

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Psalms Series

These questions are for the **July 10, 2022**, sermon, "To the ends of the earth." Please read the sermon passage (Psalm 72) together out loud.

Passage Outline

AS WE CONSIDER CHRIST'S REIGN IN THE END TIMES, NOTE . . .

1. The distinctive nature of Christ's reign. (1-7)
 - a. Jesus will judge his own people with righteousness and justice.
 - b. He will bring justice:
 - i. A permanent era of prosperity and provision.
 - ii. A permanent end to oppression and exploitation.
 1. He will "defend the cause" of the needy.
 2. He will "give deliverance to the children of the needy."
2. The extensive scope of Christ's reign. (8-14)
 - a. From sea to sea: throughout the entirety of the land promised to his people.
 - b. Over "all the kings": Jesus will reign with complete authority over all the earth.
 - i. A directive: "May all the kings" come and freely worship him, submit to him.
 - ii. Because he uses his matchless power to "deliver," "help," and "save" all those who trust him.
3. The future blessings of Christ's reign. (15-17)
 - a. The nations will gladly submit to him and delight in him.
 - b. As we willingly worship his name, there will be no end to his kingdom.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Every person who remains a rebel, against God's gracious and kind authority in Jesus Christ, will be eternally judged and separated from him. In what way does this truth motivate you to be obedient to the mission of God to proclaim Jesus?
2. Based on #1, above: Note that the nature of rebellion in these verses is injustice and apathy toward the "cause of the poor" and needy. Caring about and serving the cause of the needy and oppressed is a priority in God's kingdom. If that is the priority of God, in Jesus forever, it stands to reason that it should be the priority of the church today. In what ways are we improving toward this priority?
3. Based on #2, above: We mustn't worry when we see the world situation seeming to get worse. The reign of Jesus Christ is certain, and it will be global. Our role is to be faithful. No matter what the world does, Jesus reigns over it, and every eye will see this. How does this promise inform the way you feel about current events and the future?
4. Based on #3, above: We do not believe that our life in this world will be easy. We do not expect nor live for "health and wealth." However, when Jesus comes and reigns in power, that is exactly what we expect. The kingdom of Christ will be characterized by peace, prosperity and harmony. How does this truth delight you and aid your perseverance?