

Psalm 2 – What shall we do when the nations rage against the Lord and His Anointed?
Remember The True King and His Unshakeable Kingdom

Introduction:

Interpreting the Psalms – 3 Lenses with which to see the Psalms

1. The Songbook of Israel (Israel Lens)
2. The Songbook of David/David as Messianic figure (Davidic/Jesus lens)
3. The Songbook of the Church (New Testament lens)

When the nations rage, we need to remember the true king and his unshakeable kingdom

I. Stanza 1: The Nations Rage Against the LORD and His Anointed (v1-3)

Four introductory questions:

- a. Who are the nations?
- b. Who is the “Anointed”?
 - i. The Davidic King [Israel lens]
 - ii. The Messiah

“Anointing [in the OT] implied consecration to high office, not only investing the anointed person with a holy status...but also empowering him for his task, since the outward rite was consummated, at its best, by the gift of the Holy Spirit.” – Kidner, 33

- c. What is the nature of their rebellion?
 - i. It is strategically directed
 - ii. It is corporately plotted
 - iii. It is senselessly sought

“Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

- d. How do they rage against his rule? [5 Ways the current world is raging]
 - i. Against God’s Rule and Character
 - ii. Against God’s Creation Order [Image of God]
 - iii. Against God’s Institutions
 - iv. Against God’s Word

v. Against God's Justice

So, what does the Lord think about all this raging against him?

II. Stanza 2: The Lord Mocks the Futility of the Nations (v4-6)

- a. He "who sits in the heavens"
- b. He mocks and derides them
- c. His response thunders from his throne, terrifying the nations
 - i. "As for Me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill."
 - ii. In defiance to their governments and their organized rebellion, he has placed his King in Zion.

Gen 1 → Fall → The Seed → Seth/Noah/Shem → Abraham → Judah → David → Solomon → Zerubbabel → Jesus

III. Stanza 3: The Lord Establishes the Kingdom of His Messiah By Sovereign Decree (v7-9)

- a. The nature of the decree: Eternal
- b. The content of the decree:
 - i. "You are My Son" - [OT Context]
 - ii. "Today I have begotten you"

And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus, as also is written in the second Psalm, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you.' And as for the fact that he raised him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, he has spoken in this way, 'I will give you the holy and sure blessings of David'. Therefore he says also in another Psalm, 'You will not let your Holy One see corruption.' – Acts 13:32-36

Paul...set apart for the gospel of God...concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead. – Rom 1:1-4

- iii. "Ask of Me, and I will make the nations your heritage"
 1. He claims a right to all the nations and the ends of the earth

I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed. – Daniel 7:13-14

2. He awaits the ingathering of the nations

The LORD says to my Lord: Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool. – Ps. 110:1

c. Finish the storyline of Scripture – Christ → Church Age → Rev. 21

IV. Stanza 4: The Lord Warns the Rulers of This World (v10-12)

a. Truth Illustrated by 5 Imperative Commands:

i. Be Wise

“The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.” – Mt. 12:42

ii. Be warned

iii. Serve the Lord (Yahweh) with fear

1. Serving the Lord begins with repentance and humility.
2. Serving the Lord with fear is the proper response to an All-powerful king and God.

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. – Phil 2:9-11

iv. Rejoice with reverent fear

1. Sing about this King, and sing often!

v. Kiss the Son

And our last application serves as the final point of this Psalm...

- V. Those Who Trust in the Lord's Anointed are Blessed (v. 12d)
 - a. Psalm 1 – The man who trusts in the word of God is blessed
 - b. Psalm 2 – The man who trusts in the promised Messiah is blessed.
 - c. Blessed –
 - i. Shalom – universal peace, rest and flourishing.
 - d. Those who DO NOT trust in the Lord's Anointed WILL NOT escape his judgment.
 - i. There is no refuge *from him*: only *in him*". – Derek Kidner