

## Psalms 72

This evening - we're continuing our overview of the Old Testament book titled Psalms.

With this as our focus - let's open our Bibles to Psalms chapter 72 - and as we make our way to the 72nd Psalm...

...I should take a moment to point out that - this Psalm is the last song - in the second section of this book.

I'll remind you - it was back in our study of Psalm chapter 1 - when I informed you that...

...the book of Psalms is divided up into 5 sections - which - according to some teachers - and traditions...

...reflect the five books of the Torah - that include Genesis - Exodus - Leviticus - Numbers - and Deuteronomy.

It's also interesting to note that this is the first Psalm - attributed to King David's son - Solomon.

And while it's true that King Solomon is well known for writing Proverbs - Ecclesiastes - and the Song of Solomon...

...it's also true that he wrote two Psalms - including the 127th Psalm...

...as well as the song that we're studying tonight.

I should also point out that Solomon concluded this song with the postscript statement that helps us to realize that...

...this song is actually the final prayer of David - the son of Jesse.

And what this seems to suggest is that King Solomon actually took the final prayer of his father...

...and turned it into this song of Praise.

I like the way that Spurgeon explained it - in his commentary of this text - here's how he put it...

With some diffidence we suggest that the spirit and matter of the Psalm are David's, but that he was too near his end to pen the words, or cast them into form: Solomon, therefore, caught his dying father's song, fashioned it in goodly verse, and, without robbing his father, made the Psalm his own. It is, we conjecture, the Prayer of David, but the Psalm of Solomon.

If Spurgeon was correct about this - then what we have here in our text tonight...

...is a compassionate collaboration between Solomon - and his dying Father David.

And from this - we can see how King Solomon's love for his father...

...led him to write the lyrics of this song - in order to honor his earthly legacy.

Not only that - but - the content of this Psalm is clearly focused on the ministry of our Messiah - Jesus.

Here's how Spurgeon explained it - in his commentary of this Psalm...

Jesus is here, beyond all doubt, in the glory of his reign, both as he now is, and as he shall be revealed in the latter day glory.

In other words - this is a Messianic Psalm - that prophetically points past King David...

...and to the King of kings - - Jesus Christ.

And as we make our way through the lyrics of this song...

...we'll soon see how the Holy Spirit revealed Jesus - in this incredible Psalm.

With this as our focus - let's turn our attention to the lyrics that we find here in the 72nd Psalm.

Look with me - beginning there at verse 1 - where the Psalmist declared...

Psa 72:1      A Psalm of Solomon.  
Give the king Your judgments, O God,  
And Your righteousness to the king's Son.  
Psa 72:2      He will judge Your people with righteousness,  
And Your poor with justice.

Here in the beginning of this Psalm - we find Solomon - seeking the just judgment of God...

...so that the righteousness of the Lord might be established through the King's son.

And while it might seem like Solomon was praying for himself...

...we must not fail to notice how Solomon referred to another...

...Who would judge the people with righteousness - and the poor with justice.

There are many who believe that Solomon was actually referring to the promised Messiah - Who would come from the lineage of David.

For example - let's consider how verses 1 and 2 - are rendered in the Aramaic Targum - where we read...

Psa 72:1 By the hand of Solomon it will be said in prophecy, "God will grant your justice to the king, the Messiah, and your righteousness to his descendants, King David:"  
Psa 72:2 Judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with the way of judgment.

According to this Aramaic version of the Psalms - we learn that the King that Solomon was referring to - is actually the Messiah.

It's also interesting to note that there are rabbinic allusions to this psalm which reveals the same opinion.

Not only that - but - this is also one of the ten "royal" psalms - which are usually interpreted as messianic.

That being the case - we shouldn't be surprised to learn that there were early Christians...

...who saw this psalm as a prophetic picture of the coming Kingdom of God.

Case in point - let's consider Augustine's commentary on the first verse of this Psalm - where he writes...

For Solomon - indeed this Psalm's title is fore-noted: but things are spoken of therein which could not apply to that Solomon king of Israel after the flesh, according to those things which holy Scripture speaks concerning him: but they can most pertinently apply to the Lord Christ. Whence it is perceived, that the very word Solomon is used in a figurative sense, so that in him Christ is to be taken.

More simply put - the 5th century theologian named Augustine truly believed that Solomon was writing about our Messiah.

And while it's true that there is no New Testament confirmation that this is a Messianic Psalm...

...it's also true that the Lord Jesus assured us that the Law - the Prophets and the Psalms...

...were all written about Him.

It was on the day of His resurrection - when Jesus revealed Himself - to a couple of His disciples - who were on their way to Emmaus.

And it's in Luke chapter 24 - verse 44 - where Jesus said to them...

Luk 24:44 “These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.”

Luk 24:45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

According to the Lord Jesus - the Law of Moses - the writings of the Prophets - and the Psalms - were all written about Him.

Therefore - it shouldn't be difficult for us to believe that this royal Psalm - was actually about Jesus.

With this as our focus - let's consider how Solomon described the ministry of our Messiah - here in the 72nd Psalm.

Look with me - beginning there at verse 3 - where King Solomon declared...

Psa 72:3 The mountains will bring peace to the people,  
And the little hills, by righteousness.

Psa 72:4 He will bring justice to the poor of the people;  
He will save the children of the needy,  
And will break in pieces the oppressor.

Here in these verses - we find King Solomon - describing the way in which the King of kings will bring peace to the people.

And while it's true that the Lord Jesus is called the prince of peace...

...it's also true that He won't establish this peace on Earth -  
until the time of His second coming.

Until then - Christ Jesus is causing division - between  
those who trust in Him - and those who don't

Let's consider how Jesus explained this - in Matthew chapter 10 - it's beginning at verse 34 - where He declared...

Mat 10:34 “Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.

Mat 10:35 “For I have come to ‘set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’;

Mat 10:36 “and ‘a man’s enemies will be those of his own household.’

Mat 10:37 “He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

Mat 10:38 “And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

Mat 10:39 “He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

Now - listen - I have no doubt that we would all love to be at peace - with those who disagree with our faith.

And while we should all do our best to live peaceably with those who reject Jesus...

...we should also understand that - we’ve been called to take up our cross...

...so that we can follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Those who do - will soon discover that those who hate Jesus...

...will also hate those who love Jesus.

With that being the case - we can rejoice in knowing that - there’s coming a day when Jesus will establish everlasting justice.

Let’s consider how King Solomon put it - there in verse 4 - where he declared...

Psa 72:4 He will bring justice to the poor of the people;  
He will save the children of the needy,  
And will break in pieces the oppressor.

In other words - there's coming a day when the King of kings will establish justice for those who are unjustly afflicted.

He will also save the children who were abused - and aborted.

And He will crush the oppressors - who persecuted the people of God.

Now - that's great news - especially as we consider the recent research from Open Doors - which helps us to see that...

...the number of Christians around the world that are facing high levels of persecution is continuing to increase.

As a matter of fact - the 2025 World Watch List shows that MORE than 380 million Christians around the world...

...face high levels of persecution or discrimination because of their faith in Jesus.

In order to put this into a proper perspective - this represents a rise of around 15 million in a single year.

And in order to help us grasp the global impact of this research - the open doors watchlist presents the data in this way - and I quote...

...1 in 7 Christians worldwide live in situations with at least "high" levels of persecution and discrimination.

This includes 1 in 5 Christians living in Africa - and 1 in 7 Christians living in Asia.

According to the data - Christians in at least 50 countries throughout the world...

...are being abused - intimidated - mistreated - harassed - and attacked...

...and for no other reason - than because they are simply serving our Savior.

And listen - things are only getting worse - every day.

With all of this being the case - we can rejoice in knowing that there's coming a day...

...when the King of kings will bring justice to those who are oppressed - and persecuted for their faith.

And not only that - but - those who are here during the Millennial kingdom of Christ...

...will live in fear of our righteous Redeemer.

Let's consider how King Solomon explained it - here in the 72nd Psalm.

Look with me - beginning there at verse 5 - where he declared...

Psa 72:5      They shall fear You  
As long as the sun and moon endure,  
Throughout all generations.

Psa 72:6      He shall come down like rain upon the grass before mowing,  
Like showers that water the earth.

Psa 72:7      In His days the righteous shall flourish,  
And abundance of peace,  
Until the moon is no more.

Here in these verses - we find Solomon - describing the day when the King of kings...

...will come down like rain upon the grass before mowing,  
and like showers that water the earth.

And it's at that point in time when those who enter into the Millennial kingdom of Christ...

...will walk in the fear of the Lord - for as long as the Sun  
and the Moon endure.

Solomon also described this as a time when the righteous shall flourish.



And as we consider the way that the unrighteousness have had their way in this world - since the day when Cain killed Able...

...there should be no doubt that Solomon was referring to the Millennial reign of Jesus Christ.

I like the way that the angel Gabriel described it - in Daniel chapter 9 - it's verse 24 where he declared...

Dan 9:24   “Seventy weeks are determined  
For your people and for your holy city,  
To finish the transgression,  
To make an end of sins,  
To make reconciliation for iniquity,  
To bring in everlasting righteousness,  
To seal up vision and prophecy,  
And to anoint the Most Holy.

According to the angel Gabriel - there's coming a day - when the Messiah will bring in everlasting righteousness.

And it's at that point in time when the Lord Jesus will establish peace on Earth...

...as He rules and reigns with a rod of Iron.

According to Solomon - there will be an abundance of peace - until the moon is no more.

The Prophet Isaiah elaborated on this in the 9th chapter of his book - it's verse 7 - where he declared...

Isa 9:7    Of the increase of His government and peace  
There will be no end,  
Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom,  
To order it and establish it with judgment and justice  
From that time forward, even forever.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

According to this prophecy - there's coming a day when  
the Prince of peace...

...will establish peace on earth - from that time  
forward - even forever.

I like the way that the prophet Isaiah described the Millennial Kingdom of  
our Messiah - in the second chapter of his book.

Isa 2:2      Now it shall come to pass in the latter days  
That the mountain of the LORD's house  
Shall be established on the top of the mountains,  
And shall be exalted above the hills;  
And all nations shall flow to it.

Isa 2:3      Many people shall come and say,  
"Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
To the house of the God of Jacob;  
He will teach us His ways,  
And we shall walk in His paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth the law,  
And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Isa 2:4      He shall judge between the nations,  
And rebuke many people;  
They shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
And their spears into pruning hooks;  
Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
Neither shall they learn war anymore.

That's right - there's coming a day when the King of kings will  
establish peace on earth...

...and as a result - the nations of the Earth will no longer go to  
war with one another.

Not only that - but - the King of kings will have dominion over everything.

Let's consider how Solomon explained it - here in Psalm 72 - look with me  
beginning there at verse 8 - where we learn that...

Psa 72:8      He shall have dominion also from sea to sea,  
And from the River to the ends of the earth.  
Psa 72:9      Those who dwell in the wilderness will bow before Him,  
And His enemies will lick the dust.  
Psa 72:10     The kings of Tarshish and of the isles  
Will bring presents;  
The kings of Sheba and Seba  
Will offer gifts.  
Psa 72:11     Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him;  
All nations shall serve Him.  
Psa 72:12     For He will deliver the needy when he cries,  
The poor also, and him who has no helper.  
Psa 72:13     He will spare the poor and needy,  
And will save the souls of the needy.  
Psa 72:14     He will redeem their life from oppression and violence;  
And precious shall be their blood in His sight.

Here in these verses - we find Solomon - describing the days - when the King of kings will claim His dominion over the Earth.

This will include every Ocean - every sea - and every river.

And you better believe that this includes the land between the Jordan river - and the Mediterranean Sea.

Now - I realize that there are those who insist this land belongs to the Arabs who call themselves Palestinians...

...and yet - I can assure you that the Lord is going to establish the remnant of Israel...

...there in the land of promise.

Proof of my point can be found in Ezekiel chapter 36 - it's beginning at verse 22 - where the Lord spoke to Ezekiel - and declared...

Eze 36:22    "...say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "I do not do this for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My holy name's sake, which you have profaned among the nations wherever you went.

Eze 36:23 “And I will sanctify My great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst; and the nations shall know that I am the LORD,” says the Lord GOD, “when I am hallowed in you before their eyes.

Eze 36:24 “For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land.

Eze 36:25 “Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.

Eze 36:26 “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Eze 36:27 “I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Eze 36:28 “Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.”

Here in this prophecy - we find the Lord - presenting the people with a prophetic promise that points to the day...

...when He will establish them there in the land that He promised to give to Abraham - Isaac and Jacob.

And listen - the Lord isn't going to fulfill this promise - because the house of Israel deserves it...

...no - instead - He is going to fulfill this prophetic promise...

...for the sake of His own holy name — and yeah...

...this is despite the fact that Israel doesn't deserve it.

Thankfully for them - the Lord is a gracious God - Who will establish His dominion over the earth - during the Millennial reign of Jesus.

And it's for this reason that all the kings of the Earth will come to Jerusalem - and fall down before Him.

Not only that - but - all the nations shall serve Him....

...as He saves those who trust in Him - from oppression  
and persecution.

Let's continue to consider how the Earth will flourish - during the Millennial kingdom  
of our Messiah.

Look with me again - there at the 72nd Psalm - let's begin reading at verse 15  
where Solomon declared...

Psa 72:15    And He shall live;  
And the gold of Sheba will be given to Him;  
Prayer also will be made for Him continually,  
And daily He shall be praised.  
Psa 72:16    There will be an abundance of grain in the earth,  
On the top of the mountains;  
Its fruit shall wave like Lebanon;  
And those of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.  
Psa 72:17    His name shall endure forever;  
His name shall continue as long as the sun.  
And men shall be blessed in Him;  
All nations shall call Him blessed.

Here in these verses - we find Solomon - describing the way that the  
people who are here during the Millennial kingdom of Christ...

...will bring offerings to the Lord - as He rules and reigns over the  
Earth.

And every day - the King of kings will be praised - by those who  
come to worship Him.

We also learn that there will be plenty of grain - as the world flourishes  
from the abundant blessings of the Lord.

I like the way that the prophet described this - in Isaiah chapter 35 -  
it's verses 1 and 2 - where he declared...

Isa 35:1 The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them,  
And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose;  
Isa 35:2 It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice,  
Even with joy and singing.  
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
The excellence of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
The excellency of our God.

Here in this prophecy - we learn that the deserts will blossom with abundance - during the Millennial kingdom of Christ Jesus.

How incredible is that? - - the driest places on the planet will begin to produce an abundance of vegetation.

And the reason why is because - the Creation will be restored...

...according to the promise that Paul presented - in his letter to the church in Rome.

It's in Romans chapter 8 - beginning at verse 19 - where he declared...

Rom 8:19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.  
Rom 8:20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope;  
Rom 8:21 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

There's coming a day - when the Creation - which was cursed at the time of Adam's sin...

...will be delivered from the bondage of corruption - as the Lord prepares the Earth...

...for the Millennial reign of our Messiah - Jesus.

I like the way that the apostle Peter explained it - in 2nd Peter chapter 3 - it's beginning at verse 10 - where he declared...

2Pe 3:10 ...the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

2Pe 3:11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,

2Pe 3:12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

2Pe 3:13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Those who trust in Jesus - should be looking for new heavens and a new earth - in which righteousness dwells.

And as we look forward to the Millennial Kingdom of Christ Jesus...

...Peter encouraged us to become those believers - who are walking in holy conduct and godliness.

Not only that - but - we should also spend our time - blessing the name of the Lord.

Let's consider how Solomon put it - here in the 72nd Psalm.

Look with me - beginning there at verse 18 - where he declared...

Psa 72:18 Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel,  
Who only does wondrous things!

Psa 72:19 And blessed be His glorious name forever!  
And let the whole earth be filled with His glory.

Amen and Amen.

Psa 72:20 The prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended.

Here in the final verses of this Psalm - we find Solomon - singing the praises of the LORD God of Israel.

And one reason why is because - He alone is able to accomplish the miraculous things - that fill the Earth with His glory.

And in order to grasp this incredible truth - we should take a moment to consider...

...how the creation itself reveals the glorious magnificence of our Creator.

I like the way that King David put it - in the 19th psalm - it's there where he declared...

Psa 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God;  
And the firmament shows His handiwork.

Psa 19:2 Day unto day utters speech,  
And night unto night reveals knowledge.

Psa 19:3 There is no speech nor language  
Where their voice is not heard.

Psa 19:4 Their line has gone out through all the earth,  
And their words to the end of the world.

In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun,

Psa 19:5 Which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,  
And rejoices like a strong man to run its race.

Psa 19:6 Its rising is from one end of heaven,  
And its circuit to the other end;  
And there is nothing hidden from its heat.

If you want to see the wondrous works of the Lord - then - spend some time looking at the images...

...that have been captured by the James Webb Space Telescope.

It's truly amazing to see how our Creator revealed His handiwork...

...in the firmament beyond our solar system.

I like the way that Paul summed it up in Romans chapter 1 - it's verse 20 where he declared...



Rom 1:20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse

The invisible attributes of God can be clearly seen - as we examine the things He created.

And listen - this is not only true of the two trillion galaxies that are found in our Universe...

...but - this is also true of the DNA - found within every living being.

Think about it - DNA can't create itself - nor can DNA create new information.

And with that being the case - the existence of this highly complex - self-replicating material...

...is strong evidence that - there must be an uncreated Creator Who created DNA.

And as we consider the creation account that we find in Genesis chapter 1...

...I have no doubt that - the Lord God of Israel is the One...

...Who created galaxies - and DNA strands - and everything else that was created.

With that being the case - I encourage every Christian to Bless the LORD God of Israel - - Who only does these wondrous things!

Let's bless His glorious name forever - as we look forward to the day - when the whole earth be filled with His glory.

Amen and Amen.

**COMMUNION**