

# HARVEST ROCK CHURCH

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## END-TIME REBELLION AND REVIVAL

### PSALM 2

#### SUMMER IN THE PSALMS

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July 11, 2021

\*Announce the July 22 event with Secretary Mike Pompeo. Then the Israel Glory Tour will be September 5-14, 2021.

#### TEXT:

**Psalm 2:1** Why are the nations in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing? **2** The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers take counsel together against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,

**3** “Let us tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords from us!”

**Psalm 2:4** He who sits in the heavens laughs, the Lord scoffs at them.

**5** Then He will speak to them in His anger and terrify them in His fury, saying, **6** “But as for Me, I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain.”

**Psalm 2:7** “I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: he said to Me, ‘You are My Son, today I have begotten You.

**8** ‘Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as Your possession.

**9** ‘You shall break them with a rod of iron, you shall shatter them like earthenware.’”

**Psalm 2:10** Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; take warning, O judges of the earth. **11** Worship the LORD with reverence and rejoice with trembling. **12** Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!

**INTRO:** This is a Messianic Psalm. Last week I shared that the Psalms are quoted more in the New Testament than any other Old Testament book. **Of the 283 quotes of the Old Testament in the New Testament, 116 are from the Psalms!**

**Psalms come from the Hebrew word *tehilim* = “songs” or “praises.”** It is a hymnbook. Just like our hymnbooks, modern hymnbooks, they are a selection of the best, most-loved songs. The Methodist Hymnbook: Charles Wesley wrote over 6,000 hymns, but only a selection of his hymns is in the Methodist Hymnbook. David wrote over 4,000 psalms, but only 73 are attributed to him. Asaph: 12 psalms. The Sons of Korah: 10 psalms. Moses: 1 psalm. The contribution of the Psalms goes to around 900 years from Moses to the Post-exilic Period.

One of the early church fathers, **Athanasius said, “The Psalms have a unique place in the Bible because [whereas] most of Scripture speaks to us, the Psalms speak for us.”** And I would add, “The Psalms pray for us.”

Psalms 1 and 2 are the introduction to the whole book of Psalms. Some scholars believe that these two Psalms were at one time one psalm.



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Psalm 2 is like a four-act play. Keep in mind, Psalms is poetry that was set to music. This Psalm is also called a Coronation Psalm and was written by David for use in the future coronation of Israel's kings. When I say it is written by David, there is no evidence in this specific Psalm that David wrote this, but in Acts 4, when Peter and John were threatened by the Sanhedrin, the early church cried out to God and quoted Psalm 2 in prayer, and they say in **Acts 4:24-25**: “Oh Lord, it is You who made the heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them, 25 who by the Holy Spirit, through the mouth of our father David Your servant, said, ‘Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples devise a vain thing?’”

This is also a prophetic Psalm, and David who was also a prophet (Acts 2:29) prophesies about how the world will rebel against Jesus, but God the Father, in His love and mercy, is offering salvation for the nations. The Father is asking His Son, Jesus, for whatever He wants on the day of His coronation (His death, resurrection, and ascension to the right hand of the Father), and Jesus is asking for the nations as His inheritance and the ends of the earth as His possessions. His prayers are being answered. We will see at least a billion-soul harvest in this coming revival. But we will also see the greatest rebellion towards God manifested in the world as we draw near to the Second Coming of Christ.

## I. ACT ONE: THE NATIONS AND KINGS PLOT THEIR WAR AGAINST JESUS AND HIS KINGDOM

### A. **Psalm 2:1 Why are the nations in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers take counsel together against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,**

**3 “Let us tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords from us!”**

1. **Why are the nations (GOY) in an uproar:** The nations are the Gentile nations, represented by the Hebrew word *goy*. These are people who don't know the Lord but have been influenced by God morally and through His Word. Satan is still the god of this world who has blinded the eyes of unbelievers (2 Corinthians 4:4); he has been from the beginning getting people, whom God loves, to rebel against God.
2. **Peoples devising a vain thing:** People in every level of society will plot deceptive strategies to mobilize the masses to resist Jesus' Lordship (Psalm 2:2) but will lose in the end. The word “people” can also be translated in Hebrew as “warriors.” We are in a spiritual battle. Unfortunately, the world understands only physical battle; that is why their protest manifests in riots, violence, persecution, and even wars. Critical race theory is from the pit of hell.
3. **Kings of the earth take a stand against the Lord and against His Messiah:** Kings will set their hearts to support the plots of people and the counsel of rulers under them. *Kings* include the heads of state, e.g., presidents, prime ministers, chancellors, etc.
4. **Rulers take counsel together against the Anointed, the Messiah:** Jesus is the Messiah. This is an all-out attack on Christianity. The rulers speak of the leaders of society—political, economic, educational, military, entertainment, media, arts, etc. The rulers counsel together to come up with “clever strategies” to twist the truth about social issues, using distortion and manipulation. Their ultimate aim is to cancel God and Christianity because this is what Satan's aim is, and he is the god of this age. E.g., The Iranian Ayatollah is never canceled, but Trump and many Christians are. They took prayer out of schools (*Engel v. Vitale 1962*). Then SCOTUS took Bibles out in 1963.



5. **Against the LORD and His Anointed.** The kings, rulers, and people will specifically plot against the LORD (*Yahweh*, the God of Israel) and His Anointed (*Mashiyach*), Jesus the Messiah, to cast off God’s ways and morality and to stand against His decree that Jesus, as the Son of David, will rule all the nations from Jerusalem.
6. **“Let us tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords from us!”** Another translation: *Break Their bonds and cast away Their cords*. Their hostility against God will be focused on seeking to remove “religious bondage” from them. They want to remove moral restraints and the influence of God’s Word (v. 3) from their sinful life. These people will see God’s Word in a negative light, as if it were “bonds” that enslave them and “cords” that bind them to His morality and ways. Legalized abortions and same-sex marriage. Through legislation they are legalizing. They legalized being a pederast last July 2020. Sex with a teenager 16 and over. But even if a nation passes laws that permit debauchery, they hate Christians because we still teach the standards established by God, thus an anti-Christ rebellion against God and His followers.
7. Before the Lord returns, sin will reach the greatest heights in history. There is an unholy momentum building as many attacks God’s commands as possible, seeking to remove all moral boundaries from the culture, including the sanctity of life, marriage, and sexuality.
8. **2 Timothy 3:1 But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. 2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, 4 treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.**

## II. ACT TWO: THE FATHER’S RESPONSE

- A. **Psalm 2:4 He who sits in the heavens laughs, the Lord scoffs at them. 5 Then He will speak to them in His anger and terrify them in His fury, saying, 6 “But as for Me, I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain.”**
  1. Here the Father declares metaphorically His victorious purposes of Jesus’ dying for the sins of the world, raising Him from the dead, and installing Him at the right hand of the Father. We find “the gospel in miniature” in verse 6.
  2. The Lord, Father God, *sits* on His throne in sovereign power and laughs (not at the sinfulness and deception of the masses) but because of two truths in this passage. First, He is seated. He is not standing nervous. He is seated, at rest, because He has everything in control. He is God! Secondly, because He has the solution to their sinfulness and lostness. The solution is that He has “installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain.”
  3. The Father’s primary message is, v. 6 “But as for Me, I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain.” There are two installments to this decree.
  4. God uses this metaphor to sum up all that Jesus will do on the cross. He will die for the sins of the nations. He will descend into Hades. He will disarm the rulers and authorities... triumphing over them through Jesus (Colossians 2:15). He will rise from the dead. He will ascend into heaven and sit at the right hand of the Father. He is the King of kings and Lord of lords.
  5. He proclaimed His delight in Jesus’ enthronement as King over all nations. He set Jesus on His throne in two installments. (1) He was enthroned in heaven at the Father’s right

hand after the resurrection (Ephesians 1:20-22). At present, the Father is determined to reveal and magnify Jesus' Kingship in the nations by the Holy Spirit. (2) He will be enthroned on earth in the new Jerusalem at the Second Coming.

6. **Revelation 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, 4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.” 5 And He who sits on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” And He said, “Write, for these words are faithful and true.” 6 Then He said to me, “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning, and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. 7 He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son. 8 But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”**
7. The Father will not tolerate the deeds of those leaders who will be *permanently settled in their rage and rebellion against Jesus*. He wants them to know about His anger toward them. He will judge them in his wrath.
8. The Father's actions are made known to give boldness to His people and to encourage faith instead of fear. God's people are not to draw back in intimidation before the kings of the earth.

### III. ACT THREE: JESUS THE MESSIAH'S RESPONSE

- A. **Psalm 2:7 “I will surely tell (*decree*) the decree of the LORD: he said to Me, ‘You are My Son, today I have begotten You. 8 ‘Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as Your possession. 9 ‘You shall break them with a rod of iron, you shall shatter them like earthenware.’”**
1. Jesus decrees the Father's decrees in intercession (v. 7a). The key to prayer is praying what He wants us to pray! He decrees His Lordship over all nations (v. 8) to be manifested openly. As the “Great Intercessor,” He leads His people to partner with Him in prayer. We also are to ask the Father for the nations on behalf of Jesus. I have prayed this prayer perhaps more than any prayer as we expanded our network HIM to 70 nations around the world. Glory to God!
- B. David identified five decrees that Jesus uses in intercession before the Father (Psalm 2:7-9).
1. **“You are My Son”**: Jesus proclaims His Sonship before the Father. Twice, the Father decreed the truth of Jesus' Sonship at significant moments—before He entered the wilderness temptation (“This is My beloved Son with whom I am well pleased,” Matthew 3:17) and before going to the cross (Matthew 17:5). The truth of our sonship emphasizes our family relationship with the Father. We have confidence before God, knowing His affection for us and the privileges, authority, and destiny that He has ordained for His

children. Declaring our spiritual identity in sonship strengthens us and silences Satan’s accusing voice in our lives. **Romans 8:14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!” 16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.**

2. **“Today I have begotten you”**: We know that Jesus is God, He is eternal, He never had a beginning, but His humanity did have a beginning. Here we come to the mystery of the Incarnation. John 1:1 says, “In the beginning was the Word and the Word was God.” In John 1:14, it says: **John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.** Begotten means “to cause to bring forth.” It expresses the *idea of distinctiveness* or “one of a kind.” It doesn’t say, “Today I have created you.” Jesus is uncreated, but in the fullness of time God brought forth His purpose of a full man, fully God, to take away the sins of the world.
3. **The nations are Jesus’ inheritance**: Jesus’ inheritance is to be King over all the nations. All will openly acknowledge Jesus’ Lordship. The Body of Christ is to rule and reign with Christ. This happens in part in this age and in the new heavens and new earth to come. Jesus receiving His inheritance is of highest priority. We are to find our inheritance in context to Jesus’ inheritance.
4. **Jesus will possess the ends of the earth**: Jesus exercises dominion over, or takes possession of, every **sphere of society and life** (Genesis 1:28). This speaks of possessing the hearts of all the people as well as all the lands and the social and governmental infrastructures over the peoples.
5. **Jesus will dash and break the nations: He will destroy the geopolitical nations. Revelation 11:15 The Kingdom of this world, all the nations, will become the Kingdom of the Lord and of His Christ.** Until then, we must participate in this now by doing our part in The Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). We are asking the Lord to release justice and remove injustice, and by resisting anything that hinders God’s will in our lives (Matthew 6:9ff). And we are to be salt and light by voting biblically (Matthew 5:13-16).

#### IV. ACT FOUR: KING DAVID’S APPEAL FOR THE NATIONS TO COME UNDER GOD’S KINGSHIP

- A. **Psalm 2:10 Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; take warning, O judges of the earth. 11 Worship the LORD with reverence and rejoice with trembling. 12 Do homage (*kiss the Son*) to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!**
  1. King David exhorted the leaders of culture to submit, serve, and obey the Lord God (Psalm 2:10-12). He called them to be wise and to receive God’s instruction to serve the Lord in the spirit of the fear of God. The Lord is orchestrating a threefold response in His Church—of worshipping with reverence, rejoicing with trembling, and kissing the Son—as His people become Jesus’ promised inheritance (Psalm 2:8).



2. The Church is to partner with Jesus in praying for the release of His Kingdom in the nations. The apostles followed the model of Psalm 2:7-8 by joining Christ in His ministry of intercession in asking God to manifest His power before the hostile leaders in Jerusalem (Acts 4:14-29).
  3. The Son praying in agreement with the Father's decrees is a most powerful weapon against His enemies. Prayer is part of the work of the Kingdom of God. ***Oswald Chambers said, "Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work."***
- B. CONCLUSION: Psalm 2:12b How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!**
1. Do you know Him? Is He your refuge and fortress, your covering and your Lord? One day, you will bow before Him whether you want to or not. Do it today where you can receive mercy and grace!