

# Psalms 72:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment.

## Analysis

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The prayer for the king to 'judge thy people with righteousness' and 'thy poor with judgment' requests just rule that especially protects the vulnerable. Righteous judgment means impartial justice, not favoring rich or powerful. 'Thy poor' emphasizes that even the lowly belong to God, deserving dignified treatment. This messianic psalm ultimately describes Christ's perfect reign where justice flows like a river (Amos 5:24) and the meek inherit the earth (Matthew 5:5).

## Historical Context

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Solomon's reign began with wisdom to judge justly (1 Kings 3:16-28), but human kings ultimately failed this standard. Only Christ perfectly embodies the righteous king who judges with perfect equity.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How does Christ's promise to judge with perfect righteousness provide hope for those experiencing injustice?
2. What responsibility do human authorities have to protect 'the poor' and vulnerable in their jurisdiction?
3. How can you advocate for justice for the marginalized in your community?

## Interlinear Text

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יָד י'	עַמְּךָ	בְּצַדִּיק	וְעִנִּי יָרָה	בְּחֶשֶׁפֶט:
<b>He shall judge</b>	<b>thy people</b>	<b>with righteousness</b>	<b>and thy poor</b>	<b>with judgment</b>
H1777	H5971	H6664	H6041	H4941

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 32:1** (Righteousness): Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment.