



Psalms: The Praises of God's King

The Book of Psalms is the prayer and praise book of God's Son and God's people.

“I have been accustomed to call this book... ‘An Anatomy of all the Parts of the Soul’; for there is not an emotion of which any one can be conscious that is not here represented as in a mirror. Or rather, the Holy Spirit has here drawn to the life all the griefs, sorrows, fears, doubts, hopes, cares, perplexities, in short, all the distracting emotions with which the minds of men are wont to be agitated. The other parts of Scripture contain the commandments which God enjoined his servants to announce to us. But here, the prophets themselves, see they are exhibited to us as speaking to God... draw each of us to the examination of himself in particular, in order that none of the many infirmities to which we subject, and of the many vices with which we abound, may remain concealed.” – John Calvin, Commentary on the Psalms, p. xxxvii

What are the Psalms?

Who Wrote the Psalms and When?

How are the Psalms Structured?

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

What Are the Different Kinds of Psalms?

Psalms of Lament:

Individual: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 22, 25, 26, 27: 7-14, 28, 31, 35, 36 (mixed), 38, 39, 40:12-17, 41, 42, 43, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 59, 61, 64, 69, 70, 71, 77, 86, 88, 102, 108, 109, 120, 130, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143

Community: 12, 44, 58, 60, 74, 79, 80, 83, 85, 90, 94, 123, 126, 129, 137

Psalms of Thanksgiving:

18, 30, 32, 34, 40:1-11, 65, 66:13-20, 67, 75, 92, 107, 116, 118, 124, 138

Psalms of Praise (Hymn):

8, 19:1-6, 29, 33, 36 (mixed), 66:1-12, 78, 103, 104, 105, 106, 111, 113, 114, 117, 135, 136, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150

Enthronement Psalms:

47, 93, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

Royal Psalms:

2, 20, 21, 45, 72, 89, 101, 110, 132, 144

Psalms of Zion:

46, 48, 76, 84, 87, 122

Psalms of Wisdom:

36 (mixed), 37, 49, 73, 112, 127, 128, 133

Psalms of Trust:

11, 16, 23, 27: 1-6, 62, 63, 91, 121, 125, 131

Liturgies:

15, 24, 50, 68, 81, 82, 115, 134

Torah Psalms:

1, 19:7-14, 119

How Do the Psalms Point Us to Jesus?

- Psalms about the Messiah
- Psalms by the Messiah

How Do We Read the Psalms as Christians?

- With attention to the kind of psalm
- Applying to the Messiah
- Applying to us through the Messiah

A Study Outline for the Psalms

- i. Psalms 1-41¹
- ii. Psalms 42-72
- iii. Psalms 73-89
- iv. Psalms 90-106
- v. Psalms 107-150²

¹Each book ends with a doxology.

²Book V ends with 5 doxologies; Psalm 150 concluding the whole book.

Proverbs: The Wisdom of God's King

Context

- Historical Context
 - Solomon wrote most of the Proverbs
 - Mid 10th century BC
 - Instruction for a son
- Redemptive-Historical Context
 - The wisdom the King needs to rule over God's people

Theme

Wisdom is fearing the Lord, being teachable, and having skill in godly living.

The source, the means, and the goal of wisdom is the Lord.

What are the Proverbs?

- Most are general principles and observations.
 - Example: Proverbs 26:27
- Some do contain eternal truths that always strictly apply.
 - Example: Proverbs 16:33

How are the Proverbs interpreted?

- Parallelisms

“The wise of heart will receive commandments, but a babbling fool will come to ruin” – Proverbs 10:8

- Figures of Speech
- Summarize
- Apply

Four Themes of Wisdom

- Contrasts to wise living:
- Context for wise living:
- Communication in wise living:
- The outcome of wisdom:

Where is Christ in Proverbs?

A Study Outline for the Proverbs

- i. Proverbs 1-9 – Solomon’s Wisdom for the Young Man
- ii. Proverbs 10-29 – Solomon’s Independent Proverbs
 - a. Chapters 10-24: The proverbs of Solomon
 - b. Chapters 25-29: The proverbs of Solomon, collected by Hezekiah
- iii. Proverbs 30-31 – Non-Solomonic Proverbs
 - a. Chapter 30: The words of Agur
 - b. Chapter 31: The words of Lemuel, which his mother taught him

This material is adapted from a course with the same name developed by Capitol Hill Baptist Church. It has been modified for our purposes and has been condensed to fit our time schedule. The original version is available on their website at <https://www.capitolhillbaptist.org/resources/core-seminars/series/old-testament-overview/>