



Psalms – 150 Psalms

Title:

Gk. *Psalmos*- songs (usually with instrumental accompaniment)
Heb. *Tehillim*- “Praises”

Author:

Various authors for different Psalms.
E.g. David, sons of Asaph, etc. Some are anonymous.

Occasion and Purpose:

Various expressions from various life situations. E.g. trust in times of security, frustration and hope in times of pain, gratitude in times of help, and praise in all situations.

Themes:

1. God is King
2. God is Trustworthy
3. God is Help
4. God is Praiseworthy

Summary:

A collection of hymns and praise songs used in ancient Israelite worship. Contains praises and emotions of people in response to God. Runs the full spectrum of emotions from joy to fear to sadness to anger. Use the Psalms to give expressions to various life situations and the emotions you feel.

Organization:

Book 1	<p>Mostly “of David”</p> <p>Early monarchy</p> <p>Focus on King as God’s anointed for the sake of the people</p> <p>Laments of David in hiding and nation at war</p> <p>doxology 41:13</p>	1-41	Orientation
Book 2	<p>“of Sons of Korah”, “Asaph”, “David”</p> <p>Early monarchy</p> <p>First 2 books framed by coronation psalms 2-72</p> <p>David Psalms, but focus on Zion- Jerusalem and Temple as the dwelling place of God.</p> <p>doxology 72:18-19</p>	42-72	
Book 3	<p>“of Asaph”, “of Sons of Korah”</p> <p>Exile</p> <p>Laments</p> <p>Mourning the fact that ‘God has rejected them</p> <p>Ends with 89 recalling David’s reign & wondering why it failed</p> <p>doxology 89:52</p>	73-89	Disorientation
Book 4	<p>Mostly untitled</p> <p>Returning from exile</p> <p>Starts with Moses’ eternal perspective</p> <p>Trust and thanksgiving</p> <p>God’s kingship</p> <p>Ends with appeal for return from exile</p> <p>doxology 106:48</p>	90-106	>
Book 5	<p>Mostly untitled, “of Ascent”, “David”, “Hallelujah”</p> <p>Return from exile and future</p> <p>Assumes returned from exile</p> <p>God’s rule over the nations</p> <p>Hallelujah’s celebrate God’s eternal rule over everything</p> <p>doxology Psalms 146-150</p>	107-150	Reorientation

Key Verses:

1:6; 13:1-3; 23:1; 51:1-2; 86:11; 93:1-2; 150:6