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Title:

Jesus Reigns: Hope in the Middle of Chaos

Part 1–Rebellion and Reality

Text:

Psalm 2

"Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, 3 Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. 4 He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. 5 Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. 6 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. 7 I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. 8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. 9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. 10 Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. 11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him."

Introduction:

Psalm 2 is a ***poetic reflection*** on God's promise to Israel to send a Messiah. More specifically, it is a reflection on God's promise to David in 2 Samuel 7 to establish David's throne forever. In addition to being a poetic reflection, it is also a ***prophetic declaration*** of

what will happen in the future! The prophecies of Psalm 2 were fulfilled in part through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus!

Acts 4:24-30 *"And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: 25 Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? 26 The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ. 27 For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, 28 For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done. 29 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, 30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus."*

Acts 13:33 *"God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee."*

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I. The Rebellion of Humanity vs. 1-3

A. The Motivation for the Rebellion

a. Sinful Pride

Genesis 3:4-5 *"And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."*

b. Deception of the Mind

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 *"But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."*

John 8:31-32 *"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."*

B. The Manifestations of the Rebellion

a. Chaotic Anger

Why are people so angry? Why do people treat each other so poorly? Why so much cruelty? REBELLION!

b. Useless Passions

Psalm 1:1-2 *"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night."*

Matthew 6:33 *"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."*

c. Coordinated Attacks

John 15:17-18 *"These things I command you, that ye love one another. 18 If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you."*

John 16:32-33 *"Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to*

his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. 33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

II. The Response of God

A. The Futility of Humanity's Rebellion

God "laughing" does not mean some kind of callous indifference on His part. It is a way of communicating to us the absolute **absurdity** of the attempt!

B. The Power of God's Word

Jeremiah 23:29 *"Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?"*

Hebrews 4:12 *"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."*

C. The Certainty of Jesus Reign

Philippians 2:9-11 *"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."*

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