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The
Songs
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PSALMS - The SONGS

Two

Take Warning Nations! Worship the LORD!

READ AND OBSERVE

Read through **Psalm 2** and mark every reference to the LORD, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red triangle.

Read through **Psalm 2** and mark every reference to the LORD'S Anointed, His King, or His Son, including pronouns and synonyms, with a red cross.

Read through **Psalm 2** and mark every reference to the nations, including pronouns and synonyms (peoples and leaders included), with a purple flag.

Read through **Psalm 2** and mark every reference to the LORD'S anger, wrath, or fury with an orange box.

Read through **Psalm 2** and mark every contrast with a pink diagonal slash, i.e. "black/white". (Hints and help: In **verses 4-6** God contrasts how He treats the nations with how He treats His Son. There is also a contrast in **verse 12** between those who perish and those who take refuge.)

Read through **Psalm 2** and mark every term of conclusion with a pink capital "T".

Read through **Psalm 2** and mark every comparison with a pink equal sign. (I usually put the lines of the equal sign directly above, below, and attached to the word I am marking.)

Read through **Psalm 2** and divide the passage into the following segments. Mark and title these segments in your text using brackets in the margin.

1. The kings speak together (The nation's rebellion)
2. The LORD speaks to the kings (The LORD'S fury)
3. The LORD speaks to His Son, The King (The LORD'S decree)

4. The King speaks to the kings (The Son's warning)

READ AND ANSWER

Psalm 2:1-3

What question is asked at the very beginning of this psalm?

Who asks it?

To whom is it asked?

1.

2.

3.

4.

What are the nations "in"?



The Hebrew word for "uproar" is *ragash* and means to be in tumult or commotion, to conspire, to plot.

What are they in an uproar about?

What are the peoples doing?



The Hebrew word for “vain” is *raq* and means emptiness, vanity.

The Hebrew word for “devising” is *hagah* and means to moan, growl, mutter, speak, muse.

What is the vain thing they are devising?

What are the kings of the earth doing?



The Hebrew word for “take their stand” is *yatsab* and means to set or station oneself, to take one’s stand.

Against what or Whom are they taking their stand?

- 1.
- 2.

What are the rulers doing?



The Hebrew word for “take counsel” is *yasad* and means to establish, found, fix.

The Hebrew word for “together” is *yachad* and means unitedness.

How firm are the rulers in their plan against the LORD and His Anointed?

With whom are the rulers in agreement concerning their plot?

Who is this all against?

1.

2.

Why are the nations (peoples, kings, and rulers included) against the LORD and His Anointed?

Who is speaking in **verse 3**?

What is their plan of action?

1.

2.

Who is the “their” in **verse 3**?

1.

2.

Who is the “us” in **verse 3**?

Whose fetters and cords are the nations planning to tear apart and cast away?

1.

2.

Is this the rulers' counsel?

Is this the kings of the earth's stand?

Is this the vain thing the peoples are devising?

Is this what the nations are plotting in their tumultuous uproar?



God, as Creator, has all rights over His creation.

**It is not a new thing that people have resisted and rebelled against their Creator.
Mankind has disobeyed its Creator from time immemorial.**

**Mankind wants to believe it does not need to obey its Creator.
Mankind wants to believe it has the right to rule itself.
Mankind has come up with every lie in the book to justify its actions.**

**Why else would anyone choose to believe a ludicrous fantasy
that humans evolved from apes?
Why else would anyone choose to believe the preposterous notion
that God's glorious universe came directly from, well... nothing.**

**If it were true that there is no Creator
creation would, indeed, be master of its own fate.
The problem with that line of thinking is that it is false
and no amount of thinking it, believing it, or teaching it will make it true.
A lie is still a lie no matter how much you believe it.
And truth will always be true whether you believe it or not.**

**The truth is that there is a Creator—He is God.
The truth is that God will someday judge His creation.
The truth is that the creation will be held accountable before its Maker.
The truth is that without refuge from the Creator's wrath, the creation will perish.**

**So the question becomes...
will you believe the lie?
Or...
will you believe the truth and respond rightly to it?**

**God is Creator of all and you belong to Him.
God is Ruler over all creation and you must submit to Him.
You will perish if you do not.
You will have refuge in Him if you do.**

Psalm 2:4-6

Who sits in the heavens?



**God is referred to as “He Who sits in the heavens”.
Let’s not miss the purpose of this description.**

**While the haughty, though impotent, creation creates a frenzied, chaotic scheme
to overthrow the LORD and His Anointed,
they are blind to the fact that they are but earthlings,
mere mortals, beings that decay daily.**

**However, God, does not forget who they are
and more importantly, God does not forget Who He is!**

**God is the One Who is enthroned in the heavens.
He dwells in a place that is inaccessible to men
ruling over everything and all things.
He created both domains—the heavens and the earth,
and He does not concede His rulership in either arena,
especially to frail, abased humanity.**

**As the Glorious Majesty sits unthreatened in His chosen dwelling place,
His reaction bears witness of the infinite chasm
between His Own transcendent Glory
and the comparatively minuscule glory of His creation—
He laughs, He scoffs at them.**

**But He is not done.
He will not ignore His creation’s arrogant disdain.
Instead, He demands to receive His due Glory from them.
He is not provoked to anger as if lowly man deserves His reaction.
Rather He is righteously wrathful.
He will terrify them as He unveils His wrath.
His holiness and justice demand it.**

What does the LORD do as watches the peoples of the earth plot against Him—from His glorious, majestic, and untouchable vantage point?

1.

2.

At whom does the LORD laugh?

At whom does the LORD scoff?

When is “then”?

What will He do then?

1.

2.

What will terrify them?

Whose fury?

Who will speak to them in His anger (with His terrifying fury)?

In direct contradiction to what their plan is, what will the LORD inform the nations will happen?



The Hebrew word for “installed” is *nasak* and means to set, install, establish.

Are the nations able to escape the rule of God's King?

Who is the LORD's King?



Who will reign over the earth from Zion, God's holy mountain?

Isaiah 2:2-4

***Now it will come about that in the last days
the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established
as the chief of the mountains,
and will be raised above the hills;
and all the nations will stream to it.
and many peoples will come and say,
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that He may teach us concerning His ways
and that we may walk in His paths.”***

***For the law will go forth from Zion
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
And He will judge between the nations,
and will render decisions for many peoples;
and they will hammer their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will not lift up sword against nation,
and never again will they learn war.***

Isaiah 24:23

***Then the moon will be abashed and the sun ashamed,
for the LORD of hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem,
and His glory will be before His elders.***

Isaiah 28:16

***Therefore thus says the Lord GOD,
“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone,
A costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed.
He who believes in it will not be disturbed.”***

Isaiah 59:20

***“A Redeemer will come to Zion,
and to those who turn from transgression in Jacob,” declares the LORD.***

Matthew 21:5

**SAY TO THE DAUGHTER OF ZION,
“BEHOLD YOUR KING IS COMING TO YOU, GENTLE, AND MOUNTED ON A DONKEY,
EVEN ON A COLT, THE FOAL OF A BEAST OF BURDEN.”**

Romans 9:1

***I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying,
my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit...***

Romans 9:5

***...whose are the fathers, and from whom is the Christ according to the flesh,
who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.***

Romans 9:33

***...just as it is written,
“BEHOLD, I LAY IN ZION A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE,
AND HE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.”***

Philippians 2:5-11

***Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,
Who, although He existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,
but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant,
and being made in the likeness of men.
Being found in appearance as a man,
He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.
For this reason also, God highly exalted Him,
and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW,
of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.***

Hebrews 1:8

***But of the Son He says,
“YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER,
AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM.***

Where is Zion, His Holy Mountain?



Where is Zion, God's holy mountain on earth?

Psalm 51:18

***By Your favor do good to Zion;
build the walls of Jerusalem.***

Psalm 74:2

***Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old,
which You have redeemed to be the tribe of Your inheritance;
and this Mount Zion, where You have dwelt.***

Psalm 102:21

That men may tell of the name of the LORD in Zion and His praise in Jerusalem...

Psalm 128:5

***The LORD bless you from Zion,
and may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.***

Psalm 147:12

Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

Isaiah 60:14

***The sons of those who afflicted you will come bowing to you,
and all those who despised you will bow themselves at the soles of your feet;
and they will call you the city of the LORD,
the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.***

Joel 3:17

***Then you will know that I am the LORD your God,
dwelling in Zion, My holy mountain.
So Jerusalem will be holy, and strangers will pass through it no more***



**When you read the Psalms,
be on the lookout for ones that talk about
the future reign of the Lord Jesus Christ over the world!
As you study the Psalms,
you will find out much more about what will happen during that time.**

Jesus taught us that the Psalms talked about Him prophetically.

Luke 24:44-45

**Now He said to them,
“These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you,
that all things which are written about Me
in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”
Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures...**

**Here is just one example of a Psalm
that speaks about the same time period that Psalm 2 refers to.**

Psalm 110

**The LORD says to my Lord:
“Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.”
The LORD will stretch forth Your strong scepter from Zion, saying,
“Rule in the midst of Your enemies.”
Your people will volunteer freely in the day of Your power;
In holy array, from the womb of the dawn, Your youth are to You as the dew.
The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind,
“You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”
The Lord is at Your right hand; He will shatter kings in the day of His wrath.
He will judge among the nations,
He will fill them with corpses,
He will shatter the chief men over a broad country.
He will drink from the brook by the wayside; therefore He will lift up His head**

Ask God to open your mind to understand the Scriptures.

Psalm 2:7-9

Who is speaking in **verse 7**?

Who declares the decree of the LORD?

Who is the “I” and the “Me” in **verse 7**?

Who is the “He” in **verse 7**?

What is the decree of the LORD? (Write it out below.)

To Whom did the LORD speak the decree?

Who is the LORD's Son?

Why is He the LORD's Son? How did He become the LORD's Son?



Who is the Son, and when or how was He begotten by the Father?

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.***

Hebrews 1:5-6

***For to which of the angels did He ever say,
"YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU"?
And again, "I WILL BE A FATHER TO HIM AND HE SHALL BE A SON TO ME"?
And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says,
"AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM."***

Acts 13:30-33

***But God raised Him from the dead;
and for many days
He appeared to those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem,
the very ones who are now His witnesses to the people.
And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers,
that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus,
as it is also written in the second Psalm,
"YOU ARE MY SON; TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU."***

1 John 4:9

***By this the love of God was manifested in us,
that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world
so that we might live through Him.***

Who is still quoting God, the Father in **verses 8, 9**?

What will God, the Father, give to His Son?

1.

2.

What does the Son need to do to receive the nations as His inheritance and the ends of the earth as His possession?

What is given as an inheritance?

What is given as a possession?

How great will the power and authority of the Son be over the nations?

Who will be broken with a rod of iron?

Who will wield the rod of iron?



When will the Son rule the earth with a rod of iron?

Revelation 12:5

***And she gave birth to a son, a male child,
Who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron;
and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.***

Revelation 19:1-16

***After these things
I heard something like a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying,
“Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God;
BECAUSE HIS JUDGMENTS ARE TRUE AND RIGHTEOUS;
for He has judged the great harlot***

**who was corrupting the earth with her immorality,
 and HE HAS AVENGED THE BLOOD OF HIS BOND-SERVANTS ON HER.”**
**And a second time they said,
 “Hallelujah! HER SMOKE RISES UP FOREVER AND EVER.”**
**And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures
 fell down and worshiped God who sits on the throne saying,
 “Amen. Hallelujah!”**
**And a voice came from the throne, saying,
 “Give praise to our God, all you His bond-servants,
 you who fear Him, the small and the great.”**
**Then I heard something like the voice of a great multitude
 and like the sound of many waters
 and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, saying,
 “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns.
 Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him,
 for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready.”**
**It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean;
 for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.**
**Then he said to me,
 “Write, ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.’”**
**And he said to me,
 “These are true words of God.”**
**Then I fell at his feet to worship him.
 But he said to me,
 “Do not do that; I am a fellow servant of yours
 and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus;
 worship God. For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”**
**And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse,
 and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True,
 and in righteousness He judges and wages war.
 His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems;
 and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself.
 He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood,
 and His name is called The Word of God.
 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean,
 were following Him on white horses.
 From His mouth comes a sharp sword,
 so that with it He may strike down the nations,
 and He will rule them with a rod of iron;
 and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.
 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written,
 “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”**

Who will be shattered like earthenware?

Who will break them?

Who will shatter them?

Who is telling the Son that He will one day break all the peoples of the earth?

Who is telling the Son that He will one day shatter all the peoples of the earth?

Psalm 2:10-12

Who is speaking in **verse 10**?

What is the “therefore” there for?

What are the kings supposed to do, because of what the power of the King will soon do to them?

What are the judges of the earth supposed to do because God’s Son, the King will soon break them with His rod of iron?



The kings of the earth have always wanted to break free from the rule of God. At one point in time, in the not so distant future, they will gather together and foment a conspiracy to utterly rebel against God and His Son irrevocably.

However, their plot will not succeed because God has installed His King forever and ever. Even though God’s Son has not taken up His throne and begun to rule with His rod of iron, He is still, nevertheless, Ruler over all— even today... even now...

Who is telling them to show discernment and to take warning?

If they show discernment, what will they need to do?

If they take warning, what will they need to do?

Besides cease and desist from their futile plot against the King of kings, what are they told to do?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

How are they to worship with reverence (practically)?



The Hebrew word for “worship” is *avad* and means to work, or to serve.

The Hebrew word for “reverence” is *yirah* and means to fear.

How are they to rejoice with trembling (practically)?

What are they to do in regard to the Son?



The Hebrew word for “do homage” is *nashaq* and it means to kiss. (It refers to a sign of respect, submission, and obedience.)

What will happen if they don't do homage to the Son?

Who will become angry?

How would they then perish in the way?

Whose wrath might soon be kindled?

Is this advice for the kings and judges of the earth different from their plans? (Look at **verses 1-3.**)

Who can be blessed?

In Whom do they take refuge? (Look at the previous antecedent.)

How blessed are they?

Does this last verse seem out of place?

How does the last verse fit in with the rest of the Psalm?



How contrary to popular belief this Psalm is!

**Most people can't imagine that God has wrath
or that He plans on using *all* of it against *all* ungodliness!**

Why not?

**Maybe it's because that includes themselves
and that would mean they would have to change their lifestyles and actions.
It would also mean they would have to submit to the Mighty Hand of God
through His Son, Jesus Christ.
(So... sticking their heads in the sand works better for them—**

a fateful and erroneous conclusion.)

That is exactly what the kings and judges are told to do in Psalm 2—
submitting to the Mighty Hand of God
would mean changing their beliefs, their lifestyles, their actions.

In sweet, complete contrast
to those who won't repent of their arrogance toward God
we are told, "*How blessed are all who take refuge in Him*".

READ AND REASON

Do you think this **Psalm** is talking about a time in the life of David that has come and gone?

Do you think this **Psalm** is talking prophetically about a time that is yet future?

The first three verses were fulfilled in part in **Acts 4:24-31** when Peter and John were told to stop speaking in the Name of Jesus. These verses may seem to have happened a multitude of other times, and probably have in one form or another, but they have not been *completely* fulfilled. **Psalm 2** refers to the entire world gathering together in a tumultuous frenzy with one purpose—to organize the overthrow of God as their ruler. This global initiative has not taken place—not yet...

However... this most certainly will happen. And the time for its fulfillment draws close... very close. Just watch the peoples of the world writhe, struggle, and thrash against anything righteous, godly, or Christian. Watch them make each decision, personal or national (and that includes almost every church, as well) based entirely on what man thinks rather than on what God says. Yes, the time is drawing near.

As far as the Son of God ruling the entire world with a rod of iron, He has not done so, although He will soon. And when He does, make no mistake about it, no one will miss it!

When will it happen? Well... we don't have the time or space in this Observation Bible Study Guide to go over **Daniel**, **Revelation**, **1 Thessalonians**, and **2 Peter** completely for you (although you can go to WORDCenterMinistries.org and find audio teachings and OBSG's on these books and more), but we can give you a few choice tidbits to chew on.

Two big events are slated to happen soon.

One is what is called the Rapture, which is the “catching up” of the saints. (**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57**) In a nutshell, all believers, (true Christians) will be caught up together—all at one time—in the clouds to meet Christ.

When this happens there will be great sounds. The Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, and with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God—the Lord’s Own shout, the archangel’s voice, and God’s Own trumpet will announce this longed-for event!

Those who have already died will be resurrected (their bodies, which will rise as new glorified bodies, will be united with their souls and then quickly caught up to meet Christ. As this happens to them, those who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will be caught up together (at the exact same time) with those who are dead in Christ.

Once it happens we will always be with the Lord—never to be separated again! What comfort and anticipation for true believers!

The second big event is called the Great Tribulation, which is a 3 1/2 year period in which Satan will come against the Jews and God will both punish the Jews to the point of their repentance and judge the whole earth with His righteous wrath. The Great Tribulation takes place during the second half of what is called Daniel’s 70th week (a 7 year period of time kicked off by the signing of a 7 year covenant to bring peace to the Jews). Its finish will be the consummation of Israeli history.

During the first half of Daniel’s 70th week things will seem to go fairly well for the Jews because of the covenant (at least in contrast to how they were going for them before the covenant). But, at the mid-point an evil character called the anti-christ will reveal himself by breaking this very covenant. This will officially start the 3 1/2 year period of the Great Tribulation. The antichrist will then commit terrible atrocities against the Jewish people, including declaring himself to be God in the very temple of God. (Yes, that means that the temple will be rebuilt before the Great Tribulation.) And he will control the world in a way that is almost unimaginable.

This time of tribulation, it must be understood, is not against the church (which will most likely be raptured by then, anyway), but will be leveled against the Jews. Let me say it again—the Great Tribulation is all about the Jews, God’s chosen people. It will break them down to the point of repentance, although only 1/3 will survive. There has never been anything like this terrifying time to come, which the Bible calls Jacob’s Distress, including the unspeakable atrocities of the Holocaust.

Now, don’t think that things will be fine and dandy previous to the Great Tribulation because they won’t. There will be “birth pangs” leading up to the time of Jacob’s Distress. (**Matthew 24**) There will also be seals of judgments broken before that time. Six seals will be broken which will unleash unheard of terrors on the world (against the inhabitants of the earth). Then a seventh seal will be broken, which is composed of seven trumpet judgments—the seventh trumpet comprising seven bowl judgments. But

when the seventh trumpet is sounded—the Great Tribulation will begin. (**Revelation 5-19**)

What will end this terrible time of distress and anguish? The Messiah, Christ Jesus, the Lord, will come for the second time! He came once, a little over 2,000 years ago, but His people, the Jews, did not recognize the time of their visitation, the time in which He came to take care of them. He will come once again, this time to make all things right. God will pour out the Spirit of grace and supplication on His people, with the result that they will recognize Him and mourn over the fact that they killed him. (**Zechariah 12**)

Then, their beloved Messiah will deliver them and save them from both the world (including the antichrist) and their sins. He will enter into the New Covenant with them and they will be His people and He will be their God once again—and this time, for all of eternity!

God has always existed in His Glorious Glory. He created His creation so His Glory would be seen. Much has happened in God's timeline of history since that time—sin entered the world through man and man caused it to flourish, God destroyed His creation because of sin, God formed the nations and then He formed the nation of Israel, and the Messiah came but Israel rejected Him.

Much is happening now in the age of the church. Israel has been set aside in the economy of God and He has ushered in His New Covenant without her. The body of Christ is being completed and God's Glory is being seen, although through only a few.

Much is left to happen—Daniel's 70th week must take place and finish Israel's history, the Glorious second coming of the Messiah in which the entire world will see Him as He really is—Majestic, Terrible, and Wonderful! There will be the judgment of the nations and then the Son of God, Jesus Christ, will rule the entire world for 1,000 years with a rod of iron. Satan will be bound during the millennial reign, only to be released for a short time, in which he will deceive people in all four corners of the world. The deceived nations will come against God in a battle called Gog and Magog, in which God will wipe them off the face of the earth with fire from heaven—no battle will even take place! After the final "battle" God will judge the dead and send them to their rightful addresses in the lake of fire for all of eternity. Finally a new heaven will reveal a new earth. A new Jerusalem will be on the new earth and believers will dwell with their God beyond the horizon of eternity future! (**Revelation 20-22**)

Does it sound great at the end... but scary up till then? Remember **Psalms 2:12**, "***How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!***"

~ Segment by Segment

Did you notice how this Psalm is broken into four parts of three verses each?

It's simply poetry.

Each of these parts has its own thought
that in turn ties it to the other parts of the psalm.

One way to help to think things through
is to title the obvious segments separately and then put them together.

Though there are several ways to title the segments,
one way is like we've done below:

Verses 1-3

The kings speak together (Their rebellion)

Verses 4-6

The Lord speaks to the kings (His fury)

Verses 7-9

The Lord speaks to His Son the King (His decree)

Verses 10-12

The King speaks to the kings (His Son's warning)

Do you see how His fury comes as a result of their rebellion?
Do you see how His decree comes as a contradiction to their plan to rebel?
Do you see how His Son's warning comes as a opportunity to repent?

Try titling these segments yourself.
Ask God to help you.

Verses 1-3

Verses 4-6

Verses 7-9

~ Purpose of Psalm 2

**Try to identify the purpose of Psalm 2.
The purpose simply states “why the Psalmist wrote the Psalm”.**

~ Theme of Psalm 2

**Try giving Psalm 2 a title by identifying its theme.
The theme simply states “what the Psalm is about”.**
