



LIBERTI

Mermaid Beach

An Injection of Optimism

Psalm 2



Psalms 2:1-12

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." 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." ⁷I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

Psalms 2:1-12

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." 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.

“Sinful men never want to walk within the limitations that God places on his creatures. In their arrogance they proclaim their supposed freedom, and they claim to be master of their own destinies. Their spirit is typified in Ernest Henley’s poem, Invictus: It matters not how strait the gate, how charged with punishments the scroll. I am the master of my fate; I am the captain of my soul.”

- Allan Harman

¹“Deliver me from my enemies, O my God; protect me from those who rise up against me; ²deliver me from those who work evil, and save me from bloodthirsty men. ³For behold, they lie in wait for my life; fierce men stir up strife against me. For no transgression or sin of mine, O Lord, ⁴for no fault of mine, they run and make ready. Awake, come to meet me, and see!

Psalm 59:1-10

⁵You, Lord God of hosts, are God of Israel. Rouse yourself to punish all the nations; spare none of those who treacherously plot evil. ⁶Each evening they come back, howling like dogs and prowling about the city. ⁷There they are, bellowing with their mouths with swords in their lips— for “Who,” they think, “will hear us?” ⁸But you, O Lord, laugh at them; you hold all the nations in derision.

Psalm 59:1-10

⁹O my Strength, I will watch for you, for you, O God, are my fortress. ¹⁰My God in his steadfast love will meet me; God will let me look in triumph on my enemies.”

Psalm 59:1-10

“And people of all nations came to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and from all the kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom.”

1st Kings 4:34

²⁴“And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them,²⁵ who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, ““Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?²⁶ The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed’ —

Acts 4:24-28

²⁷for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.”

Acts 4:24-28

“When you fall deeply in love, you want to please the beloved. You don’t wait for the person to ask you to do something for her. You eagerly research and learn every little thing that brings her pleasure. They you get it for her, even if it costs you money or great inconvenience. ‘Your wish is my command,’ you feel – and it doesn’t feel oppressive at all. From the outside, bemused friends may think, ‘She’s leading him around by the nose,’ but from the inside it feels like heaven. For a Christian, it’s the same with Jesus. The love of Christ constrains. Once you realize how Jesus changed for you and gave himself for you, you aren’t afraid of giving up your freedom and therefore finding your freedom in him.”

- Timothy Keller

“Until Christ returns, the nations will rage and plot in vain. We, meanwhile, point to the Lord and to his Anointed, both in word and deed. We’re on the right side of history so long as we stand with the Lord of history. His vindication will be our vindication.”

- Johnathan Leeman