

Studies in Psalms by [John T Polk II](#) For [The Fellowship Room](#)

Psalms 72

12/25/12

Vs. 1-4 show that a king's judgments should reflect the righteousness of God;
Vs. 5-11 describe the good influence inside and outside his kingdom;
Vs. 12-17 list blessings that will come to his people;
Vs. 18-19 remind us that the glory belongs to God.
Vs. 20 brings the prayers of David to a conclusion.

This is commonly attributed to Solomon, as are [Psalms 127](#) and [132](#), although verse 20 appears to make it a prayer of David about the kingdom of Jesus Christ, which is the church of Christ ([Acts 2:47](#); [8:12](#)). There are several statements that more accurately describe Jesus Christ ([verses 5-7, 11, 17](#)) than Solomon.

Verses 1-4: Surely this section was behind Solomon's proverb: "Take away the wicked from before the king, And his throne will be established in righteousness" ([Proverbs 25:5](#)). Jeremiah prophesied this for Jesus: "'Behold, *the days are coming,*' says the LORD, 'That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth'" ([Jeremiah 23:5](#)). The Apostle Peter told Gentile Cornelius that God "commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God *to be Judge of the living and the dead*" ([Acts 10:42](#)).

Verses 5-11: Solomon's kingship did not last "throughout all generations ([verse 5](#)), "But to the Son [Jesus Christ] He [God] says: 'Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom'" ([Hebrews 1:8](#)). Solomon never "came down like rain" ([verse 6](#)) out of Heaven, Jesus did: "'For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me" ([John 6:38](#)). Solomon lost the righteousness ([verse 7](#)) of his kingship ([1 Kings 11:9-11](#)), but of Jesus: "Therefore do not let your good be spoken of as evil; for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. For he who serves Christ in these things *is acceptable to God and approved by men*" ([Romans 14:16-18](#)). Though Solomon's kingdom was extensive ([verses 8-11](#)), it has been exceeded by that of Jesus ([Colossians 1:3-6](#)). Truly "a greater than Solomon *is here*" ([Matthew 12:42](#)).

Verses 12-17: Solomon didn't achieve with riches and military might ([verses 12-14](#)) like Jesus has through humane principles ([Galatians 5:19-26](#)). **Verses 15-16** list blessings that accompany obedience to Jesus Christ: "gold," "prayer," "praise," "abundance of grain," fruitful trees, increasing numbers of followers. In [verse 17](#), "His name shall" "endure" and "continue," terms not for Solomon's name, but "Christian" generates new followers for "as long as the sun," which still works.

Verses 18-19: The God of Heaven and Earth "only does wondrous things" and alone should receive blessings for them.



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Verse 20: This ends this Psalm, and a section of the Book of Psalms (**chapters 42-72**). A David about to die may have prayed this chapter, and Solomon recorded it. At any rate, Jesus Christ is woven throughout its fabric.

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