Jesus Is Crowned King

Psalm 2

MEMORY VERSE

PSALM 2:6
"Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion."

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

Two potatoes or other objects that can be passed around easily.

"Kingly" colors of construction paper, glue stick or tape, washable markers and scissors.

Straws, yellow construction paper, scissors, glue, markers and various colors of ribbon or yarn for each child.

ATTENTION GETTER!

Who Has the Promises?

Use this game to introduce to the children that it is Jesus who holds all of the promises. You will need two potatoes or other small objects that can be passed around easily.

Have the children form a circle sitting down. Next have them each place their hands behind their backs. Have one person in the middle as the "guesser." The children will then pass one item toward the right, and the other item to the left. They should try to be inconspicuous as they pass the potato (or other object). Everyone should try to pretend to have it. Have the "guesser" guess the two people who are holding the potato. Take a few turns playing.

As you introduce the lesson, explain that prophetic parts of the Bible are sometimes like puzzles that need to be put together. For example, Psalm 2 doesn't say specifically that it is talking about Jesus, but we know because of the clues in it. It talks about the Lord's "anointed" or Messiah, it talks about how that He is God's

Son and will one day be king. We know this is talking about Jesus because the Bible explains it in other areas. So let's remember that as we study our lesson today. So who is holding the promises? Jesus!

LESSON TIME!

There are many Psalms that are considered "Messianic" Psalms, Psalm 2 being the first. The others are Psalms 8, 16, 22, 23, 24, 40, 41, 45, 68, 69, 72, 89, 102, 110, and 118. That just means that these psalms speak of the Messiah, Jesus, either throughout the entire Psalm, or part of the Psalm.

Psalm 2 has been called "The Psalm of Messiah the Prince." It shows us the hatred of the people against the Lord's anointed, then we see to the heavenly scene showing us God's response; next we see the Anointed declaring His rights of sovereignty and then we see counsel is given to those who have chosen to rebel. What we see in this Psalm is the nature of sin and the terrible results of it if it were not for our wonderful Lord and Savior Jesus who saved us from sin and its terrible bondage. Psalm 2 is quoted more frequently in the New Testament than any other Psalm.

This Psalm is about Jesus. We are going to see Him in His power and glory and see how one day Jesus is going to rule and reign over the earth. Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords.

PSALM 2:1-3:
Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing?

The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,

“Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us.”

Here we see the voice of the world. The “nations” from verse 1 refers to the Gentile nations who don’t know Jesus and the “people” are the Jewish nation. This passage describes those who don’t know Jesus as in a “rage.” The word rage has to do with violence and anger. It is sad that in this world many people shake their fist at God in rage and say they don’t want anything to do with Him. The sad thing is that He is their loving Creator and wants to have a relationship with them. One day they will be judged for their actions.

The word “imagine” can be translated as meditate. We see that while the godly man meditates on the law of God (Psalm 1:1-3) the ungodly are meditating on things that are vain, that will come to nothing. We see that the leaders of the world, both Jewish and Gentile will “take counsel together against the Lord, and against His Anointed.” What is it the world is crying out? Is it just their sinful hearts? No! What they say is that they do not want to be subjected to God, nor do they want God’s King, or God’s righteous rule. What we see is man’s hatred of his Creator and Mediator.

We see many people today saying that to follow God is to be kept from freedom and doing what they want to do. What they don’t realize is that to serve sin and reject God they become slaves to that sin. No one is free to do what he or she wants to apart from God. That person becomes a slave to their desires. True freedom is only found in Jesus Christ. It is in Him that our burden of sin is lifted and that we can find true peace. Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords.

PSALM 2:4-6:
He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the LORD shall hold them in derision.

Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, and distress them in His deep displeasure:

"Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion."

God now lifts us from this earthly scene to the heavenly scene. Is God upset and worried that mankind chooses to rebel against Him? No, He is not. God is holy and just. He is seated far above all of their hatred, looking down upon them. As they are mocking God and His people, God laughs at them. This might seem a bit harsh at first, but God looks at their poor weak efforts, not only without fear, but also He laughs at their foolishness. He knows how He can crush them or consume them in a moment with just a simple word out of His mouth.

Then God speaks to them in His wrath; a sound like thunder, like the lightning's destructive flash. He will torment them in "His great displeasure." God does not delight in punishing His people, but He is righteous and just. This was partially fulfilled for Israel in the destruction of Jerusalem, 70 AD, and the dispersion of the Jews at that time is yet to be fulfilled more completely in the tribulation, which immediately precedes the return of the King.

"Yet," God says, "despite your hatred, despite your violence, in spite of the wisdom of your advice, despite the skill of your lawmakers, 'yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.'" Is that not awesome! God has already done that which the enemy tries to stop from happening. God's will is done, and man's will frets and raves in vain. God's' Anointed is appointed, and will not be disappointed. We see that Jesus Christ is the King of Kings. He is his enemies' King, He is the King of His people, and He is His Father's King. How is Jesus the Father's King? He rules for His Father.

There are two kingdoms of God committed to Jesus; one is a spiritual kingdom and the second is a providential kingdom. In

the first, He rules in the hearts of His people, and in the latter He rules the affairs of this world. What an exciting moment for us to wait for, when Jesus will come back and His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives. At this time He will enter into the city of Zion and rule there. We know that the day is getting closer and closer for the fulfillment of Revelation 1:7 (KJV) "Behold, He comes with clouds; and every eye shall see Him, and they also which pierced Him: and all kindred of the earth, shall wail because of Him." Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords.

PSALM 2:7-9:
"I will declare the decree: the LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.

Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession.

You shall break them with a rod of iron; you shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.'"

Here we now have the Anointed One Himself speaking and telling us what He is, and is able to do, by virtue of the divine decree. Before time ever was, He, Jesus, was the only begotten of the Father (John 17:5). He is actually quoting what God the Father told Him. Here we see that Jesus is the Son of God. We also see that Jesus was with the Father before His birth in the manger many years after this. This is important because Jesus is divine; God in the flesh and this is one area in the Bible that helps us to see that.

Then we see that the Father told Him that He would give Jesus the nations for an inheritance and the earth for His possession. This is interesting because here we see that through Jesus the nations would be able to come to God. Salvation would go to the ends of the earth through Jesus Christ and that is what we are seeing in our lifetime today. Then one day in the future Jesus will return and

rule and reign on this earth. God knew that His own people, Israel would reject Jesus. But He had something greater for Jesus than to be accepted only by Israel. Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords.

One day the nations will be broken down "with a rod of iron, You shall dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." There shall be no more prideful leaders who think that they can do anything. There won't be any more nations that would kill and destroy another nation. Jesus will be King of kings and Lord of lords. Either people will receive Him as Savior or they will face the consequences of eternal judgment.

"Jesus is King" Finger Puppets

Use this activity to reinforce the fact that Jesus is King and all of the other kings and nations will bow down to him. You will need "kingly" colors of construction paper, glue stick or tape, washable markers and scissors.

Have the children cut out small crown shaped pieces of construction paper. They need to be small enough to fit around the tips of their fingers. Their thumb will represent Jesus. They can write with a marker "Jesus" on that crown. After they have cut out the crowns have them also cut out small pieces of various colored construction paper for the robes of the kings. Jesus' should be purple. Once you have cut out all of the materials and taped them together you are ready.

Have the children slip the "robe" pieces of construction paper over their fingers. Next, they should put on the crowns. Remember that the "Jesus" figure will be on their thumb. After you have done that, use a washable marker to make eyes and a mouth on the thumb and four fingers. You now have Jesus and four other kings. Review the story with the children and have them bend down their fingers while keeping their thumbs straight. This will illustrate how that

one day all the kings of the earth will bow down to Jesus. Allow them to take their crowns and robes home with them.

PSALM 2:10-12:
Now therefore, be wise, O kings; be instructed, you judges of the earth.

Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

Now, God calls all the kings and those in authority to recognize the claims of the Son of God. We are all called to "serve the Lord with fear"; not being afraid of Him, but serving Him with the reverence and awe He is due. He is to be respected as the King of Kings. He was the rejected King, and now He is the Almighty King. Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords.

Commentator H.A Ironside made a wonderful statement, "He reaches out a hand and as you look at it, there is a scar, for it is the hand that was once nailed to a cross. He holds out the hand of peace, and the Holy Spirit says, 'Poor rebellious sinners, do not fight against Him, do not wait until the day when the wrath of the Lamb shall come, but now bow at His feet, kiss the Son, kiss that wounded hand in token that you surrender to Him, that you refuse any longer to fight against Him, to associate yourself with the world that is rejecting Him.'

This is the day of His mercy. In that day of wrath it will be too late and you will perish from the way."

The Psalm ends with a beautiful promise, "Blessed are all they who put their trust in him." Blessed means, "oh, how happy." "Trust" is