

A Warning to the Earth: Serve God and His King or Else!

Psalm 2

by James T. Bartsch, WordExplain.com

A. The Nations Rebel against God and His Anointed King. 2:1-3

1. What is the status of the people of earth's nations / people? 2:1 _____

2. What are earth's kings doing? 2:2a _____

3. What are earth's rulers doing? 2:b _____

4. Whom are they targeting? 2:2c
 - a. _____¹
 - b. _____²
5. What are they saying? 2:3
 - a. _____
 - b. _____

¹ 2:2 - LORD: This Hebrew word is a name for God. In Hebrew it is probably to be spelled "Yahweh," but in some English versions is translated, "Jehovah." God emphasized this name of His when He spoke with Moses as recorded in Exodus 3:13-15.

² 2:2 - His Anointed: This title refers to Yahweh's Anointed King. We pronounce the English equivalent "Messiah." The Greek equivalent is *Christos*, in English, Christ. Both terms in both Testaments refer to Yahweh's Anointed King. During the days of Davidic kings in Israel (later Judah), it referred to the reigning son of David. But Israel has had no king for millennia. Ultimately the Anointed King refers to David's greatest son, Jesus of Nazareth. God anointed Jesus with His Holy Spirit as Prophet, Priest, and Davidic King at Jesus' baptism (Matt. 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:29-34). There God identified Jesus as His Davidic Son, in whom He was well-pleased. God also powerfully declared Jesus, son of David according to the flesh, as His own Son by virtue of His resurrection (Romans 1:3-4).

B. God the Father Laughs and, in Fury, Crowns His King Anyway! 2:4-6

1. Where is the Lord³ seated? 2:4a _____
 - a. What is the Lord's first reaction against the rebels? 2:4a _____
 - b. What is his second reaction against the rebels? 2:4b _____
2. What is the attitude with which He will speak to them? 2:5
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
3. The speech of God 2:6
 - a. What has He done? _____
 - b. Where has He done it? _____⁴

C. The Inheritance and Crushing Rule of God the Son. 2:7-9

1. Report: The Son reports concerning His authorization. Of what does He speak? 2:7a _____
2. Relationship: What two things did the LORD (Yahweh) decree to the speaker? 2:7b
 - a. _____
 - b. _____

³ 2:4 - Lord: This Hebrew word, *Adonai*, means "Lord" or "Master". In that day, slaves had masters. But humans are to consider God as their Master. In 2:4 Adonai refers to God, the Father.

⁴ 2:6 - Upon Zion, My holy mountain: This refers to Mount Zion in Jerusalem. There are some who believe that "Zionist!" is the worst epithet that can be hurled at someone. But they hurl it at God, who was and is the foremost Zionist. God installed sons of David as king on Mount Zion. One day, God will install David's greatest Son on Mount Zion in Jerusalem, and no ruler or nation or coalition of nations will be able to stop Him!

3. Inheritance: When the Son will ask, what will the LORD give Him? 2:8

a. The _____ as His _____

b. The _____ as His _____

4. Reign: How did the LORD describe the Son's reign? 2:9

a. You will _____ them with a _____

b. You will _____ them like _____ ⁵

D. The Warning from God the Spirit to Submit to the King. 2:10-12

1. Warning 2:10

a. Who is warned to show discernment or wisdom? _____

b. Who is admonished to heed the warning? _____ of the

2. Worship. 2:11-12a

a. Whom are the earth's rulers admonished to lead their nations to worship with reverence and trembling? 2:11 _____

b. To whom are the earth's rulers admonished to lead their nations in giving homage? ⁶ 2:12a _____

3. Wrath. 2:12b-d

a. If the leaders of earth's nations do not submit to the King, what will his reaction be? 2:12b _____

⁵ 2:9 - You shall shatter them like earthenware: "like earthenware" is metaphorical, but the rule of the King is not. Jesus is not presently shattering the nations of the earth like clay jars smashed against a tiled floor. The nations are presently in the state of rebellion described in Psalm 2:1-3, not in the state of forced submission described in Psalm 2:7-9. Therefore Jesus is not presently sitting on David's throne on Mount Zion in Jerusalem as described in Psalm 2:4-6. Rather, He is sitting at the right hand of the Father, waiting until His enemies be made a footstool for His feet (Psalm 110:1-3, 5-7). The Anointed One has neither asked for nor received the nations as His inheritance.

⁶ 2:12 - homage: The Hebrew text reads, "Kiss the Son!" This is a middle-eastern way of expressing friendship toward and submission to the King.

- b. If He becomes angry, what will happen to the leaders and their nations who do not submit to the Son/King when He inevitably encounters them? 2:12c _____
- c. What may soon happen? 2:12d _____
- 4. Warmth. What will happen to all who take refuge in the Son/King? 2:12e _____

E. Follow-Up Questions

- 1. Who is God's anointed King? _____
- 2. Are you presently in a state of revolt against God and His Anointed King? _____
- 3. Have you submitted to God's Anointed King? _____
- 4. Some day every person who has ever lived will experience a face to face encounter with God's Anointed King (John 5:21-24). Will He be angry with you when that happens? _____
- 5. Have you taken refuge in God's Anointed King? _____

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