

PSALM 2

Strasbourg, 1539 / Lyons, 1548



1. Why do the rest-less na-tions mad-ly rage?
 What haugh-ty schemes are they in vain con-triv-ing?
 The kings and rul-ers of the earth en-gage
 in rash at-tempts to plot their emp-ty striv-ing.
 They stand pre-pared, they all con-spire to-geth-er
 a-gainst the LORD and His a-noint-ed King.
 "Let us," they say, "tear loose and break their fet-ters,
 cast off their chains, their shack-les from us fling."

2. Though *proudly now they raise their battle cry,*
 how *vain is all their frenzied opposition!*
 The *LORD, who sits enthroned in heaven on high,*
 laughs them to scorn: He holds them in derision.
 Then *He will speak in wrath and indignation*
 and *all their host will He with terror fill:*
 "I've set my King," so runs His proclamation,
 "Upon Mount Zion, on My holy hill."

3. *O peoples, listen to the LORD's decree.
To Me He made this public declaration:
"Your Father I become this very day;
You are My Son. To You I give the nations.
Ask what You will: Your heritage I'll make them;
their lands You will possess, both near and far,
for with a rod of iron You shall break them,
dash them to pieces, like a potter's jar."*

4. *Take heed, O rulers of the earth, and hear.
Be wise, O kings, and let His edict warn you.
Rejoice with trembling; serve the LORD with fear.
Now kiss the Son, lest He in fury scorn you,
lest in His wrath the LORD cause you to perish,
for quickly kindled is His anger's blaze.
But all who trust in Him the LORD will cherish;
He will defend and bless them all their days.*