



The Lord Reigns!

Psalm 2

English Services

(8 & 10:30 a.m., & 5:30 p.m.)

Prelude

Call to Worship

Worship through Praise

Worship through Fellowship

Testimony

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

Worship in the Word

Pastor BJ Sebastian

Worship through Giving

Response Song

Benediction

Filipino Service

(3 n.h.)

Paghahanda

Tawag sa Pagsamba

Pagsamba sa Pag-aawitan

Pagkilala sa mga Bisita

Patotoo

Panalanging Pastoral

Pagbasa ng Salita ng Diyos

Pakikinig sa Salita ng Diyos

Pastor BJ Sebastian

Pagsamba sa Pagbibigay

Tugon na Awit

Bendisyon

See inset inside for the **Traditional Service (Sat., 6 p.m.)** program.



25/26 May 2019

Vol. 41, No. 21

The Lord Reigns!

Today's Message (25/26 May 2019) / *Psalm 2*

PSALM 2 TELLS
US THAT OUR
ATTEMPTS
TO FREE
OURSELVES
FROM BEING
ACCOUNTABLE
TO GOD AND
SUBMITTING TO
HIS SOVEREIGN
RULE ARE ALL
USELESS AND
FUTILE.

Traditional Service

(May 25, Sat., 6:00 p.m.)

Prelude

Call To Worship

Worship Through Praise

Worship Through Fellowship

Worship Through Giving

Pastoral Prayer

Preparatory Hymn

Scripture Reading

Worship in the Word

Pastor BJ Sebastian

Response Hymn

Benediction

INTRODUCTION: PSALM 2

- A “coronation” psalm that was written by David (*Acts 4:25*) with his kingship in view, and the reign of all other Davidic kings after him (*2 Samuel 7:8-16*)
- A messianic psalm about Jesus (*Acts 4:25-28*) that also points forward to the millennial rule of Christ over the whole earth from Jerusalem (*Isaiah 2:2-4*)
- A clear reminder to us that no matter what the kingdoms of the world do or declare, our God reigns and is sovereign over all the nations, and no one can stay His hand (*Daniel 4:35*)

In this psalm we will see **man's rebellion**, **God's reaction**, **God's reign** and **man's response**.

EXPOSITION

1. Man's rebellion (*Psalm 2:1-3*)

¹Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? ²The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying, ³“Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”

The rebellion is against God's rule and control over all things and all creation, which man resists because he wants to rule over himself.

2. God's reaction (*Psalm 2:4-6*)

⁴He who sits in the heavens laughs; the LORD holds them in derision. ⁵Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, ⁶“As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

God's reaction to the rebellion of men is that of mocking laughter and derision, because it is such a ridiculous thing to imagine that man can succeed in rebelling against the One who has all the power and authority in the universe.

3. God's reign (*Psalm 2:7-9*)

⁷I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, “You

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Today's Message (18/19 May 2019) / *Psalm 2*

are my Son; today I have begotten you. ⁸Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. ⁹You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

He is to be God's begotten "Son" (2 Samuel 7:12-16) who will be the sovereign owner and ruler of all the nations "up to the ends of the earth"—to "break (or rule) them with a rod of iron" which is a reference to Christ as the conquering Messiah in Revelation 2:27, 12:5, 19:15.

4. Man's response (*Psalm 2:10-12*)

¹⁰Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. ¹¹Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. ¹²Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

The Psalmist's warning to the rulers of the earth when heeded will make them wise.

APPLICATION

There are a couple of ways to apply this psalm to our lives today. The first is to see it from the point of view of nations, and the second is to see it from the point of view of the individual.

1. **From the point of view of nations.** Many believers today are disappointed about how things are turning out in their governments and societies, not only in this country, but all over the world.

Psalm 2 assures us that the attempts of the nations to break free from their accountability to our sovereign God in order to give vent to their evil pleasures, are all going to be futile in the end. God continues to reign and is in control of all things, and is carrying out his plan for mankind according to the counsel of His will.

Things may get better in our world, or they may not. But as believers we do not look to this world for our best life. We may have a taste of it now, or we may not. But one thing is sure, we will all share in the Lord's joy and His glory in the life to come (*Psalm 16:11, 1 Corinthians 2:9, Psalm 73:25-28*).

2. **From the point of view of the individual.** All of us are waging some form of rebellion against Almighty God.

Whatever it is, Psalm 2 tells us that our attempts to free ourselves from being accountable to God and submitting to His sovereign rule are all useless and futile. In the end we will either bow down to Him in worship, or bow down to Him in judgment. What will it be?

I would admonish you to heed the last few verses of Psalm 2: ¹⁰"Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. ¹¹Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. ¹²Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him" ■

The Shepherd's Voice

by Pastor Mark del Rosario

Who is the most influential living person in your life right now? Who would you say? How many of us would say Jesus? Sometimes, we don't live in a way that show others that Jesus is alive. How can we help the next generation know Jesus in this way and help them in their walk with Him? We often do not rush to teach them this.

Yet, time moves faster than we think. It seems like just two minutes ago they were babies, and now we blink and they are suddenly graduating or going to college. This end of May, the GCF-ICS students in pre-school, Grade 6, and Grade 12 will be having their graduation ceremonies. I remember when two students, PJ and Seth, were just in Grade 3. It doesn't seem long ago at all. Now they will be entering high school. It makes me ask myself what I have done to help them to grow in their walk with God.

I love how the teachers in GCF-ICS take time to help every student in their relationship with Jesus. The teachers don't just help the students as a class, but take time with each one. They aren't just "the Grade 6 class." They are Cid, MJ, Alyanna, Mav, Liam, Hailey, etc. The teachers know the students by name. It reminds me that helping the next generation requires us to

know them. How do we expect to help them to have a real relationship with Jesus when we don't have a real relationship with them?

In GCF-ICS, the students' relationship with God matters to us. We teach them about God's Word, how to study the Bible, how to serve in ministry, and how to care for their Oikos. It has been a joy for me this past year seeing how the school takes Deuteronomy 11:9 (ESV) to heart. The passage says, "You shall teach them [the commands of God] to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise." It encourages me to see so many people who care for the next generation being able to take time to teach them God's Word and how to live by it. I have been blessed being in the GCF-ICS ministry and seeing the heart of the teachers.

We often say that the children are the future. They will be our future leaders. We need to continually teach them about God, not tomorrow, but today. May we all live in a way today that shows our Growth Groups, our families, and even the younger generation around us who Jesus is and help them in their relationship with Him ■

Ministry Opportunities + Announcements



PASSING THE BATON OF FAITH

Parenting Series organized by Couples' Ministry

May 29 topic: **Strengthening Our Children's Emotional and Mental Health**

Speaker: Dr. Naval Rivas

Wednesday, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Chapel



ROAR! LIFE IS WILD, GOD IS GOOD

Daily Vacation Bible School 2019

May 27-June 1 (Mon. to Sat.), 8 a.m.-12 nn.

Fee: P600.00. To register, please visit <https://vbspro.events/p/events/dvbs-roar-2019-update>. For more details, please text 0917 532 7663 or 0917 532 7768.



MEN'S BREAKTHROUGH WEEKEND

Break free from hurts, hang-ups and bad habits

June 15 and 16 (Sat-Sun) at CCT Tagaytay

Fee: P1,000 | For more details, visit the info booth or contact 0917 532 1921.



WIDOWS: PRECIOUS IN GOD'S SIGHT (WIDOW'S RALLY)

Naomi Women's Ministry celebrates

International Widows Day

Speaker: Helene Fischer (Open Doors Int'l.)

June 22 (Sat), 8:30 a.m. at the Fellowship Hall

For more details, contact 0917 532 1921.



THINK RIGHT! SEEING CHRIST ABOVE THE GODS OF TODAY

Apologetics Conference with Pat Zukeran and Greg Koukl

July 12 (Fri, 6-9 p.m.) & 13 (Sat, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.)

Topics include worldviews, Jesus as apologist, faith and relativism, and many more

Registration is free; sign-up at the info booth.

For more details, contact 0932 371 3457.

The flowers this week are given with praise and thanksgiving to God by the Basilad family, the Valera family and the Messiah College. Please call 632 1354 to 56 for inquiries on how to participate in this ministry.

Join a DISCIPLE-MAKING GROUP

Growth Group Express

Mixed group led by Ptr. Emer Manaloto

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Rm. B124

Chesed 3

Group for ladies aged 21-35

Sundays, 8:30-10:00 a.m.

Rm. BM02

God's Grace GG (G4)

Group for couples

Fridays, 7:30-10:00 p.m.

Rm. B124

Best Together in Christ

Group for couples

Sundays, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Rm. B508

If you are interested in joining any of the small groups above, fill out the tear-off form of this bulletin, drop it in the offering bag, or submit it at the Growth Group booth at the lobby. For more information, you can text or call us at 0917 532 1921.

Growth Group Leaders' Training 1

May 5, 12, 19, 26 (Sundays), 12:00-3:00 p.m., Rm. A303

STEWARDSHIP REPORT / May 2019

MAY	Projected	Rcvd., May 1-22	YEAR-TO-DATE	Projected	Rcvd., as of May 22
General Funds	7,736,444	7,148,405	General Funds	41,344,566	40,326,450
Mission Support Fund	1,317,698	576,921	Mission Support Fund	6,588,489	5,236,882
Others (Designated, etc.)	1,370,033	936,179	Others (Designated, etc.)	6,472,618	5,775,290
TOTAL	10,424,175	8,661,505	TOTAL	54,405,673	51,338,622

A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

— Isaiah 40:3 (ESV)

Judgment has come upon the people of Israel and Judah because of the hardness of their hearts and their idolatry. They were taken away from their land, stripped off of their identity and taken into captivity in a land where God seems to be absent. But the Lord's judgment is not totally to destroy His people. It was rather to turn their hearts and minds back to Him in repentance. And so that in their repentance, they may be bearers of God's message of salvation and redemption of the world.

We are all exiles in this lifetime. We are sojourners in the wilderness of this present life, awaiting a city that is not of this world. As God has set our hearts to long for that which is eternal, we cry out in the wilderness in preparation to receive His coming kingdom. As exiles, we are ambassadors of that kingdom that is to come. We don't just preach it to ourselves, but we also proclaim it in the wilderness of our present lives.

Let us ask the Lord for strength and wisdom in how we can love Him and love our neighbor and community. Let us continually pray how we can serve lovingly and compassionately, wherever God has put us now—in our *oikos* at home, at school, or at the workplace. May our voices and deeds prepare the hearts of the people we encounter daily for a life-changing encounter with the Lord himself.

Let us also ask the Lord for civility and wisdom that births peace in this country where we are exiled. As we now face the aftermath of the elections, may our hearts be directed towards nation-building, and away from petty partisanship.

May our voices and deeds prepare the hearts of the people we encounter for a life-changing encounter with the Lord himself.

May we continue in our pursuit of being a house of prayer for all peoples and nations. May we, as a community, get into the habit of praying unceasingly, as avenues for regular, communal prayer has been opened to us. As God reveals Himself and His message as we pray and listen, may we respond by readily proclaiming His good news ■

PRAYER at the Chapel

The GCF Hour of Prayer
Tuesdays, 6-7 a.m.

Midweek Prayer Service
Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.

Weeknight Prayer Gatherings
Except Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m.

ON THE COVER: *King David Playing the Harp* (1622) by the Dutch master Gerard van Honthorst (public domain, from Wikimedia). Although Psalm 2 does not indicate any author, the believers in Acts 4 attribute it to David.



Greenhills Christian Fellowship Know Christ and Make Him Known

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Mobile No. 0920 961 2964, Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
E-mail: email@gcf.org.ph • Website: www.gcf.org.ph

How may we SERVE YOU BETTER?

Fill-out this tear off form and drop it in an offering bag/box or at the Ministry Information Booth. Please check all that is applicable:

- ☐ I am a first-time guest.
- ☐ I prayed to receive Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord today.
- ☐ I would like to know how to become a Christian.
- ☐ I am interested in becoming a member of this church.
- ☐ **I want to join a Growth Group.**
(Specify age group: _____)
(Specify group composition: _____)
- ☐ I want to start a Growth Group.
- ☐ I want to host a Growth Group.

Please share with us some information about yourself:

Name: _____

Age: ____ Landline no.: _____

Mobile no.: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Year of membership: _____

Name of Growth Group (if you already have one): _____

*Today is **25/26 May 2019**, and I attended the 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 3:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. (Sat) (encircle the time).*

Write below *any* inquiry or prayer item that you want to ask or share.

God's Way to Heaven

THE GOSPEL

"Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures."
(1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD

God is holy and righteous: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty, the whole earth is full of his glory" (Isaiah 6:3). **He requires holiness of us as well:** "Be holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16).

THE TRUTH ABOUT MAN

Man is sinful: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).
Sin demands a penalty: "For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

THE TRUTH ABOUT CHRIST

Christ is the expression of God's love for us: "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). **Christ paid the penalty of our sins and died for sinners:** "For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God" (1 Peter 3:18). **Through Christ, God offers man reconciliation:** "God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them" (2 Corinthians 5:18).

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

Believe and receive Jesus as Lord and Savior: "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).

PRAYER: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner. I believe that you died on the cross in my place, to save me from my sins, and I accept you as my Savior, and the Master of my life forever. Amen.

Need someone to talk to?

Visit the Emmaus Road Counseling Center at the GCF Mezzanine floor or contact 632 1354 to 56, 635 0078 to 80 or 0917 532 7794 for inquiries.

For hospital or house visitation, dedication service, or funeral service requests, please call or text 0917 532 7794.