



Messiah the Coming King

Psalm 2

Dr. Deane J. Woods

JUST before His ascension, Jesus (Hebrew Yeshua) drew the disciples' attention to an important truth: "all things must be fulfilled which were written in the law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me" (Lk24:44; cf. vs.26).

These three categories (Law, Prophets, and Writings - The Psalms scroll being the largest in the last group, hence Jesus use of "psalms" is *representative* of the whole third category) refer to the three major divisions of the Hebrew Scriptures. Jesus' self-claimed identification in these Old Testament scriptures pointed those who followed Him (and us today), to an undeniable truth: God's Word speaks "about (Him)" (cf. Jn 5:39). He is the "central Message of the Bible" as J. Sidlow Baxter expressed it.

Our new series of studies will show exactly how the Psalms testify to, and foreshadow, Jesus as the promised Messiah. For example, He is the *crucified Saviour* in Psalm 22; the *caring Shepherd* in Psalm 23 (cf. Jn 10); the *complete Sacrifice* in Psalm 46:6-8 (cf. Heb 10:1-10); the *called High Priest* in Psalm 110 (cf. Heb 7:17-21); the *cast-away Stone* in Psalm 118:22-23 (cf. Mt 21:42); and the *coming King* in Psalm 2 (cf. Acts 4:25-26; 13:33 and Rev 19:11-16). These shadows of the Messiah in the Psalms are realized in the substance of Jesus, the Messiah - the only Saviour of the world (cf. Col 2:17; Jn 3:16; Acts 4:12).

Let's look at Psalm 2 in detail, noting its relevant messianic applications. Contextually, the psalm should be read in conjunction with Psalm 1. Consider the contrasts in the following chart:

Psalm 2

Discern the 'voice messages' of:

The Rebellious Nations (1-3)
The Righteous Father (4-6)
The Regal Son (7-9)
 &
The Renewing Spirit (10-12)

Psalm 1	Psalm 2
1. Personal; refers to God's Law	1. National focus; prophetic themes
2. Jesus; the 'Perfect Man'	2. Jesus; 'King of Kings'
3. Blessings of the Jewish man	3. Prophecy judgments on unbelieving Gentile Nations
4. Hebrew 'haga' (meditate): right kind of ...	4. Hebrew 'haga' (imagine): wrong kind of meditation
5. Opens with a beatitude	5. Closes with a beatitude

Furthermore, there is a 'literary *motif*' connecting Psalm 2's twelve verses. Read the text carefully with wise discernment, and you will find the *motif* connexion as being **four resonant 'voice-messages'**. No, we are definitely not speaking of that phenomenon in which certain people claim to hear voices. On the contrary, these 'voice-messages' resonate unmistakably as:

The Clamour of the Rebellious Nations (1-3)

Listen to the voice of rebellion here! The nations (Gentiles) are assembled as raging mobs, venting their wrath, screaming invectives at tumultuous fever-pitch! The angry "*kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together*", leading their subjects in resistance against God and His Anointed (Messiah) Son. Why?

Simply because they (rebellious nations) choose to rebel unitedly against God and His rule, wanting freedom by “breaking (their) bonds in pieces” and “casting away their cords from (them)” (vs. 3).

Scripture reveals that ever since man rebelled against God in the Garden of Eden, his soul has been sullied by sinful attitudes and actions (Gen 3; Rom 3:23; 5:12-21). Shaeffer described this sin as the choice of “autonomous independence”. Chambers defined it as “My claim to my right to myself!” As a result, dysfunctional family, societal and governmental life became inevitable (Gen 4; 6). In time (after the Flood – Gen 6), God divided the people into specific lands and nations (Gen 10:5; Dt 32:8; and Acts 17:26) and with the rebellion of Nimrod and his assemblage at Babel, God sent “confusion of languages” – a phenomenon reversed on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-14ff).

Throughout mankind’s history, gentile nations have rejected and despised God’s people, Israel, and His word (the Bible) that came through them. This word foreshadowed the *Word made flesh*, Jesus, the Messiah (Jn 1:1, 14). In rejecting the Word, men repudiated the ways of God in their consciences, suppressing God’s truth (Rom 1:18; cf. 2:12-16). All refused to admit that “*the Most High God (Hebrew El Elyon) rules in the affairs of men*” (Dan 4:2, 17, 24, 34), and like Nebuchadnezzar initially, (cf. Dan 4:28-37), they always desired their own selfish ways.

Gentile rebellion continued when God established the Church, growing even more fierce as the Church Age centuries unfolded (Acts 4:23-30, 31; 8:1-3; cf. the prophecies of Rev 1-18). This Age will end just as Jesus prophesied: “*When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?*” (Lk 18:8). Finally, the worldwide, apostate Church of the Last Days will, through its man-made religio-political global system, rebel furiously against God and His Christ. The “kings of the earth” will unite to fight against the Almighty Lord (Rev 1:5; 6:15; 16:12-16; 17:2, 18; 19:11-21; cf. also Jer 30:7 and Rev 6 through 18).

Can you detect a growing rebellion and resistance against God and Jesus the

Messiah in the current events of the Middle East and around the world? It could be later than we think!

The Contempt of God, the Righteous Father (4-6)

Will the attacks of proud kings and puny men thwart God and His eternal purposes for the world through the Messiah? Certainly not! His response is to laugh in derision (vs 4). Right now, however, His message of love and forgiveness through Messiah’s death on the cross is being shared amongst the nations (including Israel!) and disciples are being made (Mt 28:19-20). Jewish and Gentile believers are responding to the gospel, for “whosoever will may come” (Rom 10:13). But time will run out for them as judgement comes! (Rom 1:18-31; 2 Thess 1:7-9) and God will have the last laugh, just as He did with Sennacherib and his armies (2 Kgs 19). Suddenly, the rightful King will return to earth and reign from Jerusalem (cf Ps 2:6) as the God of Israel literally ‘installs’ His Anointed on (His) holy hill of Zion, thus vindicating His sore displeasure (vs 5). Coupling this with Jeremiah 30:7 and the coming worldwide disasters of the Great Tribulation (Zech 13:8-9; Mt 24:22-31; Rev 6-18; 2 Thess 1:7-9), we hear the voice of God’s divine displeasure reverberating ominously against the ungodly nations. Israel herself will “*pass under the rod*” (Ezek 20:37) of the Lord’s ‘purging judgement’ and a believing remnant will be prepared for their Messiah to return and establish (vs 6) His kingdom from Jerusalem (Mal 3:3; 4:1-6; Is 2:1-4; 9:1-7; Dan 7:13-14). Hallelujah! Jesus will have been given the nations as His promised inheritance (Ps 2:8).

Have you discerned the worldwide rise in anti-Semitism, in recent years? Can you see Israel slowly but surely being painted into the corner of total isolation by the nations – even those who have hitherto stood with her? The time is coming when this isolation and anti-Semitic sentiment will be escalated to unprecedented proportions! Do you pray for the peace of Jerusalem? (Ps 122:6).

The Comfort of God, the Regal Son (7-10)

Here, Christ the Messiah’s voice is discernible, repeating the comforting

message of His Father’s communication to Him in His eternal decree (vs 7a). This incorporated God’s irrevocable promise that He would fulfil His redemptive plan – a plan which no man could, nor ever would, hinder! Listen to it! – “You are my Son, this day have I begotten You” (vs 7b).

When did this decree take place? The answer is found in Acts 13:28-33; Hebrews 1:5 and 5:5. It was not when God’s eternal Son was born of the virgin Mary as the Babe of Bethlehem (cf Mic 5:2; Jn 3:16; Lk 1:35 [cf. Is 7:14], and the genealogies and birth narratives of Matthew 1 and Luke 3), but **when He was resurrected out of the Garden tomb three days after His crucifixion**. This *resurrection* sense revealed Jesus, the Messiah, was *begotten* from the “**virgin tomb** into a glorious life of resurrection power” (Wiersbe, emphases added).

Thus, being victorious over sin (at the cross – 2 Cor 5:21; Col 2:15) and death (at the tomb – cf. Lk 24:55-6; 1 Cor 15:1-58), God, the triumphant, regal Son of the Father, was given an *inheritance*. That is, *all the nations* are rightfully designated as His because He did the Father’s will in going to the Cross. Recall even at His Baptism, and later at the Mount of Transfiguration, the Father’s voice was heard: “This is My beloved Son ...” (Mt 3:17; 17:5). Subsequently, the Son went on to fulfil the Father’s divine mission of man’s redemption. But as He began it, Satan (the god of this world – 2 Cor 4:4) tempted Him, presumptuously, offering all these same kingdoms if He would but worship him and thereby bypass the cross (Mt 4:8-10). Had Jesus done that, He would not have made possible sinful man’s redemption as his perfect sinless substitute. Jesus must always do His Father’s will, never His own nor any other’s (cf. Jn 8:29; Heb 10:7,9; Lk 22:42).

Satan will again *offer the kingdoms of this world* to the coming Antichrist. He will gladly accept them, for he will be the embodiment of the Great Dragon (Satan), being brought into power by the False Prophet (Rev 12-13:1-10). This will be temporary, however, because the returning Christ will “*break (all His enemies) with a rod of iron ... and dash them to pieces like*

a potter's vessel" (Ps 2:9; cf. Rev 19:11-16). So Christ will receive "the uttermost parts of the earth for His possession" at His Second Coming to planet earth in power and great glory (Rev 19:11-21; cf. Rev 2:26-29). Praise God, all born again believers will reign with Him over the earth in the Kingdom, and then with Him in the Eternal State, forever! (Dan 2:42-44; 2 Tim 2:12; Heb 1:9; 3:1, 14).

Are you living in the light of the Saviour's return, redeeming the time in the midst of evil days that are getting inexorably worse and worse? Remember the old song: "Only one life to offer, Jesus, my Lord and King ..."?

The Call of God, the Renewing Spirit (11-12)

Psalm 2 ends with the last three verses highlighting an all-encompassing appeal from the gracious, renewing Spirit of God (cf. Is 48:16; Eph 5:25-26; Tit 3:5; Jn 3:1-10ff). The quiet voice of this appeal is to kings, judges and all the sons of men, asking them to submit themselves to Jesus, the Messiah. He alone is the worthy King of the universe (vs 11). The invitation is to "serve Him with fear, and rejoice with trembling (vs 11). For this to happen, they are urged to "Kiss the Son, lest He be angry and (they) perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little ..." (vs. 12).

Observe here that these final three verses reveal the Spirit's renewing call to every part of man's personality – his '**mind**', '**heart**', and '**will**'. In verse 10, the text states: "*be wise ... be instructed*". This has to do with man's **mind**. What a contrast to Psalm 1:1 where the counsel of the ungodly has led others astray who are ungodly! (Cf. 1 Cor 1:18-31). Then there is the appeal to man's **heart** (vs 11). Instead of rebelling, man has the opportunity to submit now and serve Him out of a full heart! Herein will he find the only true way of lasting joy! Finally, man's **will** must be involved. It is imperative for him to "Kiss the son ..." (vs 12). This speaks of love resulting from a changed mind (Greek: metanoia, 'repentance') about whom Christ is and what He has done, redemptively! Reconciliation with God is possible, but only through Christ's death.

The psalmist in Psalm 89:12 records that "righteousness and peace kissed each other" on the cross. Because of this, God is able to save all who come unto Him in faith! (Lk 19:10; Jn 3:16; Acts 4:12; Eph 2:8-9; Rom 3-4). The gospel message is true and it exhibits God's love in Christ! (Jn 3:16; 2 Cor 5:14 -21; Rom 1:14-17; 3:19-26; 5:8). No wonder He gives the last, gracious appeal to all Jews and Gentiles alike, as the Bible's last chapter closes (Revelation 22:17) – *"And the Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who*

hears say, 'Come!' And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."

*Dear Jewish or Gentile reader, could this be God's **last** invitation to you? Have you "kissed the Son" and been saved from sin's penalty (eternal separation from God), sin's power ("He breaks the power of cancelled sin" – Wesley) and ultimately sin's presence (in heaven with Christ forever)? **Do so without delay, for according to Psalm 2, your eternal life depends on it!***



FORGIVEN & FORGIVING!

A Testimonial-Tribute to a Faithful Jewish Believer
Holocaust Survivor Katherine ('Kitty') Diosy
 (16 June 1920 – 28 December 2013)

WHEN Katherine Diosy touched the boots of hanged men, the ones who had murdered families like hers and destroyed countless lives, she felt pleasure – the pleasure of revenge. From Budapest to Vienna, from Austria to Australia, the story of Kathy's escape from the Nazis is also an escape to freedom – freedom from bitterness and hatred.

That escape saw her miraculously surviving countless air raids and artillery attacks, living in bombed out buildings in freezing conditions with little food and avoiding arrests from the Gestapo through the help and 'tip-offs' she received from loyal and faithful friends. 'Kitty' (as she is also known) was not transported to Auschwitz like some of her beloved family members. Nor was she ►

taken to Guenskirchen Concentration Camp as her father, Aladar Kalafoni, was and where he died along with countless others from Budapest's Jewish community. Another uncle, Sandor (Alexander) was shot in the street by the SS, because he worked for Oscar Schindler. Being elsewhere, Kitty survived.

Kitty's journey is one in which she was to discover who needs to forgive whom!

Following is a transcript from an interview by Deane Woods (**DW**) and his wife, Margaret (**MW**) as they talked with Kitty Diosy (**KD**) in her Sydney home just over twelve months before she went to be with her Messiah, Lord and Saviour. Read and rejoice as she reminisced on her "journey to freedom" – geographically and spiritually!

DW: Kitty, thank you for talking with us today and sharing your life's journey in The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry newsletter, *The Australian Shofar* and with its readership. You escaped the Holocaust, but experienced the horrors of Hitler's final solution – for you in particular in Budapest and Vienna. How would you describe those war years as a young Jewish woman in her early 20's?

KD: *It was unbelievable! Our family was just one of so many Jewish families who suffered. Most were murdered in the gas chambers, or shot. Looking back now, I can say it was by God's grace I survived, but I can never forget those – including many of my family – who didn't.*

DW: Tell us some of your experiences in escaping from the Gestapo and the SS.

KD: *One night a German soldier stopped me and shouted "Papiren!" (I.D. Papers). I knew I didn't have them and slowly searched in my handbag. I did have the photo of a Patron Saint of the Roman Catholic Church and handed him that instead. He handed it back to me and said: "Next time, have your Papers!" and he ordered me to pass on my way!*

Another time, I was sheltering in a bombed out apartment building. A loyal friend who had been ordered to work with the enemy came by my refuge and warned me that a raid would be made that evening by the German Squads. That was just one of many times I escaped with my life.

DW: I believe your family changed their Safardi name (Kalafoni) to a more familiar

Hungarian name, Diosy. Later you feigned conversion to become Roman Catholics and paid considerable money for their Official Documents stating that fact so you could have another chance of surviving Hitler's brutality. Apart from "self-survival" motivation, did that action by your loving and caring father to protect his family have any other religious effect on you personally?

KD: *Not really at the time, but later on it did when I came to Australia as a refugee after the War. I would say it created a "God consciousness", but that was all. Eventually, I started studying the Bible at a local, weekly Bible Study. The love that was shown me by those Bible believing Christians caused me to see that Jesus died for my sins and wanted me to invite Him into my life as my Saviour. It was an evangelical Anglican Bishop who actually led me to trust Christ and I became a born again Christian!*

MW: That's wonderful, Kitty! Being a "born again Christian", I guess some would say, makes you a "completed Jew" in the sense of Paul's words in Romans 10:4 – "Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes".

You've told us previously that you didn't know anything about your "Jewishness" or things relating to Judaism and the Torah. But now the Scriptures are alive to you as you study them and seek to follow Jesus day by day.

KD: *Yes that's exactly right! It's a wonderful journey, but not without its "pains"!*

DW: I know there is so much more to your journey from Europe, your coming to Australia, your marriage and God blessing you in older years with a little daughter. Now that daughter is married with a lovely, multi-talented, family – all loving the Lord Jesus and seeking to serve Him. We thank God for that. One final thing you might like to share with us is this: You told your story in full to Kel Richards (another believer), and well known radio Broadcaster here in Sydney. It has been published under the title, **FORGIVING HITLER**. The book has created no small stir here in Australia amongst Jewish and Gentile communities alike – and also in the United Kingdom. Why did you give your extraordinary story such an extraordinary title?

KD: *Well, I'm no extraordinary person, really. But I did want to stress the extraordinary*

forgiveness I have received in receiving Yeshua (Jesus) as my Saviour. By myself I could never forgive Hitler. I wanted revenge for all he and his leaders and troops did to the six million European Jews. No one underestimates the atrocities they perpetrated. But by God's grace, I decided that since He had forgiven me, I needed to forgive my enemies, just like Jesus prayed: "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do ...", and as Paul said in Ephesians 4:32 – "... forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you".

[Editor's Note: Kathy Diosy's book *Forgiving Hitler* is published in Australia by Matthias Media and in the United Kingdom by The Good Book Company. Deane and Margaret Woods live near Kathy's former home in Sydney and frequently spent time in fellowship and prayer with her in her advancing years. They thank God for Kitty and her faithful testimony – in life and death on earth, but now 'alive' with her Messiah and Saviour in heaven! "(She) being dead yet speaks" (Heb.11:4).]



Deane & Margaret Woods
Ministry Representatives

The Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry (Australia) Inc.

P0 Box 171 Melrose Park SA
5039 Australia

Office and Books:

c/o EBC Community Centre
Suite 406 (Upstairs)
Cnr. Rothesay Ave and Dorene St
St Marys SA 5042 AUSTRALIA

Phone/Fax: (+ 618) 08 8276 1333
Email: australianoffice@foi.org