DELVING INTO THE PSALMS

DELVING INTO THE PSALMS

The Psalms: a collection of ancient Hebrew poems, songs and prayers by various writers complied 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 templeless people God

PSALMS WE HAVE DELVED INTO SO FAR...

Intro

1, 2

Book 1 (3-41)

7, 8, 16

Book 2 (42-72)

46, 63, 64

Book 3 (73-89)



Book 4 (90-106)

96, 100

Book 5 (107-150)

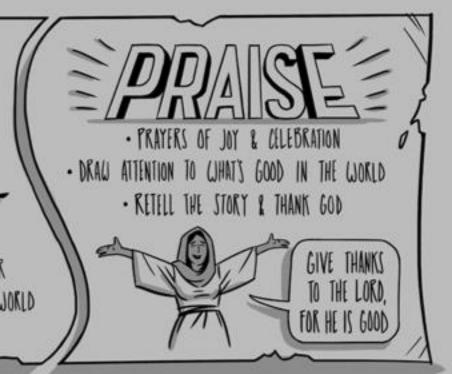
117, 119 (section 1), 121, 130,

Poems of Praise: 149

PSALM 81







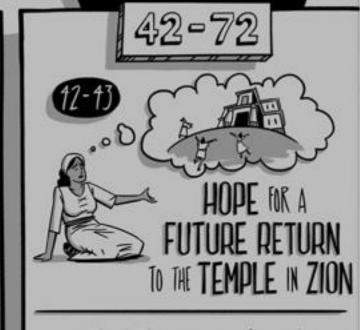


ABOUT PRAYER

POETIC REFLECTION ON

2 SAMUEL 7

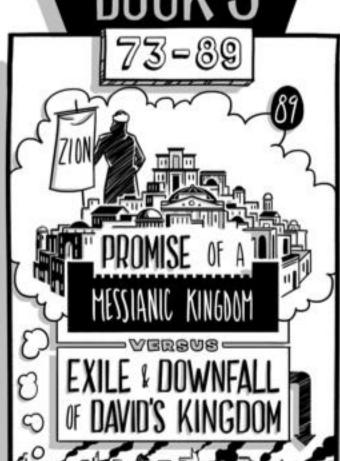
PSALM 19











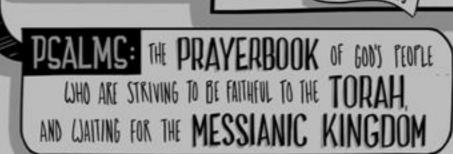




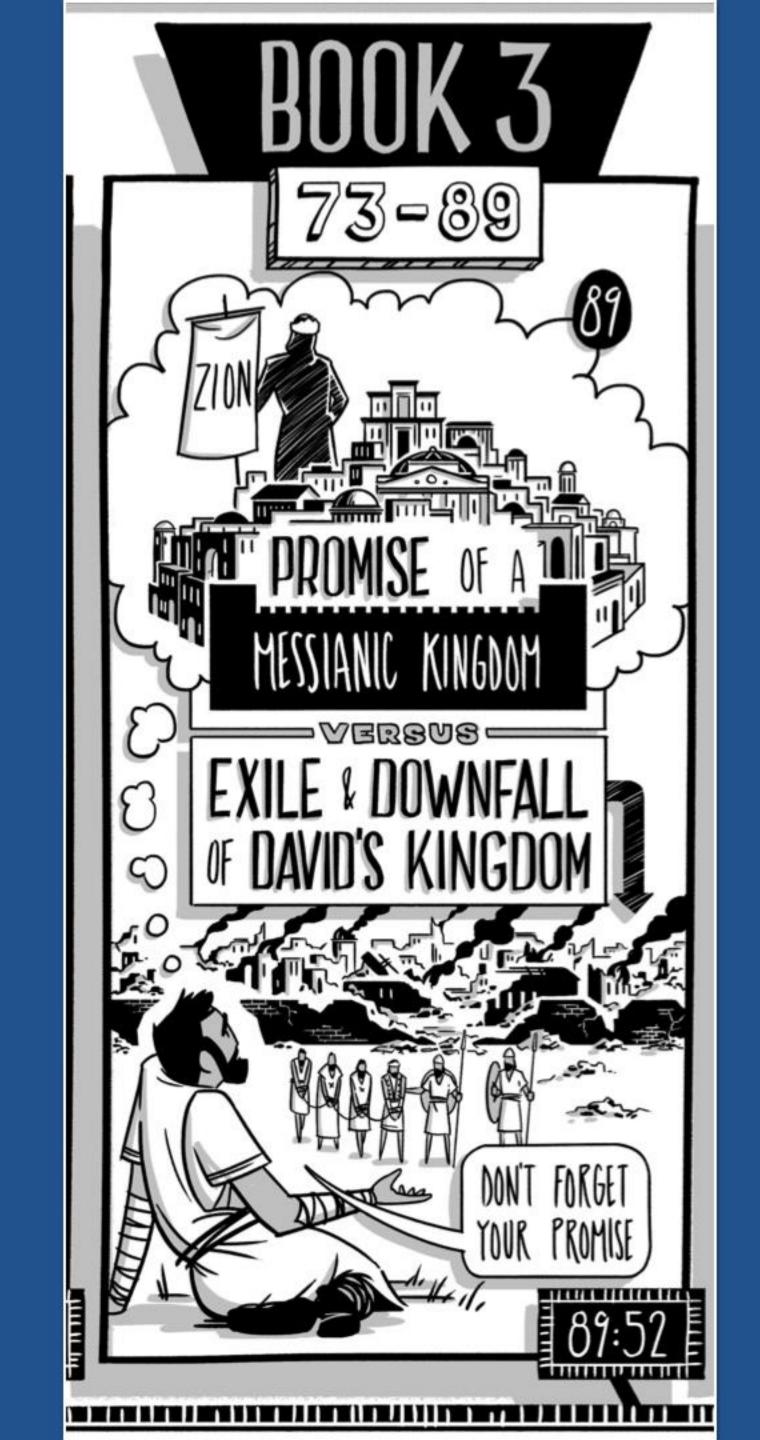




HALLELU-YAH 150 HALLELV-YAH







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."

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

PSALMS THROUGH JESUS LENSES...



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