

Part 3 – The Righteous Shall Flourish

In part 2 we learned of some analogies that David used to express the kind of peace and prosperity that he asked God to give his son, Solomon. And this was truly *prophetical* of Jesus Christ's rein. For *true* peace and prosperity – that causes the entire earth to flourish – can only come with *true* righteous judgment being enforced; because that's the *only* thing that brings justice, which is the *only* thing that brings true peace. The wicked *must* be punished and the righteous *must* be rewarded for justice to prevail and peace to endure. And that's why David asked that God would help his son, Solomon, to be able to rule, and judge, *all* his people rightly (by God's Laws) so that *no one* would be oppressed (not even the poor or needy in society). And, in Solomon's younger years he did an excellent job at this. Which is why Israel was so incredibly prosperous that silver was as numerous as stones in Jerusalem (1 Kings 10:27) *and* kings (and queens) from all over the known world came to hear of the wisdom that Solomon had; which truly came from God himself. But this was simply a 'type' – even a small 'taste' of what peace and prosperity will come when the *true* King of kings (Jesus Christ) finally returns. And, just as the farmer (or gardener) has to wait for the crops to grow until he can receive the 'fruit of his labors', so too do we have to wait for this kind of prosperity to come to earth again. But, until that time comes, we should wait patiently while continuing to serve our Heavenly Father by using the gifts He's given us and share the truth as the opportunities arise. For sharing the truth is like giving someone a drink of water or a meal of food; truth truly is life nourishing food and water for our soul. Yet, David is not done explaining of the kind of prosperity he prayed would come for his 'son'...

Psalm 72

7 In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth.

In 'his' days refers to king Solomon but remember this is prophetical of David's 'greater Son', Jesus Christ. And in 'His' days (when He reigns) the righteous (the just, #6662) shall flourish, which means *to break forth as a bud*, i.e. *bloom* but it can also mean *to spread* or even *to fly* (as *extending the wings*) and, figuratively, *to flourish* (#6524). So, he's asking that righteousness and peace will flourish and endure so long as the moon does. David is using some of God's creation (the moon in this case) that has been around 'since time began' to explain the length of peace and prosperity that he hopes Solomon's reign will have. However, in Solomon's life, this was not the case because his heart became corrupt in his latter years. Yet, while the kingdom of Israel didn't continue to be peaceful and prosperous forever after the days of Solomon, they will be when Jesus Christ finally returns. And the reason for that is because Jesus Christ is *total* without sin (Heb 4:15, 2 Cor 5:21, 1 Peter 2:22, 1 John 3:5) and He will only allow people to reign with Him who have put off their 'old man' - *which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts* (Eph 2:22) – and *do not serve sin any longer* (Rom 6:6), *because* they have put on their 'new man' by (Eph 4:23) by *studying God's Word* (Col 3:10) and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us, and create a

heart and mind that is righteous, and holy, like our Heavenly Father is (Eph 4:24, 1 Pt 1:15-16). And because there will be **no** corrupt people in Jesus' government (Mth 7:231-23) that's why His Kingdom will endure *forever*. And Jesus' ruling with truth and righteous judgment (which brings justice and peace) is why there will be an abundance of peace *and* the righteous people will *be allowed to* flourish. For, without the wicked ones being in charge – and thus not able to oppress others anymore – the righteous will flourish *immensely*, as it is written...

*12 The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
13 Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.
14 They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;
15 To shew that the LORD is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.*
Ps 92:12-15

The kind of prosperity that will come when Jesus Christ rules the world (with His incorruptible government, i.e. the Body of Christ) will prove that He is upright – meaning, that there is NO unrighteousness in Jesus Christ (or our Heavenly Father). As we say today 'the proof is in the pudding'! And truly, there are *so many* Scriptures that speak of the peace and prosperity that will come when Jesus Christ returns. Consider just a few...

*Hear the word of the LORD, ye that tremble at his word; your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the LORD be glorified: but **he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed.***
Isa 66:5

*12 For thus saith the LORD, Behold, **I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon her sides, and be dandled upon her knees.**
13 As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.
14 And when ye see this, **your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like an herb: and the hand of the LORD shall be known toward his servants, and his indignation toward his enemies.**
15 For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.
16 For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many.*
Isa 66:12-16

1 The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.

*2 It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, **they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God.***

Isa 35:1-2

*But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves **in the abundance of peace.***

Ps 37:11

27 Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore.

28 For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.

*29 **The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.***

30 The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment.

*31 The law of his God is in his heart; **none of his steps shall slide.***

Ps 37:27-31

*Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, **thou shalt see it.***

Ps 37:34

So clearly, the *reason* the righteous will flourish when Jesus Christ returns is *because* He will depose *all* the wicked ones from all powerful positions. Isa 24:22 even tells us the wicked ones will be arrested and put in prison. Rev 20:1-3 tells us Satan himself will be too. So, without the wicked ones oppressing the righteous (and fighting against them) the righteous will finally be able to flourish and ‘*delight themselves in the abundance of peace*’ (Ps 37:11). And we should remember this always, especially when we are enduring very difficult times. Things won’t always be this way. The wicked won’t always seem to ‘get ahead’. They *will* be put down, *once and for all*, when Jesus Christ finally returns. Our job (which we must remain steadfastly focused on) is to use the time before then to help God’s wayward children (those who want to listen) to turn back to our Heavenly Father, by accepting the truth (the Gospel of Jesus Christ) and learn to put off the ‘old man’ (Rom 6:6, Eph 4:22, Col 3:9, Luke 9:23) and put on the ‘new man’ (Eph 4:24, Col 2:10) for themselves, so *they too* can inherit the Kingdom of God *and* be allowed to live forever...

Psalm 72

8 He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth

The word ‘**dominion**’ here means to **tread down**, i.e. **subjugate** (#7287) and the word ‘**sea**’ (both times) means **a sea** or **large body of water**; specifically, the *Mediterranean Sea* but sometimes a large river, or an artificial basin (#3220). And the word ‘**river**’ means **a stream including the sea**

and is used for the Nile River *and* Euphrates (#5104). The *Companion Bible* has a note saying that the words ‘from sea to sea’ are the Mediterranean to the Persian Gulf. And ‘the river’ is the Euphrates. And this is actually what God promised Abraham clear back in Gen 15:18: *In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt [i.e. the Nile River] unto the great river, the river Euphrates.* Of course, the Euphrates River is one of the two major rivers that form the Tigris–Euphrates River system, *which flows into the Persian Gulf.* So, David is essentially asking God that Solomon’s kingdom would grow so much that they would have (take) dominion to the point of what God had promised Abraham’s ‘seed’ (through Isaac and Jacob) would be given as an inheritance. David had conquered a lot more territory than Israel had formerly ever obtained, *because* God blessed his leading the nation. But during Solomon’s reign Israel would conquer *even more* territory. In fact, during Solomon’s reign, Israel’s kingdom would be larger than it ever would be again... that is until the ‘greater Son’ of David, Jesus Christ, returns! In fact, the prophet Zachariah even prophesied this would happen during Jesus’s Second Advent...

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

*10 And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and **his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from river even to the ends of the earth.***

Zech 9:9-10

These two verses are an excellent example of how the Old Testament prophets frequently spoke of the First *and* Second Advents of Jesus Christ *in the same chapters* (visions), even in verses *right next to each other.* So, it is understandable why many people were so confused when Jesus Christ came. For many people did not understand that there would actually be *two* Advents; they thought there would only be one. Not even the ‘religious’ men (who should have known better since they claimed to know God’s Word) understood this. And truly, even Jesus’ apostles didn’t even really understand this, despite being personally taught by Jesus Christ for three years. And, even after Jesus resurrected (and right before He ascended into heaven) they *still* asked Jesus if He would restore the kingdom of Israel *at that time* (Acts 1:6). So, verse 9 in Zechariah prophesied how Jesus would come humbly, riding upon a colt foal of an ass (donkey). Indeed, Jesus fulfilled this as Matt 21:2-9 and John 12:14-16 document. John 12:16 even said that Jesus’ disciples didn’t even realize He was fulfilling Zech 9:9 until after He was ‘glorified’ (which means resurrected). So, verse 10 in Zech 9 *still awaits fulfillment* – and it will be *with perfection.*

But notice how the last part of Zech 9:10 it is nearly *identical* to what David prayed God would do for his ‘son’. Indeed, David truly was a prophet, just as Acts 2:29-30 declares. Jesus Christ *will* return and take dominion ‘from sea to sea’ and yet He will also fulfill the latter part of the

verse ‘unto the ends of the earth’. While Solomon’s kingdom did extend to the entire area God initially promised Abraham, Solomon did have great influence among many other nations even if he didn’t actually govern them. As we say today ‘money talks’ and he had plenty of it and also had a monopoly over the trade routes both by land and sea of most of the known world. Yet, he didn’t have true worldwide dominion as David’s ‘greater Son’ will when He turns (Eph 1:10, Phil 2:9-11, Col 1:20).

Psalm 72

9 They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust.

The words ‘**they that dwell in the wilderness**’ are all one Hebrew word that means *a desert-dweller*, i.e. *nomad* or *wild beast* (#6728). In other words, even those nomads living in the dessert will be subjugated to him. And, remember, this is David’s prayer for Solomon but it’s prophetic of his ‘greater Son’, Jesus Christ. And truly, the entire world (and heaven) will be subjugated to Jesus Christ when He returns (Eph 1:10, Phil 2:9-11, Col 1:20). And the words ‘lick the dust’ are a figure of speech (*Metonymy*, of the adjunct., apx 6) which means *utter* subjugation. That’s why God told Satan (called the serpent in Gen 3:15) that he would ‘eat dust’ all the days of his life. It’s an extremely derogatory statement promising that Satan would be utterly disgraced, humiliated *and* subjugated to Jesus Christ, as Gen 3:15 then explains (i.e. Jesus crushes Satan’s head). This analogy is actually used quite often in the Scriptures – 1 Sam 2:8, 1 Kings 16:3, Isa 26:5 and Ps 44:25 being just a few examples. And this is why our Heavenly Father has said...

*23 I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That **unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.***

24 Surely, shall one say, in the LORD have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed.

25 In the LORD shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory.

Isa 45:23-25

Rom 14:11-12 reiterates this when quoting from Isaiah 45 but Paul expounds a bit more in his letter to the Philippians...

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Phil 2:5-11

So, even though Jesus Christ came humbly (even riding on a donkey – Zech 9:9) at His First Advent, He will return to the earth on a beautiful ‘white horse’ to make war with the wicked ones and judge the world *in righteousness* (Rev 19:11). *Many* Scriptures speak of God’s vengeance and ‘cup of wrath’ that Jesus Christ will pour out upon the wicked ones when He returns to the earth – Isaiah 34, Jer 51, Nah 1, 2 Thess 1:6-10 and Rev 18 (which is much like Jer 51) are just a few places that record what will happen ‘at that day’, but there are truly too many to quote here. So, the point to remember here is that, while David is asking God that Solomon’s kingdom would expand, even to those who dwell in the wilderness, *and* that all his enemies would be *utterly* subjugated to him (and they *were* during the years he obeyed God) this is truly prophetic of David’s ‘greater Son’, Jesus Christ and His Second Advent. For He *will* return to the world ‘with a vengeance’ to pour out God’s ‘cup of wrath’ upon His (God’s) enemies and *utterly* subjugate them, while giving His faithful followers control of the world. As Ps 37:34 says, *wait* (6960) *on the LORD*, and *keep* (#8104) his way, and *he shall exalt thee to inherit the land*: ***when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.*** Ps 149:5-9 also documents this as well...

Psalm 72

10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.

‘Tarshish’ was *a place on the Mediterranean* and became *the ephithet of a merchant vessel* (as if for or from that port) (#8659). 1 Kings 10:22 tells us that Solomon had close connections with Tarshish (spelled Tharshish) and with Hiram, the king of Tyre (Tyros). And they sent ships out on long voyages that took three years because they sailed to faraway places to get gold, silver, ivory, apes and peacocks (among other things). The *Companion Bible* has a note on 1 Kings 10:22 saying that they sailed from Tyre *to the West Mediterranean* and from Ezion-geber to Ophir (Arabia, India and East Africa – 1 Kings 9:26-28, 10:11). The *Smith’s Bible Dictionary* says that ‘Tarshish’ was probably called Tartessus (in Aramaic) and was a city, and emporium of, the Phoenicians *in the south of Spain*, represented as one of the sons of Javan (Genesis 10:4; 1 Kings 10:22; 1 Chronicles 1:7; Psalms 48:7; Isaiah 2:16; Jeremiah 10:9; Ezekiel 27:12,25; Jonah 1:3; 4:2). So, Tarshish’s location was likely *West of Israel*. And the word ‘isles’ means a *coast* or an *island* (#339) and the word ‘presents’ means *tribute* (#4503). Sheba was in what we now call Ethiopia today (#7614). However, Seba is a bit more difficult to identify as the *Strong’s*

Concordance merely tells us it was a son of Cush and the country settled by him (#5434). However, the *Smith's Bible Dictionary* explains that: "*there are but three notices of the nation -- (Psalms 72:10; Isaiah 43:3; 45:14) These passages seem to show that Seba was a nation of Africa bordering on or included in Cush, and in Solomon's time independent and of political importance. It may perhaps be identified with the island of Meroe. Josephus says that Saba was the ancient name of the Ethiopian island and city of Meroe, but he writes Seba, in the notice of the Noachian settlements, Sabas.*" So, the fact that Seba is used by David in this Psalm shows it was of political importance during his time. So, Sheba and Seba were quite wealthy and politically powerful, at this time - and thus, David's prayer was that kings (and queens, like Sheba) from far away nations would bring presents (even tribute) to his 'son' – which would show that Solomon would be *even more* wealthy and prestigious than even these two nations. And, as we learned, this indeed happen. But not because they had been conquered militarily; instead, it was out of great reverence for Solomon's wisdom and the might and riches of his kingdom, as it is written...

29 And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore.

30 And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt.

31 For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol: and his fame was in all nations round about.

32 And he spake three thousand proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five.

33 And he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes.

34 And there came of all people to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth, which had heard of his wisdom.

1 Kings 4:29-34

So, this verse was indeed was fulfilled during the days of the Solomon; but as with most all of this Psalm, it will be fully fulfilled when David's 'greater Son', Jesus Christ returns to the earth...

*2 And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and **all nations shall flow unto it.***

3 And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

4 And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Isa 2:2-4

This is reiterated in Mic 4:1-4 as well and shows that *all* nations will flow to Jerusalem to hear of Jesus' wisdom and to learn His 'ways', which is what His Law teaches us. As Rev 15:3-4 says: *great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; **just and true are thy ways**, thou King of saints. **Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name?** for thou only art holy: for **all nations shall come and worship before thee**; for thy judgments are made manifest...*

Psalm 72

11 Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.

Again, David asks God that Solomon would be greatly revered by all nations; so much so that they would willingly submit to him. And because Solomon was *so* wise, most nations did indeed willingly make allegiances with him. While his father, David, did the fighting to get most of the really bad nations subdued (like the Philistines), Solomon was very good at using diplomacy to 'conquer' nations. However, this came at a price. As 1 Kings 3 documents, one of the first things Solomon did after taking the throne was to make an affinity with Egypt by marrying the kings' daughter. And 1 Kings 11 tells us that this was how he 'made peace' with many nations – for Solomon had **seven hundred** wives (all princesses) and **three hundred** concubines (likely daughters of important dignitaries). And that's why his heart was turned away from God. Can you imagine that? Solomon had **a thousand women** pleading with him to follow their (false) gods and idols... and that was simply *too much* for Solomon to say 'no' to, *even though* God's Word warned Israel not to inter marry with nations that worshiped other gods (1 Kings 11:2). So, Solomon pretty much 'bought peace' instead of using the sword to conquer, like his father (David) had done. And truly, many nations did submit themselves to him, if only for the great wisdom and prosperity that he brought to his nation... i.e. they wanted 'some of it'!

But, as we've learned throughout this Psalm, Solomon was simply a type for David's 'greater Son', Jesus Christ. And that's why Isa 45:23-25, Phil 2:5-11 and Rom 14:11-12 all declare that, when Jesus Christ returns, all knees will bow before Him and all mouths will be forced to admit that Jesus Christ is the *only* King of king and Lord of lords. And the reason is that, when Jesus Christ returns, His army will take control of *everything*. 2 Pt 3:10-12 tells us *all* the evil elements of this world order (Satan's system) will be *utterly* destroyed, so there will be no means for Satan to deceive with anymore. And Rev 18 and Jer 51 also tells us how Satan's system (also called Babylon) will be destroyed when Jesus returns; and all the wicked ones will weep and mourn greatly for it. Which just goes to show us (as the Bible teaches us too) that *wickedness does **not** pay*. Those who do wickedly now are only 'digging their own grave', because they *will* be held

accountable for it when Jesus Christ returns (or if they die before then). As 2 Peter 3:10 and Rev 3:3 warn, Jesus' return will be as a 'thief in the night', meaning it'll 'sneak up on' many people who are spiritually sleeping, not aware of what's really going on in the world. And that's because *most people will actually be worshiping Satan himself* thinking that he is 'the Christ' who has come to save the world (Rev 12, 2 Thess 2). So, that's why they'll be surprised when Jesus returns... because *they thought he was already here!* And this is why it's *so* critical to study God's Word *for ourselves* and not to listen to 'traditions of man' that twist God's Word (Mth 15, Mk 7). So again, that's why we should study God's Word so we know what's coming to pass and prepare for it. Those who are *spiritually* 'awake' are those who are truly *watching*. Not only what goes on in our own heart and mind (to guard it so we are not deceived into sinning habitually and rebelling against God) but also what's going on in the world, so we are not deceived into worshiping anyone other than the *true* Jesus Christ – who comes to earth only *after* Satan does, as Rev 12 and 2 Thess 2 so clearly explain [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/499>] ...

- 1 *But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.*
- 2 *For yourselves know perfectly that **the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.***
- 3 *For **when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.***
- 4 *But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.*
- 5 ***Ye are all the children of light,** and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.*
- 6 *Therefore **let us not sleep,** as do others; but let us **watch and be sober.***
- 7 *For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.*
- 8 *But let us, who are of the day, be sober, **putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.***
- 9 *For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to **obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,***
- 1 Thess 5:1-9 [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Titus_1_2Thess/19]

We'll pick this up in part 4...

AMEN.