

NATIONS RAGE AND REVOLT: HEAVEN LAUGHS

Psalm 2, Joel 2, Acts 2

The Reign of the Lord's Anointed.

2 Why are the nations in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing?
²The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, ³“Let us tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords from us!” ⁴He who sits in the heavens laughs, the Lord scoffs at them. ⁵Then He will speak to them in His anger and terrify them in His fury, saying, ⁶“But as for Me, I have installed My King upon Zion, My holy mountain.” ⁷“I will surely tell of the decree of the Lord: He said to Me, ‘You are My Son, today I have begotten You. ⁸‘Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as Your possession. ⁹‘You shall break them with a rod of iron, you shall shatter them like earthenware.’” ¹⁰Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; take warning, O judges of the earth. ¹¹Worship the Lord with reverence and rejoice with trembling. ¹²Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish *in* the way, for His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!

Psalm 2 NASB

- The leaders of nations consult each other to create a global rebellion against God...an uproar. (v1-3)
 - They cast away God's fetters and cords...actually they reject and refuse His Word and His ways.
 - What they call fetters God calls 'bonds of love'...see **Hosea 11:4**.
 - God laughs in heaven and scoffs at their belligerent plans. (v4-5)
 - God's reply... "I have installed My Son as King..." (King of Kings)(v6-7)
 - He gives the nations of the earth to Jesus as a gift, an inheritance...a possession.
 - He tells the rebellious leaders to be discerning...honor the Lord reverently... 'Kiss the Son!' Take refuge in Him (don't rebel) so as to miss His wrath.

Blow a trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm on My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming; surely it is near, ²A day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness. As the dawn is spread over the mountains, so there is a great and mighty people; there has never been *anything* like it, nor will there be again after it to the years of many generations. ³A fire consumes before them and behind them a flame burns. The land is like the garden of Eden before them but a desolate wilderness behind them, and nothing at all escapes them.

Joel 2:1-3 NASB

¹⁵ Blow a trumpet in Zion, consecrate a fast, proclaim a solemn assembly, ¹⁶ Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children and the nursing infants. let the bridegroom come out of his room and the bride out of her *bridal* chamber. **Joel 2:15-16 NASB**

²⁵ “Then I will make up to you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, The creeping locust, the stripping locust and the gnawing locust, my great army which I sent among you. ²⁶ “You will have plenty to eat and be satisfied and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you; then My people will never be put to shame. ²⁷ “Thus you will know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God, and there is no other; and My people will never be put to shame.

The Promise of the Spirit

²⁸ “It will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. ²⁹ “Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

Joel 2:25-29 NASB

- We need to pray for the nations and our neighbors...but we need to pray.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. ⁵ Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his

own language. ⁷They were amazed and astonished, saying, “Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we each hear *them* in our own language to which we were born? ⁹Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—we hear them in our *own* tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God.” ¹²And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” **Acts 2:1-12 NASB**

³⁷Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brethren, what shall we do?” ³⁸Peter *said* to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.” ⁴⁰And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation!” ⁴¹So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. **Acts 2:37-41 NASB**

- Just as Jesus did, we need to present Him alive by many convincing proofs...(see **Acts 1:3**)