



A PRAYER FOR THE KING

PSALM 72

O God, give the king your good judgment
and the king's son your goodness.
Help him judge your people fairly.
Help him decide what is right for the poor.
Let there be peace on the mountains
and goodness on the hills.
Help him be fair to the poor.
Help him save the needy
and punish those who hurt them.

Help him live as long as the sun shines.
Help him rule as long as the moon glows.
Let him be king from now on!
Let him be like rain on the grass,
like showers that water the earth.
Let goodness be plentiful while he lives.
Let peace continue as long as there is a moon.

Let his kingdom go from sea to sea,
and from the Euphrates River
to the ends of the earth.
Let the people of the desert bow down to him.
And make his enemies lick the dust.
Let the kings of Tarshish and the faraway lands
bring him gifts.
Let the kings of Sheba and Seba
bring their presents to him.
Let all kings bow down to him.
Let all nations serve him.

He will help the poor when they cry for help.
He will help the needy
when no one else will help them.
He will be kind to the weak and poor.
He will save their lives.
He will save them from cruel people
who try to hurt them.
Their lives are precious to him.

Long live the king!
Let him receive gold from Sheba.
Let people always pray for him.
Let them bless him all day long.
Let the fields grow plenty of grain.
Let the hills be covered with crops.
Let the land be as fertile as Lebanon.
Let the cities grow like the grass in a field.



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PSALM 72

Let the king be famous forever.
Let him be remembered as long as the sun shines.
Let the nations be blessed because of him.
And may they all bless him.

Praise the Lord God, the God of Israel.
Only he does such miracles.
Praise his glorious name forever.
Let his glory fill the whole world.

Amen and amen.

This ends the prayers of David son of Jesse.

The Basic Forms of Prayer

Did you know there are five basic forms of prayer?

1

Blessing & Adoration

In prayers of adoration we praise God and acknowledge our dependence on Him.

Example: The Gloria and Act of Faith

Petition

2

In prayers of petition we ask God for things we need both spiritually and physically.

Example: Our Father

3

Intercession

In prayers of intercession we make requests to God on behalf of other people.

Example: Watch, O Lord (St. Augustine)

Thanksgiving

4

In prayers of thanksgiving we thank God for the good things.

Example: Grace Before Meals

5

Praise

In prayers of praise we express our love for God, the source of all love.

Example: Act of Charity

The book of Psalms is a collection of poetry, prayers, and hymns. There are 150 psalms! And they have themes from all five basic forms of prayer.

Look at Psalm 72, can you find examples of the different forms of prayer?

Psalm 72 prays for the King and the people of the kingdom.

Write your own Psalm or prayer of **solidarity**, on the back of this page, remembering **God made everyone, so we are all brothers and sisters in God's family wherever we live!**

Who will you include in your prayer?

