

Outline of Psalms

Book I	(Psalms 1-41)
Book II	(Psalms 42-72)
Book III	(Psalms 73-89)
Book IV	(Psalms 90-106)
Book V	(Psalms 107-150)

Author

The book of Psalms is commonly spoken of as David's because he wrote the larger number of individual Psalms (73). He is known as "the sweet psalmist of Israel" (2Sa.23:1). It is reasonable to say that some of the anonymous Psalms may have written by David as well. For example Psalm 2 is ascribed to David in Acts 4:25.

Summary

In the Hebrew Bible the Psalms have a fivefold division with a doxology at the end of each section. The Hebrew scholars arranged them to conform to the five books of the Law. The arrangement is not based on chronological order, but generally based on their content. They span nearly a thousand years (1420-430 B.C.). The Psalms include praises of joy, blessings, laments, and thanksgiving. They are directed toward God. They help us express ourselves to Him. We read about the Psalmist's emotions from one extreme to another, from praising to despair. We respond differently depending on the circumstances of our lives. What a marvelous God we worship. He is high and lifted up beyond our human

PSALMS

The book of Psalms contains the prayers, hymns, and meditations of Israel. Because of the scope of human emotion and divine activity in the psalms, believers in every generation have found them applicable to their own lives.

experiences, yet close enough to touch and walk along side us. We may bring all our feelings to God, even if negative and complaining, and we can be assured that He will hear and understand. Of The New Testament's 283 direct quotations from the Old testament, 116 are from the Psalms. The wide range of human experiences represented in the Psalms may be a good reason why they are quoted so often. We find guilt, worry, depression, anxiety, confidence, and praise. The Psalms reveal a message of practical experience that is rooted in the character of God. God is the same Lord in all the Psalms. Characteristics

Righteousness & Sin Theme

Over 130 times — "righteous" and "righteousness"
At least 65 times — "sin" and "iniquity"
About 40 times each — "good" and "evil"
More than 100 times — "judgment" and its cognates

of poetry such a rhyme and meter can be lost in translation. However, thought parallelism (as used in the Psalms) does not disappear in translation. It can be easily observed in our English translation. Some titles give musical instructions. The most familiar term is *selah*. It apparently was used to indicate a pause in the reading so that musical instruments could strike up. The term, by some, is not meant to be read aloud.

WISDOM

BOOK 19
Ps.
PSALMS
150 CHAPTERS

Messianic Psalms

PSALM 2

Messianic Psalm

<u>2:1-5</u> The Son is Rejected (His First Coming)	<u>2:6-9</u> The Son Reigns (His Second Coming)
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A messianic psalm is one which prophesies some aspect of the Person and work of Christ. Psalm 2 presents two contrasting scenes. The first portrays the nations in tumult, rejecting the Son. The second describes the Son reigning on the earth in power. Thus, this psalm pictures both a rejected and a reigning Messiah. God's provision of a Savior for His people is a recurring theme. Psalm 16:8-11 foreshadows His death and resurrection. Psalm 2:1-12 portrays the Messiah's triumph and kingdom. Psalm 22 shows the suffering on the cross with remarkable details, all fulfilled perfectly.



CHRIST IN PSALMS

- Jesus Christ is anticipated, portrayed, and prophesied in such images as the coming King, the Redeemer, the loving Shepherd, and the Righteous Sufferer. (See Ps.2, 8, 16, 20-24, 31, 34, 35, 40, 41, 45, 68, 69, 102, 110, and 118).