



Psalms Made Practical

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

How The Psalms Were Used

- ✓ *Based on the definition of the word "Psalm," we learn that the purpose of the Psalms was . . .*

II. Beginning Of The Psalms Of Israel

- A. Read Exodus 15:1-21. Why did Israel need to sing this song?
- B. Read Numbers 21:17. What did this Psalm express?
- C. Read Deuteronomy 31:19-21. What benefit will Israel receive from this song?
- D. Read Judges 5. What can we learn about the use of the Psalms here?

II. Psalms In Public Worship

God closely and carefully regulated Israel's public worship.

- A. The Regulation Of Musical Style.
 - 1. Read 1 Chronicles 16:4-7. Who were to be the song leaders of Israel?

2. Read Numbers 10:8-10. Who were the trumpet blowers? When were they to blow the trumpets?
3. Read Deuteronomy 23:1-5. Could anyone with talent play musical instruments in Israel's public worship?
4. Read 1 Chronicles 23:5, 2 Chronicles 29:25-26, Ezra 3:10, Nehemiah 12:35-36.
 - a. Who invented Israel's instruments for worship?
 - b. Why did he invent them?
 - c. Were those instruments to be changed and upgraded as the generations passed to conform to newer styles of music?

B. Psalms Used In Public Worship.

1. When were Psalms 120-134 sung by Israel?
2. 13 Psalms are simply called "songs" in their title. Read Psalm 18 - *why would Israel sing this song?*
3. 58 Psalms are called "psalms" in their title, and had further instructions about their accompaniment. *What instruments were to be used with:*
 - a. Psalm 61
 - b. Psalm 76
 - c. Psalm 150
4. Response Psalms. What is unique about these Psalms:
 - a. Psalm 124
 - b. Psalm 129
 - c. Psalm 136

5. Psalms Used Weekly In Temple Worship. According to Edersheim, Israel sang the following Psalms each week at the Temple:
 - a. Sunday - Psalm 24
 - b. Monday - Psalm 48
 - c. Tuesday - Psalm 82
 - d. Wednesday - Psalm 94
 - e. Thursday - Psalm 81
 - f. Friday - Psalm 93
 - g. Saturday - Psalm 92

C. Synagogue Worship.

Israel worshiped in Synagogues (meaning “assemblies”) long before the days of the New Testament.

1. Read Psalm 74:8. What was burned down, according to this psalm?
2. What other evidence in the Bible shows that Synagogue worship was acceptable to God?
3. Like Temple worship, Israel sang hymns to God in their Synagogues. However, unlike Temple worship, Synagogue worship did not include use of instruments in their singing. (See James McKinnon, *The Church Fathers and Musical Instruments*)

II. Other Uses Of The Psalms

1. According to the New Testament, did Christians sing Psalms?
2. What other purposes did God have for the Psalms?