives in confidence and security of God’s complete victory.

 Let’s review a little more. Ps. 2:1-3 speaks of the world’s rebellion. Ps. 2:4-5 gives us Heaven’s perspective: man’s rebellion is futile and foolish. Finally, Ps. 2:6-9 is God’s decree: He will anoint His Son as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, the ultimate Ruler of all. His enemies are to be judged with finality.

 What are we to do? What are we to think? Ps. 2:10 says we are “**to be wise**”. We need to pay attention to the reality of impending judgment. (Which begs the question: Have you responded rightly to the King’s invitation?) We are “**to be warned**”. “Be instructed” is God’s warning to change course, in light of impending judgment (God’s wrath). Now read Prov. 26:12 and Is. 5:21. Man in 2022 is “wise in his own eyes”. In the world’s view, truth is relative, everybody is right, and the ways of God are myths that need to be outlawed. The true church is a problem that the world needs to deal with. What’s happening now in India and Nigeria and elsewhere could be coming here soon. But the Lord offers a better way- the way of life. Read Prov. 15:24 to discover the path of the wise. Ps. 2:11 is an invitation to blessing. How are we **to be blessed?** We are to serve the Lord with fear (see Ps. 111:10, Prov. 1:7, and Prov. 9:10). (Q1) We are to serve, obey, and live in reverence to Him. If you do, then you are free to love God, not to hate Him or be indifferent to Him. You choose: Do you want to walk in the way of the righteous or the way of the ungodly?

 In the King James version, Ps. 2:12 has an interesting phrase: “Kiss the Son.” This, of course, refers to the Messiah, the Anointed One. We are called to serve the King who served us first. He substituted His sinless life for our unrighteousness, taking upon Himself the wrath of God that we deserve. Now Jesus reigns as King forevermore! The “kiss” is the same kiss referred to in 1 Sam. 10:1. It’s the kiss of allegiance, the kiss of submission to God’s anointed. In Hosea 13:2 we see the “kiss” applied as homage to false gods. Then, as now, God desires complete allegiance, not just a flippant use of His name. The King’s invitation is a call to live in adoration toward Christ and allegiance to His rule. We see another kiss in Luke 7:37-38, where Mary kisses Jesus’ feet and washes them with her tears. Then Jesus follows with the parable of the two debtors. His point? The one who loves the Master the most is the one who has been forgiven the most. The kisses we are talking about are kisses of adoration, gratitude, submission, and allegiance. Let’s consider one more kiss, from Luke 15:20. When the prodigal son returned to his senses and started for home, his father RAN to him and embraced him and kissed him. Our heavenly Father’s kiss of acceptance is for ALL who give their allegiance to Him.

 When was the last time you told someone about this good news? You don’t have to be a “preacher”! Just tell them all the great things God has done for you and how He has had mercy on you (Mark 5:19). For some, this lesson is a call to repent right now, to surrender to the King who loves you so very much. For others, this lesson is a call to examine our lives: Are there still parts that need to be surrendered? Do you need to confess your idolatry (or your indifference) and submit to His benevolent rule? This lesson is a call to trust God with your life on a day-in and day-out basis. What could be better than being washed by His blood, confident in His righteousness, not your own? But wait… there’s more! Read Rev. 2:26-27 and Rev. 5:9-10. We will reign with Him and sing this anthem to Him. So don’t be bummed out or live in fear. Ps. 2 has offered hope of the coming rule of the Messiah throughout the centuries. Are you ready for His coming? Do you eagerly await His coming?

 Richard Baxter said, “He prepared the kingdom for us, and us for His kingdom.” “Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.” Go out today and live with the bright hope of kingdom people! Amen. (Q2) (Q3) (Q4)

**QUESTIONS**:

1. Study Ps. 86:11. How does an undivided heart lead to fear and reverence toward God?
2. According to Ps. 2:10-12, what are the outward signs that a person believes God’s warnings and surrenders to His anointed King?
3. Google the lyrics of “Before the Throne of God Above” (Bancroft) and “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” (Townend). As a group, point out the phrases that highlight your faith in Christ. Point out the lyrics that lead you to fear Him and surrender your allegiance to Him.
4. Your turn! Come up with a question (related to this study) for your group. Make it one that will cause them to dig deep and apply this message.

 “I Surrender All” (Van De Venter)

1. All to Jesus I surrender,
All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.
	* Refrain:
	I surrender all,
	I surrender all;
	All to Thee, my blessed Savior,
	I surrender all.
2. All to Jesus I surrender,
Humbly at His feet I bow;
Worldly pleasures all forsaken,
Take me, Jesus, take me now.