

The Reign of the Righteous King

by John Isaac Edwards

Psalm 72, which tells of the reign of the righteous king, points to Acts 2 when Jesus began His reign. Let's take a look.

He Shall Judge Thy People with Righteousness (v. 2). Isaiah prophesied, "...and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge..." (Isaiah 11:3-4). Again it is written, "Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness..." (Isaiah 32:1). Paul preached, "...he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained..." (Acts 17:31).

In His Days Shall the Righteous Flourish; and Abundance of Peace (v. 7). Paul wrote the Romans, "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous" (Romans 5:19). The Lord said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you..." (John 14:27) and "...in me ye might have peace..." (John 16:33). "...we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1).

He Shall Have Dominion from Sea to Sea, and unto the Ends of the Earth (v. 8). Zechariah prophesied of the coming

King, "...and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth" (Zechariah 9:10). The Lord told His apostles, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth" (Matthew 28:18) and "...ye shall be witnesses unto me...unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

All Nations Shall Serve Him (v. 11). In prophesying concerning the Lord's house, Isaiah said, "...all nations shall flow unto it" (Isaiah 2:2). The Lord commissioned His apostles, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations..." (Matthew 28:19).

He Shall Redeem Their Soul (v. 14). Redemption "is in Christ" (Romans 3:24). "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace" (Ephesians 1:7).

Men Shall Be Blessed in Him (v. 17). "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ" (Ephesians 1:3).

Have you submitted to King Jesus?

When Pride Cometh

by John Isaac Edwards

The book of Proverbs often addresses pride. The wise man used the expression, “When pride cometh...” in Proverbs 11:2. I am borrowing those words to call attention to some things the Wisdom book reveals about thinking too highly of self.

Then Comes Shame. The text that introduces our study says, “When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom” (Proverbs 11:2). We don’t want shame, do we? Then we better “swallow our pride”!

Then Comes the Lord’s Disgust. Among the things the Lord hates is “A proud look...” (Proverbs 6:16-17). “The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate” (Proverbs 8:13). In fact, it is “an abomination unto him” (Proverbs 6:16). “Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord...” (Proverbs 16:5). An abomination is a thing of disgust!

The Comes Contention. Proverbs

13:10 reveals, “Only by pride cometh contention...” There existed in the church at Corinth the problem of being “puffed up” (1 Corinthians 4:6); that’s pride! Do you know what came with that? “...contentions...” (1 Corinthians 1:11)!

Then Comes Destruction. Proverbs often connects pride with destruction. “The Lord will destroy the house of the proud...” (Proverbs 15:25). “Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall” (Proverbs 16:18). “...he that exalteth his gate seeketh destruction” (Proverbs 17:19). “Before destruction the heart of man is haughty...” (Proverbs 18:12).

Then Comes Sin. Solomon declared, “An high look, and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked, is sin” (Proverbs 21:4).

In light of “When pride cometh”, “For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think...” (Romans 12:3).

The Terre Haute **Speaker** is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

Assembling At:

Holiday Inn Express
2633 Indiana 46
Terre Haute, IN 47803
(Exit 11, I-70 & SR 46)

Assembling Times:

Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

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