

God And The Nations

Lesson 2

Jesus Rules And Judges All Nations Today

God Rules And Judges All Nations

1. God has always ruled all nations
2. By what standard does God judge all nations?
3. What means does God use to judge all nations?

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Introduction

- Jews are looking for a Messiah, anointed King, who will rule a restored Israel from Jerusalem
- Others believe Jesus is ruling as Head over His church now but not over all nations
- They believe when He comes, His reign over all nations will begin

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Introduction

- Even some Christians may doubt Jesus rules the nations today because we have no clear revelation about specific judgments He makes in our time
- The New Testament reveals Jesus now rules all nations to accomplish His Divine purpose – saving humanity through the gospel
- We should fear, trust and obey Jesus, our Savior and Lord, above all

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Jesus Rules And Judges All Nations Today

1. Jesus rules all nations today
2. By what standard does Jesus judge all nations?
3. What means does Jesus use to judge all nations?

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Jesus Rules All Nations Today

- God creates, establishes and controls all nations to execute His wrath on those who do evil and praise those who do good
- God also controls the nations to accomplish His Divine purpose of saving humanity through Christ
- God established Israel that He might bring Jesus as Savior and Lord through the family of Abraham and David

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God's General Purpose For The Nations

Rom 13:1 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

Rom 13:2 Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

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God's General Purpose For The Nations

Rom 13:3 For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same;

Rom 13:4 for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil. 8

God's Divine Purpose That The Nations Might Obey Him

Act 17:24 "The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands;

Act 17:25 nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all *people* life and breath and all things;

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God's Divine Purpose That The Nations Might Obey Him

Act 17:26 and He made from one *man* every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined *their* appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation,

Act 17:27 that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;

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God's Divine Purpose That The Nations Might Obey Him

Act 17:28 for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.'

Act 17:29 "Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man.

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God's Divine Purpose That The Nations Might Obey Him

Act 17:30 "Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all *people* everywhere should repent,

Act 17:31 because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

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God's Divine Purpose Revealed To Abram

Gen 12:2 And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing;

Gen 12:3 And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

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Jesus – Promised Descendent of David To Be King Forever

2Sa 7:12 "When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom.

2Sa 7:13 "He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

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Jesus – Promised Descendent of David To Be King Forever

2Sa 7:16 "Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.""

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Jesus Rules All Nations Today

- Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension to Heaven foretold in Old Testament
- Jesus is now reigning over His church and over all nations to accomplish the Divine purpose, salvation of souls through Him
- He determines conditions of pardon, standard for Christian life and executes judgments among the nations
- When Jesus comes, His reign will end

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Jesus' Death, Resurrection and Exaltation Foretold

Psa 16:10 For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol; Nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay.

Psa 110:1 **A Psalm of David.** The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at My right hand Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet."

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Jesus' Death, Resurrection and Exaltation Foretold

Psa 110:2 The LORD will stretch forth Your strong scepter from Zion, *saying*, "Rule in the midst of Your enemies."

Psa 110:3 Your people will volunteer freely in the day of Your power; In holy array, from the womb of the dawn, Your youth are to You as the dew.

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Jesus' Death, Resurrection and Exaltation Foretold

Psa 110:4 The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek."

Psa 110:5 The Lord is at Your right hand; He will shatter kings in the day of His wrath.

Psa 110:6 He will judge among the nations, He will fill *them* with corpses, He will shatter the chief men over a broad country.

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Jesus' Death, Resurrection and Exaltation Fulfilled

Act 2:29 "Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

Act 2:30 "And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT *one* OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE,

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Jesus' Death, Resurrection and Exaltation Fulfilled

Act 2:31 he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY.

Act 2:32 "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses.

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Jesus' Death, Resurrection and Exaltation Fulfilled

Act 2:33 "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.

Act 2:34 "For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: 'THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND,

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Jesus' Death, Resurrection and Exaltation Fulfilled

Act 2:35 UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET."

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

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Jesus Determines Conditions For Pardon

Act 2:37 Now 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?"

Act 2:38 Peter *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.

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Jesus Determines Standard By Which Christians Should Live

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Act 8:22 "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

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Jesus Rules All Nations Today

Eph 1:20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*,

Eph 1:21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

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Jesus Rules All Nations Today

Eph 1:22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,

Eph 1:23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

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Jesus Rules All Nations Today

Rev 1:5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood--

Rev 1:6 and He has made us *to be* a kingdom, priests to His God and Father--to Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

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Jesus Rules All Nations Today

Rev 5:9 And they *sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood *men* from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

Rev 5:10 "You have made them *to be* a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth."

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When He Comes Again, Jesus' Reign Will End

1Co 15:23 But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming,

1Co 15:24 then *comes* the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.

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When He Comes Again, Jesus' Reign Will End

1Co 15:25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.

1Co 15:26 The last enemy that will be abolished is death.

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Jesus Rules All Nations Today

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By What Standard Does Jesus Judge All Nations?

- Jesus allows nations to stand based on how much righteousness is within them
- Righteousness standard of the nations not the same as the apostles' teaching but more general in nature
- As unrighteousness in a nation increases, the nation draws closer to being judged by Jesus

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God Requires Righteousness of All Nations

Pro 14:34 Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a disgrace to *any* people.

Psa 9:17 The wicked will return to Sheol, *Even* all the nations who forget God.

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Jesus Requires Righteousness of All Nations

Heb 1:5 For to which of the angels did He ever say, "YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU"? And again, "I WILL BE A FATHER TO HIM AND HE SHALL BE A SON TO ME"?

Heb 1:6 And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, "AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM."

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Jesus Requires Righteousness of All Nations

Heb 1:7 And of the angels He says, "WHO MAKES HIS ANGELS WINDS, AND HIS MINISTERS A FLAME OF FIRE."

Heb 1:8 But of the Son *He* says, "YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER, AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM."

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Jesus Requires Righteousness of All Nations

Heb 1:9 "YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS; THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD, HAS ANOINTED YOU WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS ABOVE YOUR COMPANIONS."

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Jesus Requires Righteousness of All Nations

Mat 23:34 "Therefore, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city,

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Jesus Requires Righteousness of All Nations

Mat 23:35 so that upon you may fall *the guilt of* all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.

Mat 23:36 "Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

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Jesus Requires Righteousness of All Nations

Mat 23:37 "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling.

Mat 23:38 "Behold, your house is being left to you desolate!

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Jesus Requires Righteousness of All Nations

Mat 23:39 "For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, 'BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!'"

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Examples of What Is Involved In National Unrighteousness

Rom 1:21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Rom 1:22 Professing to be wise, they became fools,

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Examples of What Is Involved In National Unrighteousness

Rom 1:23 and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

Rom 1:24 Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.

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Examples of What Is Involved In National Unrighteousness

Rom 1:25 For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

Rom 1:26 For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural,

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Examples of What Is Involved In National Unrighteousness

Rom 1:27 and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error.

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Increase In Unrighteousness Leads To Jesus' Judgment

Rev 6:9 When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained;

Rev 6:10 and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

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Increase In Unrighteousness Leads To Jesus' Judgment

Rev 6:11 And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until *the number* of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.

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What Means Does Jesus Use To Judge All Nations?

- Like the Father in the Old Testament, Jesus uses a variety of means to judge all nations in varying degrees
- These include famines, plagues and wars
- As a last resort, He uses unrighteous nations to judge other unrighteous nations

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Jesus Uses Various Ways To Judge All Nations

Mat 24:1 Jesus came out from the temple and was going away when His disciples came up to point out the temple buildings to Him.

Mat 24:2 And He said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down."

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Jesus Uses Various Ways To Judge All Nations

Mat 24:3 As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen, and what *will be* the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"

Mat 24:4 And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you.

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Jesus Uses Various Ways To Judge All Nations

Mat 24:5 "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many.

Mat 24:6 "You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for *those things* must take place, but *that* is not yet the end.

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Jesus Uses Various Ways To Judge All Nations

Mat 24:7 "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes.

Mat 24:8 "But all these things are *merely* the beginning of birth pangs.

Mat 24:9 "Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.

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66-70 AD Jesus Used Rome To Judge Jerusalem

Mat 24:15 "Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),

Mat 24:16 then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.

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66-70 AD Jesus Used Rome To Judge Jerusalem

Luk 21:20 "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near.

Luk 21:21 "Then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city;

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66-70 AD Jesus Used Rome To Judge Jerusalem

Luk 21:22 because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which are written will be fulfilled.

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Jesus Judged Rome

Rev 19:11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war.

Rev 19:12 His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself.

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Jesus Judged Rome

Rev 19:13 He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

Rev 19:14 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses.

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Jesus Judged Rome

Rev 19:15 From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty.

Rev 19:16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

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What Means Does Jesus Use To Judge All Nations?

- Above all, Jesus judges all nations to fulfill His purpose of saving humanity through Him
- Nations may fail but Jesus will care for and save individuals who are willing to obey Him
- Next, what does the Lord command Christians to do toward government?

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