

VICTORY OF CHRIST

“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.” (Psalm 2:12 ESV)

Scripture is riddled with texts that erupt with the volcanic victory and downright domination by Jesus, The King of Kings and Lord of Lords (**Hebrews 2:14, 1 John 3:8, Colossians 2:15, 2 Corinthians 2:14, Matthew 16:18, Revelation 19:15, 2 Thessalonians 2:8** etc.). Psalm 2 flies this valiant banner with snapping strength. Modern evangelicalism often shies away from the Lord's decimating dominion though. Jesus is frequently portrayed as the lowly and loving Shepherd (*which He certainly is*), but it is crucial that we proclaim the full message of the full Character of Jesus Christ (**Acts 20:27**). Psalm chapter 2 is a Royal Psalm that vividly displays regal rule and The King's conquest over antagonistic nations. This Divinely inspired text was likely composed by David under God's superintendence. It starts by asking the rhetorical question... ***“Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?” (Psalm 2:1)***. “Nations rage” can also be translated as “nations noisily assemble”. The Psalmist gives a picture of a raucous gathering of rebellious nations. This is the depravity of man manifest on a global scale. This is what vile and wicked men are like when they join in haughty hatred, Proverbs 24:2 shows this mutinous disposition well... ***“for their hearts devise violence, and their lips talk of trouble.” (Proverbs 24:2, ESV)***. The rulers of the earth stand united in vehement opposition against the LORD and His Anointed (**v. 2**). Similar to Herod and Pilate unifying as friends in their common cowardice and unjust treatment of Jesus (**Luke 23:12**). The nations assemble together in arrogance and animus, to shake their fists in the face of God. This attempt at a cowardly coup, led by the Kings of the world, is met by God with condescending laughter as He stoops down to perceive the pathetic flex of His foe. God looks down upon them in derision. Derision is the Hebrew verb [lā`ag] and means to mock, deride, or ridicule. The NASB translated it as “scoffs”... this response from God is terrifying when we realize that apart from Christ, we are just like those who comprise the rebel nations. God has established His King in Zion (**v. 6**), which would be initially fulfilled in King David's rule, but ultimately fulfilled in the Greater King from David's line, namely Jesus, The Lion of the Tribe of Judah and The Root of David (**Revelation 5:5**). King Jesus will return and do so with violent jealousy to vindicate His Name and conquer the chaotic cohorts (**Revelation 19:11-16**). The Psalmist prophetically points to this great and terrible day and warns the nations to... ***“Kiss the Son, lest he be angry and they perish in the way..”(v. 12a)***. To “Kiss the Son” is to submit to Him, honor Him, and love Him. Not only should God's people submit with affection and allegiance to Israel's King, David, but much more must they submit to the King of Kings, Jesus the Anointed One. All people WILL ultimately bow before Christ as Lord (**Philippians 2-10-11**). But the urgent caveat that is given is to do so with a repentant heart and a trusting affection. Because all who refuse to ***“Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.” (Psalm 2:11, ESV)*** will suffer subjugation from the Lion of Light, and this Jesus ***“.. shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.” (Psalm 2:9, ESV)***. But for those who do take refuge in Him, they will be eternally blessed (**v. 12b**). At the consummation of history there are really only two types of nations, those who Kiss the Son and are part of every tribe, tongue, and people in His perfect Kingdom (**Revelation 7:9,10**), or those nations who refuse to trust in Christ and are crushed under His rod of eternal punishment. But all will acknowledge the drastic dominion of this Messianic King. ***“And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all***

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peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.” (Daniel 7:14 ESV). He came once on a humble donkey, and laid down His life as a ransom for many, but when He comes again He will do so with eyes of blazing Holiness and a sword to slice His foe, riding on a White steed, as the Great Victor of all Victors! Kiss the Son, today.

How accurate is your understanding of Jesus, when compared with the whole teaching of Scripture?

How does a healthy fear of Jesus help you to cherish the Gospel even more?

What will you do this Easter season to cultivate a greater Awe of Christ and a deeper love for Him?

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