

Week of December 17, 2017

This Week's Focus: The Psalms of Advent: Reigning

This Week's Text: Psalm 72

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What has the Holy Spirit impressed on your heart and mind from this week's sermon/text?
- Who is the author of Psalm 72 and what do we know about him? When was this psalm written? Reference verse 20.
- Who is the psalm about in the immediate context? What does it mean that this is a *Messianic Psalm?* Reference Luke 1:30-33. Give some examples from the text how Jesus alone fulfills all the kingly qualifications and aspirations written in this psalm.
- What is righteousness? Why is no king able to rule with complete righteousness and perfect justice? What are the righteous requirements that God has given us? Discuss how we are freed from sin by the righteousness of King Jesus.
- What are the physical boundaries of Jesus' kingdom? Reference verse 8. How long will he reign? Reference verses 5-7.
- Over whom does Jesus rule and reign? Reference verses 4, 9-14, 17; Romans 14:11. Discuss how Jesus' kingdom is both present and coming. Does the fact of Jesus' return bring you joy or cause you concern/fear? What sin or idol in your life is keeping you from fully surrendering to the lordship of Jesus Christ? Reference Matthew 6:24.
- Read verses 4 and 12-14. What do these verses teach us about God's disposition toward the
 poor and oppressed? How does the gospel help us to practically love and extend grace
 toward the poor, oppressed, and the unbelieving?
- How does Solomon end Psalm 72 (and Book 2 of Psalms)? Share some ways that Jesus is worthy of infinitely more honor and praise than any human king.