

# **Bible Study on Psalms**

## **Messianic Psalms – Christ is the Heart of the Psalms**

The messianic psalms foretell important truths about the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ. Only the four gospels (and perhaps Isaiah) give more information about our Savior than do the psalms

A few psalms that fit into this category are Psalms 2, 16, 22, and 110.

### **Psalm 2**

Psalm 2 reveals important information about who Jesus is in relation to God the Father. This psalm also foretells Christ's supreme kingship over all nations and peoples.

Read Psalm 2 and work through these questions.

1. Verses 1 and 2 describe the plotting of earthly kings and rulers against God and "His Anointed One."
  - a. How was the plan hatched by earthly kings and rulers carried out? See Acts 4:25-27
  - b. Who is the Anointed One? See Luke 4:18-21
2. Look closely at 2:3. How do you think people today "break God's chains" and "throw off God's fetters"?
3. What is God's reaction toward those who rebel against him and his Son? See vv. 4-5
4. What do verses 7-9 tell us?
5. What do verses 11-12 warn against?

### **Psalm 16**

Read Psalm 16 and work through these questions.

1. What important point does David make in verses 2-4?
2. Read Acts 2:25-32 & 13:35-37. For what reason did Peter and Paul quote vv.8-11?
3. The words David prays in vv. 9-11 declare his joy in the eternal life given him by God. How does knowing that God has shown you the path of life in Jesus Christ influence your outlook on life and death?

## Psalm 22

Read Psalm 22 and work through these questions.

1. No other psalm is quoted more frequently in the NT. Find the references below to discover the events from Jesus' crucifixion mentioned in Psalm 22.
  - a. Verses 1-2; Matthew 27:46...
  - b. Verses 6-7; Mark 15:29...
  - c. Verse 8; Matthew 27:43...
  - d. Verse 15; John 19:28...
  - e. Verse 16; Acts 2:23...
  - f. Verse 18; John 19:24...
2. Despite his distress, what does the psalmist remember? See vv. 3-5, 9,10
3. The turning point in the psalm comes at verse 22. In vv. 22-31, the psalmist vows to praise God. Read these verses with Jesus Christ, Gods Messiah, in mind. How and when did he fulfill them?

## Psalm 110

Read Psalm 110 and work through these questions.

1. Psalm 110 describes Jesus as both King and Priest. What do verse 1 and Matthew 22:41-45 say about Jesus?
2. What does it mean that "everything is under his (Jesus') "feet" and "I (God) make your enemies a footstool for your feet"?
3. What comfort and encouragement does the Lord command, "Sit at My right hand," provide to believers as they face hardships in life? See also Romans 8:34
4. Read Hebrews 7:15-17; 23-28. As you think about the duties of Old Testament priests, especially concerning the offering of sacrifices, what sets Jesus apart as our eternal High Priest?
5. How does the statement "The Lord is at your right hand" (v. 5) set the stage for the verses that follow?

After reading and rereading a psalm, ask yourself these questions. What words or phrases stick out to you? How do these words or phrases reveal the poet's purpose for the psalm? What effect does this psalm have on you as you meditate on it?