

THE STORY OF THE BIBLE:

SESSION #4

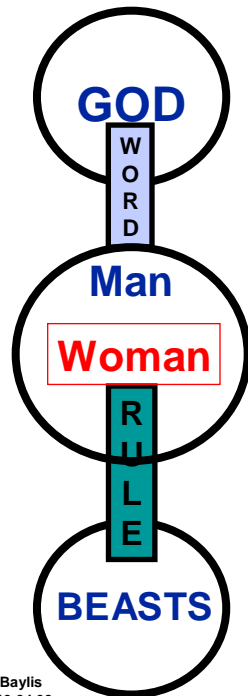
PSALM 2

I. The establishment of God's Rule through the Coming Davidic Ruler of Genesis 1:26, 28; 3:15; 12:1-3 and 2 Samuel 7:12-16.

A. Genesis 1:26: The Rule of Man on behalf of God

Ever since God had created the earth and issued the command for man to rule over the animals, the story had been looking for that ultimate man; the ultimate Ruler who would dominate the earth and represent God.

“Let Us make man in Our image and let them *rule* . . . “ (Genesis 1:26)

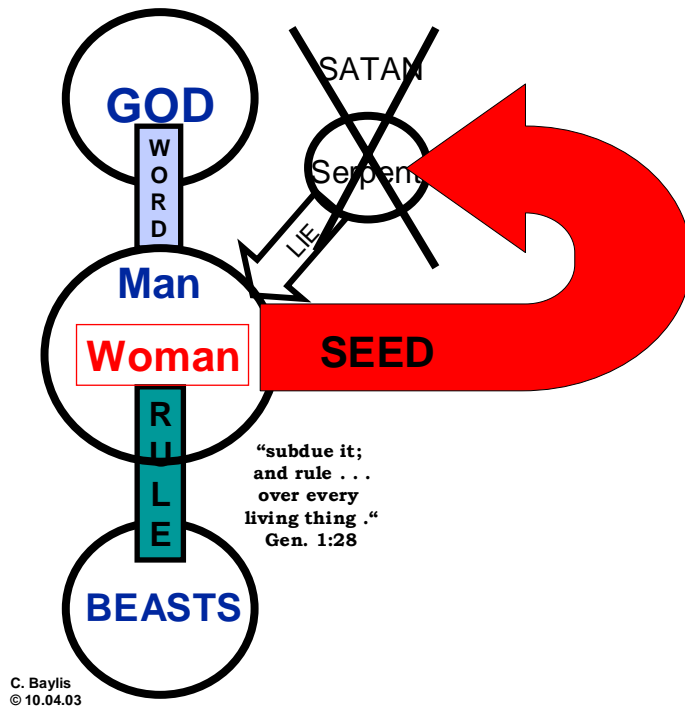


C. Baylis
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B. Genesis 3:15: The Ruler would come and defeat Satan and substitute Himself by dying for the first creation (Genesis 3:15)

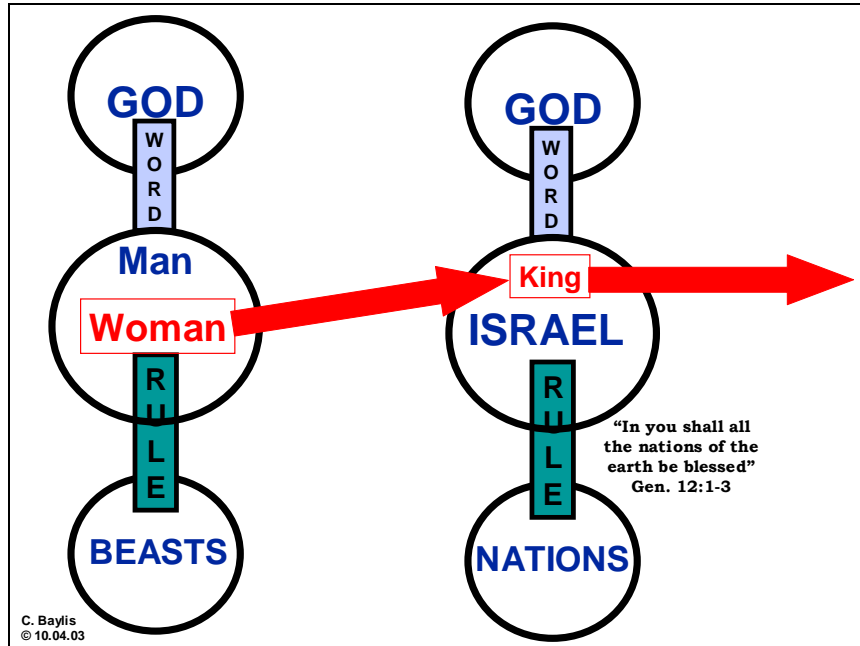
Then, of course, following the failure of Adam, God had prophesied a new Adam who would come and rule and defeat the Serpent (Satan) and establish His rule; the rule of God on earth.

“And He (the Seed of the Woman) will strike you (the Serpent) on the head” (Genesis 3:15).

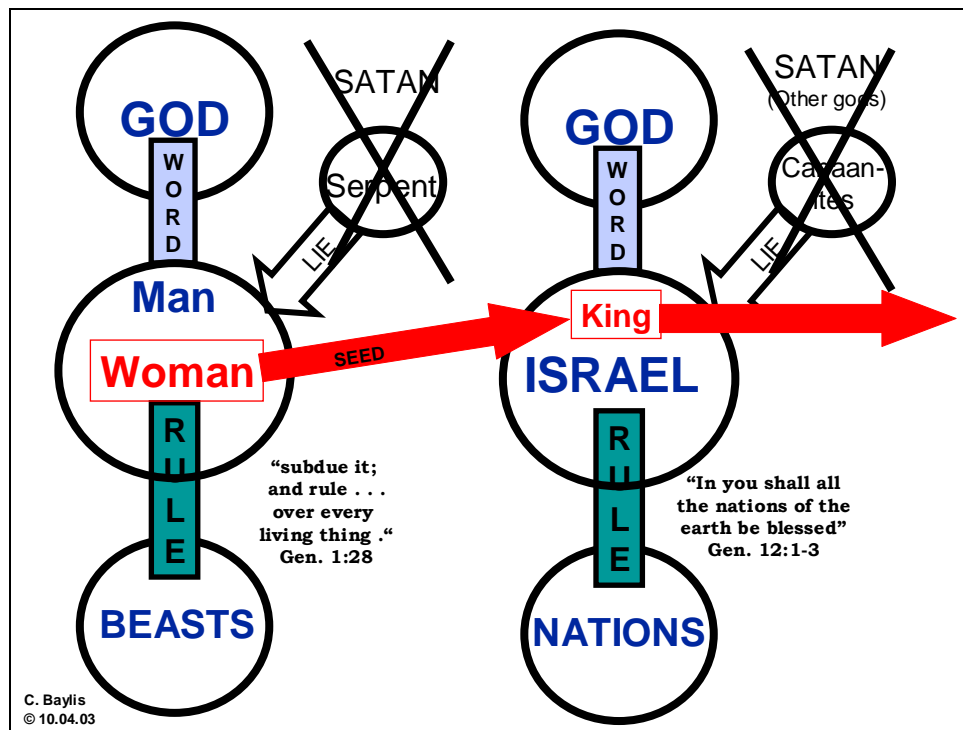


- C. **Genesis 12:1-3: The nation Israel would rule on behalf of God over the Gentiles and from that nation would come the Seed, the Ruler who would deliver them.**

But there was more. In Genesis 12:1-3, God established that He would bring forth a nation (Israel) from Abram who would rule over the Gentile nations. It was this nation through whom would come the Ruler and over which He would rule.



While the individual Ruler of Genesis 3:15 would destroy the Serpent, so also this same Ruler would dominate the Gentile nations who were operated by Satan.



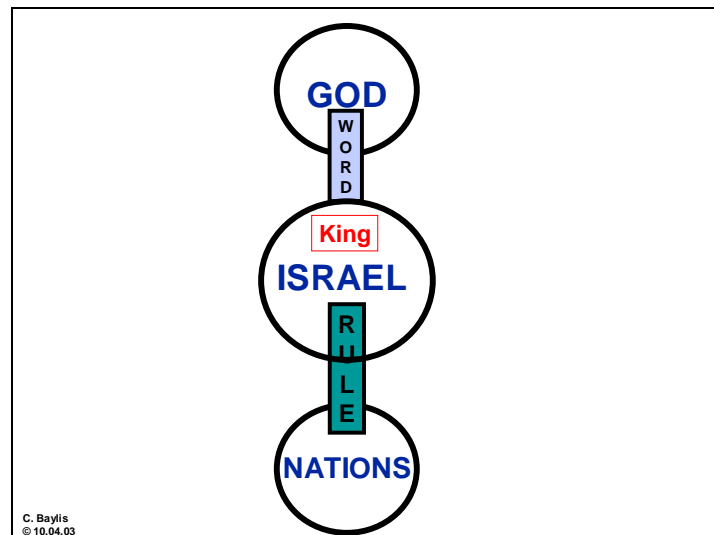
D. 2 Samuel 7:12-16: The Ultimate Ruler over Israel would be from David's line.

As the Biblical story moves on it moves to King David who is promised that the ultimate Seed of the Woman, the ultimate Ruler, would come from His line.

¹⁶ "Your (David's) house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever." (2Samuel 7:16)

E. The Nation Israel and the Ultimate Ruler to be established to Represent God (Psalm 2).

Thus, the ultimate development of God's plan is that this King would come and rule Israel and subdue the Gentile nations under His power. It is this rule that will be developed in Psalm Chapter 2.

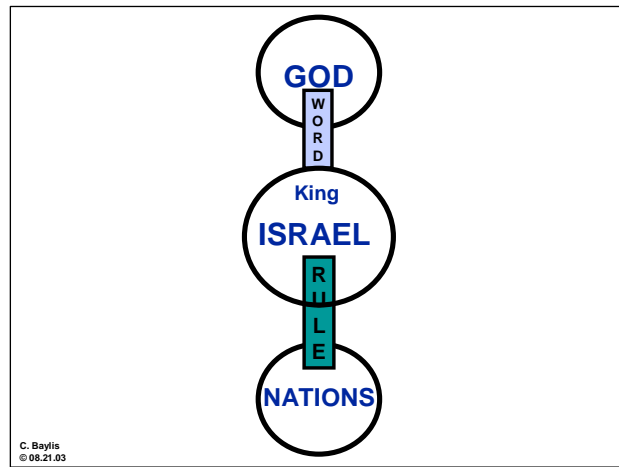


II. Psalm 2: Re-establishing rule over the Gentiles through the Christ.

A. "The Christ"

If one thinks to themselves what the title, "Christ" means (as in "Jesus Christ"), one would likely not be able to come up with the answer. Most would reply, if pressed, that it means the Savior, or the One who saves from sins. While that certainly is a part, it is much more than that. The title, "The Christ", comes from Psalm 2, Verse 2. It refers to the One who is God's Anointed to represent Him over the whole earth.

This Psalm is the basic Abrahamic Covenant Psalm. It is about how God will establish His Abrahamic Covenant, the dominion of Israel through His King, His Son, His Messiah. It is this Psalm that forms the main Old Testament reference for the New Testament use of “The Christ”.



IMPORTANT: The term “Christ” (here Messiah) finds its core definition here in this Psalm. The Christ is His sole Representative, the One through whom God would restore rule to Israel by crushing the Gentile opposition.

A. The Gentiles Ridiculously Rebel against God and His CHRIST (1—3)

1 Why are the nations in an uproar, And the peoples devising a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth take their stand, And the rulers take counsel together against the LORD and against His Anointed

The word here, “Anointed” is literally in Hebrew, *Meshiach*, or Messiah or Christ (Greek: *Christos*). Thus the Christ is the representative of God on earth.

B. God moves to act against the Gentile Rebellion by putting His King in Jerusalem to Judge them

4 He who sits in the heavens laughs, The Lord scoffs at them. 5 Then He will speak to them in His anger And terrify them in His fury: 6 “But as for Me, I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain.”

.Note here that the “King” of Israel is the One who is also the Christ and who will direct the vengeance of God against the enemy.

C. God’s Son, The Davidic King, destroys the Rebellious Gentiles on behalf of God

⁷ "I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, '**Thou art My Son**, Today I have begotten Thee. ⁸ 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Thine inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Thy possession. ⁹ 'Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron, Thou shalt shatter them like earthenware.'"

Note here that the "Son of God" is the One who gets the inheritance of the whole universe from God. Thus, He will be the One who conquers the enemies of God

D. The Narrator makes a simple conclusion: Submit to God's Anointed and live or be destroyed

¹⁰ Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; Take warning, O judges of the earth. ¹¹ Worship the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling. ¹² Kiss the Son, lest He become angry, and you perish in the way, For His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!

Now comes the lesson. All must worship YHWH, God the Father. The way to do that is to worship (literally "kiss") the Son. To neglect that is to be destroyed. To accept that is to live under the protection of the Son.

II. New Testament Uses of this Psalm

A. "The Christ"

The basic use of the title, "The Christ", in the New Testament is from Psalm 2:2. Thus the title for Jesus as "Jesus Christ" indicates that He is this mighty warrior who will destroy the Gentiles and offer mercy as He establishes His Kingdom from Jerusalem.

B. Inquiry at the trial of Jesus to see if He was the Mighty Conqueror

"And the high priest said to Him, "I adjure You by the living God, that You tell us whether You are the Christ, the Son of God."

Matt. 26:62

This is a clear reference to Psalm 2, using both terms; "Son of God" and "the Christ". The question the high priest is asking is whether Jesus is the appointed Judge of the whole earth. The high priest wants to know because if he convicts Jesus and He is the Christ, then he, the high priest, becomes an enemy of YHWH and of His Christ and then this Jesus will end up smashing him like pottery in the judgment. Thus, the high priest fearfully asks this question.

C. **God speaking at the Baptism of Jesus to affirm Jesus as the Psalm 2 Conqueror**

“and behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

Matthew 3:17

Note here the similarity to Psalm 2, where it is the “He who sits in the heavens” who says in 2:7 “Thou art My Son . . . “ So also here in Matthew 3 the voice out of the heavens speaks the same thing. The point is that God is acknowledging here that this One is the One who will destroy Rome and establish the Israelite Kingdom.

D. **Satan addressing Christ at the Temptation (Matt. 4:3-10)**

“If you are the Son of God (Psalm 2:7) command that these stones be turned to bread”

“If you are the Son of God (Psalm 2:7) throw yourself down . . . “

“All these kingdoms I will give to you . . . “¹

Note that in the first Satan attempts to force Jesus to act apart from God’s word (on His own word for His own benefit) which is not what the “Christ” does in Psalm 2. In the second line, He attempts to get Him to force God to act on His desires, rather than the other way around in Psalm 2 (“I will tell of the decree of God . . .”). Note that in the third Satan is offering to give Jesus the kingdoms which was to be done by the Father in Psalm 2:7 as an inheritance. Thus, if Jesus takes them from Satan then the son relationship would be under Satan and not God.

E. **God speaking at the Transfiguration to state He was the King who would conquer**

“While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son . . . “

Matthew 17:5

F. **The Resurrection is TO PROVE JESUS IS THE CHRIST of Psalm 2**

The point of Psalm 2 is that the “Christ” could (and would) conquer the unruly Gentiles. Thus, when Christ rises over their grasp at the tomb, He demonstrates that He is able to return and conquer them thoroughly. In other words, He gives a sign (partial fulfillment of OT prophecies); that of partial conquering of the Gentiles at their best resistance (sealing Him

¹ Contrast with the statement of YHWH in Psalm 2:8 ⁸ 'Ask of Me, and **I will surely give the nations** as Thine inheritance, And the *very* ends of the earth as Thy possession.

with guards in the tomb) and rises over them. Thus all believers can see that He can and will return and conquer, precisely what Psalm 2 advocates.

Romans 1:3-4 ³ concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, ⁴ who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,

Acts 13:29-33 ²⁹ "And when they had carried out all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the cross and laid Him in a tomb. ³⁰ "But God raised Him from the dead; ³¹ and for many days He appeared to those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, the very ones who are now His witnesses to the people. ³² "And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers, ³³ that God has fulfilled this *promise* to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, 'Thou art My Son; today I have begotten Thee.'"