



### **TODAY'S READING:**

Psalms 72:1-14:

Endow the king with your justice, O God,  
the royal son with your righteousness.  
May he judge your people in righteousness,  
your afflicted ones with justice.

May the mountains bring prosperity to the people,  
the hills the fruit of righteousness.  
May he defend the afflicted among the people  
and save the children of the needy;  
may he crush the oppressor.  
May he endure as long as the sun,  
as long as the moon, through all generations.  
May he be like rain falling on a mown field,  
like showers watering the earth.  
In his days may the righteous flourish  
and prosperity abound till the moon is no more.

May he rule from sea to sea  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.  
May the desert tribes bow before him  
and his enemies lick the dust.

May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores  
bring tribute to him.

May the kings of Sheba and Seba  
present him gifts.

May all kings bow down to him  
and all nations serve him.

For he will deliver the needy who cry out,  
the afflicted who have no one to help.  
He will take pity on the weak and the needy  
and save the needy from death.  
He will rescue them from oppression and violence,  
for precious is their blood in his sight.

## **THE KING ABOVE ALL KINGS**

Psalms 72 begins with King David praying for his son, Solomon, to become a great king for the nation of Israel. As the psalm continues, David begins dreaming of the perfect King, prophesying what would be true of the reign of Jesus. Over 950 years before the birth of Jesus, David saw the endless rule of the King of Kings. This King would be known for His compassion and His rescue of the needy and distraught. He would defeat oppression and violence, and it would be obvious that His people were precious to Him. For these reasons, David declared that all kings would bow down to Him and all nations would serve Him.

David recognized that deep compassion and care for God's people, as well as warring against and forever defeating oppression, were the signs of a perfect King—one whose moral judgment and selflessness would never be compromised. In addition to being the moment the Savior came into the world,

Christmas marked the beginning of the legacy of eternity's greatest King. Jesus will continue to reign long after the kings and kingdoms of this world pass away, and we will get to live under the covering of His perfect love forever.

*Prayer: Jesus, I honor You as the King of my life here on earth and throughout eternity! I can't wait to experience the purity of Your leadership as the brokenness of this world falls away. Thank You for coming to earth and beginning Your journey to the throne among us. I'm so grateful You care for me deeply and will always advocate for me as my King. I love You and submit myself to Your perfect ways.*