

# Longing for the Kingdom of Psalm 72

## A Short Meditation

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Psalm 72, one of the most important of the Messianic Psalms, paints such a beautiful portrait of the coming Kingdom and the reign of the greater Son of David, Jesus the Messiah. It is a prophecy of the world as it will be under the rule of the true King. This psalm celebrates the universal scope of His dominion, a reign that will extend *“from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth”* (Psalm 72:8).

### The Heart of the King

More than any other theme, Psalm 72 emphasizes the Messiah’s tender compassion toward the weak, the vulnerable, and the oppressed. Under His perfect reign:

*“He will deliver the needy when he cries for help,  
The afflicted also, and him who has no helper.  
He will have compassion on the poor and needy,  
And the lives of the needy he will save.”*  
(Psalm 72:12–13)

This is the essence of the Messianic Kingdom. The King defends the helpless. He avenges the oppressed. He crushes those who exploit and devour the weak.

When the psalm declares that His enemies *“will lick the dust”* (Psalm 72:9), it deliberately echoes Genesis 3:15. The promised Skull Crusher will overthrow every oppressor and liberate every victim of injustice. The curse-bringer will be undone. The violent will be silenced. The world will finally breathe.

### A World Bowed Before the King

When Jesus comes, *“all kings will bow before Him, all nations will serve Him”* (Psalm 72:11). The entire earth will finally experience governance defined by justice, mercy, and righteousness—not by corrupt rulers, criminal regimes, or arrogant powers, but by the perfect King.

This is the hope Scripture holds out, the world we all ache for. A world that still awaits us.

## When the Present Age Breaks Our Hearts

When I see the horrific scenes coming out of Nigeria—Christians slaughtered, churches burned, hundreds of children dragged away by Islamic militants—I find myself crying out for the world Psalm 72 describes.

My soul weeps for the reign of the King who “*rescues their life from oppression and violence*” (Psalm 72:14). My heart burns for the day when evil hands will be stopped, when oppressors will fall at the feet of the One who sees every tear, every theft, every blow, every kidnapping.

## A Kingdom... Already?

Yet Amillennialism insists that the kingdom described in Psalm 72 is already here, that these promises are being fulfilled spiritually right now.

But if *this* present age with its horrors and injustices is the fulfillment of Psalm 72, then what comfort have we offered to the oppressed? Where is hope for the persecuted? Where is relief for the poor? Where is justice for the enslaved, the abused, the slaughtered?

How can anyone compare the nightmarish realities of this age with the glorious promises of Psalm 72 and say, “*This is it*”?

To claim that this is the Messianic Kingdom is to tragically short-change the wounded, to strip from the suffering the very hope God Himself has given: The King is coming, He will judge with perfect righteousness, He will shatter the oppressor, He will rescue the afflicted who have no helper.

## The King Who Has Come—and Will Come Again

Yes, Jesus has come. Yes, He has made atonement. Praise God for the Cross and the forgiveness it freely gives.

But Scripture is equally clear: He will come again. And when He does, it will be for salvation, for deliverance, for the completion of the hope the prophets proclaimed.

*“Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him.”*

(Hebrews 9:28)

The Church must recover this longing. Not merely the memory of Christ’s first coming, but the heartbeat of the early Church: The blessed hope of His glorious return.

Until Jesus returns, the world continues to groan. The oppressed continue to cry out. The Church continues to wait.

The Scriptures point us forward to the day when the greater Son of David will reign, when the poor will be lifted up, when the crushed will be restored, when the Serpent's kingdom will collapse forever.

*Maranatha. Come, Lord Jesus.*

