

Interceding for America

“Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage...” (Psalm 2:8, ESV)

Introduction

God loves the nations. He desires that **nations** seek and find Him.

He has **“made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him...”** (Acts 17:26-27, ESV).

He so loves the nations that He has determined to **bleed the nation whose God is the LORD** (Psalm 33:12, ESV). However, let any nation choose to rebel against His love and will, and surely the painful consequences will come.

America is at a crossroads. The church must intercede for America unlike any period in our history. The consequences of failing to intercede now are unthinkable.

Wall Street does not have the answers to the problems we face.

Washington does not have the answers to the problems we face.

Worldly, left-wing religion does not have the answers to the problems we face.

World-political bodies, such as the United Nations, surely do not have the answers to the problems we face.

The **Word of God** does, if we are wise enough to seek truth here and obey it.

Psalm 2 is a messianic psalm serving as a warning to the nations who are assembling in rebellion against God and His Messiah. There is a truly wonderful and hope-inspiring promise made by the Father to His Anointed Son regarding asking for the nations (2:8). **We know that powerful, result-getting prayer comes from Jesus by the Spirit through His church back to the Father.** The Father invites His Son to intercede for the nations to become His inheritance. This means we are to intercede for America to honor the Son and forsake rebellion against Him.

Three Observations from Psalm 2

1. The nations are aligning themselves in rebellion against God and His Anointed. (2:1-3)

A. The aligning of the nations (2:1)

1. They rage
2. They plot

- 3. They set themselves
 - 4. They take counsel together
- B. The purpose of the plotting
- 1. To burst the bonds
 - 2. To cast away the cords

2. God's response to the rebellious nations is to warn them of His purpose for His Son. (2:4-9)

- A. God sits enthroned in heaven (4a)
- B. He laughs at the foolish rebellion of the nations (4a)
- C. He holds them in derision (4b)
- D. He will speak to them in his wrath (5a)
- E. He will terrify them in his fury (5b)
- F. He declares His exaltation of His King (6)
- G. The Anointed Son speaks of the Father's decree (7)
 - 1. Jesus is the Son of God Whom the Father has raised from the dead (7)
 - 2. Jesus may ask for the nations to become His inheritance, ruling them with power (8-9)

Note: We must ask the Father, in Jesus' Name, that America be given to Jesus as His rightful inheritance. We are to intercede for America to forsake our rebellion against God and to return to honoring Him and His Son, Jesus. No nation can remain neutral about Jesus.

3. The rulers of the nations are urgently warned to return to the LORD by properly honoring the Son. (2:10-12)

- A. The nations are to serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling (11)
- B. The nations are to properly honor the Son, aware of the risks of offending Him through rebellion (12)

Note: Verse 12 tells us to "Kiss the Son." This can mean to kiss the feet of God's Anointed King as a sign of loyalty, humility, love and worship. Be aware of two types of kisses in Scripture: One is the superficial kiss of betrayal such as that of Judas toward Jesus.

"While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus said to him, 'Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?'" (Luke 22:47-48)

There is also the genuine kiss of affection and worship.

"You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet." (Luke 7:45)