

Lecture 11 – The Psalms, V

*Why do the nations conspire
And the peoples plot in vain?
The kings of the earth take their stand
And the rulers gather together
Against the Lord and against his Anointed One.
“Let us break their chains,” they say,
“And throw off their fetters.”*

*The One enthroned in heaven laughs;
The Lord scoffs at them.
Then he rebukes them in his anger
And terrifies them in his wrath, saying,
“I have installed my King
On Zion, my holy hill.” Psalm 2:1-6*

Key Terms

Implied situation, genre, structure, unity, texture

Lecture Objectives

- *Identify and explain issues involved in explicating Hebrew poetry.
- *Analyze, explicate, and apply Psalm 2.

Preliminary Questions

- *How would you approach teaching/explaining the psalms? What steps might you use to work through a psalm and then communicate its message?
- *Consider Psalm 2. How does this psalm work in conjunction with Psalm 1, and why might these psalms have been placed together at the beginning of the Psalter?

The Psalms, V

I. The Psalms

- A. Introduction
- B. Classification schemes
- C. Psalm titles
- *D. Explicating Hebrew poetry: Psalm 2
 - 1. Genre and implied situation
 - 2. The intellectual core: topic and theme
 - 3. Structure and unity
 - 4. Poetic texture

See handout: Psalm 2 (Appendix 5)

Do you find Dr. Long’s 4 steps of explicating a psalm helpful? Why or why not?