

Series in the Psalms

Jesus Wins!

Psalm 2:1-12

Introduction: Because God has destined that his anointed Son will rule the world in the future, the nations are exhorted to submit to him and serve him now.

1. **ACT 1: THE NATIONS RAGE – In our fallen world, nations will rebel against God and his Messiah. Psalm 2:1-3**

- A. The nations are united in rebelling against God and His Messiah. 2:2
 - 1. In David's day rulers united against God & his Messiah, their people acting in solidarity.
 - 2. In Jesus' day the nations were doing the same.
 - 3. This Psalm prophetically asserts this will be true until the end of time. *Root problem...*
- B. The nations detest and reject God's word. 2:3
 - 1. They regard God's word as a source of bondage. "Fetters" referred to tongs to bind oxen.
 - 2. They sit in counsel insisting that it's time to throw off the yoke.
 - 3. International rulers do the same today. They find God's word to be bondage.
- C. But the Psalmist asserts that their proud counsel is futile. 2:1
 - 1. They are raging with intensity.
 - 2. But their plans will come to nothing ultimately.
- D. We should not be surprised when nations join forces to reject the values of the Bible.

2. **ACT 2: GOD SPEAKS – God declared that he will install his Messiah-King on Mt. Zion at the end of time. Psalm 2:4-6**

- A. The gathered nations seem powerful, but God laughs at their intentions. 2:4
 - 1. His position – He is transcendent far above the earth. Ps. 29:10
 - 2. The illustration – He laughs like an adult before a raging child or a master before a dog.
- B. God speaks reality to the gathered nations. 2:5
 - 1. All he has to do is speak and he wins. They will be terrified in his fury.
 - 2. This battle will take place at the end of time. Rev. 19:11-21
- C. God declares that after his rebellion is put down, he will set his king on Zion, his holy hill. 2:6
 - 1. God installs his king by an act of his word. Illus: a pastor creates a marriage by his word.
 - 2. God's holy hill has a great history: Abraham, David, Solomon, Jesus.
 - 3. God's holy hill has a great future: The New Jerusalem. The heavenly reality.
- D. Jesus will sum up history ruling the nations from Jerusalem at the end of the age. Eph. 1:10

3. **ACT 3: GOD'S KING SPEAKS – God's Messiah King asserts his identity and his right to rule. Psalm 2:7-9**

- A. Messiah declares his identity. 2:7
 - 1. The King joyfully recounts I AM's eternal decree. (Decree=what is cut.)
 - 2. The king recounts I AM's birth announcement. He shares I AM's nature and is his heir.
 - 3. Jesus proved his identity by his resurrection from the dead. Rom. 1:3-4
- B. Messiah declares his rule. 2:8
 - 1. Israel was given a mission to bless the world. They made meager attempts, but failed.
 - 2. The Messiah now comes requesting the nations as his inheritance.
 - 3. This was fulfilled initially at the cross; it will be consummated at his return. Dan. 7:13-14
- C. He accepts I AM's promise to rule all the earth at the right time. 2:9 (See, 111:6.)

1. At the end of time, the nations will be broken and shattered. Armageddon.
2. But the believing remnant of those nations will enter the kingdom.

4. ACT 4: THE POET SPEAKS – He warns unbelieving nations to submit to God’s king now, before it’s too late. Psalm 2:10-12

- A. The warning – The poet urges those in rebellion to pay attention to the message. 2:10
 1. The address is to leaders, rulers & judges who poetically represent peoples.
 2. The command is to heed a message: a good-news of judgment and grace.
- B. First act – Honor I AM. 2:11
 1. Fear him.
 2. Rejoice in him.
- C. Second act – Take refuge in his Son. 2:12
 1. To reject the Son is to face the anger of God.
 2. To take refuge in the Son is to experience the blessings of salvation.
- D. The poet is acting like an evangelist. In light of future destruction come to God’s Son.