

A Roundtable: Who Reigns?

Psalm 2 ESV

The Reign of the LORD's Anointed

Raging, Not Reigning: The Nations Speak

[1] Why do the nations rage

and the peoples plot in vain?

[2] The kings of the earth set themselves,

and the rulers take counsel together,

against the LORD and against his Anointed

Two Actions

- 1) Raging = chaos, a tumultuous meeting in which the nations, peoples, kings, and rulers
- 2) Mankind is taking a stand against the current reigning and ruling sovereign and his anointed one

Speech

[3] "Let us burst their bonds apart

and cast away their cords from us."

- All mankind are born rebels whether they overtly display their furious rebellion or not
- Metaphor – “burst their bonds and cast away their cords” – reject the authority of the one in charge; do not recognize the reign of the sovereign

Wrathful, Yet Reigning: The Lord Speaks

*[4] He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord holds them in derision.*

*[5] Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury,*

Two Actions

- 1) General description of God/Yahweh's actions:
 - a. he laughs at the nations
 - b. Clarification: he holds them in derision
- 2) Cause and effect scenario: God speaks, people are terrified

Speech

*[6] "As for me, I have set my King
on Zion, my holy hill."*

- Set = install – God's action determines who will reign and thwarts all contrary plans

Rightfully Reigning: The Son's Report

At the roundtable, the King speaks of his own reign; it's legitimacy, it's scope, and it's force

Legitimacy = *[7] I will tell of the decree:
The LORD said to me, "You are my Son;
today I have begotten you.*

- He is the begotten of God – **Hebrews 1:1-5 ESV**

Scope = *[8] Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.*

- The entire earth is the scope of his reign because sonship results in an inheritance

Force = *[9] You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."*

- Metaphor – rod of iron = kingly authority (scepter) and strong (iron)
- Simile – dash them like a potter's vessel – easily destroy their rebellion
- The One who reigns by the decree of God speaks of ruling

Recognize His Reign: The Psalmist's Recommendation

The psalmist, who has moderated this roundtable, now brings the discussion to a conclusion with his summarizing instructions

*[10] Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.*

- To those who should be wise-kings-the psalmist exhorts to be wise and to those who should know better-rulers- the psalmist gives warning

*[11] Serve the LORD with fear,
and rejoice with trembling.*

- His instruction is to obey the words of Yahweh, and to worship him in complete submission.
- How?

*[12] 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.*

- Kissing the son is a symbolic act of complete submission

Applications:

- 1) Believe God's Word
- 2) Non-Christian: Submit to the reign of the Son.
- 3) Christian:
 - a. Be comforted!
 - b. Warn those who have not submitted to Christ's reign.