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## Psalm 2

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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Bible  
at Home

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

## Psalm 2.

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### Topics.

- Kings of the earth take counsel against the LORD and his anointed.
- The LORD who sits in heaven laughs and holds the nations in derision.
- God will make nations Christ's heritage, the earth his possession.
- Christ will break the nations with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces.
- Kiss the son, lest he be angry, blessed are all who take refuge in him.
- The parallel between Christ's first appearance and his return in glory.

**FOR INFORMATION:** concerning people, places and the meaning of words see the title: "Map Locations and People of the Bible," and the title: "Bible Dictionary" on Website Menu.

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## INTRODUCTION

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Psalms are songs and prayers offered to God by the nation Israel, they consist of five books covering the range of human emotion, expressing praise, faith, victory, sorrow, despair, depression, frustration and the troubled heart of a mourner. They contrast the righteous with the wicked, and include the wisdom and the treasure of God's word. Psalms were written at the beginning of the 15th century BC and probably collected in their final form in the 3rd century.

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## BOOK ONE (PSALM 1-41)

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### PSALM 2:1-3

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#### **Kings take Counsel against the LORD and His Anointed.**

- **Psalm 2:1-3:** Why do the nations rage, and the peoples plot in vain? <sup>2</sup>The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his anointed, saying, <sup>3</sup>"Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us."

These verses can be viewed in the following three ways:

1. King Herod, Pilate and the religious rulers of Jesus generation the chief priests, the Pharisees and scribes plotting to destroy Christ the LORD'S anointed and plotting to destroy his followers. When the priests, the captain of the temple and the Sadducees heard Peter and John proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead they arrested them and put them in custody. (Acts 4:1-3).

The next day the chief priests and the elders released Peter and John and their friends upon seeing them lifted their voices together to God and said:

- Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain? <sup>26</sup>The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed'— <sup>27</sup>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 4:23-27)
- 2 The surrounding nations of Jerusalem plotting to destroy Israel the LORD'S anointed.

The nation of Israel has been a unique nation and that they have been God's special people. God has always dealt with Israel differently to any other nation. He declared His word, statutes and His rules to Israel (God has not done this with any other nation). They are children of Abraham the father of faith and because they are Abraham's offspring they were entrusted with the oracles of God. To them belongs the adoption, the glory and the covenants. God said that he gave birth to Israel and carried them from the womb even to their old age (Isaiah 46:3-4) and that He loved them when they were a child, and refers to them as his son who he called out of Egypt (Hosea 11:1). They were given the law, the worship and the promises, to them belong the patriarchs and from their race, came the Christ who is Lord over all that God created (Rom. 3:2) (Rom. 9:4-5, 7). Added to this God called Israel His treasured possession and the apple of His eye, His allotted heritage and a people holy to Him. (Exod. 19:5) (Deut. 7:6) (Deut. 14:2) (Deut. 26:18) (Deut. 32:9).

- 3 The nations of the world taking counsel together to destroy Christ who has returned in glory and is ruling and reigning as King of kings and Lord of lords from Jerusalem to establish God's kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth.

The subject matter of the Psalm is a crisis between the kings of the earth and the King of the heavens. The leaders of the nations are plotting to destroy God's King who He has placed in Jerusalem. They take counsel together and at the end of their counsel make a decision to destroy Christ and his Kingdom at Jerusalem (v3). This final decision of the world's leaders taking counsel against Christ results in the outpouring of God's wrath.

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## PSALM 2:4-6

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### The LORD who in Heaven Laughs and Holds Nations in Derision.

- **Psalm 2:4-6:** He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. <sup>5</sup>Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, <sup>6</sup>"As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill."

The word derision comes from the Hebrew word (a`ag) and means to deride, ridicule, scoff and put down by implication it means to speak as a foreigner to (i.e., they cannot understand). It carries the idea of holding in disdain and contempt and having no respect for. Based on this it is possible that one of the ways (amongst many others) that God may use to destroy these nations who come against God's King the Lord Jesus Christ who at this time is ruling and reigning from Zion, God's holy hill the mountain upon which Jerusalem stands is by confusing their language as he did at Babel when the whole earth had one language and the people came together to build a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, to make a name for themselves (not for God). Upon seeing this city God said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do." To stop mankind from having such power God confused their language, so that they would not understand each other and the people were dispersed over the face of all the earth and they left off building the city. (Gen. 11:1-8).

### This Psalm can be seen as the fulfilment of the following amazing prophecy of Isaiah:

- For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6).

The Virgin Mary gave birth to Christ in a lowly manger, Christ was given for us on the bloodstained cross of Calvary and now God is establishing him to be the government of the world ruling and reigning with the

resurrected faithful during his glorious millennial age. The expression, "God will speak to the nations in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury," (v5) may mean God will literally speak to them as He spoke to Israel at Mount Sinai or it may mean He will bring terrors upon them such as hail stones, earthquakes and plaques etc. that will utterly destroy them.

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## PSALM 2:7

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### **I will make Nations your Heritage and the Earth your Possession.**

- **Psalm 2:7:** I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

You are my Son; today I have begotten you can be applied to the miraculous birth of Jesus, but the following verses show that it primarily refers to the resurrection of Christ when God raised him up from the dead to His right-hand side.

- Christ was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord (Rom. 1:4).
- God 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." (Acts 13:33).
- For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? (Heb. 1:5).
- So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you." (Heb. 5:5)

It would be Scripturally right and proper to believe that God will say to all the faithful men and women in Christ, "Today I have begotten my sons and daughters by the resurrection," on that great and awesome day when the Lord himself descends from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God and the dead in Christ and the faithful who are alive are caught up together in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air (1 Thess. 4:16-17).

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## PSALM 2:8

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### **God will make Nations Christ's Heritage, the Earth His Possession.**

- **Psalm 2:8-9:** Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

This refers to the Lord's return in glory as, King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev. 19:11-16) to rule and reign from God's Holy City Jerusalem (on Mount Zion God's Holy Mountain) to establish God's Kingdom on earth during his glorious millennial reign. The dead in Christ (Old and New Testament) and the faithful, who are alive, will be gathered together in the first resurrection (Rev. 20:4-6) to rule and reign as kings and priests with the Lord over those nations who are left outside the Holy City of God.

Christ the King united with his people will not only bring peace to the Middle East, but establish God's Kingdom of steadfast love, faithfulness, righteousness, joy and peace throughout the world and the glory of God will cover the earth. Jesus will do justice to the poor and oppressed, he will be a faithful and compassionate King forever. He will not allow anyone to strike terror in the earth or use lies and deception to enlarge their own wealth and power. The land will abundantly produce and even the deserts will flourish. The animals will not feed on each other and even the lamb will be able to lie down with the wolf and everyone will eat of their own hands because all that they plant will produce. All nations the LORD has

made will come and worship before the Lord Jesus Christ. They will glorify God's Name, proclaiming the LORD is great and does wondrous things and that He alone is God. The book of Revelation states:

- Jesus Christ, the faithful witness who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father is coming in glory and every eye shall see him, and they also who pierced him and all kindreds of the earth (Revelation 1:5-7).

And in Revelation chapter five we are told that:

- Christ was slain, and by his blood he redeemed a people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation and made them a kingdom and priests to God and they shall reign on the earth (Revelation 5:9-10).

At the end of this glorious Kingdom age God descends to earth on a Great White Throne the sea, death and hades (the grave) give up the dead. They stand before God and are judged according to what is written in certain heavenly books according to what they have done. Death and those counted unworthy are cast into the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal destruction (i.e., total extinction) (also called the, Second Death) (Rev. 20:11-15). Christ hands the Kingdom over to his heavenly Father and God is ALL in ALL and ETERNITY begins in all its fullness and majestic royal glory. For further information see titles:

- Kingdom of God (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- The Second Resurrection or Great White Throne Judgment.

In, Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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## PSALM 2:9

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### **Christ will Break Nations with a Rod of Iron.**

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- **Psalm 2:9:** You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

The expression, "Christ will break them with a rod of iron," immediately takes the mind of the ardent Bible student to the following verses:

- She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne. (Rev. 12:5).
- He will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father. (Rev. 2:27).
- From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. (Rev. 19:15).

These verses shine a brilliant spotlight on the truth that Christ will return with might and awesome power and conquer the nations of the world who oppose his rule and his word. It is certain many will willingly turn to Christ and submit to his rule during his reign for the following reasons.

### **Christ will oppose:**

- The oppression of the poor and helpless for profit.
- All sorts of crime (murder, theft, rape) and all kinds of violence
- Weapons of war, drugs and human trafficking,
- Our global financial system of credit and interest which oppresses individuals and nations.
- The super-rich who hoard their wealth to themselves and all forms of false religion and false teachers.

### **Christ will establish:**

- Justice (i.e., fairness for all people).
- A prosperous environment for all who obey his rule and not just a selected few.
- A just and fair government who honestly care about enhancing people's lives.
- Peace and a safe place to live and raise families.

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### **PSALM 2:10-12**

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#### **Kiss the Son, lest He be Angry.**

- **Psalm 2:10-12:** Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.  
<sup>11</sup>Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. <sup>12</sup>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.

Kiss comes from the Hebrew word (nashaq), in this context it carries the idea of taking hold of, fastening upon, attaching too, seizing hold off, clinging to, joining with and delighting in. This Psalm is warning the nations of the world that a day is coming when God will once again intervene in man's history when Christ returns in glory to establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, joy and peace on earth. Verse twelve says, "Blessed are all who take refuge in the Lord" implying that those who belong to Christ's global Kingdom will be protected from this outpouring of God's wrath. Paul in his letters wrote:

- Since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has *not destined us for wrath*, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. (1 Thess. 5:8-10).

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### **THE PARALLEL BETWEEN CHRIST'S FIRST APPEARANCE AND HIS RETURN IN GLORY**

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At this present moment the nations that formed ancient Rome at the peak of its world domain and at the time of Christ have diminished in power, but Rome and its allied nations will rise again as a final world kingdom. When it does the scenario of the Lords return in glory is very similar to when Christ ministered on earth. The false religious leaders and elders (the chief priest, Pharisees and scribes) saw they were losing their power and control of the people to Christ, so this false religious system enticed Rome to have Christ crucified. When Jesus returns in glory the world's false religious system, called, "Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations" (Rev. 17:1-5), will entice the ten horned beast nations, being Rome and her allied nations to send their armies against Christ to kill him. The difference this time is that Christ is not returning as the Lamb without blemish to be slain, but as the King of kings and Lord of lords to conquer. Christ will defeat the ten horned beast nations and establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth during his glorious millennial reign.

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*As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.*

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