

# A PRAYER OF DAVID

**BIBLE TEXT** : Psalm 72:1-20

LESSON 248 Senior Course

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things" (Psalm 72:18)..

## **BIBLE TEXT in King James Version**

### **Psalm 72:1-20 (KJV)**

- <sup>1</sup> Give the king thy judgments, O God, and thy righteousness unto the king's son.
- <sup>2</sup> He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment.
- <sup>3</sup> The mountains shall bring peace to the people, and the little hills, by righteousness.
- <sup>4</sup> He shall judge the poor of the people, he shall save the children of the needy, and shall break in pieces the oppressor.
- <sup>5</sup> They shall fear thee as long as the sun and moon endure, throughout all generations.
- <sup>6</sup> He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass: as showers *that* water the earth.
- <sup>7</sup> In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth.
- <sup>8</sup> He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.
- <sup>9</sup> They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust.
- <sup>10</sup> The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.
- <sup>11</sup> Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.
- <sup>12</sup> For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and *him* that hath no helper.
- <sup>13</sup> He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy.
- <sup>14</sup> He shall redeem their soul from deceit and violence: and precious shall their blood be in his sight.

## **BIBLE REFERENCES:**

### **I Everlasting Kingdom**

- 1 The Psalmist desires the righteousness and judgments of God to be given to the King's Son, Psalm 72:1;  
**Isaiah 59:16-17 (KJV)**  
<sup>16</sup> And he saw that *there was* no man, and wondered that *there was* no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.  
<sup>17</sup> For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance *for* clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke.  
**Jeremiah 23:5-6 (KJV)**  
<sup>5</sup> Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.  
<sup>6</sup> In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this *is* his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.
- 2 The King shall judge the people with righteousness and equity, Psalm 72:2-4;  
**Isaiah 11:2-5 (KJV)**  
<sup>2</sup> And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;  
<sup>3</sup> And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:  
<sup>4</sup> But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.  
<sup>5</sup> And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.  
**Isaiah 9:7 (KJV)**  
<sup>7</sup> Of the increase of *his* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.  
**Isaiah 32:1 (KJV)**  
<sup>1</sup> Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment.
- 3 This Kingdom shall be everlasting, Psalm 72:5-7;  
**Daniel 2:44 (KJV)**  
<sup>44</sup> And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, *but* it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.  
**Luke 1:32-33 (KJV)**  
<sup>32</sup> He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:  
<sup>33</sup> And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.
- 4 The King's rule shall be all-inclusive, Psalm 72:8-11;  
**Psalm 59:13 (KJV)**

<sup>15</sup> And he shall live, and to him shall be given of the gold of Sheba: prayer also shall be made for him continually; *and* daily shall he be praised.

<sup>16</sup> There shall be an handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountains; the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon: and *they* of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.

<sup>17</sup> His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and *men* shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed.

<sup>18</sup> Blessed *be* the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.

<sup>19</sup> And blessed *be* his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled *with* his glory; Amen, and Amen.

<sup>20</sup> The prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended.

<sup>13</sup> Consume *them* in wrath, consume *them*, that they *may* not *be*: and let them know that God ruleth in Jacob unto the ends of the earth. Selah.

**Psalm 103:19 (KJV)**

<sup>19</sup> The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

**Daniel 7:14 (KJV)**

<sup>14</sup> And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.

**Revelation 21:24-26 (KJV)**

<sup>24</sup> And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

<sup>25</sup> And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there.

<sup>26</sup> And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it.

5 The King shall hear and answer the cry of the needy, the poor, and the oppressed, Psalm 72:12-14;

**Isaiah 2:4 (KJV)**

<sup>4</sup> And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

**Hosea 2:18 (KJV)**

<sup>18</sup> And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and *with* the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely.

**Micah 4:3-4 (KJV)**

<sup>3</sup> And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>4</sup> But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make *them* afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken *it*.

**Isaiah 60:1-22 (KJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

<sup>2</sup> For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

<sup>3</sup> And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

<sup>4</sup> Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at *thy* side.

<sup>5</sup> Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee.

<sup>6</sup> The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of the LORD.

<sup>7</sup> All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together unto thee, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister unto thee: they shall come up with acceptance on mine altar, and I will glorify the house of my glory.

<sup>8</sup> Who *are* these *that* fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows?

<sup>9</sup> Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of

Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the LORD thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee.

<sup>10</sup> And the sons of strangers shall build up thy walls, and their kings shall minister unto thee: for in my wrath I smote thee, but in my favour have I had mercy on thee.

<sup>11</sup> Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that *men* may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and *that* their kings *may be* brought.

<sup>12</sup> For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, *those* nations shall be utterly wasted.

<sup>13</sup> The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious.

<sup>14</sup> The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, The city of the LORD, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

<sup>15</sup> Whereas thou hast been forsaken and hated, so that no man went through *thee*, I will make thee an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations.

<sup>16</sup> Thou shalt also suck the milk of the Gentiles, and shalt suck the breast of kings: and thou shalt know that I the LORD *am* thy Saviour and thy Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob.

<sup>17</sup> For brass I will bring gold, and for iron I will bring silver, and for wood brass, and for stones iron: I will also make thy officers peace, and thine exactors righteousness.

<sup>18</sup> Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders; but thou shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates Praise.

<sup>19</sup> The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.

<sup>20</sup> Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself: for the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended.

<sup>21</sup> Thy people also *shall be* all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified.

<sup>22</sup> A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation: I the LORD will hasten it in his time.

## 6 The King shall be exalted and honored, Psalm 72:15-20;

### Isaiah 2:1-3 (KJV)

<sup>1</sup> The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

<sup>3</sup> And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

### Micah 4:1-2 (KJV)

<sup>1</sup> But in the last days it shall come to pass, *that* the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

<sup>2</sup> And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house

of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

**Luke 1:32-33 (KJV)**

<sup>32</sup> He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

<sup>33</sup> And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

**Philippians 2:9 (KJV)**

<sup>9</sup> Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

**Philippians 2:11 (KJV)**

<sup>11</sup> And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Revelation 19:12 (KJV)**

<sup>12</sup> His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head *were* many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

**Revelation 19:16 (KJV)**

<sup>16</sup> And he hath on *his* vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

**NOTES:**

**The King's Son**

The prayer of David, which is given to us in the Bible as the seventy- second Psalm, is more than just a prayer. It is a declaration of faith, and a Messianic prophecy in the most positive terms. David had a good conception of God's plan of salvation, and much of David's clear and thorough understanding of God's Kingdom is revealed to us through this prayer.

It is apparent that David's desire that God's judgments and righteousness be given to the King's son was not intended primarily for his own son, Solomon. Solomon enjoyed a reign of prosperity and peace that has never been equaled in Israel's history before or since. Even so, the reign of Solomon was insignificant in comparison with the Kingdom to which the Holy Spirit, through David, was referring. David was not ignorant of his Savior and coming King, and he was not indifferent to the peace and plenty that would be a part of the Kingdom that would eventually be set up on earth. His prayer was a God-inspired desire to see it established soon.

David was not the only one to whom God revealed a little of the glories of the Kingdom of His Son. Isaiah prophesied of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom: "Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counseller, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

Christ has been ordained to rule from the foundation of the world. (1 Peter 1:20 (KJV) <sup>20</sup> Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,) The Psalmist has said, "Thy throne is established of old: thou art from everlasting" (Psalm 93:2).

John the Apostle-on the isle of Patmos saw Him who would rule, and heard the declaration of a great multitude: "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and ail that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever" (Revelation 5:12, 13).

**Righteous Rule**

Jesus Christ is the rightful Ruler of this Kingdom, and He will rule with righteousness. We read in many places in the Scriptures of the King's righteousness and of the quality of His judgments. "Righteous art thou, O LORD, and upright are thy judgments" (Psalm 119:137). "Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness" (Psalm 119:142); and "Righteousness and judgment are the habitation of his throne" (Psalm 97:2). His commandments, His judgments, His words are righteous. (**Psalm 119:172** <sup>172</sup> My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments *are* righteousness. **Psalm 19:9** <sup>9</sup> The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether. **Psalm 119:123** <sup>123</sup> Mine eyes fail for thy salvation, and for the word of thy righteousness) "The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works" (Psalm 145:17). We read also, "He shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth" (Psalm 96:13). These are a few of the passages in the Bible describing the righteousness of the King's rule.

### **Pleasant Land**

The Prophet Isaiah summed up the extent of the Kingdom of God on this earth in a few words, "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end" (Isaiah 9:7). We read from our text: "He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass: as showers that water the earth. In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth." Other passages come to mind that parallel our text. "He shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid" (Micah 4:3, 4).

Another beautiful passage of Scripture tells us of the peace of the Kingdom of God on earth: "They shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they are the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them. And it shall come to pass, that before they call, , I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear" (Isaiah 65:21- 24).

### **Universal Rule**

During the administration of King Solomon the nation of Israel rose to great prominence among the nations. The nations of the world brought their commerce to Israel, and gave presents of great value to King Solomon in tribute and praise of his wisdom. The Queen of Sheba came a great distance to visit Solomon; and she said to him regarding his court, his retinue, and his manner of worship: "Behold, the one half of the greatness of thy wisdom was not told me: for thou exceedest the fame that I heard. Happy are thy men, and happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and hear thy wisdom" (II Chronicles 9:6, 7).

This is but a symbol of the manner in which the kings of the earth will come to worship and pay homage to the King's Son in the time of His reign. From our text we read: "The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts. Yea, all kings shall fall down before

him: all nations shall serve him."

Solomon's reign dominated somewhat the nations of his day, but the Kingdom of God upon earth will exercise undisputed rule to the uttermost parts of the earth. Christ shall rule with a rod of iron; the heathen shall be his inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth shall be His for a possession. (**Psalm 2:8-9** <sup>8</sup> Ask of me, and I shall give *thee* the heathen *for* thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth *for* thy possession. <sup>9</sup> Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel)

Daniel had a vision of the last days, and recorded: "I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed" (Daniel 7:13, 14).

### Universal Homage

"Because of thy temple at Jerusalem shall kings bring presents unto thee" (Psalm 68:29). Our text says, "To him shall be given of the gold of Sheba" (Psalm 72:15). The prophecies of Isaiah state in regard to those who will come to pay their respects to the King: "The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." "The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of the LORD. All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together unto thee, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister unto thee: they shall come up with acceptance on mine altar, and I will glorify the house of my glory" (Isaiah 60:3, 6, 7).

### Everlasting Name

Nations have gone down into the dust of obscurity, and multitudes of people have vanished into the grave. Countless kings and rulers have gone the way of all flesh to be seen and heard of no more by mortal men. Their names are forgotten, and only a few have even been recorded in books of ancient history.

But the King who shall yet rule all earth has a name that has never been forgotten, and never shall be, through the endless period of eternity. His glorious name shines ever brighter through the passing years. His name has never been tarnished from the beginning, and shall shine undimmed forever. "His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and men shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed" (Psalm 72:17).

### QUESTIONS

- 1 Who is the King's Son?
- 2 How do we know that David was not praying for Solomon in this Psalm?
- 3 What are the limitations of this Kingdom?
- 4 Describe the character of the rule that will prevail during the reign of the King's Son.
- 5 Why will the King receive homage from all other kings and nations?
- 6 Why will not this King's name be forgotten?