

Psalm 2 Outline

- I. (God and the enemies)
 - a. (the enemies)
 - i. (they do)
 - 1. (they rebel)
 - a. Why are the nations restless and the peoples plotting in vain?
 - b. The Kings of the land take their stand and the ruling ones conspire together¹
 - 2. against² Yahweh and against His anointed one³
 - ii. (they say)
 - 1. Let us tear apart their bonds and let us throw their ropes from us
 - b. (God)
 - i. (He does)
 - 1. The One sitting in the heavens laughs, the Lord mocks against them
 - 2. Then He will speak to them in His wrath⁴ and in His burning anger He will terrify them
 - ii. (He says) I have installed my King² upon Zion⁵, my Holy Mountain⁶

¹ Military metaphors, taking a stand or taking up battle positions and holding a counsel of war- an assembly of the wicked and an offering of counsel reminiscent of Psa. 1:1.

² Cf. Theme of enemies in Psalms. OT theme of rulers of surrounding nations who think they are gods and set themselves up against the true God.

³ Cf. Theme of Kingship in Psalms. Cf. 1 Sam. 10:1; 16:3; 1 Kgs. 1:39 for anointing of Israelite king. "Here we see the Israelite king as vice-regent, the representative of God on earth- a king, yet not autonomous, but very much under divine law." Provan, p. 130.

⁴ Cf. Theme of God as judge, God's wrath and poetic justice.

⁵ Cf. Theme of Zion, God's dwelling place, temple in Psalms

⁶ A response to the words of the enemies- they asserted their autonomy, but God reaffirms His sovereignty and the rule of His chosen King.

- II. (The King and the enemies)
- a. (God's prescription, regulation)
 - i. (Intro formula) Let me recount the prescription, regulation of Yahweh- He said unto me...
 - ii. (prescription, regulation)
 1. You are my son⁷, today I fathered you, have become your father⁸
 2. Ask from me and I will give
 - a. the nations as your inheritance
 - b. the extremities of the earth as your possession⁹
 3. You will break them with a staff of iron, like a vessel of a potter you will shatter them¹⁰
 - b. (The enemies response[very good advice to enemies])
 - i. (repent and be serve Yahweh)
 1. (repent)
 - a. And now kings be attentive, prudent
 - b. Be corrected, chastened rulers of the earth
 2. (serve Yahweh)
 - a. Serve Yahweh with fear
 - b. And shout in exultation with trembling
 - ii. (serve the son or you will perish)
 1. (kiss or perish)
 - a. Kiss the son¹¹
 - b. Lest he will be angry and you will perish in the way¹²
 2. (wrath or refuge)
 - a. Because his wrath will burn quickly, easily
 - b. Blessed¹³ are all of the ones taking refuge¹⁴ in him

⁷ Cf. Theme of Kingship in Psalms, also corporate solidarity.

⁸ This language affirms that in some way the king can be thought of as divine, yet it is short of the language of absolute deification.

⁹ Because God rules/owns the whole earth, this is the same inheritance passed to His 'son'.

¹⁰ "But before he can rule the earth, the son must first break all opposition with his 'rod of iron', smashing them as easily as one breaks a piece of pottery. It is very much the biblical order of things that there can be no peace without justice, and that justice requires the use of force. The king must conquer the wicked before he can rule" cf. Isa. 11:1-9; Rev. 19:11-21- Provan, p. 130.

¹¹ Kissing the feet is a well-known act of self-humiliation and homage.

¹² Cf. Theme of 'Way' in Psalms, esp. Ps. 1.

¹³ Cf. Ps. 1:1. forming *inclusio* around the first 2 Psalms, marking them as a unit. Cf. Theme of blessing, prosperity in Psalms.

¹⁴ Cf. Theme of refuge in Psalms.

Psalm 2

1 לְמָה לְמָה רָגְשׁוּ גוֹיִם וְלְאֻמִּים יִהְגּוּ- רִיק:

msa QIpf3mp mpa+י mpa QPpf3mp interog.
emptiness they are murmuring, plotting¹⁵ and peoples nations they are disturbed, restless why?

a' b b a

2 יִתְצַבּוּ מְלֹכֵי-אֶרֶץ וְרוֹזְנִים נוֹסְדוּ- יחד

adv NiphPf3cp QPtcmpa+י msa mpc HithlIpf3mp
together, united they sit, conspire together and ones ruling land kings of they take their stand

a' b b a

עַל-יְהוָה וְעַל-מְשִׁיחוֹ:

msc+3ms prep+י D.N. prep
His anointed one and against Yahweh against

c' c

3 נִנְתְּקָה אֶת-מוֹסְרוֹתֵימוֹ וְנִשְׁלִיכָה מִמֶּנּוּ עֲבֹתֵימוֹ:

fpc+3mp prep+1cp HiphIpf(cohort)1cp+י fpc+3mp DDO PiellIpf(cohort)1cp
their ropes from us and let us throw their bonds let us tear apart

b' a' b a

4 יוֹשֵׁב בַּשָּׁמַיִם יִשְׁחַק אֲדֹנָי יִלְעַג- לָמוֹ:

3mp+ל QIpf3ms Prop.N. QIpf3ms mda+ה+ב QPtcpmsa
against them He mocks, derides the Lord He laughs in the heavens the One sitting

b' a' b a

5 אִזְ יִדְבֵר אֱלֹהֵימוֹ בְּאַפוֹ וּבַחֲרוֹנוֹ יִבְהַלְמוּ:

PiellIpf3ms+3mp msc+3ms+ב+י msc+3ms+ב prep+3mp PiellIpf3ms adv
He will terrify them and in His burning anger in His wrath unto them He will speak then

a' b' b a

6 וְאֲנִי נִסְכַּחְתִּי מֶלֶךְ עַל-צִיּוֹן הַר- קִדְשִׁי:

msc+1cs msc Prop.N. prep msc+1cs QPpf1cs 1cs+י
my holiness mountain of Zion upon my king I have set, installed and I

7 אֲסַפְּרָה אֵל חֶק יְהוָה אֶמַר אֵלַי

prep+1cs QPpf3ms D.N. msc prep PiellIpf(cohort)1cs
unto me He said Yahweh statute of unto let me recount

¹⁵ Cf. Psa 1:2.

בְּנֵי אֶתְהָ אֲנִי הַיּוֹם יִלְדֶתִיךָ:
 msc+1cs msa+ה 1cs 2ms QPflcs+2ms
 (are) my son You I today I became your father

8 שְׁאַל מִמֶּנִּי וְאֶתְנָה גוֹיִם נַחֲלֶתְךָ
 QIpf1cs+ו prep+1cs QIpf2ms fsc+2ms mpa
 ask from me and I will give nations your inheritance
 a b

וְאַחֲזֶתְךָ אֶפְסֵי-אֲרֶץ:
 fsc+2ms+ו mpc msa
 and your possession extremities of earth
 a' b'

9 תִּרְעֵם בְּשֵׁבֶט בְּרִזְל כְּכֹלֵי יוֹצֵר תִּנְפְּצֵם:
 QIpf2ms+3mp msc+ב msa msc+ב Piellpf2ms+3mp
 you will break them with staff of iron like vessel of potter you will shatter them
 a b a' c

10 וְעַתָּה מְלָכִים הַשְׁכִּילוּ הוֹסְרוּ שְׁפֵטֵי אֲרֶץ:
 adv+ו mpa msc+ב HiphIpf2mp NiphIpf2mp QPtcmpc msa
 and now kings be attentive, prudent be corrected, chastened rulers of earth
 a b b' a'

11 עֲבֹדוּ אֶת־יְהוָה בִּירְאָה וְגִילוּ בְרַעְדָּה:
 QIpf2mp D.N. DDO fsc+ב fsc+ב QIpf2mp+ו
 serve Yahweh with fear and shout in exultation with trembling
 a b a' b'

12 נִשְׁקוּ-בֵר פֶּן-יֵאָנֵף וְתֵאבְדוּ דֶרֶךְ:
 msa PielIpf2mp conj QIpf3ms QIpf2mp+ו msa
 son kiss he will be angry lest and you will perish (in the) way, road
 a b

כִּי-יִבְעַר כְּמַעַט אִפּוֹ אֲשֶׁר־כָּל-חוֹסֵי בּוֹ:
 conj QIpf3ms msa+ב msc+3ms mpc adj 3ms+ב QPtcmpc
 because it will burn like small i.e. easily, quickly his wrath all of blessedness of the ones taking refuge in him
 b' a'