



PSALM 2



BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO TAKE REFUGE IN HIM



Can you relate to this?

- **Powerful political leaders who can yank you around.**
- **God's law is perceived as bondage by Atheists, LGBT, potheads, Libertarians**
- **Desire for freedom to do whatever you want.**
- **Looking for meaning which isn't in the news**
- **Longing for justice**
- **Where can I be safe and secure?**

Intro – Psalm 2

- Acts 13:33 – “second psalm” (D says 1st)
- Intro to the rest of the Psalms along with Ps. 1
- Written by David (Acts 4:25) around 1047 B.C. (Plumer)
- Tag-teams with Psalm 1 (two “ways” of relating to the “LORD” and his “law/decreed” – resulting in “blessing” or “perishing” in the coming judgment)
- “[A]s it is necessary to our acceptance with God, that we should be subject to the precepts of his law, so it is likewise, that we should be subject to the grace of his gospel, and come to him in the name of a Mediator.” ~ Matt. Henry
- Royal Psalm – about/addressed to kings (cf. 18, 20, 21, 45, 72, 89, 101, 110, 132, 144)

Chiastic structure – by verse

V1 ... nations, peoples...

V2 ...kings, rulers...

V5 ...anger, wrath...

V7 I ... you

V8 ...inheritance, possession...

V9 ...break, shatter...

V10 ...be wise, take warning...

Chiastic Structure – by chapter

1. What have the nations clamored for and peoples vainly meditate for?
 2. Kings of the earth set themselves up, and distinguished men establish unity against Jehovah and against His Anointed One.
 3. “Let us burst their chains and let us throw their bindings from us.”
 4. The one sitting in the heavens laughs, the master mocks at them.
 5. Then He will speak to them in His anger and in His rage He will make them nervous.
 6. But as for me, I anointed my king over Zion, the hill of my holiness.
 7. I will record the decree of Yahweh. He said to me, “You are my son. It was I who gave birth to you today.”
 8. Ask of me and I will give nations of your inheritance and your possession the ends of the earth.
 9. You will break them with a rod of iron; like a potter’s vessel you will shatter them.
 10. So now, O kings, consider wisely. Be disciplined, O judges of earth
 11. Serve Yahweh with fear and rejoice with trembling.
 12. Pay homage without hindrance, otherwise He will become angry and y’all will perish in the way, for His anger rages like a short [fuse].
- Oh the blessings of all who take refuge in Him!



2:1 What have the nations clamored for and peoples vainly meditated for?

- ***Goyim*^{MT}/Nations/heathen^{KJV}/ethne^{LXX}**
- ***Ragshu*^{MT}/rage^{KJV}, uproar^{NAS}, conspire^{NIV}**
- ***Yiggu*^{MT}/imagine/plot/devise/meditate-1:2**
- **“Why... ?” can be prayed when confused... or disgusted.**
- **Hab. 2:13** “Is it not indeed apart from the LORD of hosts That peoples toil for fire, And nations grow weary for nothing/vanity/emptiness?”
- **Contrast with “blessed... in the law of the LORD” (Ps. 1)**

v.2 Kings of the earth set themselves up, and distinguished men establish unity against Jehovah and against His Anointed One.

- ***Yityatzbu* = Set themselves/take their stand**
- ***Rowznim* = those who carry weight/rulers**
- ***Nosdu* = lit. build a foundation/take counsel/gather (cf. Etzat counsel 1:1)**
- ***Echad* = Together – lit. “[as] one” in rebellion against God**
- **His Messiah^{MT}/Anointed one^{Eng}/Christ^{LXX}**
- **Separate entity from Yahweh, but closely associated.**

v.3 “Let us burst their chains and throw their bindings from us.”

Jer. 5:5 "I will go to the great And will speak to them, For they know the way of the LORD *And the ordinance of their God.*" But they too, with one accord, have broken the yoke *And burst the bonds.* *Contrast Ps. 1 blessed man delights in God's law!*

Hosea 11:4 I led them with cords of a man, with bonds of love, And I became to them as one who lifts the yoke...

(Covenant bonds comfort & stabilize - GHW)

Isa 58:6 "Is this not the fast which I choose, To loosen the bonds of wickedness, To undo the bands of the yoke, And to let the oppressed go free And break every yoke? *(Throwing off God's restraints results in new bondage to men.)*

v.4 The one sitting in the heavens laughs, the master mocks at them.

God laughs – implication of *yashchaq* is to play a fun game.

- **Ps. 37:13** The Lord laughs at him, For He sees his day is coming.
- **Ps. 52:6** The righteous will see and fear, And will laugh at him
- **Ps. 59:8** But You, O LORD, laugh at them; You scoff at all the nations.
- **Ps. 104:26** There the ships move along, *And* Leviathan, which You have formed to sport in it.
- **Prov. 1:26** I will also laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your dread comes

Evil doesn't threaten God:

- His seat is far exalted above that of the scoffers!
- He is Lord/Master

v.5 Then He'll speak to them in His anger and in His fury will make them nervous

- **God gets angry over sin and rebellion.**
- **Hebrew words for “anger”**
 - *Af* (flaring the nose),
 - *Charown* (burning)
- **They become “hurried/ frightened/ nervous/
trembly” (*bachal*)**
- **God brings those who hate Him to judgment,
just as He did Pharaoh, Ahab and Jezebel,
Judas, Caesars and Kings who persecuted
Christians and Protestants.**