

Poems, Prayers & Promises



Psalm 72

Prayer For The Good King



Of Solomon.

- ¹ Endow the king with your justice, O God,
the royal son with your righteousness.
- ² May he judge your people in righteousness,
your afflicted ones with justice.
- ³ May the mountains bring prosperity to the people,
the hills the fruit of righteousness.
- ⁴ May he defend the afflicted among the people
and save the children of the needy;
May he crush the oppressor.

⁵ May he endure as long as the sun,
as long as the moon, through all generations.

⁶ May he be like rain falling on a mown field,
like showers watering the earth.

⁷ In his days may the righteous flourish
and prosperity abound till the moon is no more.

⁸ May he rule from sea to sea
and from the river to the ends of the earth.

⁹ May the desert tribes bow before him
and his enemies lick the dust.

¹⁰ May the kings of Tarshish and of distant shores
bring tribute to him.

May the kings of Sheba and Seba
present him gifts.

¹¹ May all kings bow down to him
and all nations serve him.

¹² For he will deliver the needy who cry out,
the afflicted who have no one to help.

¹³ He will take pity on the weak and the needy
and save the needy from death.

¹⁴ He will rescue them from oppression and violence,
for precious is their blood in his sight.

¹⁵ Long may he live!

May gold from Sheba be given him.

May people ever pray for him
and bless him all day long.

¹⁶ May grain abound throughout the land;
on the tops of the hills may it sway.
May the crops flourish like Lebanon
and thrive like the grass of the field.

¹⁷ May his name endure forever;
may it continue as long as the sun.

Then all nations will be blessed through him,
and they will call him blessed.

¹⁸ Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel,
who alone does marvelous deeds.

¹⁹ Praise be to his glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory.

Amen and Amen.

²⁰ This concludes the prayers of David son of Jesse.

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1 Kings 10:23-25

“²³ King Solomon was greater in riches and wisdom than all the other kings of the earth. ²⁴ **The whole world sought audience with Solomon to hear the wisdom God had put in his heart.** ²⁵ ”Year after year, everyone who came brought a gift - articles of silver and gold, robes, weapons and spices, and horses and mules.”

1 Kings 11: 1-8

¹ King Solomon, however, loved many foreign women besides Pharaoh's daughter—Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians and Hittites. ² They were from nations about which the Lord had told the Israelites, “You must not intermarry with them, because they will surely turn your hearts after their gods.” Nevertheless, Solomon held fast to them in love.

1 Kings 11: 1-8

³ He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray. ⁴ As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been.

1 Kings 11: 1-8

⁵ He followed Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and Molek the detestable god of the Ammonites. ⁶ So Solomon did evil in the eyes of the Lord; he did not follow the Lord completely, as David his father had done. ⁷ On a hill east of Jerusalem, Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the detestable god of Moab, and for Molek the detestable god of the Ammonites. ⁸ He did the same for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and offered sacrifices to their gods.

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Ashurbanipal (669-631 BC)



Solomonic Themes

- Verse 3, 6, and 7: Allusions to peace. Solomon's name means peace.
- Verse 8: Dominion and expansion of the kingdom
- Verses 9: Dominance over other tribes; "May his enemies lick the dust."
- Verse 10: Respected by other leaders and nations
- Verse 10: Tribute from other kings

Israel's Hope

¹ Endow the king with your justice, O God,
the royal son with your righteousness.

² May he judge your people in righteousness,
your afflicted ones with justice. *(Psalm 72:1-2)*

¹⁹ ...follow carefully all the words of this law and these
decrees ²⁰ and not consider himself better than his fellow
Israelites and turn from the law to the right or to the left.
(Deut 17: 19-20)

Israel's Hope (Psalm 72: 4, 12-14)

⁴ May he **defend the afflicted** among the people
and **save the children of the needy**;
may he **crush the oppressor**.

¹² For he will **deliver the needy** who cry out,
the afflicted who have no one to help.

¹³ He will **take pity on the weak** and the needy
and **save the needy from death**.

¹⁴ He will **rescue them from oppression and violence**,
for **precious is their blood** in his sight.

Israel's Hope (Psalm 72: 7)

**⁷ In his days may the righteous flourish
And prosperity abound till the moon is no more.**

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Organization of Psalms

BOOKS	PSALMS	THEME
Book I	Psalms 1-41	Psalms by David
Book II	Psalms 42-72	Elohim vice Yahweh
Book III	Psalms 73-89	Darker, More Asaph
Book IV	Psalms 90-106	Moses
Book V	Psalms 107-150	Jubilant Praise

Doxologies of the “Seam” Psalms

¹³ Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.
Amen and Amen.

(Doxology, Psalm 41:13, Closes Book I)

Doxologies of the “Seam” Psalms

¹⁸ Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel,
who alone does marvelous deeds.

¹⁹ Praise be to his glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory.
Amen and Amen.

(Doxology, Psalm 72:18-20, Closes Book II)

Doxologies of the “Seam” Psalms

⁵² Praise be to the Lord forever!
Amen and Amen.

(Doxology, Psalm 89:52, Closes Book III)

⁴⁸ Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.
Let all the people say, “Amen!”
Praise the Lord.

(Doxology, Psalm 106:48, Closes Book IV)

Doxologies of the “Seam” Psalms

²¹ My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD;
Let every creature praise his holy name
for ever and ever.

(Doxology, Psalm 145:21, Closes Book V)

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Psalm 72:11, 13, 17

“¹¹ May all kings bow down to him
and all nations serve him.” *(Psalm 72:11)*

“¹³ He will take pity on the weak and the needy
And save the needy from death.” *(Psalm 72:13)*

“¹⁷ ... Then all nations will be blessed through him,
And they will call him blessed.” *(Psalm 72:17)*

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Psalm 72:5, 8

“⁵ May he endure as long as the sun,
As long as the moon, through all generations.”

(Psalm 72:5)

“⁸ May he rule from sea to sea
And from the River to the ends of the earth.”

(Psalm 72:8)

Zechariah

“⁸ May he rule from sea to sea
And from the River to the ends of the earth.”

(Psalm 72:17)

“¹⁰ ...He will proclaim peace to the nations.
His rule will extend from sea to sea
And from the River to the ends of the earth.”

(Zechariah:9:10)

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Applying the Word



Gilgamesh

“Life, which you look for, you will never find. For when the gods created man, they let death be his share, and life withheld in their own hands.”

The
Table
of
Exchange

