

Qualities of an effective leader (based on Psalm 72)

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Psalm 72 was written for a state occasion to recognise a great leader.

It is relevant for:

- Jesus, who was the only One who was able to live up to these standards
- Kings, Prime Ministers, Mayors and other national leaders
- business or group leaders.
- anyone in leadership (or hoping to be)
- everyone here (because we all have leadership roles in our family, church, work, neighbourhood etc.)

What does a good leader focus on? v 1-7, 12-14

- Justice for the poor
- Righteousness
- Peace
- Care for those in need
- Stopping oppression and violence
- Abundance and prosperity for all

In his days the righteous will flourish; prosperity will abound v7

Leadership is all about use of power

It is easy to abuse power but Psalm 72 shows that leaders can use their power in a godly way, promoting:

- righteousness
- justice
- peace

They do this for all areas of life and society including family, the environment, the economy, international relations. They are focused on what is best for those they are serving and are always seeking to create a future for their people.

This kind of leadership wins respect v 8-11, 15-17

Some questions for you:

- What kind of leader are you?
- What motivates your use of power?
- How do you influence others?
- What are the effects of your leadership?
- Is your leadership focused on justice for the poor; righteousness; peace; care for those in need; stopping oppression and violence; abundance and prosperity for all

Jesus is the greatest example of a leader v 18-20

Let's be like Him!