



Exalting Christ in the Psalms

A Call To Worship Jesus in a Day of Rage

Psalm 2

What is a Messianic Psalm

- These are Psalms that speak about the Jewish Messiah. . . a coming King
- New Testament authors cited these Psalms in connection with Jesus.

How To Spot a Messianic Psalm

- They speak of the Messiah, “the anointed one”.
- They are forward-looking prophecies expressing hope for a righteous King.
- They describe aspects of Jesus’ ministry: suffering, kingship, salvation, judgment, justice, eternal rule, and universal implications.
- The New Testament cites many of these, giving us the right interpretation.
- They articulate an unfilled longing for God’s rule and reign to fill the earth.

1 Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed, saying, 3 “Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.” 4 He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. 5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, 6 “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.” 7 I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.”
10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. 11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.
12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

- Psalm 2: 1-12

Why do the nations rage and peoples plot in vain?

What is the cause of our rage and vain striving?

Psalm 2

Main Idea: Humanity is in rebellion against God. He has sent his son to save rebels like you and me.

vss 1-3: The voice of rebellious men

vss 4-6: The voice of King in heaven

vss 7-9: The voice of the King's son

vss 10-12: The voice of wisdom presents the choice before each of us today.

1 Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed, saying, 3 “Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”

- Psalm 2:1-3

"like the sea, the troubled sea, when it cannot rest. The wicked are like the troubled sea when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt." (Isaiah 57:20) If there is one thing that's more true of our world than anything else. It is just this restlessness, this trouble, this perplexity, this being carried backwards and forwards. Victims of the latest news bulletin or the latest edition of a newspaper, never knowing what's going to happen."

- Martin Lloyd Jones, Sermon on Psalm 2



2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed, saying, 3 “Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”

-Psalm 2:2-3

“Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, 25 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? 26 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed’* — 27 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, 28 to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.

- Acts 4:24-28

4 He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. 5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, 6 “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

- Psalm 2:4-6

Anthropomorphism:

is the Biblical attribution of human traits, emotions, or physical characteristics to the description of the infinite God as a way for finite creatures to understand Him.

. . . but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he sees that his day is coming.

—Psalm 37:13

5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, 6 “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

- Psalm 2:5-6

7 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it! 8 Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together 9 before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

— Psalm 98:7-9

“(God will) terrify them in his fury, saying, As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

- Psalm 2:5-6

7 I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you. 8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

- Psalm 2:7-9

"He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus."

— 2 Timothy 1:9-10

16 And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; 17 and behold, a voice from heaven said, “*This is my beloved Son*, with whom I am well pleased.”

- Matthew 3:16-17

‘Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain? 26 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed’ — 27 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,

- Acts 4:25-27

But God raised him from the dead . . . 32 And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, 33 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.*” . . . 38 Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you

- Acts 13:30-33, 38



6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.. . 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

- Romans 5:6-9

10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.
11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.
12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

- Psalm 2: 1-12