

*Daily Morning Message*  
*St Paul United Church of Christ*  
*5312 Old Blue Rock Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45247*  
*Allen M Fluent, Pastor*  
*Thursday, August 19, 2021*

*Lectionary Readings*

*Psalm 101*  
*1 Kings 4:20-28*  
*1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*

*Today's Scripture Verse:*

*During Solomon's lifetime Judah and Israel lived in safety, from Dan even to Beer-sheba, all of them under their vines and fig trees. (1 Kings 4:25)*

What it means:

Those in the land of Israel and Judah during Solomon's reign obviously enjoyed a time of great prosperity and peace. The people are said to have had all that they needed, and therefore gave their full support to the king. In later times, the people of this land would look back upon Solomon's time as an idyllic era and wish for its return. But time does not reverse itself.

Our time of reflection:

During the past year, many people have expressed the desire to return to "normal" again, and the past may come to seem idyllic. This is never as it seems. Every day is a gift from God, and today is the only day we have to find new blessings in a world that is always new and never returns to normal.

