



Psalm 2: *The King Reigns*

Historical Context

The covenant with Abraham will be fulfilled through the kingship of David.

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." Genesis 12:1-3

When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever. (2 Samuel 7:12-16)

Structure

Psalm 2 has three major sections with the last section having two subsections.

- ❖ The Delusion of the Nations (1-3)
- ❖ The Derision of the Lord (4-6)
- ❖ The Declaration of the King (7-12)
 - The Decree (7-9)
 - The Dire Warning (10-12)

The Old Testament Type

The Delusion of the Nations

Rebellion against the Lord's Anointed is rebellion against the Lord himself.

The Derision of the Lord

Derision means to ridicule or hold in contempt.

God's plan and purpose will be accomplished, and his plan and purpose will be accomplished through his anointed one, the king.

The Declaration of the King

The Decree

Spoken at the king's coronation.

The Dire Warning



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The Lord's king first tells the pagan kings to serve the Lord, not the Lord's Anointed. Then the psalmist shows that in order to serve the Lord you must kiss the Son. That is, you must worship the Son.

The New Testament Antitype

The Delusion of the Nations

The nations (Gentiles and Jews) rebelled against the Lord by crucifying Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

*"Why did the Gentiles rage,
and the peoples plot in vain?
The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers were gathered together,
against the Lord and against his Anointed'—*

for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. (Acts 4:23-28)

They rejected the bonds that are easy and bring peace.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 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. (Matthew 11:28-30)

The Derision of the Lord

The New Testament also shows the foolishness of rebellion against God. (1 Corinthians 1:18-25)

The king that God has set on Mount Zion will come in wrath against the nations.

*The nations raged,
but your wrath came,
and the time for the dead to be judged,
and for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints,
and those who fear your name,
both small and great,
and for destroying the destroyers of the earth. (Revelation 11:18)*

Mount Zion represents the center of God's rule of his people through Jesus. We are at Mount Zion.



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But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. (Hebrews 12:22-24)

The Declaration of the King

The Decree

The decree ultimately applies to Jesus. The resurrection is the proof.

"Brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation. For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets, which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled them by condemning him. And though they found in him no guilt worthy of death, they asked Pilate to have him executed. And when they had carried out all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead, and for many days he appeared to those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. 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 it is written in the second Psalm,

*"You are my Son,
today I have begotten you." (Acts 13:26-33 ESV)*

The Dire Warning

The Lord's king first tells the pagan kings to serve the Lord, not the Lord's Anointed. Then the psalmist shows that in order to serve the Lord you must kiss the Son. That is, you must worship the Son.