

# 72. THE REIGN OF CHRIST AND THE PRAISE OF GOD: Psalm 72

by Brett Baggett on Sunday, June 13th, 2021

**INTRODUCTION: Q. What will you say on your deathbed?** Well, we know what David said! His son Solomon captured that for us and turned it into Psalm 72!

**CONTEXT: Psalm 72 (preface/title) “Of Solomon.” Psalm 72:20 “The prayers of David, the son of Jesse, are ended.”**

- **CHARLES SPURGEON:** “the spirit and matter of the Psalm are David’s, but...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.
- **CHARLES SPURGEON:** “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.”
- **Now, the New Testament of our Bible**, which was written after Christ came to the earth, is emphatically clear that the Lord Jesus is ruling and reigning even now!
- **Ephesians 1:20-22** “**20b** [God] raised [Christ] from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, **21** far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. **22** And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church...”
- **He is reigning now.** But what does His rule look like? Psalm 72 answers just that!

**BIG IDEA:** The reign of Christ is *righteous, universal, generous, everlasting*, and therefore *brings praise and glory to God!*

## I. THE REIGN OF CHRIST IS RIGHTEOUS (vv. 1-7)

**Psalm 72:1-7** “**1** Give the king your *justice*, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son! **2** May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice! **3** Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness! **4** May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor! **5** May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations! **6** May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth! **7** In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!”

- **CHILDREN:** If you want to be happy, submit to Jesus—trust Him and what He has done on the cross to forgive even you of your sin and then work to obey to His commands. He is righteous and just! He will never do you wrong.
- **Whenever injustice is done to you, know that Christ Himself will deal with it sooner or later!** There will not be one sin left unpunished and not one injustice throw to the wayside. His reign is righteous and just!

**Q.** How badly do we need a RIGHTEOUS and JUST ruler? We have one in Christ!

## II. THE REIGN OF CHRIST IS UNIVERSAL (vv. 8-11)

**Psalm 72:8-11** “**8** May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth! **9** May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust! **10** May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts! **11** May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!”

- **John, Revelation 1:5** “Jesus Christ [is] the ruler of kings on earth.”
- **Jesus himself, Matthew 28:18-20** “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”
- **Jesus, in Mark 13:31-32** “**31b** The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. **32** It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”
- **CHILDREN:** One day, the entire earth will be filled with people who worship and love Jesus!
- **Beloved, what we are doing when we obey the great commission is taking part in Christ’s bringing the nations before His throne to worship Him!** “Missions exists,” as John Piper has wonderfully said, “Because worship does not!”

**Q.** When was the last time you lost heart because it seemed like Christianity was losing? It can be depressing, watching the news.

- **Christians may lose battles, but Christ will win the war!**

## III. THE REIGN OF CHRIST IS GENEROUS (vv. 12-14)

- **What is even better than having a righteous and universal King? One who is also generous to His people!**

**Psalm 72:12-14** “**12** For he *delivers* the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper. **13** He has *pity* on the weak and the needy, and *saves* the lives of the needy. **14** From oppression and violence he *redeems* their life, and *precious* is their blood in his sight.”

**Q.** Do you need a Deliverer? Helper? Pity? Salvation? Redemption from oppressors and the Violent?

- **Do you need a LOVE so powerful it quiets your fears and lets you rest at peace? Look at Christ the generous King!**
- **This is a pillow to lay your head down on at night, beloved.** If you are in Christ, because of His great mercy you can say, “Precious is [my] blood in His sight.”
- **Boys and girls:** Jesus loves His people SO MUCH that He let His blood be spilled out until He died, so that we could be kept alive! **Q.** Are you one of Jesus’ people? Do you trust Him to forgive you of your sin and to rule you through His commandments? If so, then you are precious in His sight!

## IV. THE REIGN OF CHRIST IS EVERLASTING (vv. 15-17)

**Psalm 72:15-17** “**15** Long may he live; may gold of Sheba be given to him! May prayer be made for him *continually*, and blessings invoked for him *all the day*! **16** May there be abundance of grain in the land; on the tops of the mountains may it wave; may its fruit be like Lebanon; and may people blossom in the cities like the grass of the field! **17** May his name *endure forever*, his fame *continue as long as the sun*! May people be blessed in him, *all nations* call him blessed!”

- **John Owen:** “The gospel will succeed; this gives comforts me greatly.” (Paraphrased)

- **We know how the story ends!**

- **Q.** Is this not what we were promised of the Christ in Isaiah 9:6-7?

- **Isaiah 9:6-7** “6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.”

- **Boys and girls:** Do you remember when Donald Trump was president of the united states? Now he is gone and Joe Biden is our president. That is how it goes. From one to the another, and on and on it goes. It is not like that with Jesus! Jesus will always be King! He will never stop being King!

## V. THE REIGN OF CHRIST BRINGS PRAISE & GLORY TO GOD! (vv. 18-19)

**Psalm 72:18-19** “**18** Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. **19** Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen!”

- David DIED with these words on his lips so that we could LIVE with them in our hearts.

- **What a comfort and encouragement it must be for you off you would LIVE remembering the REIGN of your King Jesus is *righteous, universal, generous, and everlasting!***

- And O how this will excite your praise of Him if you take it to heart!

- **Make verse 19 your prayer and praise!**