

***The Safest Place on Earth***  
*Psalm 2*

Together, Psalm 1 and 2 serve as the introduction to the whole book of Psalms. These two psalms are bookended by statements about who is blessed. In Psalm 1 the blessed person is the one who orients his or her life around following God's instructions. This person experiences fruitfulness and stability. In Psalm 2, the blessed person is the one who seeks refuge in God. This person experiences God's protection. As you think about the need for protection, what is the primary threat in your life? Is it internal (anxieties, sinful urges, addictions, destructive thoughts, etc.)? Is it external (people who want to see you fail spiritually and personally, evil spiritual forces, etc.)? Whatever it is, this psalm makes it clear where we can go for refuge!

**Opening Discussion:** In what ways did you try to get out of trouble when you were younger?

**Read Psalm 2**

1. How are the nations and the kings/rulers of the earth portrayed in this psalm?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How is God the Father revealed in this psalm? What does it mean when it says that He "laughs" or "scoffs" at the kings and rulers on earth (v. 4)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How is God's Anointed (His Son) revealed (vv. 7-9)? (See note below on the meaning of "Anointed")
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. How would you summarize the central warning in this psalm?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. How could a ruler (or anyone) express that they are rightly related to the Lord (v. 10-12)?

6. What does it mean to “take refuge” in the Son (v. 12)?

7. How is our surrender to Jesus’ Lordship, really our liberation and our safety?

Steve said:

Twenty-five times in the book of Psalms refuge is mentioned. The picture we get of “taking refuge” is that of **actively** trusting in YHWH through faith, through His Word, through prayer, and through relationship with His people. We all face threats internally and externally, visible and invisible. The question is **where are you taking refuge?** We all take refuge somewhere; the question is where.

- Some take refuge in other people: “If my \_\_\_\_\_ would get their act together, then I’d have a good life.”
- Some take refuge in money and possessions: “If I have just a little more affluence I’ll be content.”
- Some take refuge in their own understanding: “If I work hard enough I can figure out and solve all my problems.”
- Some people try to escape their troubles through drugs or alcohol or sensuality.

8. Obviously, this psalm urges us to go to the Son for refuge, but sometimes we look elsewhere for refuge, right? Where do you tend to go for refuge when you do that?

9. What is the main thing that you need to do right now to take refuge in Christ?

**Note from Steve’s sermon:** “His [YHWH’s] Anointed” is the king in Israel. The king was called “His Anointed” because the ceremony for designating Israel’s next king involved “anointing” the person with oil. . . In the psalms, “the Lord’s Anointed” was the descendant of David who reigned as king in Israel. . . In the first century, the apostles were very clear that Jesus was YHWH’s Anointed: Anointed = Messiah (Hebrew) = Christ (Greek)