

Psalm 2 ¹

"Yahweh's Installation of His Anointed King on Zion to Vanquish the Revolt of the Nations"

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A1 CONSPIRACY AND REVOLT: THE NATIONS 2:1-3

B1 The Hall-mark of the Nations 2:1

C1 Uproar: Why are the nations in an uproar

C2 Conspiracy: And the peoples devising a vain thing?

B2 The Revolt of the Leaders 2:2-3

C1 The plot of the leaders 2:2

D1 The kings of the earth take their stand

D2 And the rulers take counsel together

C2 The target of their revolt

D1 Against the LORD

D2 And against His Anointed,² saying,

¹ Psalm 2. A royal psalm (so designated because the theme is the supreme King, as in also Psalms 18, 20, 21, 45, 72, 89, 101, 110, 132, 144) (*Ryrie Study Bible*). This psalm (and each of the other royal psalms) has relevance for the Davidic king at the time of his reign. But the long-range fulfillment points to the ultimate Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth (Acts 4:25-28). Acts 4:25 asserts that David wrote this psalm.

² 2:2 - LORD, anointed: LORD (all caps) is the English translation of the Hebrew *Yehovah*, the vowels of which the Hebrew scribes borrowed from the name *Adonai*. I consistently use what was probably the original vowel pointing, *Yahweh*, derived from the verb "to be." Anointed is the English translation of the Hebrew *Mashiyach*, usually transliterated into English as Messiah. It means "Anointed One." In the LXX, the word is translated into Greek as *Christos*, from which we derive our English title Christ. The word *anointed* stems from the fact that Yahweh instructed OT prophets to anoint with olive oil someone such as David to be king (1 Sam. 16:1, 11-13). When the human (in this case Samuel) had anointed the king-designate, God anointed him with His Spirit, imbuing him with power to reign. Isaiah (11:1-5) predicted a David king who would be ultimately anointed with the Spirit, giving the king supernatural powers of discernment. Jesus of Nazareth is that ultimate anointed one. He was anointed by God mightily with His Spirit at His baptism (Matt. 3:16-17). He has yet to be anointed by a human. It is my belief that some Jewish official will one day anoint Jesus as the delivering

C3 Their declaration ³ of independence 2:3

D1 "Let us tear their fetters apart

D2 And cast away their cords from us!" ⁴

A2 LAUGHING ANGER AND CORONATION: GOD THE FATHER 2:4-6

B1 The Reaction of Adonai 2:4-5

C1 Laughter: He who sits ⁵ in the heavens laughs,⁶

C2 Scoffing: The Lord scoffs at them.

C3 Anger: Then He will speak ⁷ to them in His anger

C4 Fury: And terrify them in His fury, saying,

Jewish king in a solemn ceremony that will mix tears of joy with tears of regret (Zech. 12:10-14).

³ 2:3 subtitle - declaration: Note that revolt and rebellion sooner or later is evidenced in speech. In the days of David, the rulers of surrounding nations took counsel together to see how they could overthrow the Israeli regime which had conquered them. David sees their opposition to himself as being opposition to Yahweh, because Yahweh had installed him as the anointed (Messianic) king. The Jewish Christians of the New Testament (Acts 4:25-27) understood that the ultimate fulfillment of this opposition was the agreement between the nation of Israel and the Roman Empire to kill Jesus of Nazareth, whom God had anointed with His Spirit (Matt. 3:16-17; Mark 1:10-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:28-34). It is no different today. The cursing and swearing of people, misusing the names of God and Christ shows their opposition to both.

⁴ 2:3 - fetters, cords: The people of the world see God and Christ as bondage, confinement, prison. So deep in rebellion are they that they arrogantly defy their own Creator. They are so blinded they do not fear Him and can think of no higher individual, national, or international good than to defy Him, the all-powerful One! They despise Him and His standards!

⁵ 2:4 - sits: One who sits is often seen as a dweller in that place.

⁶ 2:4 - laughs: Yahweh is so amused by the insolence and braggadocio of His petty creatures that He breaks out into spontaneous laughter. If they knew He were laughing at them, they would be utterly insulted that they were not being taken seriously!

⁷ 2:5 - speak: God, too communicates through speech. His speech is anger, fury, and resolve to impose His will anyway!

B2 The Speech of God 2:6

C1 His resolve of Coronation: "But as for Me, I have installed My King ⁸

C2 His insistence on Zionism: Upon Zion,⁹ My holy mountain!" ¹⁰

A3 INHERITANCE AND CRUSHING RULE: GOD THE SON 2:7-9

B1 The Report of the Son: Authorization! "I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD (Yahweh): **2:7**

B2 The Relationship of the Son! He said to Me, **2:7**

C1 'You are My Son,

C2 Today I have begotten You. ¹¹

⁸ Ps. 2:6 - King: Jesus of Nazareth will be the King who will fulfill this decree in the long-term.

⁹ Ps. 2:6 - Zion: The world's elite liberals, Muslims, Arabs, "Palestinians," and even many Jewish people despise "Zionism." But God is an "in your face" Zionist! No matter how the world's nations rage and protest, He will install His King on Mount Zion anyway! God has a vested interest in Zion. If one wishes to eliminate Divine references to Zion from the Psalter alone, then here are the psalms one must eliminate: Psalm 2:6; 9:11; 9:14; 14:7; 20:2; 48:2; 48:11; 48:12; 50:2; 51:18; 53:6; 65:1; 69:35; 74:2; 76:2; 78:68; 84:7; 87:2; 87:5; 97:8; 99:2; 102:13; ; 102:16; 102:21; 110:2; 125:1; 126:1; 128:5; 129:5; 132:13; 133:3; 134:3; 135:21; 137:1; 137:3; 146:10; 147:12; 149:2. Ps 3:4 and 48:1 refer to Yahweh's "holy mountain," a reference to Zion.

¹⁰ 2:6 - mountain: Despite howls of protest, machinations, plots, and conspiracies against Him and His anointed King, God will install His King on Mount Zion anyway! Jesus Christ will return to earth, destroy His opposition, and seat Himself on His throne in His temple on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. No Mosque of Omar will stand in His way! God has a plan, and no mere humans can thwart His stated intentions!

By way of application, parents who emulate God must deliberately impose their will on their children in a loving, but firm way. Too many parents let their children talk them out of enforcing their parental standards and policies.

¹¹ 2:7 - Today I have begotten You: In David's day, this would have meant the Davidic king's ascension to the throne on coronation day. Remember that God promised a Father - Son relationship with Davidic kings (2 Sam. 7:14). Paul, in Acts 13:30-33 asserts that Christ's resurrection and probably His exaltation to the right hand of the Father are the fulfillment of this Scripture. Without resurrection and exaltation, Jesus cannot reign as the Christ, the conqueror and leader of all humanity! Presently Jesus has been exalted to the right hand of the Father, where He awaits His victorious rule over His enemies in His coming Kingdom (Psalm 110:1). The further fulfillment of Psalm 2:7 will occur when God exalts Jesus as King of Israel and King of the World on His throne in Jerusalem (Zech. 14:9; Matt. 25:31). The Resurrection and Exaltation in the first century in a unique way declare Jesus to be the Messiah, the Anointed Ruler from God with tremendous power and authority! See also Rom. 1:3-4, where Paul speaks of the gospel given him by God "concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, {4} who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord."

B3 The Inheritance of the Son! 2:8

C1 'Ask of Me,¹² and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance,

C2 And the *very* ends of the earth as Your possession!

B4 The Reign of the Son! 2:9

C1 'You shall break them with a rod of iron,¹³

C2 You shall shatter them like earthenware!' "

A4 WARNING TO SUBMIT: GOD THE SPIRIT 2:10-12

B1 Warning 2:10

C1 Now therefore, O kings, show discernment;¹⁴

C2 Take warning, O judges of the earth.

¹² 2:8 - Ask of Me: The Father instructs the Son to ask to receive "the nations as Your inheritance" and the "ends of the earth as Your possession." Right now Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father, obeying Yahweh's instructions in Ps 110:1, "Sit at My right hand Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet." For 2000 years Jesus has been sitting and waiting (not, of course, that He has been inactive!). The time is drawing near when Daniel's vision of Dan. 7:13-14 will be fulfilled. Daniel looked, "And behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, And He came up to the Ancient of Days And was presented before Him. {14} "And to Him was given dominion, Glory and a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations and *men of every* language Might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion Which will not pass away; And His kingdom is one Which will not be destroyed." That glorious moment is coming when, at the proper moment, Jesus will rise from His throne, proceed to the Father, and ask for His inheritance. The Father will gladly grant His Son His inheritance, and Jesus will descend to earth to claim it by conquest! (Isa. 63:1-6; 66:15-16; Zech. 14:3-4, 9, 12-15; Matt. 24:29-31; 26:64; Mark 14:62; Rev. 1:7; 19:11-21).

¹³ 2:9 - rod of iron: The Father predicts to His Son that He will rule the nations with a rod of iron and smash them like pottery. Church age saints who conquer sin and obey Jesus will, with great authority and power, help Jesus rule His Kingdom (Rev. 2:26-27). The words of Psalm 2:9 are repeated of Jesus in Rev. 12:5 and 19:15.

¹⁴ 2:10 - discernment, warning: Instead of revolting against Yahweh and His Anointed King, whose rule over the whole earth is inevitable, the Kings and Judges of the earth are warned to show discretion and submit!

B2 Worship 2:11-12a

C1 Worship ¹⁵ the LORD with reverence 2:11

C2 And rejoice with trembling.

C3 Do homage to the Son,¹⁶ 2:12

B3 Wrath 2:12b

C1 That He not become angry,¹⁷

C2 And you perish *in* the way,

C3 For His wrath may soon be kindled.

B4 Warmth: How blessed ¹⁸ are all who take refuge in Him!

Expanded Analysis of Psalm 2

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¹⁵ 2:11 - worship: Instead of revolting against Yahweh, the rulers of earth are advised to lead their nations in worshipping Him!

¹⁶ 2:12 - homage ... Son: Instead of revolting against Yahweh's Anointed King, earth's rulers are to lead their peoples into giving homage, respect, and friendship to the Son, the Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth, King of Israel and the World! They are commanded, literally, to "kiss the Son." In the context of mideast culture, this means to submit with a gesture of friendship.

¹⁷ 2:12 - angry, perish, wrath: Those who do not submit to King Jesus in His reign here on earth will see Him grow angry and filled with wrath. He will destroy them, and they will perish. No one can defeat or countermand this King!

¹⁸ 2:12 - blessed: On the contrary, instead of suffering the suicidal consequence of revolting against Yahweh's King, all who trust in Him and take refuge in Him will be truly blessed for eternity! See the invitation of Jesus in Matt. 11:28-30. Note also John 10:27-29; 11:25-26.