

Highlights from the Psalms

Psalm 2

January 17, 2021

INTRO: Psalms 1 and 2 together constitute the introduction to the entire collection of the Psalms. While Psalm 1 may be attributed to David in Acts 13:33, so most certainly is Psalm 2 in Acts 4:24-25. The Jews recognized Psalms 1&2 as written together, as a unit, by David.

Psalm 2 may be considered in three ways: (1) the literal meaning for the time of the Israeli Kingdom, (2) the Messianic and prophetic application, and (3) the contemporary application for today.

I. Psalm Two is comprised of four stanzas consisting of three verses each:

- A. The Four Stanzas of Psalm 2
- B. Psalm 2 is a coronation Psalm
- C. And also a Psalm to be read in times of national distress
- D. The stanzas:
 - 1. (1-3) The nations plan rebellion against God
 - 2. (4-6) This stanza reveals God's response to their ridiculous plan
 - 3. (7-9) Recounts the Kings claim to the throne of the nations
 - 4. (10-12) Records God's advice to those foolish nations

II. The Messianic Nature of the Psalm

- A. A reminder of God's sovereignty in times of a national crisis
- B. The Messianic References
 - 1. Acts 4:23-30, especially vv. 25-26
 - 2. Acts 13:33, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee."

III. The Application for our Times

- A. Stanza One (1-3) describes the boasting of the nations against the Lord. This is true of the nations of the world as well as our own. Humanism and scientism is the religion of the day
- B. Stanza Two (4-6) God laughs at the foolishness of the nations. His Son rules over all the nations, and ultimately they cannot overthrow Him (Hebrews 1:13)
- C. Stanza Three (7-9) the Messianic declaration:
 - 1. Thou art My Son
 - 2. Today I have begotten Thee
 - 3. God gives the nations to be ruled by Christ and all the earth for His possession. He will triumph over all the nations
- D. Stanza Four (10-12) God's advice to the rulers:
 - 1. serve the Lord with fear (reverence)
 - 2. bow before the Son and pay Him the homage due to Him
 - 3. when He comes His wrath will be kindled—but blessed are those who take refuge in Him

CONCLUSION: The King of Kings and Lord of Lords mocks the arrogant and rebellious nations. He holds all things in His power. He will be the mighty conqueror and rule over the nations with a rod of iron. We are blessed if we take refuge in Him