

Psalm 4
01-13-19 PM

Psalm 4 is one of the Messianic Psalms. They tend to fall into three types; those talking about the Eternal King; those talking about the Suffering Servant; and those talking about the Great Kingdom. In this case we are talking about the King, and the plot against the King. David (Acts 2) says that the kings of the Earth plot against Him. According to Acts 4, this was a prophecy that was speaking about the rulers of the Jews and the Roman leaders Herod and Pilate. In some sense too David was speaking about his situation in the history of Israel and issues with the nations around Israel.

Today we are still dealing with a world that rejects us. Jesus' warning to us in John 15:17-25 said that the world hates the disciples of Christ. In this usage "Hate" means wanting the worst for another. Jesus had spoken of this type of hate before when He said that those who walk in hate are guilty of murder (Matthew 5:21-22).

Do not be surprised, brethren, if the world hates you (1 John 3:13)
In all this, they are surprised that you do not run with them into the same excesses of dissipation, and they malign you (1 Peter 4:4)

We are often surprised that we are hated by the world. Consider Lot in Sodom in Genesis 19:7-9. Why is this so? Perhaps it is because we are trying to do what is best for them, and that is why they hate us. Perhaps it is because we are deceived by "forms" of godliness.

There are two facts we need to consider:

1. Friendship with the world and God is not possible

You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

James 4:4

2. There is a blessing in adversity to the world

"Blessed are you when men hate you, and ostracize you, and insult you, and scorn your name as evil" Luke 6:22