

CRYSTALLIZATION-STUDY OUTLINES

THE PSALMS (1)

Message Two

The Revelation concerning Christ in God's Economy

Scripture Reading: Psa. 2

- Psa 2:1 Why are the nations in an uproar, / And why do the peoples contemplate a vain thing?
Psa 2:2 The kings of the earth take their stand, / And the rulers sit in counsel together, / Against Jehovah and against His Anointed:
Psa 2:3 Let us break apart their bonds / And cast their ropes away from us.
Psa 2:4 He who sits in the heavens laughs; / The Lord has them in derision.
Psa 2:5 Then He will speak to them in His anger, / And in His burning wrath He will terrify them:
Psa 2:6 But I have installed My King / Upon Zion, My holy mountain.
Psa 2:7 I will recount the decree of Jehovah; / He said to Me: You are My Son; / Today I have begotten You.
Psa 2:8 Ask of Me, / And I will give the nations as Your inheritance / And the limits of the earth as Your possession.
Psa 2:9 You will break them with an iron rod; / You will shatter them like a potter's vessel.
Psa 2:10 Now therefore, O kings, be prudent; / Take the admonition, O judges of the earth.
Psa 2:11 Serve Jehovah with fear, / And rejoice with trembling.
Psa 2:12 Kiss the Son / Lest He be angry and you perish from the way; / For His anger may suddenly be kindled. / Blessed are all those who take refuge in Him.

I. In our study of the Psalms, we need to realize that the spirit of the Bible is to exalt Christ—Col. 1:15-19:

- Col 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation,
Col 1:16 Because in Him all things were created, in the heavens and on the earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or lordships or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and unto Him.
Col 1:17 And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;
Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
Col 1:19 For in Him all the fullness was pleased to dwell
- A. The spirit of the Bible exalts the Christ ordained by God to have the first place in the old creation, in the new creation, in the Body of Christ, and in everything—Matt. 17:5; Col. 1:18.
Matt 17:5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is My Son, the Beloved, in whom I have found My delight. Hear Him!
Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
- B. Since Christ has the first place in all things, we must give Him the first place in our being and in all that we do—v. 18; Rev. 2:4.
Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
Rev 2:4 But I have one thing against you, that you have left your first love.
- C. Psalm 2 is according to the divine concept of exalting Christ; in Psalm 2 Christ is exalted as the center of the economy of God.

II. Psalm 2 is God's speaking, God's declaration, God's proclamation, concerning Christ as the center of His economy—vv. 6, 8:

- Psa 2:6 But I have installed My King / Upon Zion, My holy mountain.
Psa 2:8 Ask of Me, / And I will give the nations as Your inheritance / And the limits of the earth as Your possession.
- A. The word *economy* is not in Psalm 2, but the revelation and reality of God's economy are there.
- B. The King and the kingdom in Psalm 2 show us the economy of God—vv. 6, 8-9:
Psa 2:6 But I have installed My King / Upon Zion, My holy mountain.

Psa 2:8 Ask of Me, / And I will give the nations as Your inheritance / And the limits of the earth as Your possession.

Psa 2:9 You will break them with an iron rod; / You will shatter them like a potter's vessel.

1. For God to have a King is for the fulfilling of His economy—v. 6.

Psa 2:6 But I have installed My King / Upon Zion, My holy mountain.

2. Christ's kingdom will be a great kingdom of all the nations, covering the entire earth; His kingdom will be everywhere to include everyone —vv. 8-9; 22:28; Dan. 7:14.

Psa 2:8 Ask of Me, / And I will give the nations as Your inheritance / And the limits of the earth as Your possession.

Psa 2:9 You will break them with an iron rod; / You will shatter them like a potter's vessel.

Psa 22:28 For the kingdom is Jehovah's, / And He rules among the nations.

Dan 7:14 And to Him was given dominion, glory, and a kingdom, / That all the peoples, nations, and languages might serve Him. / His dominion is an eternal dominion, which will not pass away; / And His kingdom is one that will not be destroyed.

C. Psalm 2 reveals the steps of Christ in God's economy, beginning from His being anointed in eternity in His divinity (v. 2) and continuing with His resurrection (implying His death also—v. 7; cf. Acts 13:33), His ascension (Psa. 2:6), His setting up His universal kingdom (Rev. 11:15) with the nations as His inheritance and the ends of the earth as His possession (Psa. 2:8), and His ruling the nations with an iron rod (v. 9).

Psa 2:2 The kings of the earth take their stand, / And the rulers sit in counsel together, / Against Jehovah and against His Anointed:

Psa 2:7 I will recount the decree of Jehovah; / He said to Me: You are My Son; / Today I have begotten You.

Acts 13:33 That God has fully fulfilled this promise to us their children in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."

Psa 2:6 But I have installed My King / Upon Zion, My holy mountain.

Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.

Psa 2:8 Ask of Me, / And I will give the nations as Your inheritance / And the limits of the earth as Your possession.

Psa 2:9 You will break them with an iron rod; / You will shatter them like a potter's vessel.

III. We need to see the divine revelation of Christ in God's economy in Psalm 2:

A. Verses 1 through 3 predict the opposition of the world rulers to Christ; the fulfillment of these verses began with Herod and Pontius Pilate and will conclude with Antichrist—Acts 4:25-28; Rev. 19:19.

Psa 2:1 Why are the nations in an uproar, / And why do the peoples contemplate a vain thing?

Psa 2:2 The kings of the earth take their stand, / And the rulers sit in counsel together, / Against Jehovah and against His Anointed:

Psa 2:3 Let us break apart their bonds / And cast their ropes away from us.

Acts 4:25 Who, through the Holy Spirit, through the mouth of our father David Your servant, has said, "Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples devise vain things?"

Acts 4:26 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord and against His Christ."

Acts 4:27 For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,

Acts 4:28 To do what Your hand and Your counsel predestined to take place.

Rev 19:19 And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war with Him who sits on the horse and with His army.

B. In Psalm 2:2 God came in to declare that Christ was His Anointed:

Psa 2:2 The kings of the earth take their stand, / And the rulers sit in counsel together, / Against Jehovah and against His Anointed:

1. In His divinity Christ was anointed by God in eternity to be the Messiah— Christ—the anointed One —Dan. 9:26; John 1:41.

- Dan 9:26 And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah will be cut off and will have nothing; and the people of the prince who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end of it will be with a flood, and even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.
- John 1:41 He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, We have found the Messiah (which translated means Christ).
2. Christ came in His incarnation as the anointed One to accomplish God's eternal plan—Luke 2:11; Matt. 1:16; 16:16.
- Luke 2:11 Because today a Savior has been born to you in David's city, who is Christ the Lord.
- Matt 1:16 And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.
- Matt 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.
3. In His humanity Christ was anointed again in time at His baptism for His ministry, mainly on the earth—3:16-17; Luke 4:18-19; Heb. 1:9; Acts 10:38.
- Matt 3:16 And having been baptized, Jesus went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon Him.
- Matt 3:17 And behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, This is My Son, the Beloved, in whom I have found My delight.
- Luke 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to announce the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to send away in release those who are oppressed,
- Luke 4:19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, the year of jubilee."
- Heb 1:9 You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of exultant joy above Your partners";
- Acts 10:38 Jesus, the One from Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all those who were being oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.
4. In His resurrection Christ became the life-giving Spirit for the purpose of being God's Anointed, and in His ascension He was made both Lord and Christ, becoming God's Anointed in an official way to carry out God's commission, mainly in His heavenly ministry—1 Cor. 15:45b; Acts 2:36.
- 1 Cor 15:45b ... the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.
- Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you have crucified.
- C. Psalm 2:4-6 is God's declaration concerning Christ:
- Psa 2:4 He who sits in the heavens laughs; / The Lord has them in derision.
- Psa 2:5 Then He will speak to them in His anger, / And in His burning wrath He will terrify them:
- Psa 2:6 But I have installed My King / Upon Zion, My holy mountain.
1. In His ascension Christ was installed as God's King for God's kingdom—v. 6; Acts 5:31; Rev. 1:5a.
- Psa 2:6 But I have installed My King / Upon Zion, My holy mountain.
- Acts 5:31 This One God has exalted to His right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.
- Rev 1:5a And from Jesus Christ, the faithful Witness, the Firstborn of the dead, and the Ruler of the kings of the earth. ...
2. God proclaimed that He had installed Christ upon Mount Zion, not upon Mount Sinai—Heb. 12:18-22; Gal. 4:25-26:
- Heb 12:18 For you have not come forward to a mountain which could be touched and which was set on fire, and to darkness and gloom and whirlwind,
- Heb 12:19 And to the sound of a trumpet and to the voice of words, because of which those who heard entreated that no further word be spoken to them;
- Heb 12:20 For they could not bear that which was being commanded: "If even a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned."
- Heb 12:21 And so fearful was the sight, Moses said, "I am full of fear and trembling."
- Heb 12:22 But you have come forward to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem; and to myriads of angels, to the universal gathering;

- Gal 4:25 Now this Hagar is Sinai the mountain in Arabia and corresponds to the Jerusalem which now is, for she is in slavery with her children.
- Gal 4:26 But the Jerusalem above is free, which is our mother;
- a. Mount Sinai was the place where the law was given; Mount Zion in the heavens is the place where Christ is today in His ascension—Rev. 14:1; Psa. 68:15-16; Eph. 4:8.

Rev 14:1 And I saw, and behold, the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him a hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.

Psa 68:15 O mighty mountain, O mountain of Bashan, / O many-peaked mountain, O mountain of Bashan:

Psa 68:16 Why do you look with envy, O many-peaked mountains, / At the mountain on which God desires to dwell? / Indeed Jehovah will dwell there forever.

Eph 4:8 Therefore the Scripture says, "Having ascended to the height, He led captive those taken captive and gave gifts to men."
 - b. The New Testament believers have come not to Mount Sinai but to Mount Zion, where we have the church, the Body of Christ, and God's economy for God's testimony— Heb. 12:18-24.

Heb 12:18 For you have not come forward to a mountain which could be touched and which was set on fire, and to darkness and gloom and whirlwind,

Heb 12:19 And to the sound of a trumpet and to the voice of words, because of which those who heard entreated that no further word be spoken to them;

Heb 12:20 For they could not bear that which was being commanded: "If even a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned."

Heb 12:21 And so fearful was the sight, Moses said, "I am full of fear and trembling."

Heb 12:22 But you have come forward to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem; and to myriads of angels, to the universal gathering;

Heb 12:23 And to the church of the firstborn, who have been enrolled in the heavens; and to God, the Judge of all; and to the spirits of righteous men who have been made perfect;

Heb 12:24 And to Jesus, the Mediator of a new covenant; and to the blood of sprinkling, which speaks something better than that of Abel.
 - c. Mount Sinai produces children of slavery under the law, but our mother, the Jerusalem above, which is in the heavens at Mount Zion, produces children of promise who inherit the promised blessing—the all-inclusive Spirit— Gal. 4:24-26, 28; 3:14.

Gal 4:24 These things are spoken allegorically, for these women are two covenants, one from Mount Sinai, bringing forth children unto slavery, which is Hagar.

Gal 4:25 Now this Hagar is Sinai the mountain in Arabia and corresponds to the Jerusalem which now is, for she is in slavery with her children.

Gal 4:26 But the Jerusalem above is free, which is our mother;

Gal 4:28 But you, brothers, in the way Isaac was, are children of promise.

Gal 3:14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

D. Psalm 2:7-9 is the declaration of Christ Himself:

- Psa 2:7 I will recount the decree of Jehovah; / He said to Me: You are My Son; / Today I have begotten You.
- Psa 2:8 Ask of Me, / And I will give the nations as Your inheritance / And the limits of the earth as Your possession.
- Psa 2:9 You will break them with an iron rod; / You will shatter them like a potter's vessel.

1. Verse 7 is quoted by the apostle Paul in Acts 13:33, indicating that Psalm 2:7 refers to Christ's resurrection.

Acts 13:33 That God has fully fulfilled this promise to us their children in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."

Psa 2:7 I will recount the decree of Jehovah; / He said to Me: You are My Son; / Today I have begotten You.

2. After being cut off, crucified (Dan. 9:26), Christ, God's anointed One, was resurrected to be begotten in His humanity as the firstborn Son of God—Psa. 2:7; Acts 13:33; Rom. 1:3-4; 8:29; Heb. 1:5-6:
- Dan 9:26 And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah will be cut off and will have nothing; and the people of the prince who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end of it will be with a flood, and even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined.
- Psa 2:7 I will recount the decree of Jehovah; / He said to Me: You are My Son; / Today I have begotten You.
- Acts 13:33 That God has fully fulfilled this promise to us their children in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."
- Rom 1:3 Concerning His Son, who came out of the seed of David according to the flesh,
- Rom 1:4 Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;
- Rom 8:29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;
- Heb 1:5 For to which of the angels has He ever said, "You are My Son; this day have I begotten You"? And again, "I will be a Father to Him, and He will be a Son to Me"?
- Heb 1:6 And when He brings again the Firstborn into the inhabited earth, He says, "And let all the angels of God worship Him."
- a. *Today* in Psalm 2:7 is the day of Christ's resurrection.
- Psa 2:7 I will recount the decree of Jehovah; / He said to Me: You are My Son; / Today I have begotten You.
- b. By resurrection Christ brought His humanity into the divine sonship and was designated the Son of God with His humanity; His resurrection was His birth as God's firstborn Son—Rom. 1:3-4; 8:29; Acts 13:33:
- Rom 1:3 Concerning His Son, who came out of the seed of David according to the flesh,
- Rom 1:4 Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;
- Rom 8:29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;
- Acts 13:33 That God has fully fulfilled this promise to us their children in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."
- 1) Before His incarnation Christ already was the Son of God, the only begotten Son—John 1:18; Rom. 8:3.
- John 1:18 No one has ever seen God; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.
- Rom 8:3 For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,
- 2) By incarnation Christ put on an element, the human flesh, which had nothing to do with divinity; that part of Him needed to be sanctified and uplifted by passing through death and resurrection—John 1:14; Rom. 1:3-4.
- John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.
- Rom 1:3 Concerning His Son, who came out of the seed of David according to the flesh,
- Rom 1:4 Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;
- 3) By resurrection His human nature was sanctified, uplifted, and transformed; hence, by resurrection He was designated the Son of God with His humanity, and now, as the Son of God, He possesses humanity as well as divinity—Acts 13:33; Heb. 1:5.
- Acts 13:33 That God has fully fulfilled this promise to us their children in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."

- Heb 1:5 For to which of the angels has He ever said, "You are My Son; this day have I begotten You"? And again, "I will be a Father to Him, and He will be a Son to Me"?
- 4) God is using such a Christ, the firstborn Son, as the producer and as the prototype, the model, to produce His many sons—Rom. 8:29.
- Rom 8:29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;
- c. Through the same resurrection all His believers were born with Him to be His many brothers, the many sons of God— John 20:17; 1 Pet. 1:3; Rom. 8:29; Heb. 2:10.
- John 20:17 Jesus said to her, Do not touch Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brothers and say to them, I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.
- 1 Pet 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has regenerated us unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
- Rom 8:29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;
- Heb 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.
3. Christ has been given the nations as His inheritance and the limits of the earth as His possession—Psa. 2:8; 72:8, 11; Rev. 11:15.
- Psa 2:8 Ask of Me, / And I will give the nations as Your inheritance / And the limits of the earth as Your possession.
- Psa 72:8 And He will have dominion from sea to sea / And from the River unto the ends of the earth.
- Psa 72:11 And all the kings will bow down before Him; / All the nations will serve Him.
- Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.
4. Christ will rule the nations in His kingdom with an iron rod—Psa. 2:9; Rev. 2:26-27; 19:15.
- Psa 2:9 You will break them with an iron rod; / You will shatter them like a potter's vessel.
- Rev 2:26 And he who overcomes and he who keeps My works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations;
- Rev 2:27 And he will shepherd them with an iron rod, as vessels of pottery are broken in pieces, as I also have received from My Father;
- Rev 19:15 And out of His mouth proceeds a sharp sword, that with it He might smite the nations; and He will shepherd them with an iron rod; and He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.
- E. Psalm 2:10-12 is the preaching of the gospel:
- Psa 2:10 Now therefore, O kings, be prudent; / Take the admonition, O judges of the earth.
- Psa 2:11 Serve Jehovah with fear, / And rejoice with trembling.
- Psa 2:12 Kiss the Son / Lest He be angry and you perish from the way; / For His anger may suddenly be kindled. / Blessed are all those who take refuge in Him.
1. These verses are a warning concerning the coming wrath of God and Christ upon the world:
- a. One day Christ will come to execute His judgment in His wrath—v. 12; Rev. 6:15-17; Joel 1:15; 2:11, 31; 3:14; 1 Cor. 4:3-5.
- Psa 2:12 Kiss the Son / Lest He be angry and you perish from the way; / For His anger may suddenly be kindled. / Blessed are all those who take refuge in Him.
- Rev 6:15 And the kings of the earth and the great men and the generals and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains;
- Rev 6:16 And they say to the mountains and to the rocks, Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits upon the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb;

- Rev 6:17 For the great day of Their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?
- Joel 1:15 Alas for the day! / For the day of Jehovah has drawn near, / And as the destruction from the Almighty it will come.
- Joel 2:11 And Jehovah utters His voice / Before His army, / For His camp is very great, / For He who executes His word is mighty. / For the day of Jehovah is great / And very terrible, / And who can endure it?
- Joel 2:31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, / And the moon, into blood, / Before the great and terrible / Day of Jehovah comes.
- Joel 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes, / In the valley of decision; / For the day of Jehovah has drawn near / In the valley of decision.
- 1 Cor 4:3 But to me it is a very small thing that I should be examined by you or by man's day; rather I do not even examine myself.
- 1 Cor 4:4 For I am conscious of nothing against myself; but I am not justified in this, but He who examines me is the Lord.
- 1 Cor 4:5 So then do not judge anything before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and make manifest the counsels of the hearts, and then there will be praise to each from God.
- b. In the New Testament the period in which Christ will come to execute His judgment in His wrath upon the world is called “the day of the Lord” (Acts 2:20; 1 Cor. 5:5; 1 Thes. 5:2; 2 Thes. 2:2; 2 Pet. 3:10), which is also the day of God (v. 12; Joel 1:15).
- Acts 2:20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord comes.
- 1 Cor 5:5 To deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.
- 1 Thes 5:2 For you yourselves know perfectly well that like a thief in the night, so the day of the Lord comes.
- 2 Thes 2:2 That you be not quickly shaken in mind nor alarmed, neither by a spirit nor by word nor by a letter as if by us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come.
- 2 Pet 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the elements, burning with intense heat, will be dissolved, and the earth and the works in it will be burned up.
- 2 Pet 3:12 Expecting and hastening the coming of the day of God, on account of which the heavens, being on fire, will be dissolved, and the elements, burning with intense heat, are to be melted away?
- Joel 1:15 Alas for the day! / For the day of Jehovah has drawn near, / And as the destruction from the Almighty it will come.
2. We all need to realize that we are nothing and vanity (Psa. 39:4-5); our realizing that we are nothing, that our condition is sinful, and that our situation is one of vanity opens the way for Christ to crucify us and enter into us to replace us by living Himself through us and causing us to live together with Him in an organic union— Gal. 2:20.
- Psa 39:4 O Jehovah, cause me to know my end, / And the measure of my days, what it is. / May I know how transient I am.
- Psa 39:5 Behold, You have made my days as mere handbreadths, / And my lifetime is as nothing before You; / Surely every man at his best is altogether vanity. Selah.
- Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.
3. To take refuge in the Son is to believe into the Son, Christ, taking Him as our refuge, protection, and hiding place, and to kiss the Son is to love the Son and thereby to enjoy Him—Psa. 2:12; John 3:16, 36:
- Psa 2:12 Kiss the Son / Lest He be angry and you perish from the way; / For His anger may suddenly be kindled. / Blessed are all those who take refuge in Him.
- John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that every one who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life.
- John 3:36 He who believes into the Son has eternal life; but he who disobeys the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides upon him.

- a. To believe in the Lord is to receive Him, and to love the Lord is to enjoy Him—1 Tim. 1:14.
1 Tim 1:14 And the grace of our Lord superabounded with faith and love in Christ Jesus.
- b. The Gospel of John presents faith and love as the two requirements for us to participate in the Lord—3:16; 14:23.
John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that every one who believes into Him would not perish, but would have eternal life.
John 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make an abode with him.
- c. Through faith we receive the Lord, and through love we enjoy the Lord whom we have received—1:12; 14:21, 23; 21:15-17; Eph. 6:23.
John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the authority to become children of God, to those who believe into His name,
John 14:21 He who has My commandments and keeps them, he is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will manifest Myself to him.
John 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make an abode with him.
John 21:15 Then when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these? He said to Him, Yes, Lord, You know that I love You. He said to him, Feed My lambs.
John 21:16 He said to him again a second time, Simon, son of John, do you love Me? He said to Him, Yes, Lord, You know that I love You. He said to him, Shepherd My sheep.
John 21:17 He said to him the third time, Simon, son of John, do you love Me? Peter was grieved that He said to him the third time, Do you love Me? And he said to Him, Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You. Jesus said to him, Feed My sheep.
Eph 6:23 Peace to the brothers and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.