



BETWEEN 6:00 AM—9:00 AM: JESUS, AN ATYPICAL AUTOCRAT

A 1997 L.A. Times article reported that Zaire’s dictator referred to himself as Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu wa za Banga which means: *“the all-powerful warrior who because of his endurance and inflexible will to win will go from conquest to conquest leaving fire in his wake.”* Unlike Mobutu, King Solomon aimed to be a different kind of ruler, one who would reign with justice, compassion and wisdom. He didn’t succeed terribly well, but his Descendant did. That Descendant, Jesus, is the King that Solomon failed to be. Like Mobutu, Jesus aims to conquer, but with a different method entirely. He doesn’t mow down the poor, but rather calls them to repent. When Jesus’ reign is complete, he’ll remove his people’s enemies altogether and enrich all his loyalists in his eternal Kingdom. Solomon’s prayer is being answered in and through Jesus. Let’s praise our King with Solomon’s words in Psalm 72.

Psa. 72:1 *Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!*

Psa. 72:2 *May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!*

Psa. 72:3 *Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!*

Psa. 72:4 *May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!*

Psa. 72:5 *May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!*

Psa. 72:6 *May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!*

Psa. 72:7 *In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!*

Psa. 72:8 *May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!*

Psa. 72:9 *May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust!*

Psa. 72:10 *May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts!*

Psa. 72:11 *May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!*

Psa. 72:12 *For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper.*

Psa. 72:13 *He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.*



BETWEEN 9:00 AM-12:00 PM: PROJECTING THE KING'S JUSTICE IN ZIMBABWE

Being justified by faith leads to the promotion of justice in our spheres. It's the natural follow-up and a no-brainer. We'll hear today in Joel Moment about Hands of Hope leaders who are committed to implementing the Saving King's reign among the poor. This means taking action to help those with whom they're in relationship, that is, their at-risk countrymen. (If you don't know about Hands of Hope, be sure to tune in to Joel Moment today at 3:00 PM.) Here are two girls whom the King is protecting through the courageous work of his loyal subjects. Pray for these children in the pictures and those like them who are being "redeemed" from conditions of "oppression." Let's also celebrate the King for extending his saving righteousness to us. Read the second half of Psalm 72 outloud so that even the angels in heaven can hear you. They never stop praising him.

Psa. 72:14 *From oppression and violence he redeems their life,
and precious is their blood in his sight.*

Psa. 72:15 *Long may he live;
may gold of Sheba be given to him!
May prayer be made for him continually,
and blessings invoked for him all the day!*

Psa. 72:16 *May there be abundance of grain in the land;
on the tops of the mountains may it wave;
may its fruit be like Lebanon;
and may people blossom in the cities
like the grass of the field!*

Psa. 72:17 *May his name endure forever,
his fame continue as long as the sun!
May people be blessed in him,
all nations call him blessed!*

Psa. 72:18 *Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.*

Psa. 72:19 *Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may the whole earth be filled with his glory!
Amen and Amen!*

Psa. 72:20 ¶ *The prayers of David, the son of Jesse, are ended.*



BETWEEN 12:00 PM—3:00 PM: ENTERING A POWER-CHARGED ARENA

Here's an interesting thought: In the Old Testament, righteousness is sometimes thought of as a sphere that people enter into. When they submit to God, they're incorporated into a "righteousness arena." This zone doesn't leave them unchanged. Rather, they're empowered to do special acts of deliverance themselves ("*who exult in your name all the day and in your righteousness are exalted*" (Ps. 89:16)). We see a similar truth in the New Testament ("*...how much more will those who receive...the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ*" — Rom. 5:17).

As dwellers in God's righteousness, we're obligated to our struggling neighbors and fellow citizens. This means helpful compassion to the afflicted and downtrodden. And remember, they have a "righteousness" obligation as well, to repent, work (if they can), contribute, honor authority and obey the law. Who are you pulling up?



BETWEEN 3:00 PM—4:00 PM: Join the **Joel Moment Prayer Gathering**. Go to Zoom.com and enter Meeting ID and Password.



GLEN MILLER [He'll share about his work with Hands of Hope.]

JOE AND MARY SUE PROCTOR [They'll share about their hearts for children and how God has provided for Hands of Hope over many years.]

GROUP PRAYER PROMPT #1 (7 min.): **Psa. 40:10** *I have not hidden your deliverance [lit. your righteousness] within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.*

We ought not just experience his righteousness in times of need, but express the outcome to others. Pray out the ways he's helped your cause and plight. Let those in your Zoom group hear you praise him.

GROUP PRAYER PROMPT #2 (7 min.): Pray for the justified and empowered people of Valley Church in their various spheres of activity (e.g., worship, small group leaders, teachers, youth staff, financial givers, elders, greeters, Women Helping Women, Go Team members, Bible study teachers, etc.). Ask God to help them extend their arms to minister and lift up others with "righteousness" power.

GROUP PRAYER PROMPT #3 (7 min.): **Psa. 143:1** *Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!*

Until the final dramatic acts of saving righteousness that will occur when King Jesus appears, we'll have to keep pleading for intermediate rescues and deliverances. But God is faithful to his relationship with his people. Who needs physical, emotional and physical assistance in our nation, neighborhoods and church? Get talking to the One who expresses his righteousness not in lofty words but in lofty deeds.

BETWEEN 5:00 PM-10:00 PM: POWER DOWN ELECTRICAL DEVICES AND YOUR SOUL FOR THE EVENING

Here's a passage that predicts the coming of the Saving King. If you've repented, you can claim it with gusto.

Is. 32:17 *And the effect of righteousness will be peace,
and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever.*

Is. 32:18 *My people will abide in a peaceful habitation,
in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.*