

(Topics and Lead-in Below)

Psalm 2

TUNE: Jesus, Lover of My Soul (ABERYSTWYTH)

♩ = 69

Em Em B Em Em Em Em B B7 Em Em B F# Em B A

1. Might - y rul - ers, world - ly lords, Pool their pow'r with
2. Hear Him thun - der from on high, "I have crowned my
3. We Your peo - ple lift our hands! Hear our lives and

Em B Em B Em Esus Em B Em Em Em Em B B7 Em G F# Em B

just one goal: Break the bonds of all re - straint,
Sov - 'reign King. See my Son in splen - dor reign!
voic - es sing Liv - ing hymns of loud - est praise,

B Em D G Am6 Em B B7 Em C G C C/B Am6

Seize the throne and full con - trol. He who sits in
Hear the hymns the heav - ens bring! Rich - es, wis - dom,
Sav - ior, sov - 'reign King of Kings! Blessed are all who

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: Joseph Parry

ABERYSTWYTH
7.7.7.7.D.

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G $\frac{Bm}{D}$ D7 G Em B Em D G $\frac{Bm}{F\#}$ F#7 Bm

heav - en laughs, Mocks their vain and pet - ty pride,
 hon - or, strength- To - tal rule is all His own.
 trust in You, Prince of Peace and Lord of Life!

C $\frac{G}{B}$ G Em $\frac{Am}{C}$ B $\frac{Em}{G}$ Am $\frac{Em}{G}$ $\frac{B7}{F\#}$ Em $\frac{Em}{G}$ $\frac{Em}{A}$ $\frac{Em}{B}$ B B7 Em

Scorns their frail and fu - tile plans, Throws their hol - low threats a - side.
 Pow'r to crush and pow'r to heal Ev - er - more are His a - lone."
 Help us speak and live the truth, Bold in You, Lord Je - sus Christ!

TOPICS: Ascension & Lordship of Christ; Assurance & Comfort; Christ the King, Reign of Christ; Faith; Living in Christ; Praise & Worship; Transfiguration

LEAD-IN: *The One enthroned in heaven says,
 "I have installed my King
 on Zion, my holy hill."
 To this King He said,
 "You are my Son;
 today I have become your Father.
 Ask of me,
 and I will make the nations your inheritance,
 the ends of the earth your possession."
 (Psalm 2:4, 6-8, NIV adapted)*

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

Son of God

Hear Psalm 2:

*Why do the nations conspire
and the peoples plot in vain?
The kings of the earth take their stand
and the rulers gather together
against the LORD
and against his Anointed One.
“Let us break their chains,” they say,
“and throw off their fetters.”*

*The One enthroned in heaven laughs;
the Lord scoffs at them.
Then he rebukes them in his anger
and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,
“I have installed my King
on Zion, my holy hill.”*

*I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:
He said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have become your Father.
Ask of me,
and I will make the nations your inheritance,
the ends of the earth your possession.
You will rule them with an iron scepter;
you will dash them to pieces like pottery.”*

*Therefore, you kings, be wise;
be warned, you rulers of the earth.
Serve the LORD with fear
and rejoice with trembling.
Kiss the Son, lest he be angry
and you be destroyed in your way,
for his wrath can flare up in a moment.
Blessed are all who take refuge in him. (NIV)*

Psalm 2 is another royal psalm. It was originally written about an earthly king, but its ultimate fulfillment is in the Ultimate King, Messiah.

The opening verses paint a sobering picture. Imagine all the most powerful forces on earth combining all their resources toward just one goal: destroying God’s people.

Because many of us live in a stable country that guarantees religious freedom and makes reasonable efforts to protect us from violence, we sometimes have trouble identifying with psalms like Psalm 2. We are not threatened with violent persecution for our beliefs. No enemy armies are massing at our border.

But never forget that Satan is constantly, completely opposed to God, His purposes, and His people. He is especially opposed to Jesus Christ, God's Son and Anointed One. Satan enlists all those he influences in this constant, determined opposition. Sometimes his opposition is violent, either through military confrontation or through persecution. When necessary, his opposition is more subtle, taking the form of intellectual, cultural, and social pressure. But whether his methods are overt or hidden, his goal is always the same: the destruction of God's people and all His plans.

So what is God's response to the threat of Satan and all his gathered forces? He laughs! He makes fun of them! He ridicules them! He's not frightened, He's amused! Then He terrifies them by speaking in His burning fury: *"I have installed MY KING on His holy throne! HE is in complete control!"*

Immediately Messiah Himself speaks up, in vv.7-9, and talks about His installation by God.

*He said to me, "You are my Son;
today I have become your Father." (v.7)*

The King that God has enthroned is not just His Chosen One. It is His own Son.

This is not the first time God has expressed His fierce love for His own child. Earlier in the Old Testament, He spoke of the people of Israel as His firstborn son. God sent Moses, a lowly shepherd from the backside of the desert, to the most powerful ruler on earth. He came demanding that Pharaoh give up the people of Israel, his massive slave-labor force. God's instructions to Moses were this:

*"Say to Pharaoh, 'This is what the LORD says:
Israel is my **firstborn son**...
Let **my son** go.'" (Exodus 4:22-23, NIV)*

Before the confrontation was over, Egypt's first-born sons all lay dead, and God's "firstborn son" was free.

God's miraculous care for His first-born continued as they spent 40 years in a vast and barren desert, then faced the task of conquering occupied Canaan. Moses comforted Israel with these words:

*"Do not be terrified...The LORD your God, who is going before you, will fight for you, as he did for you in Egypt, before your very eyes, and in the desert. There you saw how the LORD your God carried you, **as a father carries his son**, all the way you went until you reached this place." (Deuteronomy 1:29-31, NIV)*

Later, after they were settled in their own land, God gave them David as their king, a man after His own heart. Notice how God describes His love for David, even in all his frailty:

*“My faithful love will be with him...
He will call out to me, ‘**You are my Father...**’
I will appoint him **my firstborn**,
the most exalted of the kings of the earth.
I will maintain my love to him forever,
and my covenant with him will never fail.
I will establish his line forever,
his throne as long as the heavens endure.”*
(Psalm 89:24, 26-29, NIV)

A thousand years later, Jesus Christ came, not only as the promised Son of David, but as the only-begotten Son of God. He is the King spoken of here in Psalm 2. God has appointed Him sovereign, eternal ruler of all the universe. No force in heaven or earth, seen or unseen, can challenge His power and authority.

Almighty God loves Him with the burning, unquenchable love of a Father for His only child. He is our King, now and forever. In Him, we are bold, confident, and secure in the face of every threat, every hardship, and every uncertainty.

*Father, You are sovereign over all reality.
You speak, and it is so.
Why do we hesitate to trust You?
Why are we ever afraid?*

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