

Jesus' Ultimate Victory Against Worldly Powers

Cornerstone Community Church – Pastor Jerry Ernst

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Scripture: Psalm 2

Psalm 1 - People *individually* standing against evil and the godless.

Psalm 2 - Kingdoms and powerful leaders standing *in opposition* to the Messiah, Jesus! It is a prophetic warning to the nations to “*Kiss the Son,*” or be destroyed!

We see the following sequence in Psalm 2

- **The nations rebellion** - to resist God and His Anointed Son (Vv. 1-3).
- **God the Father's response** - laughing with ridicule against the nations to show contempt over their futile efforts (Vv. 4-6).
- **The Messiah's response** - Jesus is God's *only* Son who is given the nations (Vv. 7-9).
- **The Psalmist's dire warning or promise of blessing to earthly leaders** (Vv. 10-12).

Jesus' Ultimate Victory Against Worldly Powers (Psalm 2:1-12)

1) The Nations' Rebellion Against God & His Anointed Son (Vv. 1-3)

The Psalmist's Inquiry: “(1) Why do the nations *conspire* and the peoples *plot* in vain?”

CONSPIRE: (Heb. *ragash*): “*to be in tumult or commotion.*”

PLOT: (Heb. *hagah*): “*to moan, growl, utter, speak, muse.*”

The Psalmist's Observation of this rebellion: (Vv. 2-3)

“(2) The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers **band together against** the Lord and against his anointed, saying, (3) Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles.”

BAND TOGETHER: (Heb. *yatsab*): “*to set or station oneself, take one's stand.*”

AGAINST: (Heb. *al*): “*upon, above, over.*” (a downward aspect)

- **Worldly Leaders unify against the Lord and His Anointed (Jesus)**

These earthly entities speak against the Lord both...

- **Kingdom Destruction:** “(3) ‘Let us break their chains...’”
- **Kingdom Rejection:** “(3) ...and throw off their shackles.”

2) God's Response to the World's Rebellion (Vv. 4-6)

God's Reaction: **He ridicules them for their foolishness (Vs. 4)** “(4) The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them.”

- Being seated is a sign of God's Authority. On His throne, God will laugh and mock them.

God's Reply: **He directs them to his King (Vv. 5-6)** “(5) He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, (6) I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain.”

3) The Messiah's Response (Vv. 7-9)

The Announcement Given to Jesus: “(7) I will proclaim the Lord's decree: He said to me, ‘You are my son; today I have become your father.’”

- “**You are My Son**” - Proclamation of the Messiah (Matthew 3:16-17).
- “**Today I have become your Father.**”

The Authority Given to Jesus: (Vv. 8-9)

- **The Extent of Jesus' Rule:** *“(8) Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.”*
- **The Power of Jesus' Rule:** *“(9) You will break them with **a rod of iron**, you will dash them to pieces like pottery.”*

Revelation 2:26-28 - *“(26) To the one who is victorious and does the will to the end, I will give authority over the nations – (27) **that one ‘will rule them with an iron scepter and will dash them to pieces like pottery’** – just as I received authority from my Father. (28) I will also give that one the morning star.”*

4) The Psalmist's Warning to earthly Leaders (Vv. 10-12)

*“(10) Therefore, **you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth.** (11) Serve the Lord with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling. (12) **Kiss his son**, or he will be angry and your way will lead to your destruction, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.”*

SERVE: Serve the Lord in fear, and under his authority and rule.

FEAR: Reverent submission to surrender your rebellious will and nature (you kings) under Jesus Christ (Proverbs 1:7).

4) God's Warning & Promise to Earthly Leaders: (Vs. 12)

*“(12) **Kiss the son**, or he will be angry and your way will lead to your destruction, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.”*

KISS: (Heb. *nashaq*): **“kiss.” Usage:** *fasten together, arrange in order.*

Kiss the son = submit to Christ, homage, respect, service, reverence, worship.

- A kiss represents the union of two hearts: Affection for the Son.
- If not: *“(12) ...your way will lead to your destruction,”*

Revelation 19:15 – *“(15) Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.”*

Psalm 2 teaches us...

- 1) **A warning to the Nations.**
- 2) **A warning to be saved from sins.**
- 3) **A warning that someday, Jesus, will stop withholding His Judgment on the earth.**
- 4) **A Promise to those who make Jesus their Savior** – *“(12) ...Blessed are all who take refuge in him.”*

Psalm 32:1-2 – *“(1) Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. (2) Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.”*