## Prayer for the Kingdom: Psalm 72

This is a psalm *for* Solomon and *by* David (cf. v. 20). In being a psalm for Solomon it's also a psalm for the greater King Who would descend from David, even our Lord Jesus Christ (cf. 2 Sam. 7). David prays for a world ruled by the justice and righteousness of the Lord (vv. 1, 2), where all creation and its peoples are flourishing in full restoration glory (vv. 3, 4, 7, 15, 16). In the Messiah's Kingdom the poor are defended, the needy are cared for, and oppressors are suppressed (vv. 4, 12-14). Distant nations stream up to this Kingdom, bringing all their best gifts into the service of the Lord (vv. 8-11). The praise and glory of God fill the whole world (vv. 17-19) as waters of grace – living waters of God's Spirit (Jn. 7:37-39) – flow from Him, through His Church to revive, renew, awaken, and restore the earth and its peoples in the peace and bounty of God (vv. 5-7).

Restore us, O LORD God of hosts! Let Your face shine, that we may be saved! Psalm 80:19

Of [literally: "concerning"] Solomon

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! 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! 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.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

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! 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!

20 The prayers of David, the son of Jesse, are ended.

land on the tops of the mountains may it wave; may its fruit be like Lebanon; and

## Prayer Topics

Pray for the Kingdom!
Envision a world where righteousness, justice, mercy, kindness, and prosperity abound.
Plead for men to fear God.
That the Church might be a faithful, watering stream.
For the increase of His Kingdom (Is. 9.6, 7)

That many would come to Christ and serve Him. That grace would abound to the last, least, and lost.

That more people would join to seek the Lord in prayer.

That humankind may
flourish under His rule.
For the increase of His praise
For the knowledge of His
glory to cover the earth
as waters cover the sea.

Scripture references from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright 2001, by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

How to use this prayer guide:

Prepare for prayer: Prepare for your prayer time by reading this guide and becoming familiar with its contents. Set your heart to seek the Lord in prayer.

Pray the psalms: Practice praying through this psalm as part of your daily prayers, taking all or part of the psalm to guide you in daily seeking the Lord for revival, renewal, and awakening – restoration!

Pray as the Lord leads: Prayer time begins with one member of the group praying through the entire psalm, reading it verbatim in a prayerful mood. Then each individual can take turns praying, following the psalm and Prayer Topics provided. Don't feel like these are the only prayers you can offer, but remember: these are the Spirit's own words to a people who long ago were seeking what we are seeking today. Pray as the Lord leads.

Unite your voice to seek the Lord: After each individual prayer, all pray together, "Restore us, O LORD God of hosts! Let Your face shine, that we may be saved!" (Ps. 80:19). This gives us the benefit of uniting our voices in a single petition. God's face shining on us refers to the promises of His Word (Ps. 119:135), the filling of His Spirit (Ezek. 39.29), Whom, above all else, we seek (Jn. 7.37-39; Lk. 11.1-13), and the glorious and powerful face of our Lord Jesus, exalted in glory (2 Cor. 4:6).

Pray throughout the month: Take your prayer guide with you so that you can pray for revival every day during the month. Use it to start a Prayer for Restoration group of your own.