

December 5, 2022

Be Attentive to His Leading

[Psalm 72:1-7](#)

- ¹ Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.
- ² May he judge your people with righteousness
and your poor with justice.
- ³ May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴ May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.
- ⁵ May he live^[a] while the sun endures
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
- ⁶ May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.
- ⁷ In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

In today's scripture lesson, King Solomon lays down a lengthy list of petitions to God in prayer. He prays for wisdom, so that he can judge the people with justice. He particularly uplifts his role in defending the poor and needy. He asks God for peace and prosperity in the land until the moon is no more.

King Solomon surely sought the best for God's people in his prayer, didn't he? Isn't what King Solomon asked for in his prayer what God asks of us?

Doesn't God want us to show justice and help those in need?

Doesn't he encourage us to be peacemakers in this world even when those around us are in strife? All those attributes King Solomon prayed for the people of Israel during his reign are modeled through the life of Jesus. We should certainly follow Jesus' lead.

The season of Advent can overwhelm us with worldly distractions and busyness as we prepare for the birth of Christ. We lose track of what is truly of value to God. Let's put down the wrapping paper and baking sheets for a moment and redirect our attention to what matters to God.

Spend some time in prayer with God. Ask him to direct your attention to someone in your life to whom you can help bring justice and peace. If you are attentive to his leading, he will guide your work.

Prayer: *God of Justice and Mercy, we humble ourselves before you. Lead us to whom we may show your saving grace in our lives. Guide our steps as we follow your call. Amen.*

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