



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 We Will Study The Psalms

- Part 1. Overview Of The Psalms. First, we will get a big picture of the Psalms in our minds. How are they organized? What are “psalms”? Who wrote them? What kinds of Psalms are there? What were they used for?
 - Part 2. How God Used The Psalms. Second, we will study how they were used by God’s people under the Old Covenant.
 - Part 3. Emotions Of The Psalms. Third, we will study the emotions of the Psalms. How should we express our emotions to God in prayer and in worship? What should we say and not say to Him?
 - Part 4. Making the Psalms Our Own. Fourth, we will spend several weeks studying various types of Psalms - *Praise Psalms*, *Lament Psalms* and *Wisdom Psalms* - and learn to put them into our own words when we pray to God and express ourselves in worship.
 - Part 5. Messianic Psalms. Finally, we will conclude our study of the Psalms by seeing how they connect with Jesus Christ, both through prophesy and New Testament quotations.
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Introduction

- I. Vocabulary Of The Psalms.
 - ✓ “Psalm” means . . .
 - ✓ “Psalter” means . . .
 - ✓ “Michtam” means . . .
 - ✓ “Sefer Tehillim” means . . .
 - ✓ “Alamoth” means . . .
 - ✓ “Mahalath” means . . .
 - ✓ “Jeduthun” means . . .
 - ✓ “Selah” means . . .

II. Organization Of The Psalms.

Long before Jesus, the Psalms were divided into five collections:

- A. Book 1 Includes . . .
- B. Book 2 Includes . . .
- C. Book 3 Includes . . .
- D. Book 4 Includes . . .
- E. Book 5 Includes . . .

II. Inspired Authors Of The Psalms.

There are seven known authors of the psalms.

- A. David. How many psalms are credited to him?
- B. Asaph. Who was he and how many psalms did he write?
- C. The Sons Of Korah. Who were they and how many did they write?
- D. Solomon. Which psalms are his? Did he write any others?

- E. Moses. Which psalm is his? How old is it?

- F. Heman. Which psalm is his? When did he live?

- G. Ethan. Which psalm is his?

How many psalms are anonymous?

II. Types Of Psalms

There are many ways to group the 150 psalms. Some of the categories include:

- A. Psalms of Ascent.

- B. Acrostic Psalms.

- C. Historical Psalms.

- D. Messianic Psalms.

- E. Suffering Psalms.

- F. Imprecatory Psalms.

G. Psalms of Praise.

H. Psalms of Lament.

I. Wisdom Psalms.

II. How To Read The Poetry Of The Psalms.

The psalms are written poetically, but not like our poetry. Their poetry looked like this:

*For He has founded it upon the seas,
And established it upon the waters.
(same idea, reworded)*

*For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
But the way of the ungodly shall perish.
(note the contrast)*

*Your word I have hidden in my heart, (cause)
That I might not sin against You! (effect)*

*Blessed is the man...
Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
Nor stands in the path of sinners,
Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;
(note the progression)*

*Give unto the LORD, O you mighty ones (give what?)
Give unto the LORD glory and strength. (the answer)*

*Because he has set his love upon Me, (note line 4)
therefore I will deliver him; (note line 3)
I will set him on high, (note line 2)
Because he has known my name (note line 1)*

(Preceding illustrations taken from Mark Copeland's workbook on Psalms)