

Psalm

Study Outline



Main Point: Written by several authors over the span of a thousand years, the book of Psalms first existed as 5 separate books before being compiled into one volume by Ezra the Priest. Knowing the powerful catalyst that songs & music can have in unlocking the human hearts ability of expression, the book of Psalms was compiled to help the people of Israel communicated their emotions to God. Most every kind of emotional expression finds itself in the pages of Psalms, which makes this book a wonderful

tool no matter what set a circumstances we find ourselves facing. The book of Psalms is important because it helps people express their feelings and emotions towards God in a Godly way. Further study will also reveal a wonderful "Christ-Centeredness" that works its way throughout all 150 chapters.

Seven Basic Categories

- 1. Psalms of Praise....** focus on the person of God and exalt Him based upon the reality of His character and Divine attributes. 33, 103, 139
- 2. Psalms of Reflection....** are historical in nature and review God's dealings with His people and continued faithfulness. 68, 78, 105, 106
- 3. Psalms of Personal Relationship....** explore the personal relationship that exists between God and His children. 8, 16, 20, 23, 55
- 4. Psalms of Vindication....** call upon righteous judgment of God to intervene on behalf of His children and destroy the wicked. 35, 69, 109, 137
- 5. Psalms of Repentance....** intend to communicate the sinners emotions of sorrow and remorse over failures and sin. Ex: 6, 32, 51, 102, 130
- 6. Psalms of Salvation....** are Messianic and reference the coming Saviour who would descend from King David. Ex: 2, 8, 16, 22, 40, 45, 69, 72
- 7. Psalms of Celebration....** formal Psalms used at specific times of the year or on special occasions to mark celebration. Ex: 30, 92, 120-134

Five Books of Psalms

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| Book 1.... Psalms 1-41.... | David's Conflict with Saul |
| Book 2.... Psalms 42-72.... | David's Kingship |
| Book 3.... Psalms 73-89.... | Assyrian Crisis |
| Book 4.... Psalms 90-106.... | Introspection in Babylonian Exile |
| Book 5.... Psalms 107-150.... | Reflection while Returning from Exile |



Day 1: Personal Path.....

Psalms 1 // THINKING POINTS: (1). According to this passage, what are the only two paths a person can be traveling? (2). What is it that will specifically make a man blessed or happy? (3). In comparing the man dependent on God's Word with a tree planted by rivers of water, what point or points was the Psalmist trying to make?

Day 2: Perfect Revelation.....

Psalms 19 // THINKING POINTS: (1). As you examine this Psalm what two ways does God reveal Himself to humanity? (2). David mentions three different types of sins, what are they? (3). In concluding this Psalm, David desires that even his meditations be pleasing to God.... examine your own meditations.... are they pleasing to God?

Day 3: My Shepherd.....

Psalms 23 // THINKING POINTS: (1). David declares that since God is his Shepherd, he will not lack anything.... what three things will God provide as Shepherd? (2). What reality gives David the boldness needed to walk through the Shadow of Death? (3). In what ways does God our Shepherd practically use his robe & staff in our lives?

Day 4: Letting Go.....

Psalms 32 // THINKING POINTS: (1). In verses 1 & 2 David describes our failures using three terms, what are they? (2). David says that the man who's been forgiven is blessed, but how does he describe the man who's still carrying the burden of his sin? (3). According to this Psalms, what is the essential element needed for God's forgiveness?

Day 5: Repentance Over a Bath.....

Psalms 51 // THINKING POINTS: (1). After reading this Psalm, what three traits must exist for there to be true repentance? (2). Though David had committed a crime against Bathsheba & her husband, who do we really sin against? (3). We often conclude we need to work off our sins, but instead of sacrifice what does God mostly desire?

Day 6: Hidden Word.....

Psalms 119:1-16 // THINKING POINTS: (1). What does the Psalmist mean when he discusses "cleansing his way"? (2). How does a person go about becoming righteous and blameless before God? (3). In Matthew 4, Jesus resisted the temptations of Satan in what way?

DEVOTIONS

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