

Sunday Night Message

October 12, 2014

Psalm 72

Series – The Psalms

Text – Psalm 72

Introduction

The last verse of this psalm identifies David as the writer, and the introductory information tells us that this psalm was written for Solomon. It was probably written at the coronation of Solomon. (See 1 Chronicles 29)

This psalm was written for Solomon, who would succeed his father on the throne of Israel, but it more accurately foreshadows another King that will come to this earth someday to set up His millennial kingdom.

"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. 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. 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. 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. For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever." (Micah 4:1-5)

"And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. 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: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." (Luke 1:31-33)

"The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the

wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here." (Matthew 12:42)

"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)

Verses 18 – 20 are a benediction of praise to God, perhaps originally intended to thank the Lord for placing Solomon on the throne. But when we interpret this psalm as being prophetic of the Lord Jesus Christ, then the praise offered here is to the King (Jesus) that David referred to in the previous verses. Solomon did very well as a king in the earlier years of his reign, but he eventually became idolatrous and immoral, and even hard on the people of Israel through excessive taxation.

Deuteronomy 17:14 – 20 tells us what the Law said concerning kings. Solomon certainly did not fulfill these perfectly. Solomon did enjoy a prosperous reign, and some of these prophecies can be clearly seen in the Bible as fulfilled in him.

Solomon was a very wise judge – 1 Kings 3:5 – 28; 1 Kings 4:29 - 34

Solomon was praised by the Queen of Sheba - verses 10 and 15 – fulfilled in 1 Kings 10:1 – 13

This psalm could have been fulfilled in Solomon, but Solomon's heart was lured away from God. (see 1 Kings 11:1 – 13)

However, the Lord Jesus Christ will fulfill these prophecies perfectly, and the characteristics contained in this psalm concerning leadership are desired in any leader, whether he leads a family, or a crew at work, or a Sunday School class at church.

- I He will rule with righteousness and wisdom (vs. 1 – 7)**
- II He will rule with strength (vs. 9 – 11)**
- III He will rule with compassion (vs. 12 – 14)**
- IV He will rule prosperously (vs. 15 – 17)**