Psalms of the Messiah

Psalm 2 - The Laughter of Victory

Introduction - This is a psalm of David. This is a psalm of Christ. This is a psalm for all those who are in Christ. And this is Christ's victory cry to the world.

Big Words from Little Men (vv. 1-3) – The arrogance of man, whether it is Adam and Eve in the garden, or a confederation of strong nations, is evidence of lack of belief in the Almighty as the Almighty, and produces nothing more than vanity. A nation that thinks it can operate outside of the sovereignty of God is a nation that rages with insanity.

The Davidic Reign – David, like Christ, experienced attacks from within and without his own nation, built upon conspiracies and confederations. David understood that, having been placed upon the throne by God, any attack against him was an attack against God. **"His Anointed"** – This is the term 'Messiah' in Hebrew, and 'Christ' in Greek. David was God's anointed king.

God-Free Zone (v3) - Men, in their stupidity, think that they can throw off the laws of God, the rule of God, and the presence of God. Our nation has declared our government "God-Free" and our schools "God-Free Zones".

Speaking of Jesus (Acts 4:1-31) – There is much to apply from this passage.

We are in a War - If the church is declaring the gospel, the world will be declaring war. Everyone who stands against the authority of Jesus Christ and His church is by definition setting himself against God Almighty.

Subtleties and Strange Bedfellows - What were the Jews and Romans finding agreement over? The murder of the Son of God. But they did it in the name of what? The Jews in the name of God; the Romans in the name of peace. The rebellion was camouflaged.

Armed with Truth in Prayer – The attempt to thwart God played right into His hands (Acts 4:27-28). You cannot break His bonds, for these are bonds of His sovereign glory and God will not be mocked. If we embrace this doctrine by faith, as we are called to do, our prayers will be bold, and so will our preaching.

The Laughter of God (vv. 4-6) – Note first of all the contrasts. The kings were 'of the earth'. The Lord sits 'in the heavens'. The nations rage. The Lord laughs. The kings attempt to throw down the High King. The Lord declares He already has installed His High King. But there are two more in particular.

Laughter - God is never up in heaven wringing His hands over the situation on earth. He remains at ease. When God permits His Son to be attacked (and by extension His church), it is not for neglect of His honor, but a means of establishing and exalting it. Why does God allow vessels of rebellion to exist upon the earth (Rom 9:22-24)?

Speaking Wrath - This is figurative language. What was the wrath upon the Jews after the resurrection of Christ? God speaks wrath upon all sinners, either in the death of Christ or in judgment outside of Christ.

Declaration, Crucifixion, Possession (vv. 7-9) – Jesus Christ was 'declared to be the son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead' (Rom 1:4). And this section declared just that.

"You are My Son..." This is the declaration of the resurrection of Jesus (Acts 13:33). It is only a declaration of David to the extent that He is in Christ, for Christ is the first-born from the dead. Heb 1:5 declares that He has a greater inheritance (of glory, kingdom and reign) than all the angels in His resurrection. Heb 5:5 teaches us that this resurrection not only announces that He is High King, but also High Priest. He is the only Begotten *for us*.

"Ask of Me..." The Father will give Christ all that He asks for. What did He ask for? (John 17:1-2). What did He get? (Matt 28:18) "You shall break them..." Nothing stands in the way of this authority (Rev 19:13-15). And in Christ, we have been given universal dominion as well. Through the preaching of the Word of the gospel (2 Cor 10:2-5), and the prayers of the saints equipped with that Word (Eph 6:17-18) we manifest that dominion in the putting down of all strongholds, and expanding His kingdom reign.

Fair Warning from the Throne (vv. 10-12) – The world has been taken. The siege has been laid. In one sense, the gospel is this – "Throw down your weapons and come out with your hands up." The word to the kings AND their subjects is simply this – humble yourselves or be violently humbled.

"Now, therefore..." There is no more room for talk. You must surrender now. "Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion".

"be wise, O kings..." Even kings must submit to Christ. This is not simply a call to their personal lives, but to their kingdom. For they now serve the High King. Jesus Christ is Lord of the earth, which means He is Lord of the USA, and Mexico, and Iran, and...."He is a great God, and ye are but puny creatures; bend ye, therefore, in lowly worship, and let a filial fear mingle with all your obedience to the great Father of the Ages" – Spurgeon.

Conclusion - Does this Psalm speak of God making an offer to the nations, or taking over the nations? Did Christ die to potentially save the world, or to save the world? Can anything stop the planned overthrow of the world? Our worship here is the singing of this song of victory. The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ. And all of heaven laughs.

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