OVERVIEW OF THE PSALMS

ISRAEL’S HYMN BOOK
OVERVIEW OF THE PSALMS

Loving the Psalms

Praying the Psalms

Knowing the Psalms

Worshiping through the Psalms
LOVING THE PSALMS
“The book of Psalms can revolutionize our devotional life, our family patterns, and the fellowship and witness of the church of Jesus Christ.”
“We have now before us one of the choicest parts of the Old Testament, wherein there is so much of Christ and His Gospel, as well as of God and His law, that it has been called the summary of both Testaments.”
“No single book of Scripture, not even of the New Testament, has, perhaps, ever taken such hold on the heart of Christendom.”
“The most valuable thing the Psalms do for me is to express the same delight in God which made David dance.”
“Whenever I read the Psalms, I feel like I am eavesdropping on a saint having a personal conversation with God.”
“Then He said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.’” – Luke 24:44
PRAYING THE PSALMS
“In the Psalms, we have a collection of 150 prayers that were inspired originally by the Holy Ghost. If you want to know how God is pleased and honored in prayer, why not immerse yourself in the prayers that He himself has inspired?”
The Early Church

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

– Acts 2:42
And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. – Matthew 26:30
PRAYING THE PSALMS

Teaches us to pray.

Trains us to respond to the riches of Bible truth.
Shapes well-rounded people to pray in all of human life.

Reorients disordered affections into God’s good order.
PRAYING THE PSALMS

Can sweeten sour emotions.

Guards us against dangerously individualistic piety.
Arouses us to warmth in our relationship with God.
PRAYING THE PSALMS

Five Psalms
KNOWING THE PSALMS
BACKGROUND AND STRUCTURE

Diversity of Content

Israel’s Hymnbook

Personal Journal

Diversity of Background

Variety of Authors
DIVERSITY OF STRUCTURE

Entire book is divided into five books

Book One: 1-41
Book Two: 42-72
Book Three: 73-89
Book Four: 90-106
Book Five: 107-150

Certain Psalms belong together
Psalm 120-134 – Songs of Ascent

Man
Deliverance
Sanctuary
Wandering
Word of the Lord

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy
THEME AND APPLICATION

Psalm 1-2 serve as an introduction to the book.

• Book-ended by the word “blessed”

Psalm 146-150 serve as the conclusion.

• Book-ended by the words “praise the Lord” or “Hallelujah”
WORSHIPING THROUGH THE PSALMS
ULTIMATELY, THE COLLECTION OF PSALMS ARE ABOUT WORSHIP!

Worship =

Ascribing to God His proper worth

NOT restricted to stated times, places, and forms.
ULTIMATELY, THE COLLECTION OF PSALMS ARE ABOUT WORSHIP!

Worship =

It involves the totality of life

Including daily trust and obedience

Including weekly gatherings for public praise
HOW SHOULD GOD’S PEOPLE WORSHIP HIM?

When you want to get to know God...

Psalm 8, 103, 136.
HOW SHOULD GOD’S PEOPLE WORSHIP HIM?

When you are discouraged…

Psalm 3, 13, 88.
HOW SHOULD GOD’S PEOPLE WORSHIP HIM?

When you are facing the seemingly impossible...

Psalm 18, 34, 116.
HOW SHOULD GOD’S PEOPLE WORSHIP HIM?

When you need to review your Old Testament history...

Psalm 78, 105, 106.
HOW SHOULD GOD’S PEOPLE WORSHIP HIM?

When you are tempted to ask “WHY, GOD?”

Psalm 1, 37, 73.
HOW SHOULD GOD’S PEOPLE WORSHIP HIM?

When you need to confess sin...

Psalm 32, 51, 130.
HOW SHOULD GOD’S PEOPLE WORSHIP HIM?

When you are looking for Christ…

Psalm 2, 22, 45, 69, 89, 110.
APPLY THE TEXT
GET TO KNOW THE PSALMS

Divide the book of Psalms into the 5 Books.

Identify various groups of Psalms.

Look for authorship and themes.
LOVE THE PSALMS

Read the “The Treasury of David” by Charles Spurgeon.

https://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/treasury-of-david/
PRAY THROUGH THE PSALMS

Begin praying through one Psalm from each of the 5 books of Psalms each week.

- **Book One:** Psalm 1
- **Book Two:** Psalm 42
- **Book Three:** Psalm 73
- **Book Four:** Psalm 90
- **Book Five:** Psalm 107
Worship cannot become a chore. It is the highest joy for which you were created.