



The Book Of Psalms

Devotional Series

Introduction..

- *63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.*
John 6:63
- We will be approaching the Book of Psalms from a unique Holy Spirit inspired point.
- We need to understand something very important about the Psalms before we begin.



Introduction....

- The core of the Book of Psalms is COMMUNION
- The dialogue between the heart and God
- It is like eavesdropping on someone's prayer closet
- Or like listening to your parent or grandma pray...truly pray.
- It is one of the best discipleship tools in the Word:



Introduction...

- Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, *that* one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.
Luke 11:1
- Notice that the Disciples wanted to imitate their Lord upon seeing and hearing Him pray.



Introduction...

- *7 who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear Hebrews 5:7*
- Jesus was loud, emotional and real in His prayers
- This was NOT on one occasion because it says “...in the days”
- The Psalms disciple us to be heartfelt in prayer and communion with God



Introduction...

- David was a Man after God's heart and wrote about one half of the Psalms
- He took worship, praise and psaltery to a whole new level during his life and ministry.
- *Thus* says David the son of Jesse;
Thus says the man raised up on high,
The anointed of the God of Jacob,
And the sweet psalmist of Israel:
2 Samuel 23:1



Introduction....

- The Spirit of the Psalms is a sweet and open heart with God.
- A heart that loves God and wants to be with Him.
- The Spirit of the Psalms is Devotion
- Adherence, adoration, affection, attachment, dedication, intensity, passion, devout, fondness, zeal, worship, sincerity



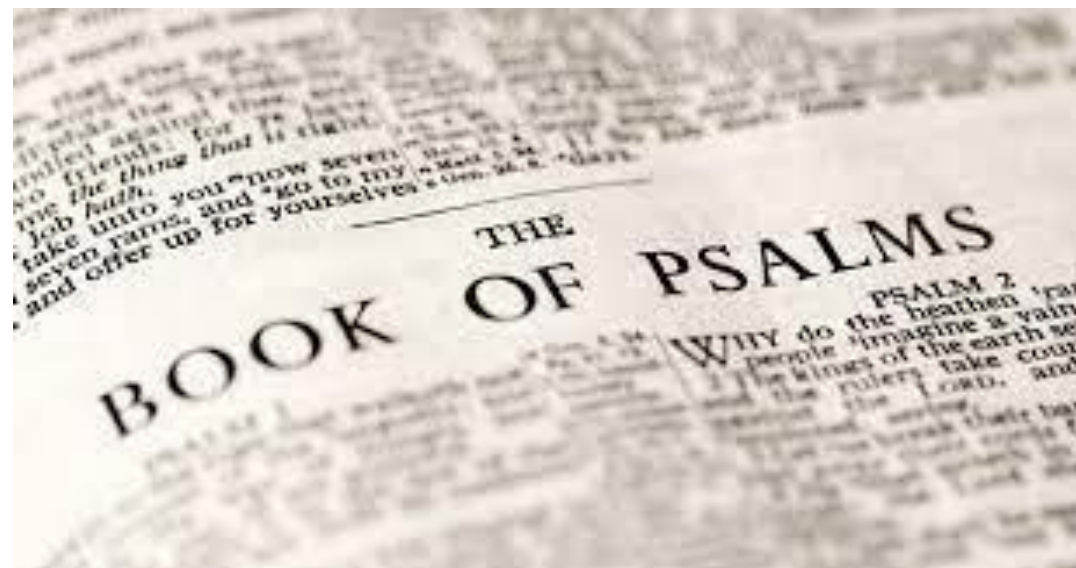


Introduction...

- The general direction of travel in the Psalms is towards God.
- Thus, this Book will tune and turn your heart towards God.
- This Book has been 'forged' in the secret place, the closet, the place of prayer.
- It is a Book of Prayer set to music because worship is essential in walking with God

Outline of the Psalms...

- In its final form this compiled book is divided into five sub sections. Each section ends with a doxology.
- Book 1 – 1-41
- Book 2 – 42-72
- Book 3 – 73-89
- Book 4 – 90-106
- Book 5 – 107 -150
- Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel
From everlasting to everlasting!
Amen and Amen. Psalm 41:13



Outline of the Psalms



Many of the Psalms have informative subheadings which give the historical context of the piece.



Most of the historical subheadings if not all, deal with the life of David.



Other subheadings refer to the musical instruments that are to accompany them.



Many of the Psalms were musical creations and so these additions pointed to the tune or melody of the song.



They also pointed to the theme of the Psalm as to whether it was meditation; prayer etc



Some of these terms and their true meaning have been lost in translation or unknown to us today.

- ***A Psalm of David when he pretended madness before Abimelech, who drove him away, and he departed.***
Psalm 34

Selah...

- The term selah occurs seventy-one times and has many translations.
- It comes from a root word which implies “to lift up”
- Some think it may apply to raising the decibel as in crescendo...
- It could also apply to a musical interlude, impasse or pause.
- An indication for silence.
- The use of selah in the psalms could mean a break for prostration.
- The context for selah in many places seems to call the reader to reflect and meditate like in Psalm 9:16
- The LORD is known *by* the judgment He executes;
The wicked is snared in the work of his own hands.
Meditation. ^[g] *Selah*



Poetic...

- Hebrew poetry and song have a rhythm of parallels not similar words. Ps 36:5
- Your mercy, O LORD, *is* in the heavens;
Your faithfulness *reaches* to the clouds.
- Your mercy, O Lord is to the Heavens
Your faithfulness is so endless
- In modern songwriting, the words generally rhyme.
- In Hebrew poetry there are also opposites of each other. Ps 20:8
- They have bowed down and fallen;
But we have risen and stand upright.



Poetic....

- Within the Psalms, we also see constructive or synthetic couplets which add to or build on to a thought: Ps 19:8-9
- *The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;
⁹ The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;
The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.*
- Sometimes the poetry and parallelisms build over more than two lines like in Psalm 1:1
- *Blessed is the man
Who walks not in the counsel of the [\[a\]](#)ungodly,
Nor stands in the path of sinners,
Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;*



The Secret Place...

- Every victorious Christian has an Altar which guides and fortifies the Soul:
- *6 But you, when you pray, go into **your room**, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the **secret place**; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you [c]openly. Matthew 6:6*
- The 'closet' is your fortress and hiding place:
- *I will love You, O LORD, my strength.
2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer;
My God, my [a]strength, in whom I will trust;
My shield and the [b]horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
3 I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised;
So shall I be saved from my enemies. Ps 18:1-3*
- After going into your room, you then enter your own room, within your heart



The Secret Place...

- ³⁵ Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a [\[k\]](#)solitary place; and **there** He prayed. Mark 1:35
- If you are going to be victorious, strong, and overcome in these perilous times, you must have a **THERE**



The Spirit of David...

- Now it happened, when David and his men came to Ziklag, on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the South and Ziklag, attacked Ziklag and burned it with fire,
- ² and had taken captive the women and those who *were* there, from small to great; they did not kill anyone, but carried *them* away and went their way.
- ³ So David and his men came to the city, and there it was, burned with fire; and their wives, their sons, and their daughters had been taken captive.
- ⁴ Then David and the people who *were* with him lifted up their voices and wept, until they had no more power to weep.
- ⁵ And David's two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite, had been taken captive.
- ⁶ Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was [a](#)grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God 1 Sam 30:1-6



The Spirit Of David...

- The LORD *is* my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear?
The LORD *is* the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?
Psalm 27:1
- ¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might Ephesians 6:10



The Spirit of David...

- *Truly my soul silently waits for God;
From Him comes my salvation.
2 He only is my rock and my salvation;
He is my defense;
I shall not be greatly moved. Ps 62:1-2*
- *Blessed be the LORD,
Because He has heard the voice of my
supplications!
7 The LORD is my strength and my
shield;
My heart trusted in Him, and I am
helped; Therefore, my heart greatly
rejoices, And with my song I will
praise Him. Ps 28:7-8*



Devotion Time....

- *.⁶ But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.
Matthew 6:6*

