

DELVING INTO THE PSALMS

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The Psalms: a collection of ancient Hebrew poems, songs and prayers by various writers compiled by the people of Israel some time after their exile in Babylon

Deliberately and cleverly collated into five different yet overlapping sections and themes

Served as a form of temple worship for the temple-less people God

PSALMS WE HAVE DELVED INTO SO FAR...

Intro

1, 2

Book 3 (73-89)



Book 1 (3-41)

7, 8, 16

Book 4 (90-106)

96, 100

Book 2 (42-72)

46, 63, 64

Book 5 (107-150)

117, 119 (section 1), 121, 130,
Poems of Praise: 149

PSALM 81



150 Hebrew Poems

DAVID (73) HEMAN & ETHAN (2)
 ASAPH (12) SOLOMON & MOSES (3)
 SONS OF KORAH (11) ANONYMOUS (49)

MANY WRITTEN FOR CHOIR...

...BUT NOT A HYMNBOOK

(SEE 1 CHRONICLES 25
& NEHEMIAH 11: 22-23)



PSALMS

Torah & Messiah

Lament & Praise

Faith & Hope



HOW LONG,
O LORD?

LAMENT

- PRAYERS OF PAIN, CONFUSION, & ANGER
- DRAW ATTENTION TO WHAT'S WRONG IN THE WORLD
- ASK GOD TO DO SOMETHING

PRAISE

- PRAYERS OF JOY & CELEBRATION
- DRAW ATTENTION TO WHAT'S GOOD IN THE WORLD
- RETELL THE STORY & THANK GOD



GIVE THANKS
TO THE LORD,
FOR HE IS GOOD

LAMENT & PRAISE

BOOK 1

3-41

1 **BLESSED** IS THE ONE
WHO MEDITATES ON THE
TORAH
TEACHING
5 BOOKS OF MOSES
PSALMS = A NEW TORAH
ABOUT PRAYER

15 CALL TO COVENANT FAITHFULNESS
16-18 **DAVID'S PAST DELIVERANCE**
AND
ELEVATION AS KING

PSALM 19
TORAH

20-23 **FUTURE KING'S DELIVERANCE**
AND
KINGDOM OVER THE NATIONS

24 CALL TO COVENANT FAITHFULNESS



THE NATIONS

41:13

BOOK 2

42-72

42-43 **HOPE FOR A**
FUTURE RETURN
TO THE **TEMPLE** IN **ZION**

72 **FUTURE**
REIGN OF THE
MESSIANIC KING



ECHOES THE PROPHETS:
• ISAIAH 11, 45, & 60
• ZECHARIAH 9

FULFILLMENT OF GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM
(PS 72:17 = GEN 12:3 & 22:17)

72:18-19

BOOK 3

73-89

73-89 **PROMISE OF A**
MESSIANIC KINGDOM
VERSUS
EXILE & DOWNFALL
OF **DAVID'S KINGDOM**

89 **DON'T FORGET**
YOUR PROMISE

BOOK 4

90-106

90 **MOSES**
HAVE MERCY ON
YOUR SERVANTS!

93-99 **THE LORD**
REIGNS AS KING
"LET THE TREES CLAP,
LET THE MOUNTAINS
& RIVERS SING"

106:48

BOOK 5

107-145

107-110 **THE**
MESSIANIC KING
DEFEATS EVIL &
BRINGS GOD'S KINGDOM



113-118 **THE HALLEL**

118 **MESSIANIC KINGDOM**

SUSTAIN HOPE
IN A FUTURE
EXODUS WHEN
GOD REDEEMS
HIS PEOPLE

PSALM 119
TORAH

"GOD HAS RAISED UP A
HORN FOR HIS PEOPLE"
(118:14)

SEE 1 SAM 2:10 & PS 132:17

120-136 **THE SONGS OF ASCENTS**

132 **MESSIANIC KINGDOM**

HALLELU - YAH
PRaise + YAHWEH

HALLELU-YAH
146
HALLELU-YAH

HALLELU-YAH
147
HALLELU-YAH

HALLELU-YAH
148
HALLELU-YAH

HALLELU-YAH
149
HALLELU-YAH

HALLELU-YAH
150
HALLELU-YAH

PSALMS: THE PRAYERBOOK OF GOD'S PEOPLE
WHO ARE STRIVING TO BE FAITHFUL TO THE **TORAH**,
AND WAITING FOR THE **MESSIANIC KINGDOM**

MAY THE **LORD GOD** OF **ISRAEL** BE **BLESSED FOREVER, AMEN AND AMEN**



BOOK 3

73-89

89

ZION

PROMISE OF A
MESSIANIC KINGDOM

VERSUS

EXILE & DOWNFALL
OF DAVID'S KINGDOM



89:52

BIBLE PROJECT PSALM BOOKS BREAKDOWN...

(BIBLEPROJECT.COM/GUIDES/BOOK-OF-PSALMS)

Psalms 1-2: Introduction to the Key Themes of Psalms

Psalms 3-41: The Foundation of Covenant Faithfulness

Psalms 42-72: Hope for the Messianic Kingdom

Psalms 73-89: **Hope for the Messiah After Exile**

Psalms 90-106: The God of Israel as the King of All Creation

Psalms 107-150: Songs of Ascent and Poems of Praise

PSALM 81
FOR THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
ACCORDING TO GITTITH
OF ASAPH

PSALM 81

Director of Music:

Gittith:

Asaph:

Gittith

“...signifies belonging to Gath. It probably denotes either a musical instrument or a kind of music derived from Gath, where David sojourned for a time during the persecution of Saul, 1 Samuel 27:1-7. The word Gath also signifies in Hebrew a winepress. Hence not a few have supposed that it denotes either an instrument or a melody used in the vintage. It is prefixed to Psalm 8:1-9; 81:1- 16; 84:1-12”

Asaph is the second-most prolific author of the Psalms after King David, having been credited with writing 12 psalms.... He is described as a skilled musician and was one of three Levites serving under David ordained as the chief musicians at God's Tabernacle.... He is also given the title of prophet or seer

PSALM 81

Director of Music: Intended for corporate worship

Gittith: Inspired by the music of Gath

Asaph: Attributed composer / author

PSALM 81:

A CALL TO WORSHIP

REMEMBER WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE

THE PROMISE OF BLESSING

THE PAIN OF DISOBEDIENCE

FOLLOW THE LORD

- 1 Sing for joy to God our strength;
shout aloud to the God of Jacob!**
- 2 Begin the music, strike the timbrel,
play the melodious harp and lyre.**
- 3 Sound the ram's horn at the New
Moon, and when the moon is full,
on the day of our festival;**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Begin the music - maybe a little something a little like our opening songs on Sundays?!

Music is an appropriate response to the realisation of who God is and what He has done for us

Shout and make noise for God (Elohim) who is our strength (refuge/might/power/stronghold)



CALL TO WORSHIP

The sounding of the ram's horn (shofar) was a call to attention and to gather in God's presence

In their context it was to mark significant points in their religious festivals

It is vital that we come together as God's people to celebrate His faithfulness - ram's horn or not!

**4 this is a decree for Israel,
an ordinance of the God of Jacob.**

**5 When God went out against Egypt,
he established it as a statute for
Joseph.**

I heard an unknown voice say:

6 “I removed the burden from their shoulders; their hands were set free from the basket.

7 In your distress you called and I rescued you, I answered you out of a thundercloud; I tested you at the waters of Meribah.

REMEMBER WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE

A call for the people of God - to remember who they are and to remember who He is

1 Peter 2:9 tells us as Jesus followers we are a holy nation, chosen people and God's special possession

Delivering His people from Egypt was the greatest story of all time but only a foreshadow of Christ

REMEMBER WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE

We must be sure to remember and celebrate together what The Lord has done for us

God's faithfulness does not offer an opportunity to avoid times of testing

Meribah speaks of 'quarrelling with' or questioning God as the people of Israel did in the wilderness

**8 Hear me, my people, and I
will warn you—if you would
only listen to me, Israel!**

**9 You shall have no foreign god
among you; you shall not
worship any god other than me.**

**10 I am the Lord your God,
who brought you up out of
Egypt. Open wide your mouth
and I will fill it.**

THE PROMISE OF BLESSING

‘If only they would listen to me’ - do you ever find yourself thinking the same thing?!

The main difference here is that God is actually always right - unlike you and I!

This is the heart of the covenant - if we love God and love people, we will be blessed

**11 “But my people would not
listen to me; Israel would not
submit to me.**

**12 So I gave them over to their
stubborn hearts to follow their
own devices.**

THE PAIN OF DISOBEDIENCE

With a tone of lament, the psalmist speaks from God's perspective, as the people turn their backs

The Lord does not force us to follow His ways and (as our parent) is saddened by the pain we bring upon ourselves through sin and disobedience

Sometimes we have to accept the fact that people will choose their own path

THE PAIN OF DISOBEDIENCE

We see this pattern of God's people remembering and forgetting goodness and faithfulness throughout history

The book of Judges is the most obvious biblical illustration of this

Perhaps we can see it in our own culture/lives too?

**13 “If my people would only
listen to me, if Israel would
only follow my ways,
14 how quickly I would subdue
their enemies and turn my
hand against their foes!**

**15 Those who hate the Lord would
cringe before him, and their
punishment would last forever.
16 But you would be fed with the
finest of wheat; with honey from
the rock I would satisfy you.”**

FOLLOW THE LORD

Walking in the way of The Lord is the only truly fulfilling and fruitful way to live

Christ not only came to show us the way to follow The Lord, but to be The Way to The Father

It is likely last verse should be past tense ('I would have satisfied') with the sense of sadness at God's people having missed their promised potential

“Our enemies find the sharpest weapons against us in the armoury of our transgressions. They could never overthrow us if we did not first overthrow ourselves. Sin strips a man of his armour, and leaves him naked to his enemies.”

SPURGEON

**THE ROCK WHO SATISFIES US WITH THE FINEST OF
HONEY AND BRINGS US TO THE PROMISED LAND IS
JESUS CHRIST**

PSALM 81 THROUGH JESUS LENSES

A call to worship - Jesus; name above all names

Remember what The Lord has done - Jesus; Saviour

The Promise of blessing - Jesus; our rabbi

The Pain of Disobedience - Jesus; obedient to death

Follow The Lord - Jesus; the Way, the truth, the life