

MICHIGAN BIBLE SCHOOL

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“THE BOOK OF PSALMS”

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THE BOOK OF PSALMS
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I. INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF PSALMS

1. Psalms is the longest book in the Bible containing 150 chapters (psalms).
2. The longest chapter in the Bible is in the book of Psalms (chapter 119 with 176 verses), and the shortest chapter in the Bible is in the book of Psalms (chapter 117 with two verses).
3. The Hebrew word “psalms” means “praises” and represents the wonderful songs of praise to God that are recorded for us in this book.
4. Most of the Psalms are believed to have been written around 1000 B.C. with many of them coming in the reign of King David.
5. It is not surprising that many of the Psalms are beseeching God’s help against the enemies of Israel as David’s reign was not always peaceful and Israel had many enemies, both within and without.
6. Although Solomon wrote 3000 proverbs and 1005 songs (1 Kgs. 4:32), only two of his Psalms are recorded for us in this book.
7. The subtitles, while not a part of the inspired text, have been with the book of Psalms from at least 200 B.C., as these subtitles were found in the Septuagint, a Hebrew to Greek translation of the Old Testament that was completed about this time.
8. The book cannot be outlined as one would normally outline one of the books of the Bible. While there are 150 Psalms, they are not grouped by subject matter. It is because of this that the only attempt at outlining the book has been to group it into five sections.
 - i. Book 1 – Psalms 1-41
 - ii. Book 2 – Psalms 42-72
 - iii. Book 3 – Psalms 73-89
 - iv. Book 4 – Psalms 90-106
 - v. Book 5 – Psalms 107-150
9. David authored more of the Psalms than any other person. Seventy-three are attributed to David by the subtitles. The following is a list of the known authors of the Psalms.
 - i. David – 73
 - ii. Moses – 1
 - iii. Asaph – 12
 - iv. Solomon – 2
 - v. Heman, the Ezrahite – 1
 - vi. Ethan, the Ezrahite – 1
 - vii. This adds up to 90 psalms leaving 60 of unknown authorship.
10. The following is a break down of which Psalms go with which author.
 - i. David – 3-9; 11-32; 34-41; 51-65; 68-70; 86; 101; 103; 108-110; 122; 124; 131; 133; 138-145
 1. David also has a song recorded for us in 2 Sam. 22 and the last song he wrote is recorded in 2 Sam. 23.
 2. David is referred to as the “sweet psalmist of Israel” in 2 Sam. 23:1.
 - ii. Moses – 90
 - iii. Asaph – 50; 73-83

- iv. Solomon – 72; 127
 - v. Heman, the Ezrahite – 88
 - vi. Ethan, the Ezrahite – 89
 - vii. Heman, Asaph, and Ethan were singers from the tribe of Levi (1 Chr. 15:19).
 - viii. The Septuagint and the Latin Vulgate say that David also wrote 91, 93, 94, 97, and 104. It attributes 111, 112, 125, 126, 137, 138, and 145-149 to either Haggai or Zechariah.
11. The following Psalms were written for the sons of Korah – 42; 44-49; 84,85; 87. The sons of Korah were over the work of the service and keepers of the gate of the Tabernacle (1 Chr. 9:19).
 12. Fourteen are considered to be Messianic – 2; 8; 16; 22; 40,41; 45; 68,69; 89; 102; 109, 110; 118.

II. HEBREW POETRY

1. Normally, when we think of poetry, we think of rhyming verses.
2. It is hard for us to think of something as being poetic when there are no rhymes.
3. Yet, although we may not call them poetry, the books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon are called the Books of Poetry.
4. Some have thought that the Hebrews employed quite a bit of poetry because it was easier to sing and easier to memorize.
5. Hebrew poetry is not confined to the five books above. It is found throughout much of the Old Testament.
6. One of the chief concepts found in Hebrew poetry is what is known as “parallelism”. This is found when one idea is expressed by two or more different concepts or when opposite views are expressed with the same thought. Please note the different kinds of parallelism below.
 - i. Synonymous
 1. This is when the same thought is repeated in different but equivalent words.
 2. Psalms 25:4,5
 - a. “Shew me thy way” and “teach me”. One thought expressed in different words.
 - b. “for thou are the God of my salvation” and “on thee do I wait all the day”. Two expressions recognizing the need to trust in God and follow him.
 - ii. Antithetical
 1. This is when the parallel members express opposite sides of the same thought.
 2. Psalm 20:8
 - a. “They are brought down and fallen”. The plight of the wicked.
 - b. “but we are risen, and stand upright”. The reward of the righteous.

- c. Opposite viewpoints in the same verse.
- iii. Synthetical
 - 1. This is found when the parts of the parallel contain dissimilar ideas that are connected by an affinity between them.
 - 2. Psalms 1:3
 - a. “his leaf also shall not wither”
 - b. “whatsoever he doeth shall prosper”
 - c. Withering and prospering are paralleled here. Two dissimilar ideas bound together by seeking God and his word and remaining steadfast (Psalms 1:2,3).
- 7. Hebrew poetry is distinguished by these parallelisms rather than by rhyming verses.

III. THE PSALMS AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC IN WORSHIP

1. Today, when we talk to someone about the use of mechanical instruments of music in worshipping God, before long, the discussion will find its way into the Old Testament and particularly the Psalms.
2. To justify their use of the instrument in their worship, the denominations will cite that David used it and therefore it must still be alright to use it today. This, of course, is a failure to recognize several things in relation to the Old Testament.
3. Instruments of music have been around almost from the dawn of Creation. Jubal is mentioned in Gen. 4:21 as the “*father of all that handle the harp and organ*”.
4. Shepherds were noted for their use of the instrument to help calm the sheep and to occupy their time while with the sheep.
5. David played to comfort Saul (1 Sam. 16:23; 18:10; 19:9).
6. The Psalms have many references to instruments of music. This is not unexpected since the majority of the Psalms were either written by David or during his time. However, when one reads the Psalms, he or she must remember that these references to the instrument do not give us proof for or proof against the use of the instrument.
7. While there is much discussion as to whether mechanical instrumental music in worship of God was approved by God in the Old Testament, there are some scriptures that need to be noted. These, I believe, help us to understand that while God did not strike them dead for the use of these instruments, it was not of his design that these be used in worship.
 - i. 1 Chr. 23:5 and 2 Chr. 29:25,26,27 all teach us that it was David who introduced the instrument into the Old Testament worship.
 - ii. Amos 6:1-5 helps us to understand that God was not happy with them for using these instruments in worship. Here, he pronounced a woe upon those who would invent for themselves instruments like David did.
 - iii. It would seem that God did not introduce the instrument into the Old Testament worship and was not necessarily pleased with it.

8. Even if one could make a strong case that the instrument was acceptable in Old Testament worship, would this mean that it is acceptable in New Testament worship? Consider these things.
 - i. While there are numerous references to the instrument in Old Testament worship, there is not one reference to the instrument in New Testament worship. This is why people have to keep going back to the Old Testament for their “proof”!
 - ii. We have to remember that the Old Law was nailed to the cross (Eph. 2:14-16; Col. 2:14; consider also Heb. 8-10). Thus, what was authorized under the Old Law does not apply to us today. We are under the New Law which Christ gave us and must do those things which are authorized by Christ (Matt. 28:20; Jas. 1:25; Col. 3:17).
 - iii. In the New Testament, God told us to sing to one another and did not authorize us to use the mechanical instrument of music in worship to him (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16).
9. The Psalms cannot be used to authorize the use of the instrument in worship to God today. They are a part of that Old Law that was nailed to the cross, and the Psalms do not argue in favor of or in disfavor of the use of the instrument. The writers cited them as a part of historical fact. Right or wrong, they used them at times in worshipping God.

IV. SOME THINGS RELATED TO GOD IN EACH OF THE PSALMS

1. Psalms 1:6
 - i. Two things God knows – the way of the righteous and the way of the wicked.
 - ii. God will bless the righteous (See verses 1-3 of this Psalm).
 - iii. A common theme throughout the Psalms is that the wicked will perish.
 - iv. God knows everything and evil will not go unpunished.
2. Psalms 2:11
 - i. In the context of this Psalm, the writer is instructing kings to fear God. Literally, they are to be afraid of God.
 - ii. They need to turn to serving God and do so with fear and reverence.
 - iii. And, while they find reason to rejoice, they should do so keeping in mind who God is. The word “trembling” means “to shudder”. Everything they do should be done with complete respect for God.
3. Psalms 3:3
 - i. The psalmist has the proper understanding of God.
 - ii. He knows that it is God who is a shield for him, therefore, his protector.
 - iii. It is God in whom he glories and who brings glory to his life.
 - iv. It is God who is his helper against his enemies. He can withstand anything (See Rom. 8:31ff).

4. Psalms 4:8
 - i. The faithful of God have nothing to fear. They can rest comfortably.
 - ii. Their confidence is in God who watches over them and keeps them.
5. Psalms 5:4
 - i. God takes no pleasure in wickedness.
 - ii. Evil will not be with God or near God. It is therefore opposed to God and opposed by God.
6. Psalms 6:9
 - i. Prayer was important in the minds of the various psalmists.
 - ii. They knew that prayer was their tool to ask God for help and that God would hear the prayers of the righteous (See 1 Pet. 3:12).
7. Psalms 7:9
 - i. Asking that the deeds of the wicked would come to an end and that the just would be established, the psalmist reminds us of one of the attributes of the righteous God.
 - ii. It is God who searches the reins and the hearts of man. That is, God knows the very inner being of man, his every thought (See Ecc. 12:14; Rev. 2:23).
8. Psalms 8:1
 - i. While there are many names that we hold in high esteem on Earth, there is one name above all – the name of God.
 - ii. His glory is above the heavens.
9. Psalms 9:7,8
 - i. God is eternal.
 - ii. God will judge mankind in righteousness (by his word) and in uprightness (in fairness; justly).
10. Psalms 10:16
 - i. God is known by his judgment. His justice cannot be disputed.
 - ii. The wicked will not escape, but will perish by their own doing.
11. Psalms 11:4
 - i. Consistent throughout the Psalms (consider Psalms 139) is that God knows what we are doing.
 - ii. God sits in Heaven and tries us. He puts us to the test and measures us by his standard.
12. Psalms 12:6
 - i. The words of the Lord are pure.
 - ii. How pure? The finest ever.
13. Psalms 13:6
 - i. If any be merry, let him sing psalms (Jas. 5:13). This sentiment is echoed in Psalms 13:6.
 - ii. Why do we praise God in song? Because he has dealt bountifully with us. We have been blessed beyond measure.

14. Psalms 14:2-4
 - i. There is truly an all-seeing eye watching us.
 - ii. God is seeing if any seek God and sees that none seek him.
 - iii. Why do they not seek God? Verses 2,4 show us they have no knowledge of God.
15. Psalms 15:1
 - i. The question is asked, "Who will abide with God?"
 - ii. The answer is given in the rest of this Psalm. Only the righteous will abide with God.
16. Psalms 16:5
 - i. Our inheritance and help lie with God.
 - ii. It is God who maintains us. This helps us to understand that without God we have nothing.
17. Psalms 17:13
 - i. The psalmist went to God for help against his enemies.
 - ii. He knew that with God he could overcome.
18. Psalms 18:30
 - i. God's way is perfect.
 - ii. God's word has been proven.
 - iii. God is a shield to those who trust in him. (Again, note what a blessing we have when we serve God faithfully.)
19. Psalms 19:7
 - i. God's word is perfect.
 - ii. God's word is what converts the soul (See Rom. 1:16,17).
 - iii. The foolish are made wise when they follow God's word.
20. Psalms 20:9
 - i. God can save us.
 - ii. The psalmist went to God for help in getting the government (king) to listen to them when they plead with the king.
21. Psalms 21:13
 - i. The power of God brings his exaltation.
 - ii. We praise God's great power. (How great it is to serve a living God!)
22. Psalms 22:28
 - i. While people talk about their nation, all nations belong to God.
 - ii. While people think they are in control, it is God who is in control.
23. Psalms 23:1
 - i. It is God who is our guide and protector.
 - ii. God is all we need.
24. Psalms 24:1
 - i. The Earth and all that is therein belong to God.
 - ii. The fact that God created and sustains everything is found often in the Psalms.

25. Psalms 25:6
 - i. The psalmist needs God to give unto him his tender mercies and loving kindness.
 - ii. These have always been with God.
26. Psalms 26:1
 - i. Would we able to tell God to go ahead and judge us because we knew we would stand uncondemned before God?
 - ii. Because he trusted in God, he would not fall.
27. Psalms 27:1
 - i. We should not fear men (See Matt. 10:28) for God is our light and our salvation.
 - ii. God is also our strength. We fear nothing.
28. Psalms 28:7
 - i. God is his strength and shield.
 - ii. He trusted in God and he was helped by God.
 - iii. For this, he praised God.
29. Psalms 29:10
 - i. Contextually, this psalm shows that God is in control of all things.
 - ii. He reigns eternally.
30. Psalms 30:5
 - i. This verse shows the mercy of God.
 - ii. While he becomes angry with us, he will give life to those who serve him.
 - iii. With God, our joy will return quickly.
31. Psalms 31:23
 - i. Why do we love the Lord?
 - ii. Because he preserves the faithful and punishes the proud. God is just.
32. Psalms 32:11
 - i. The faithful cannot help but be happy.
 - ii. God desires for us to rejoice in the Lord always (Phil. 4:4).
33. Psalms 33:6
 - i. God created the heavens (skies).
 - ii. God created everything in the sky.
 - iii. Evolution is smashed!
34. Psalms 34:18
 - i. While it is easy for those who are saddened or lonely or somewhat in despair to believe they are alone, God is watching over them.
 - ii. God has always taught his people to remember those who are in need (Jas. 1:27; Gal. 2:10).
35. Psalms 35:24
 - i. The psalmist desires to be judged by God's righteousness and for God to help him in his time of trouble.
 - ii. He does not want his enemies to win over him.

36. Psalms 36:1
- i. This passage shows us that people are wicked because they do not fear God.
 - ii. It also shows us that we need to be afraid of what God can do to us (See Matt. 10:28).
37. Psalms 37:25
- i. This verse continues to show us God's care for his people.
 - ii. When they have troubles, they are upheld by God.
 - iii. The faithful will have that which they need (See Matt. 6:33).
38. Psalms 38:22
- i. The psalmist is aware that God is his source for help. This he desires to come quickly.
 - ii. He does not want to be overtaken by his enemies, and wishes to rely upon God who is his salvation.
39. Psalms 39:7
- i. The continuing theme in the Psalms is the trust they had in God. There was nothing else they needed.
 - ii. He knew he must confess his sins (1) and speak the message of God (3). Knowing that God was with him, he would willingly do both.
40. Psalms 40:8
- i. He took great pleasure in doing God's will. It was not drudgery to him.
 - ii. God's word had been written in his heart.
41. Psalms 41:1
- i. A great difference between those of the world and those who are the people of God is their attitude towards the poor. While the world generally neglected them, God's people found ways to help the poor.
 - ii. Because of this, they would be helped in the time of their troubles. They would reap what they sown.
42. Psalms 42:11
- i. Many people go through life discouraged and depressed. In their minds, all is hopeless. Life is miserable.
 - ii. The people of God do not have this attitude because with God all things work together for good for them (See Rom. 8:28). Note the expression in reference to God in Psa. 42:11 – "*who is the health of my countenance*".
43. Psalms 43:4
- i. Men will turn to other men or false gods for their help.
 - ii. The people of God turn to God for their guidance.
44. Psalms 44:22
- i. The reality of serving God is that we will be persecuted and possibly killed (See 2 Tim. 3:12; Acts 21:13).
 - ii. This was faced, not with fear, but with a resolve to not fail God regardless of the personal cost (See Rom. 8:36).

45. Psalms 45:6
- i. This is one of the many references to the Messiah in the Psalms.
 - ii. See Heb. 1:8
46. Psalms 46:10
- i. Everyone must think about God and recognize him. It is not a good thing to fail to understand God and follow him.
 - ii. God will be exalted.
47. Psalms 47:2
- i. God is to be feared.
 - ii. For he rules over all the Earth.
48. Psalms 48:14
- i. The wicked will not overcome, but will be defeated.
 - ii. The upright will conquer death (See 1 Cor. 15:54,55).
49. Psalms 49:15
- i. The grave seems such a foreboding place. It is, to many, a place to be feared and where we lose all hope.
 - ii. The child of God understands that with God they will not just die, but will live eternally.
50. Psalms 50:21,22
- i. The continual mistake of man – thinking that God is like us.
 - ii. He is not and we need to fear him. None can spare us from him.
51. Psalms 51:17
- i. A humble serving heart is what God expects of his people.
 - ii. Jesus used his own life as an example of an humble serving person (Jn. 13:1ff; 12:49,50).
52. Psalms 52:7
- i. Those who are boastful evil men (which goes hand in hand) are those who will be destroyed because they trusted in their own riches.
 - ii. They did not make God their strength.
53. Psalms 53:4
- i. The ignorance of the workers of iniquity is seen in this verse.
 - ii. They were fools who had said there was no God (1).
54. Psalms 54:4
- i. God is his helper.
 - ii. God helps those who help others.
55. Psalms 55:16
- i. Regardless of what others did, he would call upon God and be saved.
 - ii. Reminds us of Joshua in Josh. 24:15 – “*but as for me and my house*”.
56. Psalms 56:9
- i. He knew God was with him.
 - ii. With God’s help, his enemies would flee from him (compare Jas. 4:7).

57. Psalms 57:10
- i. The psalmist desired nothing else but that God be exalted.
 - ii. See 1 Cor. 10:31; 1 Pet. 2:11,12; Matt. 5:16.
58. Psalms 58:11
- i. When the righteous see the wicked punished, they will know that it is better to be righteous and receive a blessing from God.
 - ii. God will judge the Earth.
59. Psalms 59:9
- i. Because of God's strength, he had his defense against his enemies.
 - ii. He would stand faithful to God forever.
60. Psalms 60:11
- i. Our help comes from God.
 - ii. Man's "wisdom" is useless (See 1 Cor. 1:25; 3:19,20).
61. Psalms 61:2
- i. He would pray to God always and everywhere (See 1 Thess. 5:17).
 - ii. Like our song, he wanted to go to the rock that is higher than he.
62. Psalms 62:8
- i. Trust in God always.
 - ii. Pray to God.
 - iii. God will help us.
63. Psalms 63:1
- i. God was his God.
 - ii. He would seek him early. This reminds us of the need to seek God not only early each day, but early in life.
64. Psalms 64:9
- i. When man thinks about what God has done, he cannot but strive to know about this God and declare God's work.
 - ii. An honest person can only conclude there is a God by looking at the things made and the great blessings that have come our way (See Heb. 3:4).
65. Psalms 65:9
- i. It is God who is in control and sustains the Earth.
 - ii. See verses 10-13 for a more complete description of this.
66. Psalms 66:18
- i. While so many scoff at sin and think it is nothing, the psalmist knew that if he welcomed sin in his life, God would not hear him.
 - ii. The need to stay away from sin and to confess sin is a Biblical truth we must understand (Prov. 4:15; Jas. 5:16; 2 Cor. 6:14-18).
67. Psalms 67:7
- i. In context, when we bless God, he will bless us.
 - ii. Everyone will fear God (See Phil. 2:9-11).
68. Psalms 68:17
- i. The forces of God far outnumber the forces of men.
 - ii. Jesus told Peter that he could bring down 12 legions of angels to defend himself if this were needed (Matt. 26:53). A Roman

Legion numbered about 6,000 men. Thus, Jesus could easily access 72,000 angels.

69. Psalms 69:16

- i. He knew that God's loving kindness was good.
- ii. He knew that God's mercy was good.
- iii. Thinking about this, where else would we turn for help?

70. Psalms 70:5

- i. He needed God's help and wanted no delays in this help.
- ii. He knew that God would come to the aid of the poor and needy.

71. Psalms 71:5

- i. This passage emphasizes the need to hope in God.
- ii. It also shows us the importance of trusting in God from our youth (See Deut. 6:4-6; Ecc. 12:1; 2 Tim. 1:5).

72. Psalms 72:18

- i. Men have always attributed marvelous works either to some other man or to a false god. They have used this to control other people and get their will done.
- ii. The psalmist recognized that it was only God who could do these marvelous works.
- iii. Simon, the sorcerer, recognized this also as he knew what the Holy Spirit did was the real thing and that what he had done as a sorcerer was not (See Acts 8:18,19).

73. Psalms 73:25

- i. His look was up to God.
- ii. He sought no other on Earth.

74. Psalms 74:22

- i. The foolish reproach God daily.
- ii. The psalmist wanted God to plead his cause. The psalmist viewed this as a challenge to God. We know from a study of the Bible that there is no God but God (See 1 Cor. 8:4).

75. Psalms 75:7

- i. It is God who is in control.
- ii. He puts in place whom he will; he brings down whom he will (See Dan. 4).

76. Psalms 76:7

- i. Man often challenges God, thinking that he can defeat God.
- ii. The psalmist understood that none could defeat God.

77. Psalms 77:12

- i. Recognizing the greatness of God, he would meditate on the work of God.
- ii. He would not stop there, but he would tell others of the greatness of God.

78. Psalms 78:41
- i. Israel had turned back from God and put him to the test. (They always lost when they challenged God.)
 - ii. If we could classify one thing being worse than the other, not only did they try God, but by their evil works, they limited God. Isaiah helps us to understand how this limited God – *“But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear”* (Isa. 59:2).
79. Psalms 79:9
- i. God was their help in trouble (See also Psa. 46:1).
 - ii. They went to God to have their sins purged. We go to God to have our sins purged (Jas. 5:16; 1 Jn. 1:9).
80. Psalms 80:7
- i. In verses 3, 7, and 19, the psalmist expresses the same thing in the same words – It is God who can save us.
 - ii. His plea is that God will turn them back to him so they can be saved. The Hebrew writer in Heb. 12 teaches us that God chastens those he loves. Through God’s word and through chastening of God, we can be saved, if we will only listen and turn back to God.
81. Psalms 81:12
- i. We are people of choice. We can serve God or not. If we choose not to serve God, God will allow us to go to our own destruction following our own lusts and counsel.
 - ii. See Rom. 1:21-32.
82. Psalms 82:1
- i. God is the ruler of all.
 - ii. He is the Judge.
83. Psalms 83:18
- i. The psalmist wanted all the world to know that God ruled over all the Earth.
 - ii. He recognized that with the punishment of sin would come this knowledge. This is one of the good things that comes from a bad situation.
84. Psalms 84:10
- i. Would you rather have 1000 years here on Earth or one day in the courts of God? The obvious answer is that all that God has is greater than all that we could ever have on Earth.
 - ii. Wickedness offers us nothing. In the minds of men, holding a lowly position on Earth is demeaning. The psalmist, however, recognized that even if all we obtained in Heaven was to be the door keeper, even that would be greater than all that wickedness had to give us.
 - iii. We recognize that there will be no door keepers in Heaven, but we also know that we try to understand Heaven in terms that help us to see how great it really is. As inadequate as our examples may be,

they help us to understand that any part of Heaven is greater than all the Earth.

85. Psalms 85:8
 - i. He knew that he must listen to God.
 - ii. He knew that they must not turn from God again.
86. Psalms 86:5
 - i. God is good.
 - ii. God is ready to forgive.
 - iii. God is merciful to those who call upon him.
87. Psalms 87:2
 - i. God's dwelling place, Jerusalem and the Temple, meant more to him than all the dwelling places upon Earth.
 - ii. How do we think God feels about his dwelling place today – the church? (See 2 Cor. 6:16-18).
88. Psalms 88:14
 - i. It is a sad day when God is no longer with us. A feeling of hopelessness comes our way.
 - ii. This Psalm helps us to see that wickedness will cause God to no longer help us.
89. Psalms 89:34
 - i. God cannot change. He will keep his word.
 - ii. See Jas. 1:17; Heb. 6:18; Num. 23:19; Mal. 3:6; Heb. 10:23.
90. Psalms 90:2
 - i. God has always been. He is eternal.
 - ii. God is not a created being, but is the always-existing source of all creation.
91. Psalms 91:14
 - i. If we truly love God, he will deliver us and we will be rewarded with a home with God.
 - ii. Read 1 John for a greater discussion on love, especially chapter 4.
92. Psalms 92:13
 - i. To dwell forever in the courts of God should be the goal of all men.
 - ii. To attain this great reward, we must be planted in the house of the Lord.
 - iii. For mankind today, we must become members of his church (See Acts 2) and remain faithful in his church (Rev. 2:10).
93. Psalms 93:1
 - i. It is God who reigns supreme.
 - ii. He is strong and will not be moved.
94. Psalms 94:23
 - i. Because the Psalms were written primarily during times of distress, the psalmists would beseech God to help them against their enemies.
 - ii. They understood that those who walk in wickedness would fall by their own wickedness. God would cut them off.

95. Psalms 95:3
- i. God is great.
 - ii. He is superior to all.
96. Psalms 96:13
- i. God is coming to judge mankind.
 - ii. His standard of judgment – his righteousness and his truth.
97. Psalms 97:10
- i. God will preserve the souls of his saints.
 - ii. If we love the Lord, we will hate evil.
98. Psalms 98:2
- i. Most people who live upon the Earth will be lost (See Matt. 7:13,14).
 - ii. Yet, they will be lost because of their ignorance of God and his word. This ignorance will not come because they have not heard, but because they did not listen. (See Hos. 4:6; Rom. 10:18).
99. Psalms 99:5
- i. It is God who is holy.
 - ii. Therefore we must worship him.
100. Psalms 100:5
- i. God is good.
 - ii. His mercy is everlasting.
 - iii. His truth endures to all generations.
101. Psalms 101:6
- i. Who will dwell with God?
 - ii. Those who are faithful and those who walk in a perfect way.
102. Psalms 102:19
- i. God is sitting in Heaven but he is not sleeping, on vacation, or not interested in what is happening on Earth.
 - ii. From his throne, he is looking down upon us. God knows.
103. Psalms 103:8,9
- i. What do we know about God?
 - ii. He is merciful, gracious, slow to anger, plenteous in mercy, and will not always chide nor keep his anger forever.
104. Psalms 104:24
- i. God's works are seen by us.
 - ii. His work shows his great wisdom and care for us (Only God could have put together this universe that works perfectly together. Only God could have created our bodies that are so marvelously made.).
105. Psalms 105:8
- i. God keeps his word.
 - ii. God does not forget.
106. Psalms 106:44
- i. Although man does not deserve to be saved (See Rom. 6:23), God desires that all be saved (See Acts 17:30).
 - ii. God sees our iniquities and hears our cry. When we cry to God for help, he will save us.

107. Psalms 107:43
- i. Who is wise?
 - ii. Who will observe these things?
 - iii. Those who are wise and pay attention will understand the loving kindness of God.
108. Psalms 108:13
- i. With God on our side, we will do well.
 - ii. God will destroy our enemies.
109. Psalms 109:1
- i. The context of this Psalm is a song asking that the wicked be punished according to their doings.
 - ii. In this verse, the psalmist is asking God not to hold back but to punish the wicked. The psalmist may have thought that God would do nothing to the wicked, but we have seen throughout the Psalms that God will destroy the wicked.
110. Psalms 110:4
- i. The superiority of the priesthood of Jesus is seen in this verse.
 - ii. See Heb. 5-7.
111. Psalms 111:10
- i. Wisdom begins when we learn to fear God.
 - ii. Those who obey God understand his will.
112. Psalms 112:1
- i. Those who are blessed are those who fear God.
 - ii. Those who are blessed are those who delight in his commandments.
113. Psalms 113:4,5
- i. God is high above all the nations.
 - ii. Who is like our God?
114. Psalms 114:7
- i. Men make fun of God and ignore God. They have no real respect for God.
 - ii. This passage teaches us that we must tremble in the presence of God.
115. Psalms 115:3
- i. Our God is alive and in Heaven.
 - ii. His will has been done as he pleased.
116. Psalms 116:15
- i. It is sad for us when a faithful Christian passes away.
 - ii. With God, though, this is a precious thing. How great is the reward of the faithful?
117. Psalms 117:2
- i. God's merciful kindness is great toward us.
 - ii. His truth endures forever.

118. Psalms 118:6
- i. It is great to enter into a battle knowing that you are going to win.
 - ii. This verse teaches us that we have nothing to fear because God is on our side and man can do nothing to us.
119. Psalms 119:72
- i. How precious is the word of God to us?
 - ii. The psalmist said it was worth more to him than thousands of gold and silver.
120. Psalms 120:1
- i. We all need help in times of trouble.
 - ii. For the faithful child of God, we can cry to God and he will hear us.
121. Psalms 121:1,2
- i. The psalmist understood where his help came from. He looked to the hills for his help.
 - ii. Because God was the one who helped him.
122. Psalms 122:1
- i. For the Jews, to go to the house of God was a joyful occasion.
 - ii. For us, do we have joy when we gather with the church?
123. Psalms 123:2
- i. The servant waited for his master and looked to his master for guidance.
 - ii. We look to God for our guidance.
124. Psalms 124:1
- i. Where would we be if God were not on our side?
 - ii. Israel understood that without God on their side they would have been consumed.
125. Psalms 125:1
- i. Trust in God.
 - ii. If we do, we will not be moved.
126. Psalms 126:3
- i. God has done great things for us.
 - ii. This should bring great joy to our hearts. (Can we think of any reason we should not be happy?)
127. Psalms 127:1
- i. Men try to build their lives on their own devices and leave God out of the picture.
 - ii. This passage teaches us that we labor in vain if we try to do anything without God. A home will not stand without God; a city will not survive without God.
128. Psalms 128:1
- i. The blessed man fears God.
 - ii. The blessed man walks in the ways of God.
129. Psalms 129:4
- i. God is righteous.
 - ii. He has destroyed the wicked.

130. Psalms 130:3
- i. If God were not merciful, where would we be?
 - ii. The psalmist helps us to understand that we would not stand.
131. Psalms 131:1
- i. Humility is needed to serve God.
 - ii. See Matt. 23:12; Rom. 12:3.
132. Psalms 132:11
- i. The Messiah will descend from David.
 - ii. See Ruth 4; Matt. 1.
133. Psalms 133:1
- i. Unity among brethren is what God desires.
 - ii. See Jn. 17:20,21.
134. Psalms 134:3
- i. God made the heavens and the Earth.
 - ii. He is powerful enough to bless us.
135. Psalms 135:5
- i. God is great.
 - ii. God is superior to all.
136. Psalms 136:23
- i. The entire Psalm tells us that God's mercy endures forever. (In fact, each verse ends with this expression.)
 - ii. Verse 23 teaches us that God does not forget us even when things are not going well.
137. Psalms 137:4
- i. The Jews would go into captivity and find it to be a terrible place.
 - ii. How could they sing praises to God while in captivity? They knew that sorrow would be theirs and joy would escape from them.
138. Psalms 138:2
- i. The psalmist will gladly worship God.
 - ii. God's word has been magnified greatly.
139. Psalms 139:4
- i. God knows every word we speak.
 - ii. See Matt. 12:36.
140. Psalms 140:8
- i. We do not want the wicked to exalt themselves.
 - ii. We want God to stop them.
141. Psalms 141:9
- i. He prayed that God would deliver him from evil.
 - ii. See Matt. 6:13.
142. Psalms 142:5
- i. He prayed to God who was his refuge.
 - ii. He knew that God was what he wanted in this life.
143. Psalms 143:5
- i. He remembered what God had done for him in the past.
 - ii. He considered all the works of God.

- 144. Psalms 144:15
 - i. We have all we need and are not happy. We have God, what more do we need?
 - ii. See 1 Tim. 6:6-8.
- 145. Psalms 145:17
 - i. God is righteous in all that he does.
 - ii. God is holy in all his works.
- 146. Psalms 146:5
 - i. Who is the happy man?
 - ii. The answer: He who has God who helps him, and who hopes in God.
- 147. Psalms 147:5
 - i. God is great in power.
 - ii. God is infinite in understanding.
- 148. Psalms 148:5
 - i. Natural or supernatural origin of the universe?
 - ii. "For he commanded, and they were created."
- 149. Psalms 149:4
 - i. God rejoices with his people.
 - ii. He will bless the meek.
- 150. Psalms 150:6
 - i. What a fitting end to the Psalms.
 - ii. "Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."

V. CHRIST IN THE PSALMS

1. The theme of the Old Testament is "Christ is coming". Pointing us to the Messiah (Gal. 3:24), every book relates something to us of the Christ.
2. In the Psalms, we find many prophecies of Christ. Some of these are listed here with their New Testament fulfillment.
3. Psalms 2:7 and Heb. 1:5 – Of the angels it was never said, "Thou art my Son ...".
4. Psalms 16:10 and Acts 2:27 – Although Christ died on the cross, it was prophesied that he would not stay in the grave.
5. Psalms 22:1 and Matt. 27:46 – One of the most forlorn sayings on the cross was the utter sorrow expressed in "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me"
6. Psalms 22:8 and Matt. 27:43 – Standing at the foot of the cross, Jesus' enemies mocked him because they would see if God would deliver him. Little did they know that three days later, God would deliver his Son in a fashion that has shaken the world ever since.
7. Psalms 22:18 and Matt. 27:35; Mk. 15:24; Lk. 23:34 – At the foot of the cross, Jesus' slayers would divide his garments among them.
8. Psalms 31:5 and Lk. 23:46 – Just before Jesus died on the cross, he commended his Spirit into the hands of God.

9. Psalms 34:20 and Jn. 19:36 – Although they broke the legs of the thieves, they pierced Jesus’ side because he was already dead. This fulfilled the prophecy that a bone would not be broken in his body.
10. Psalms 45:6 and Heb. 1:8 – Jesus is called God in this prophecy and the Hebrew writer uses it to show the superiority of Jesus to the angels.
11. Psalms 68:18 and Eph. 4:8 – The conquering Jesus is seen at his Ascension. When he ascended into Heaven, he led “captivity captive”. He entered into the veil (Heb. 6:18) so we could be saved.
12. Psalm 69:21 and Matt. 27:34; Mk. 15:36; Jn. 19:29
 - i. Jesus was mocked by the Romans during his trials and taunted with vinegar to drink (Lk. 23:36). Vinegar in its pure form was undrinkable. It was, however, diluted with water and used by the poor as a drink. It could also be presented in the form of a wine.
 - ii. Just before his crucifixion, he was offered vinegar and gall (Matt. 27:34). It is known that the Roman soldiers would offer a mixture of vinegar and gall to the accused just before they crucified them. This mixture helped alleviate the pain. Jesus refused this drink.
 - iii. At the very point of his death, he was offered vinegar and took a drink. Jesus had said, “I thirst” and someone offered him help in his last hour. (Mk. 15:36; Jn. 19:29).
13. Psalms 109:8 and Acts 1:20 – After Judas betrayed Christ, he went out and hanged himself. His office was filled by Matthias. The writer of Acts clearly points out that the prophecy of this event was in the Psalms.
14. Psalms 110:4 and Heb. 5:6 – The superiority of Jesus’ priesthood is found in Heb. 5-7. It is prophesied in this Psalm.
15. Psalms 118:22 and Eph. 2:20 – Although the Jews rejected him, he is still the chief corner stone (See also 1 Pet. 2:4,7).
16. Psalms 132:11 and Lk. 1:32 – David was told that upon David’s throne would sit a king forever. Gabriel told Mary that her son, Jesus Christ, would be the King that would fulfill this prophecy.

VI. SOME SELECTED PSALMS FOR OUR STUDY

1. Psalms 8 – The appreciation we should have for God
 - i. He has stilled the hands of our enemies.
 - ii. While it is he who created the heavens and the earth, he is mindful of us.
 - iii. God gave us dominion over all the rest of creation.
 - iv. We should shout “How excellent is his name!”
2. Psalms 15 – Who will dwell with God?
 - i. In this psalm, God tells us who will abide with him.
 - ii. Who will abide with God?
 1. Those who walk uprightly.
 2. Those who work righteousness.
 3. Those who speak truth in their hearts.

4. Those that do not backbite.
 5. Those who do not do evil to their neighbors.
 6. Those who do not take up reproach against their neighbors.
 7. Those in whose eyes a vile person is contemned (“not esteemed”).
 8. Those who fear the Lord.
 9. Those who keep their word even if it costs them.
 10. Those who help others and do not try to gain from this help.
3. Psalms 19 – The power of God and his word
 - i. The heavens declare the glory of God and his power.
 1. By them we know there is a God and all people know this.
 2. All the world sees this.
 3. The Sun moves and warms us all and is a testimony that God exists.
 - ii. The word of God is perfect, converts, is sure, makes us wise, is right, is pure, enlightens, is clean, is everlasting, is true, is righteous, is more precious than anything, warns us, and promises great reward.
 - iii. All of this helps man to see the error of his ways.
 4. Psalms 23 – The shepherd psalm
 - i. The shepherd (God) keeps us where we will not want.
 - ii. He provides for our sustenance.
 - iii. He guides us in the right path.
 - iv. He comforts us and protects us in difficult times.
 - v. He helps us overcome our enemies and blesses us when we have trouble.
 - vi. We are blessed forever by our dwelling in the house of the Lord.
 5. Psalms 78 – We are a forgetful people
 - i. In this Psalm, God reminds Israel of the things which he had done for them from Egypt through the wilderness and into the Promised Land.
 - ii. God reminded them that he punished them for their sins.
 - iii. Yet, they forgot it all and continued to turn from God.
 1. *“They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in his law; and forgat his works, and his wonders that he had shewed them.”* (vss. 10,11)
 2. *“But he, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, and destroyed them not: yea, many a time turned he is anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath.”* (vs. 38)
 3. *“Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.”* (vs. 41)

6. Psalms 90 – Number your days
 - i. Man has continued to foolishly use his days. The days are gone, only left to be a tale that is told. They have been wasted as we have stirred up the wrath of God (vs. 9).
 - ii. We must be like the psalmist who asked that we may be taught to number our days so we can apply our hearts to wisdom (vs. 12).

7. Psalms 118 – A look at some verses of great wisdom in this psalm
 - i. *“The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?”* (vs. 6)
 - ii. *“It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.”* (vs. 8)
 - iii. *“The Lord is my strength and song, and is become my salvation.”* (vs. 14)
 - iv. *“This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.”* (vs. 24)

GENERAL OUTLINES OF THE PSALMS

PSALMS 1

1. The blessed man's walk (1).
2. The blessed man's delight (2).
3. The blessed man's reward (3).
4. The ungodly man's instability (4).
5. The ungodly man's end (5).
6. God knows those who are righteous and those who are wicked (6).

PSALMS 2

1. The heathen think they can rebel against God (1-3).
2. God laughs at them and holds them in derision (4).
3. God will punish the wicked (5).
4. The prophesied Messiah (6-9).
5. Exhortation to kings to serve God (10-12).

PSALMS 3

1. Many enemies try to discourage him from serving God (1,2).
2. God is his shield and encourager (3).
3. God heard his prayer (4).
4. The comfort of one who trusts in God (5,6).
5. Victory comes by staying with God (7,8).

PSALMS 4

1. He prays in his time of distress (1).
2. His enemies work to bring him down (2).
3. God hears the prayers of the righteous (3).
4. Put your trust in the Lord (4-6).
5. With God there is security and safety (7,8).

PSALMS 5

1. He pleads with God to hear his prayers (1-3).
2. God has no pleasure in wickedness (4).
3. The foolish will not stand before God (5,6).
4. He pleads with God to lead him in the face of his enemies (7-10).
5. We should rejoice because God is helping us and will bless the righteous (11,12).

PSALMS 6

1. He beseeches God not to rebuke him in his anger (1).
2. He pleads for mercy (2-4).
3. He will not be able to praise God if he is dead (5).
4. He cries and is in grief because of his enemies (6,7).
5. He triumphs over his enemies because God hears his prayers (8-10).

PSALMS 7

1. He asks God to deliver him from his enemies (1,2).
2. He will accept just punishment for his wickedness (3-5).
3. He will accept the judgment of God (6).
4. He asks God to spare the people (7).
5. God will judge his people (8).
6. He begs that the wicked be punished and the just be established (9).
7. God saves the upright in heart (10).
8. God will punish the wicked (11-13).
9. The wicked devise evil and fall into their own trap (14-16).
10. Let God be praised (17).

PSALMS 8

1. God's name is excellent in all the Earth (1).
2. God will silence the wicked (2).
3. Knowing that God is so great, why has he given man such glory and honor? (3-8)
4. God's name is excellent in all the Earth (9).

PSALMS 9

1. He praises God and rejoices in him (1,2).
2. God rebukes the heathen (3-5).
3. Earthly things come to an end (6).
4. God endures forever (7).
5. God will judge the righteous (8).
6. God is our refuge (9,10).
7. Declare the works of God to all people (11).
8. God remembers the humble (or, those who have been humbled/afflicted) (12).
9. He asks God to deliver him from his enemies (13,14).
10. The heathen are caught in their own trap (15).
11. All that forget God will be destroyed (16,17).
12. God remembers the poor and needy (18).
13. He pleads with God to humble the wicked – “that the nations may know themselves to be but men” (19,20).

PSALMS 10

1. He wonders where God is in times of trouble (1).
2. The wicked arrogantly stand against God and do evil against men (2-9).
3. Though subtle and seemingly strong, the wicked foolishly think God will never find them out (10,11).
4. He pleads with God not to let the wicked win (12-15).
5. God will punish the wicked and avenge the oppressed (16-18).

PSALMS 11

1. He trusts in God and will not flee to a “safe place” (1).
2. He realizes that if nothing is done, the righteous will lose (2,3).
3. God sees all from his holy temple (4).

4. God proves the righteous and hates the wicked (5).
5. The wicked will be punished severely (6).
6. God loves the righteous (7).

PSALMS 12

1. We are losing the faithful (1).
2. God will punish the proud, those who think no one is lord over them (2-4).
3. God will protect the poor and needy (5).
4. God's words are pure (6).
5. God's will be done (7).
6. Wickedness prevails when the vilest of men are exalted (8).

PSALMS 13

1. He wonders why God has forgotten him (1,2).
2. He cries for God to help him before his enemies defeat him (3,4).
3. He puts his trust in God (5,6).

PSALMS 14

1. The fool has said in his heart, there is no God (1-3).
2. The workers of iniquity foolishly forget that to do evil against men is to turn against God (4-6).
3. Israel will rejoice when they come out of captivity (7).

PSALMS 15

1. The question – Who will dwell with God? (1)
2. The answer
 - a. Those who walk upright (2).
 - b. Those who work righteousness (2).
 - c. Those who speak the truth in their hearts (2).
 - d. Those who do not backbite (3).
 - e. Those who do not do evil to their neighbors (3).
 - f. Those who do not reproach their neighbor (3).
 - g. Those who do not honor a vile person (4).
 - h. Those who honor those who fear God (4).
 - i. Those who keep their word even if it costs them (4).
 - j. Those who do not loan money with the expectation of getting interest (5)
 - k. Those who do not take advantage of the innocent (5).
3. The reward – They shall never be moved (5).

PSALMS 16

1. He trusts in God (1).
2. He avoids the ways of the world (2-4).
3. God is his portion (5,6).
4. I shall not be moved (7,8).
5. Our eternal hope (9-11).

PSALMS 17

1. He asks God to hear his prayers and keep him from evil (1-6).
2. God's protection against evil men (7-9).
3. Evil men lurk around us (10-12).
4. Deliver me from evil (13,14).
5. I will be satisfied with God (15).

PSALMS 18

1. God is our fortress and strength (1-6).
2. The terror of the Lord (7-15).
3. God's deliverance (16-19).
4. God rewards the righteous (20-24).
5. God will recompense men according to their works (25-27).
6. With God, I can win (28,29).
7. God's way is perfect (30,31).
8. Our strength is with God (32-48).
9. David will praise God (49,50).

PSALMS 19

1. The heavens declare the glory of God (1-6).
2. The law of the Lord is perfect (7,8).
3. The judgments of God are to be desired (9-11).
4. Cleanse me from secret faults (12-14).

PSALMS 20

1. He beseeches God for help (1-4).
2. Our saving strength is with God (5,6).
3. Trust in God and not the ways of the world (7-9).

PSALMS 21

1. God has blessed the king (1-7).
2. God knows his enemies and will destroy them (8-12).
3. We will praise God's power (13).

PSALMS 22

1. The cry of one seemingly forsaken by God (1,2).
2. Trust in God for deliverance (3-5).
3. People will wonder why the psalmist trusted in God (6-8).
4. He pleads with God for help (9-11).
5. His enemies beset him in every way (10-18).
6. He pleads with God to save him (19,20).
7. All should praise and glorify God (21-28).
8. All will bow before God and recognize his power (29-31).

PSALMS 23

1. God provides for his sheep (1,2).
2. God leads his sheep in the path of righteousness (3).
3. God comforts his sheep in times of great distress (4).
4. God protects his sheep from their enemies (5).
5. God provides his sheep a place with him forever (6).

PSALMS 24

1. God owns the Earth (1,2).
2. Who will ascend to God? (3-6)

PSALMS 25

1. Trust in God and triumph over our enemies (1-3).
2. Let God teach us his ways (4-6).
3. Remember not the sins of my youth (7).
4. Good and upright is the Lord (8-14).
5. Deliver me from my enemies (15-22).

PSALMS 26

1. Walk in the truth of God (1-3).
2. Avoid the path of evil (4,5).
3. Tell of God's wondrous works (6,7).
4. He prays that God will redeem him and be merciful unto him (8-12).

PSALMS 27

1. Whom shall I fear? God is my light (1-3).
2. Our great desire (4).
3. We will triumph over our enemies (5,6).
4. God will not forsake us (7-10).
5. Deliver me from my enemies (11,12).
6. The goodness of the Lord is our strength (13,14).

PSALMS 28

1. Hear the voice of my supplication (1,2).
2. Give to the wicked according to their works (3-5).
3. The Lord is our strength (6-8).
4. Save thy people and lift them up forever (9).

PSALMS 29

1. Glorify God (1,2).
2. The voice of the Lord (3-9).
3. The Lord is King forever (10,11).

PSALMS 30

1. God's helping hand (1-3).
2. The mercy of God (4-6).
3. Have mercy upon me (7-12).

PSALMS 31

1. Deliver me speedily (1-5).
2. The mercy of God (6-9).
3. I was a reproach among my enemies (10-13).
4. I trusted in God (14-18).
5. The goodness of God (19-21).
6. God hears the prayers of the righteous (22-24).

PSALMS 32

1. Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven (1,2).
2. The need to acknowledge sin (3-6).
3. God will preserve us (7).
4. God's instructions for us (8-11).

PSALMS 33

1. Praise the Lord (1,2).
2. The word of the Lord is right (3-5).
3. Stand in awe of the Great Creator (6-9).
4. The heathen are nothing before God (10).
5. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord (11-19).
6. God is our hope and our shield (20-22).

PSALMS 34

1. Exalt the name of the Lord (1-3).
2. God hears us and delivers us (4-6).
3. Fear the Lord (7-11).
4. How to have good days (12-17).
5. The Lord redeems the soul of his servants (18-22).

PSALMS 35

1. He prays for God to defeat his enemies (1-8).
2. He rejoices at God's salvation (9).
3. God delivers the poor (10).
4. We must serve others and care for others even when they mistreat us (11-16).
5. Deliver me from my enemies (17-21).
6. He prays that his enemies not defeat him (22-28).

PSALMS 36

1. The wicked do not fear God (1-4).
2. Trust in the faithful God (5-9).
3. God's loving kindness to those that love him (10-12).

PSALMS 37

1. Do not fear evil doers (1,2).
2. Commit your way to the Lord (3-6).
3. Be patient and wait on God (7-15).
4. What a righteous man has is greater than what the wicked man has (16-25).
5. God preserves the righteous (26-34).
6. The wicked will not prosper (35,36).
7. Walk with those who trust in God (37-40).

PSALMS 38

1. He pleads with God not to chasten him in anger (1-3).
2. He has acted foolishly (4-10).
3. He failed to see that his “friends” were his enemies (11-14).
4. In God is his hope (15,16).
5. He is sorry for his sin (17,18).
6. Forsake me not, Lord (19-22).

PSALMS 39

1. He tried not to speak but could not contain (1-3).
2. How frail are the days of man (4-6).
3. Deliver me from my transgressors (7-13).

PSALMS 40

1. God heard his cry and rescued him (1-5).
2. He both did the will of God and proclaimed God’s word (6-10).
3. Deliver me from my enemies (11-17).

PSALMS 41

1. God blesses those who remember the poor (1-3).
2. His enemies wait for his death (4-9).
3. God was merciful to him (10-13).

PSALMS 42

1. We should long for God (1-3).
2. Why do we sorrow? (4-7).
3. God has not forgotten us. Hope in him. (8-11).

PSALMS 43

1. Deliver me from my enemies (1-3).
2. I will praise God (4).
3. Hope in God (5).

PSALMS 44

1. God gave the land to their forefathers (1-4).
2. We will not trust in ourselves (5-8).
3. God has punished them (9-15).
4. They had not forgotten God (16-22).
5. Arise and help us, O Lord (23-26).

PSALMS 45

1. The majesty of God's chosen one (1-7).
2. The followers of God's chosen one (8-16).
3. He will be remembered in all generations (17).

PSALMS 46

1. God is our refuge and strength. We will not fear (1-3).
2. God helps his holy city (4,5).
3. The heathen cannot stand against God (6,7).
4. God will be exalted among the heathen (8-11).

PSALMS 47

1. The Lord most high is to be feared (1-4).
2. God is the King of the Earth (5-9).

PSALMS 48

1. God is with his holy city (1-8).
2. God is to be praised in his holy city (9-14).

PSALMS 49

1. Listen to God so we need not fear (1-5).
2. Worldly things and self-praise cannot redeem our brother (6,7).
3. The redemption of souls is precious (8,9).
4. The folly of man (10-13).
5. The foolish shall go to the grave and be lost, but the righteous shall be redeemed (14,15).
6. Do not fear the rich because when they die they will take nothing with them (16,17).
7. Those who seek the honor of men will go to their grave and be remembered no more (18-20).

PSALMS 50

1. God will judge the world (1-6).
2. God will punish Israel and not accept their sacrifices (7-13).
3. Call upon God and he will deliver thee (14,15).
4. God knows what the wicked do and will punish them (16-21).
5. Repent while you can (22,23).

PSALMS 51

1. He acknowledges his sin before God (1-5).
2. Restore me unto the joy of thy salvation (6-12).
3. I will teach transgressors thy ways (13-15).
4. A broken and contrite heart will not be despised by God (16-19).

PSALMS 52

1. Why do men boast of their mischief? (1-4).
2. God will destroy the wicked (5).
3. The righteous will laugh at the folly of the wicked (6,7).
4. The righteous trust in God (8,9).

PSALMS 53

1. The fool has said in his heart that there is no God (1-3).
2. The workers of iniquity are ignorant of God (4,5).
3. God will restore his people (6).

PSALMS 54

1. Save me, O God (1-3).
2. God is my helper (4-7).

PSALMS 55

1. Hear my prayer and help me (1-7).
2. His enemy was a friend, a close companion (8-15).
3. I will cry unto my Lord (16-18).
4. His enemies were deceitful and did not fear God (19-21).
5. God will sustain the righteous (22,23).

PSALMS 56

1. When I am afraid, I will trust in God (1-4).
2. Cast down the wicked (5-8).
3. God will hear his prayers and help him against his enemies (9-13).

PSALMS 57

1. I will seek my refuge in God (1-3).
2. My soul is among lions (4-6).
3. Be thou exalted, O God (7-11).

PSALMS 58

1. The hypocrisy of God's people (1,2).
2. The wicked cannot be controlled (3-5).
3. He prays for the defeat of the wicked (6-9).
4. There is a reward for the righteous (10,11).

PSALMS 59

1. He prays that God will defeat his enemies (1-5).
2. They mock God thinking no one hears (6,7).
3. God is my defense (8-10).
4. He prays that God will make the punishment of the wicked an example for all (11-15).
5. I will sing the praises of God (16,17).

PSALMS 60

1. He beseeches God to forgive them (1-5).
2. With God, we shall tread down our enemies (6-12).

PSALMS 61

1. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I (1,2).
2. I will abide in thy tabernacle forever (3,4).
3. God will prolong the king's life (5-7).
4. I will daily perform my vows (8).

PSALMS 62

1. From God comes his salvation (1-8).
 - a. God is my rock (2).
 - b. God is my salvation (2).
 - c. God is my defense (2).
 - d. God is my rock (6).
 - e. God is my salvation (6).
 - f. God is my defense (6).
 - g. In God is my salvation (7).
 - h. In God is my glory (7).
 - i. In God is my refuge (7).
 - j. God is my refuge (8).
2. Do not trust in worldly people or riches. In God is power and mercy (9-12).

PSALMS 63

1. His desire for God (1-8).
2. His enemies shall fall (9-11).

PSALMS 64

1. Preserve me from my enemies (1-4).
2. The wicked seek out wickedness and encourage themselves in thinking no one sees them (5,6).
3. The wicked shall fall (7,8).
4. The wise will consider the ways of God (9,10).

PSALMS 65

1. God will forgive our sins (1-3).
2. We rejoice at the goodness of our God, who is in control of the creation (4-8).
3. God cares for us (9-13).

PSALMS 66

1. All shall submit to God (1-4).
2. Let not the rebellious exalt themselves (5-7).
3. We suffered but God was with us (8-12).
4. I will pay my vow to God (13-15).
5. God heard his prayer (16-20).

PSALMS 67

1. Let God be known upon the Earth (1-3).
2. We will be blessed when we praise God (4-7).

PSALMS 68

1. Let the wicked be scattered before God (1,2).
2. Let the righteous be glad (3,4).
3. God cares for the needy (5,6).
4. The majesty of God (7-10).
5. The majesty of God declared (11-16).
6. The power of God (17-20).
7. God will defeat their enemies (21-23).
8. Praise God (24-26).
9. God will strength us (27-35).

PSALMS 69

1. Save me, O God (1-3).
2. I have borne reproach for God (4-12).
3. His prayer for deliverance (13-28).
4. I will praise the name of God (29-31).
5. God will save Zion (32-36).

PSALMS 70

1. Deliver me from my enemies (1-3).
2. Magnify God (4,5).

PSALMS 71

1. Deliver me, O God (1-4).
2. God is his hope (5-14).
3. I will tell of God's righteousness and his salvation (15-18).
4. Who is like unto God? (19-24).

PSALMS 72

1. Give wisdom unto the king so he may rule wisely and do justly (1-6).
2. Because of God's blessing, the nation will flourish and other nations will exalt him (7-11).
3. The king in his wisdom shall deliver those in need (12-14).
4. The king will be praised because he is blessed by God (15-17).
5. Blessed be the glorious name of God forever (18-20).

PSALMS 73

1. I was envious of the foolish (1-5).
2. I could not understand why evil people prosper (6-16).
3. When I went to God, I understood that the wicked will not stand before God (17-22).
4. God shall be his guide (23-28).

PSALMS 74

1. Why has God cast them off? (1)
2. Remember us and deliver us (2,3).
3. Our enemies desire to destroy us (4-8).
4. We are without guidance (9-11).
5. God's power over and control of the universe (12-17).
6. He pleads with God not to forget them, but to come to their aid (18-23).

PSALMS 75

1. The wicked should remember that it is God who sets us and tears down (1-8).
2. The wicked will be cut off and the righteous shall be exalted (9,10).

PSALMS 76

1. God's name is great in Israel (1-4).
2. God is to be feared (5-9).
3. Bring presents to him that ought to be feared (10-12).

PSALMS 77

1. The psalmist is troubled thinking that God has forsaken them (1-9).
2. He remembers that God has led them and redeemed them (10-20).

PSALMS 78

1. Proclaim the words of God to the next generation so they will set their hope in God (1-7).
2. Proclaim the words of God to the next generation so they will not be rebellious like their fathers (8-11).
3. Their fathers rebelled against God even though God did many marvelous works before them (12-18).
4. Their fathers saw the works of God and challenged God to do more (They questioned the power of God) (19,20).

5. The people were not satisfied even when God provided for them abundantly (21-32).
6. When God punished them, then they sought him and remembered that God was their Rock (33-35).
7. Even though they knew who God was, they said one thing and did another. They lied to God (36,37).
8. God forgave them often and did not destroy them (38-40).
9. They tempted God (41).
10. They forgot what God did for them in Egypt (42-53).
11. The people tempted God even after he had given them the Promised Land (54-58).
12. God punished Israel (59-66).
13. God chose Judah and punished Israel (67-72).

PSALMS 79

1. Our enemies come against us (1-4).
2. When will God reproach our enemies? (5-7).
3. Their prayer for forgiveness (8-13).

PSALMS 80

1. “Turn us again, O God, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved” (1-7; also reference verse 19).
2. God planted them in the Promised Land (8-11).
3. He beseeches God to return to them (12-19).

PSALMS 81

1. Worship God (1-4).
2. God had delivered them (5-7).
3. They were not to have any strange gods among them (8-10).
4. Israel forsook God and God gave them up to their own devices (11,12).
5. If Israel had listened, God would have subdued their enemies and caused Israel to prosper (13-16).

PSALMS 82

1. The psalmist wonders why God “accepts” those who are wicked (1,2).
2. He pleads with God to remember those in need (3,4).
3. The world seems out of course, unable to be understood by men (5-7).
4. He asks God to judge the Earth for it is his (8).

PSALMS 83

1. Our enemies rise against us (1-8).
2. He pleads with God to punish their enemies (9-15).
3. He wants their enemies to know that God rules over the Earth (16-18).

PSALMS 84

1. How blessed we are to dwell with God (1-7).
2. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God (8-10).
3. Blessed is the man who trusts in God (11,12).

PSALMS 85

1. God has forgiven the iniquities of the people (1-3).
2. He asks God to turn them back to God (4-7).
3. Righteousness shall go before him (8-13).

PSALMS 86

1. Preserve my soul, O God (1-4).
2. God is ready to forgive (5-7).
3. There is none like God (8-10).
4. Teach me thy way, O Lord (11,12).
5. God is merciful, compassionate, gracious, longsuffering, and our helper and comforter (13-17).

PSALMS 87

1. God loves Zion (Jerusalem) (1-3).
2. The greatness of Zion (4-7).

PSALMS 88

1. The psalmist wants God to hear his prayer (1,2).
2. He is in trouble and feels abandoned by God (3-8).
3. He cannot understand why God will not help him (9-14).
4. His enemies surround him (15-18).

PSALMS 89

1. The seed of David will be established forever (1-4).
2. Who is there that can be compared to God? (5-14).
3. Blessed are those that walk with God (15-18).
4. God is the helper of the king (19-25).
5. The blessings that come from following God (26-29).
6. The punishment that comes to the disobedient (30-32).
7. God will keep his word (33-37).
8. How long will God fulfill his wrath against disobedient Israel? (38-46).
9. Remember us, Lord (47-52).

PSALMS 90

1. From everlasting to everlasting, he is God (1,2).
2. God wants them to repent (3-9).
3. Our days are short, so we must use them wisely (10-12).
4. Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us (13-17).

PSALMS 91

1. In God we trust (1-4).
2. Do not be afraid (5-10).
3. God will help you (11-16).

PSALMS 92

1. It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord (1-3).
2. How great are the works of God (4-6).
3. The wicked will be destroyed. God is most high forevermore (7-9).
4. The righteous shall flourish (10-14).
5. There is no unrighteousness in God (15).

PSALMS 93

1. The Lord reigns (1).
2. The Lord is from everlasting (2).
3. The Lord is mightier than anything (3,4).
4. God's word is very sure (5).

PSALMS 94

1. How long shall the wicked prosper? (1-7).
2. God knows the thoughts of man (8-11).
3. Blessed is the man whom the Lord chastens (12,13).
4. The upright in heart shall follow God's righteousness (14-16).
5. God is my helper (17-19).
6. The righteous have no fellowship with the wicked (20,21).
7. God will defend the righteous and cut off the wicked (22,23).

PSALMS 95

1. Praise God (1,2).
2. The Lord is a great God (3-5).
3. Worship God (6).
4. Do not harden your hearts as your fathers did (7-11).

PSALMS 96

1. Declare the glory of God among the heathen (1-4).
2. God is greater than all (5,6).
3. Give unto God honor and glory (7-9).
4. God comes to judge mankind (10-13).

PSALMS 97

1. Righteousness and judgment are the habitation of God's throne (1-6).
2. Evil people are baffled by God (7).
3. Judah rejoiced because of God's judgments (8,9).
4. If you love the Lord, hate evil (10-12).

PSALMS 98

1. God has remembered his mercy towards Israel (1-3).
2. Praise God (4-8).
3. God is coming to judge mankind (9).

PSALMS 99

1. Fear God (1-4).
2. Worship God (5).
3. God is a forgiving God (6-8).
4. Exalt God (9).

PSALMS 100

1. Serve the Lord with gladness (1,2).
2. It is God who made us (3,4).
3. God's truth endures to all generations (5).

PSALMS 101

1. I will set no wicked thing before my eyes (1-5).
2. Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful (6).
3. I will early destroy all the wicked of the land (7,8).

PSALMS 102

1. Hear my prayer (1,2).
2. My heart is smitten (3-7).
3. His enemies reproach him (8-11).
4. God will have mercy upon Zion (12-18).
5. God will be exalted in Zion (19-22).
6. He pleads with God not to shorten his days (23,24).
7. The Earth will perish, but God will endure forever (25-28).

PSALMS 103

1. Bless the Lord who has redeemed your life (1-6).
2. God is merciful and gracious (7-13).
3. Man's days are fleeting (14-16).
4. God is merciful to such as keep his commandments (17,18).
5. Bless the Lord (19-22).

PSALMS 104

1. It is God who made the Earth orderly (1-23).
2. How manifold are God's works (24-30).
3. I shall be glad in the Lord (31-34).
4. Let the wicked be no more (35).

PSALMS 105

1. Seek the Lord forever (1-5).
2. God has remembered his covenant (6-9).
3. An overview of Old Testament history (10-44).
4. God wants his people to obey his laws (45).

PSALMS 106

1. Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord? (1,2).
2. Blessed are they that keep judgment (3).
3. Remember me, O Lord (4,5).
4. A confession of sin (6).
5. The events of the Red Sea (7-12).
6. Israel, the forgetful nation (13-15).
7. The events of Dathan and Abiram (16-18).
8. The events of the golden calf at Sinai (19-23).
9. Israel, the murmuring nation (24-27).
10. Israel, the idolatrous nation (28-31).
11. The events of Moses and water from the rock (32,33).
12. Israel, the nation who failed to drive out the wicked (34-39).
13. God punished Israel for her wickedness (40-42).
14. God heard the cries of his people and spared them (43-46).
15. Save us, O Lord (47,48).

PSALMS 107

1. The redeemed should praise the Lord (1-9).
2. Men rebel against God, but God hears their cry of repentance (10-16).
3. Fools are afflicted because of their transgressions (17,18).
4. God hears their pleas and saves them (19,20).
5. Praise God and declare his works (21,22).
6. Those who go to the sea face troubles but cry to God for help and are spared (23-31).
7. Let all the congregation exalt God who punishes the wicked and helps those in need (32-43).

PSALMS 108

1. The psalmist praises God (1-4).
2. The psalmist prays for deliverance (5,6).
3. Through God we shall do valiantly (7-13).

PSALMS 109

1. The wicked reward evil for good (1-5).
2. Let the wicked receive his due justice (6-20).
3. Save me according to thy mercy (21-26).
4. Let the wicked know that it is God who watches over the needy (27-31).

PSALMS 110

1. Prophecies of the coming Messiah (1-4).
2. God will judge among the heathen (5-7).

PSALMS 111

1. The works of the Lord are great (1-6).
2. The works of his hand are verity (“stability, trustworthiness”) and judgment (7,8).
3. Holy and reverend is his name (9).
4. The fear of the Lord (10).

PSALMS 112

1. Blessed is the man that fears the Lord (1-4).
2. A good man will guide his affairs with discretion (5-8).
3. The good man’s deeds shall shame the wicked (9,10).

PSALMS 113

1. Praise the Lord (1-3).
2. Who is like unto the Lord our God? (4-9).

PSALMS 114

1. Israel came out of Egypt and nations feared them (1-6).
2. God was with them (7,8).

PSALMS 115

1. But our God is in Heaven (1-3).
2. The folly of idolatry (4-8).
3. Those who fear the Lord must trust in God (9-11).
4. God will bless those that fear the Lord (12-16).
5. We will bless the Lord (17,18).

PSALMS 116

1. I will call upon God as long as I live (1-8).
2. What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? (9-19).

PSALMS 117

1. Praise the Lord (1).
2. His merciful kindness is great toward us (2).

PSALMS 118

1. God’s mercy endures forever (1-4).
2. God has heard my pleas and I will destroy my enemies (5-14).
3. The right hand of the Lord does valiantly (15,16).
4. I will declare the works of the Lord (17-21).
5. The coming Messiah – the marvelous work of God (22-27).
6. Give thanks unto the Lord (28,29).

PSALMS 119

1. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies (1-8).
2. Thy word have I hid in my heart (9-16).
3. Open my eyes (17-24).
4. Teach me thy statutes (25-32).
5. Incline my heart to thy testimonies (33-40).
6. Let thy mercies come unto me (41-48).
7. Thy word has made me alive (49-56).
8. I turned my feet unto thy testimonies (57-64).
9. Teach me thy statutes (65-72).
10. I have hoped in your word (73-80).
11. I forsook not your precepts (81-88).
12. Forever, O Lord, your word is settled in Heaven (89-96).
13. O how love I thy law (97-104).
14. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet (105-112).
15. I will have respect unto thy statutes continually (113-120).
16. I love thy commandments above fine gold (121-128).
17. Thy testimonies are wonderful (129-136).
18. Yet do I not forget thy precepts (137-144).
19. Make me alive according to thy judgment (145-152).
20. Thy word is true from the beginning (153-160).
21. I have kept thy precepts (161-168).
22. For all thy commandments are righteousness (169-176).

PSALMS 120

1. Deliver me from my enemies (1,2).
2. What shall be done with my enemies? (3-6).
3. I want peace, but they want war (7).

PSALMS 121

1. My help comes from God (1,2).
2. God does not slumber or sleep (3,4).
3. The Lord is thy keeper (5-8).

PSALMS 122

1. Let us go into the house of the Lord (1-5).
2. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (6-9).

PSALMS 123

1. Our eyes wait upon the Lord our God (1,2).
2. Have mercy upon us (3,4).

PSALMS 124

1. We would have been lost if God had not been on our side (1-5).
2. Our soul is escaped from our enemies (6-8).

PSALMS 125

1. The Lord is round about his people (1-3).
2. God will do good unto the upright and punish the wicked (4,5).

PSALMS 126

1. The Lord hath done great things for us (1-3).
2. They that sow in tears shall reap in joy (4-6).

PSALMS 127

1. Except the Lord build the house (1,2).
2. Children are an heritage of the Lord (3-5).

PSALMS 128

1. Blessed is everyone that fears the Lord (1-4).
2. Some blessings that come to the one who fears the Lord (5,6).

PSALMS 129

1. The wicked have not prevailed over me (1-3).
2. The wicked do not prosper (4-8).

PSALMS 130

1. Hear my plea, O Lord (1,2).
2. There is forgiveness with God (3,4).
3. Let Israel hope in the Lord (5-8).

PSALMS 131

1. His humility before God (1,2).
2. Let Israel hope in the Lord (3).

PSALMS 132

1. David's desire to build the house of God (1-5).
2. His desire to worship God (6-10).
3. God's promise to David (11-12).
4. God chose Zion (Jerusalem) as his resting place (His temple would be built in Jerusalem) (13-18).

PSALMS 133

1. It is good for brethren to dwell together in unity (1,2).
2. There the Lord commanded the blessing (3).

PSALMS 134

1. Bless the Lord (1,2).
2. The Lord that made heaven and earth will bless you (3).

PSALMS 135

1. Praise the Lord (1-4).
2. Our Lord is above all gods (5).
3. God is in control (6-12).
4. The Lord will judge his people (13,14).
5. The folly of idolatry (15-18).
6. Bless the Lord (19-21).

PSALMS 136

1. For his mercy endureth forever (Every verse ends with this expression).
2. Give thanks to the Lord (1-3).
3. He does great wonders (4-22).
4. God helped Israel (23-26).

PSALMS 137

1. Israel's plight in captivity (1-6).
2. Israel's prayer against their enemies (7-9).

PSALMS 138

1. I will worship toward thy holy temple (1,2).
2. God strengthened them (3).
3. All the kings of the Earth shall praise God when they hear his words (4,5).
4. God has respect unto the lowly (6).
5. God will perfect me (7,8).

PSALMS 139

1. God knows all. Nothing can be hid from him (1-13).
2. I am fearfully and wonderfully made (14-16).
3. How precious God's thoughts are unto him (17,18).
4. The psalmist has no love for the wicked (19-22).
5. The psalmist asks God to search him and know his heart (23,24).

PSALMS 140

1. Deliver me from evil men (1-3).
2. Keep me from the hands of the wicked (4,5).
3. Grant not the desires of the wicked (6-8).
4. Let the wicked be destroyed by their own doings (9-11).
5. God will maintain the cause of the afflicted and the right of the poor (12,13).

PSALMS 141

1. He pleads with God to hear his prayer (1-3).
2. He asks that his heart not be inclined to do evil (4).
3. He asks that the righteous reprove him in kindness (5).
4. The righteous face calamities (6,7).
5. The eyes of righteous are unto God (8).
6. Let the wicked fall in their own nets (9,10).

PSALMS 142

1. No man cared for my soul (1-4).
2. He cries to God for help (5-7).

PSALMS 143

1. He realizes that he cannot stand justified before God in his own doings (1,2).
2. His enemy works to overwhelm him (3,4).
3. He remembered the days of old with God (5,6).
4. He begs God to hear his prayer and lift him up from his enemies (7-9).
5. Lead me into the land of uprightness (10).
6. Cut off my enemies (11,12).

PSALMS 144

1. God is his goodness, fortress, high tower, deliverer, shield, and the one in whom he trusts (1,2).
2. His question -- Why does God take knowledge of man? (3,4).
3. Save me from my enemies (5-8).
4. I will praise God (9,10).
5. Deliver me from my enemies that we may prosper (11-14).
6. Happy is the people whose God is the Lord (15).

PSALMS 145

1. Bless the Lord (1-3).
2. Each generation will speak of the majesty of God (4-7).
3. The attributes of God (8,9).
4. The saints will make the greatness of God known to all (10-12).
5. God's kingdom is an everlasting kingdom (13).
6. God cares for those in need (14-16).
7. The Lord is righteous in all his ways (17-21).

PSALMS 146

1. Do not put your trust in men (1-4).
2. Happy is the man whose hope is in the Lord (5).
3. The power and love of God (6-10).

PSALMS 147

1. Great is our God and of great power (1-9).
2. God takes pleasure in them that fear him (10,11).
3. God gave his word to Israel. He has not dealt so with any other nation (12-20).

PSALMS 148

1. Praise the Lord (1-4).
2. God commanded and they were created (5,6).
3. All creation should praise God (7-14).

PSALMS 149

1. Let Israel rejoice in him who made him (1-3).
2. God's people are to judge the world by the words God has written (4-9).

PSALMS 150

1. Praise God in the sanctuary for his mighty acts (1-5).
2. Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord (6).