

A SURVEY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT:

Psalms

“Praise the LORD”

Title: Psalms

- Hebrew title is, “_____.”
- Septuagint called the book, “Psalms.”
- The word “psalm” comes from a Greek root meaning “to pluck” or “to twang.”
- Hence, the book was inherently tied to musical worship.

Summary: “Psalms demonstrates the proper worship of God through a wide variety of human experience.”

Key Word: _____

- Nearly every chapter in the book comes back to this theme.
- The object of our praise is God.
- We can praise God no matter what the situation in our life may be.
- Why? Because He is _____ of praise.

Subtitle: “Praise the LORD”

Author: _____

- Various authors are designated by the individual psalms.
 - _____ (75+)
 - Sons of Korah (10)
 - Asaph (12)
 - Others included Solomon (2), Moses (1), Heman (1), and Ethan (1).
 - Forty-eight of the psalms are anonymous.
- The entire collection may have been compiled by _____.

Key Doctrines: _____ is worthy of praise.

- For His forgiveness of sins.
- For His great mercy.
- For His protection of His people.
- For His goodness.
- For His _____ in creation.

Key People: _____

- The “man after God’s own heart.”
- The author of at least _____ the book.
- Because he wrote so many of these songs, we are left with a fuller understanding of what it truly means to be a man after God’s own heart. We see the progression of:
 - Sin
 - Confession & Repentance

- Forgiveness
- _____

Date:

- _____ (± 1410 BC) was the first writer.
- Ezra (± early 400s BC) might have compiled the book and added some Psalms.
- Psalms covers ± _____ years of Jewish history from 1410 – 400 BC including the wilderness wanderings, the monarchy, and the exile.

Background and Setting:

- The psalms are _____ reflections by each of the authors.
- The unique struggles each author faced results in a series of very original writings.
- Although it is not a narrative, the majority of the book was written by people in the _____.

Types of Psalms:

- _____: prophecies of the Messiah (Psalms 2, 22, 69, 110)
- Laments: crying out to God because of trouble (Psalms 7, 26, 60)
- Testimony: remembering what God has done (Psalms 30, 34)
- Pilgrimage: sung on the way to Jerusalem for feasts (Psalms 120-134)
- _____: Asking God to judge wicked men (Psalms 58, 109)
- Penitence: Sorrow for sin (Psalms 32, 51)
- Wisdom: How to live in this world (Psalms 37, 73)
- History: Talking about the nation’s past (Psalms 78, 105, 106)
- Nature: Praising God’s power in _____ (Psalms 8, 19)

Christ in Psalms:

- Some of the psalms are _____ – they give prophecies about the coming Messiah.
 - Reigning Victoriously: Psalm 2:5-12
 - Crucifixion: Psalm 22
 - Millennial Kingdom: Psalm 45:6-7
 - Crucifixion: Psalm 69:21
 - Messiah’s Priesthood: Psalm 110 (Heb 1:8; 5:6)

Overview:

- The book of Psalms divides itself into five smaller “_____”
 - Book 1: Psalm 1-41
 - Book 2: Psalm 42-72
 - Book 3: Psalm 73-89
 - Book 4: Psalm 90-106

- Book 5: Psalm 107-150

Challenges to Psalms:

- Because the psalms employ large amounts of poetic imagery, they cannot be interpreted like a narrative.
- How do you interpret _____?
- Psalm 23:1, "The LORD is my shepherd."
 - This is a _____, a comparison without using the words "like" or "as."
 - In order to understand the significance of this statement, we need to understand the significance of being a shepherd.
- Sheep: "A dumb animal that cannot take care of itself."
 - Sheep are dumb animals. Without the shepherd, they are completely lost.
 - Sheep are _____. They follow anyone and anything that will lead regardless of where it takes them.
 - Sheep are vulnerable. They have a reputation for being tasty, and wild animals know a good meal.
- Shepherd: "A person that takes care of dumb animals that cannot take care of themselves."
 - The Shepherd must provide for the sheep (2-3a).
 - The Shepherd must lead the sheep where they need to go (3b-4).
 - The Shepherd must protect the sheep from the _____ (5).
- Praise: Because the book of Psalms is a book of praise, we must then apply our interpreted text to _____.
 - God is our provider.
 - God is our guide.
 - God is our protector.

Application: Let's praise God tonight for His provision, guidance, and protection even though we foolishly try to go our own ways.