

## PSALM 2

- v. 1 – **Why did nations rage about,** (3 words – לָמָּה רָגְשׁוּ גּוֹיִם)  
**and (why) are peoples meditating on vanity?** (3 words – וְלֵאמֹים יְהַגּוּ - רִיק)  
Synthetic Parallelism  
Both lines begin with ל – lamed, an “L”.  
There are four occurrences of the letters ם/מ – mem, an “m”, and י – yod, a “y”.  
There are three occurrences of the letter ו – shureq, a “u”.
- v. 2 – **Kings of the earth are stationing themselves,** (3 words – יִתְיַצְּבוּ מַלְכֵי - אֲרֶץ)  
**and rulers conspired together,** (3 words – וְרוֹזְנִים נוֹסְדוּ - יַחַד)  
(Synthetic Parallelism with Chiasm)  
**against Yahweh** (2 words – עַל - יְהוָה)  
**and against His anointed.** (2 words – וְעַל - מְשִׁיחוֹ)  
There are seven occurrences of the letter י – yod, a “y”.  
There are eight occurrences of the letter ו – waw, a “w”.
- v. 3 – **“Let us tear apart Their bonds,** (3 words – נִנְתְּקָה אֶת - מוֹסְרוֹתֵימוֹ)  
**and let us throw away from us Their cords.”** (3 words – וְנִשְׁלִיכָה מִמֶּנּוּ עֲבֹתֵימוֹ)  
Synonymous Parallelism  
The first word in both lines begins with נ – nun, an “n”, and ends with קה and כה – “kahn”.  
The second word in the first line begins with a guttural א – aleph. The third word in the second line begins with a guttural ע – ayin.  
The third word in the first line and the second word in the second line begin with a מ – mem, an “m”.  
The third word in both lines ends with ו – thaimo – “thaymo”.  
They both also contain ו – holem, an “o” (3 times in line 1 and 2 times in line 2).
- v. 4 – **The One Who is sitting in the heavens is laughing,** (3 words – יוֹשֵׁב בַּשָּׁמַיִם יִשְׁחַק)  
**my Lord is ridiculing in regard to them.** (3 words – אֲדֹנָי יִלְעַג - לָמוֹ)  
Synthetic Parallelism with Chiasm  
The three words in line one all contain a ש/שׁ – sin/shin, a “s/sh”.  
There are five occurrences of the letter י – yod, a “y”.
- v. 5 – **Then He is speaking to them in His wrath,** (4 words – אֲזַ וְדַבֵּר אֵלֵימוֹ בְּאַפּוֹ)  
**and in His anger He is terrifying them.** (2 words – וּבְחֲרוֹנוֹ יִבְהַלְמוֹ)  
Synthetic Parallelism with Chiasm  
The last three words have a ב – bet, “b/v” near the beginning of the word; four overall.  
The final four words end in ו – holem, an “o”, five overall.  
Every word but one has an “a” sound.
- v. 6 – **“Now I, I have installed My King,** (3 words – וְאַנִּי נִסְכַּתִּי מֶלֶכִּי)  
**upon Zion** (2 words – עַל - צִיּוֹן)  
**My holy hill.”** (2 words – הַר - קֹדֶשׁ)  
The first three words and the final word end in י – hireq yod, an “ee”.

- v. 7 – “Let me recount with regard to a decree, (3 words – אֶל חֶק אֲסַפֶּרָה)  
 Yahweh said to Me, (3 words – יְהוָה אָמַר אֵלַי)  
 ‘You are My Son; (2 words – בְּנִי אַתָּה)  
 I, today, I have begotten You. (3 words – אֲנִי הַיּוֹם יִלְדֹתִיךָ)  
 Six of the eleven words begin with א – aleph.  
 Six of final eight words contain a י – yod, a “y”.
- v. 8 – “(You) ask from Me, (2 words – שְׁאַל מִמֶּנִּי)  
 and let Me give nations (for) Your inheritance, (3 words – וְאַתְּנָה גוֹיִם נְחַלְתָּךְ)  
 and (for) Your possession, the ends of the earth. (3 words – וְאַחֲזֹתָךְ אֶפְסֵי - אֶרֶץ)  
 Synonymous Parallelism with Chiasm and Ellipsis  
 Four of the last six words begin with א – aleph, five overall.
- v. 9 – “You shall break them with a rod of iron; (3 words – תִּרְעֵם בְּשֹׁבֵט בַּרְזֶל)  
 like a vessel of the potter You shall dash them to pieces.” (3 words – כַּכֵּלִי יוֹצֵר תִּנְפְּצֵם)  
 Synonymous Parallelism with Chiasm
- v. 10 – And now, O kings, (you[p.]) show insight; (3 words – וְעַתָּה מְלָכִים הַשְׁכִּילוּ)  
 (you[p.]) take advice, O judges of the earth. (3 words – הַנֹּסְרוּ שְׁפָטֵי אֶרֶץ)  
 Synthetic Parallelism with Chiasm
- v. 11 – (You[p.]) serve Yahweh with fear; (4 words – עֲבָדוּ אֶת - יְהוָה בְּיִרְאָה)  
 and (you[p.]) rejoice with trembling. (2 words – וְגִילוּ בְּרַעְדָּה)  
 Synthetic Parallelism  
 Three words end with הַ, – “ahh”.
- v. 12 – (You[p.]) kiss the Son, (2 words – בִּשְׁקוּ - בֵּר)  
 lest He might be angry, (2 words – פֶּן - יִצְאֶנּוּךָ)  
 and you (p.) might perish (in the) way (2 words – וְתִאֲבָדוּ דְרֹךְ)  
 when His wrath is burning quickly. (4 words – כִּי - יִבְעַר כְּמַעַט אַפּוֹ)  
 The blessings of all of those who are seeking refuge in Him. (4 words – אֲשֶׁרֵי כָל - הוֹסִי בּוֹ)  
 The first and third words have four consonants;  
 both end with the consonantal vowel יַ – tsere yod, an “ay”.  
 The second and fourth words have two consonants, the fourth word a consonantal vowel.  
 The last three words words contain an “o” sound.

#### Broader Structure:

- vv. 1-3 – The Wicked Plot on Earth  
 vv. 4-6 – Yahweh Mocks in Heaven  
 vv. 7-9 – The Coronation Decree For the Son  
 vv. 10-12 – Admonitions to Decide About the Son

#### Chiasm:

- vv. 1-3 – The Kings Rebel Against Yahweh and His King (A)  
 vv. 4-6 – Yahweh and His King (B)  
 vv. 7-9 – Yahweh’s King Established (B’)  
 vv. 10-12 – The Kings are Warned to Honor Yahweh’s King (A’)

- vv. 1-2 with v. 3 a quotation by the wicked  
 vv. 4-5 with v.6 a quotation by Yahweh  
 vv. 7-9 – the Son speaks quoting Yahweh  
 vv. 10-12 – five commands

The psalm ends with an inclusio with Psalm 1:1 by the compiler/editor – “blessings”