

Psalms 1 – Introduction

Sunday 8/20/2023

I. Background – & Overview

From a practical standpoint, the book of Psalms is the book that most people know and will relate to in the Bible. Psalms is the most devotional book of all time. It's a book that contains the truth of life in three basic areas. And we will develop these as we go through Psalms. A book we can go to in times of trouble. There are so many aspects of Psalms that meet all of our emotional needs.

Psalms is a:

- 1.) Hospital that we can go to when we are hurt
- 2.) Nursing home for when we get older and need to have care in our life
- 3.) Care center where we can go and get those things that we need
- 4.) Bomb shelter to protect us
- 5.) Supply center that gives us everything that we need
- 6.) Haven of rest for the Christian that fights the daily fight and stays in the battle

This is about as far as most Christians go. There are two prayers in the bible that people use at the time of death. You see it all the time in the movies. One is the Lords prayer and the other is Psalms 23. This is the one you say when your ship is sinking or plane is crashing.

There is nothing in Psalms 23 will not save you, but the direct application is to the Nation of Israel. It was not written to the church at all.

Goal - Total and complete understanding of the book of Psalms

Psalms is a KEY book in the Bible and one of the 5 wisdom books (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon) Each laying out a different aspect of God. When it comes to understanding God, the Lord, Christ the Holy Spirit of God where do you think all that would be found as the base line for truth in the word of God? It will be found in the wisdom books.

- 1.) Job – Greatest book on the Sufferings of Christ on the Cross, typified on what Job is going through
- 2.) Proverbs – Mind of God – shows Gods viewpoint on life, not mans
- 3.) Ecclesiastes – Mind of the Spirit – Where the H.S. is going, the circuits it follows and every aspect of the H.S.
- 4.) Song of Solomon – Mind of Christ – Not only how Christ looks at us, but also how we should look at Him.
- 5.) Psalms – Heart of God-

Psalms KEY to life on earth. In a Book by Tom Malone he wrote that the 5 wisdom books of the bible are the key to life because you find the 5 key emotions that we go through in life.

- 1.) Job unhappy man,
- 2.) Proverbs, story of a wise man
- 3.) Ecclesiastes story of a worldly man
- 4.) Song of Solomon the heavenly man ,
- 5.) Psalm picture of a happy and blessed man

Psalms will cover all these emotions and will give you everything you need to know on how to have the best relationship with the word of God and God that you can ever have and that is to get God's heart.

In the KJV bible it is the 19th book. In the Hebrew bible it is the 27th

Psalms is broken down into 5 basic sections

- 1.) Section 1. Chapters 1 - 41
- 2.) Section 2. Chapters 42 -72
- 3.) Section 3. Chapters 73 - 89
- 4.) Section 4. Chapters 90 -106
- 5.) Section 5. Chapters 107-150

- Psalms covers at least 11 centuries of history.
- The longest chapter is Psalms 119.
- The book of Psalms contains more information on 2nd coming of Christ than all the NT books combined
- 31,102 verses, middle verses in Psalms 103:1-2

Psalms 103:1. Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, [bless] his holy name. 2. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

Can we list all the benefits of a relationship with God?

It tells us to bless the Lord, but NOT to forget his benefits. Do you know why do people get out of fellowship or why they stop going to church? They simply have forgotten all the benefits that God has done in their life.

II. Psalms – Book of Praise

In Hebrew – Psalms called – book of praises

In English – Psalms called songs - poems that were sung

Col 3:16 – defines biblical music based on the doctrine of the Word of God

Until you understand the book of Psalms, you won't understand what real biblical music is to God.

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

This verse defines real biblical music. Its music based on the doctrine of the word of God.

Asaph – Chief musician of David – Wrote 10 of the Psalms 73-83

Music must start out of our hearts, not with feelings or emotions, but with the doctrines of what has been hid in our hearts.

Psa 119:11 KJV Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

The hymnal we use in our church is called "Great hymns of the Faith". Almost every song was written during the Philadelphian church age.

III. Different authors of the Psalms

Each of these writers are an incredible study in building your own life and your family.

David 73 Focus on getting Gods heart

Asaph 10 Focus on music

Moses Greatest picture of leader in ministry in the bible

Sons of Korah 11 Kohathites - One of the key families that took care of the furniture of the tabernacle. Dedicated to the service of Gods temple. If you want to take your kids and develop them into a ministry with you, that serves in the NT local church, study the Kohathites and sons of Korah

Anonymous 49 Allows us to see ourselves in these Psalms. Shows us what a real relationship can be with God.

Psalms-more than just a book that we run to in times of trouble, but is the very heart of God, And within the heart of God you find every aspect and fiber of our relationship.

IV. The placement of Psalms in your bible

3 teachings of His coming – Post millennialism, a-millennialism, pre-millennialism

Post millennial – Believe that Christ comes back after the millennium (Social gospel, Methodist, Lutherans, Presbyterians, Protestant groups). This is the main idea behind United Nations and global warming. They believe once they get the world all cleaned up, and they get the world to a higher standard, then Christ can come back.

A-millennial – no millennium at all – they believe we are living in it now, a spiritual thing (Jehovah Witness, Mormons, Church of Christ, 7th day Adventist)

Pre-millennial – We believe in the pre-millennial return of the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that Christ comes back and establishes a 1,000 reign at the 2nd coming of Christ. We look at what is going on in the world from a practical bible standpoint. We look at everything going wrong in the world today as going wrong because we are getting close to the Lord's coming back and taking the nations by force.

The order of the books in your bible clearly show you the pre-millennial return of Christ.

- Revelation 1-5, 6-19, 20-22 These chapters show you the pre-millennial return of Christ
- Ezekiel 36-48 all show pre millennial return of Christ
- Psalms show the doctrine of pre millennialism laid out by the order of books before and after Psalms.

The order of the OT books dealing with the captivity of Israel and restoration of the Jews

It starts in 2 Chronicles, then moves to Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs.

They will all lay out the course of history and pre-millennial return of the Lord Jesus Christ

V. Isaiah 11:10-11

A. Nation of Israel Recovered two times

Isa 11:10 KJV And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

Isa 11:11 And it shall come to pass in that day, [that] the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

Both times the Nation of Israel will be a remnant.

1.) First time

1st time in 2 Chronicles 36 is where Nation of Israel go into the captivity. The Southern tribes go into captivity by Nebuchadnezzar in 606 BC. Ezekiel and Daniel are taken during this time.

2 Kings 17 & 18 Sennacherib King of Assyria takes the Northern tribes. Everything is gone, the City of Jerusalem has been destroyed.

70 years later Cyrus King of Persia allows them to go back (the hand of God in verse 11). In Ezra they go back and in the next book Nehemiah they rebuild. Israel has to be back in the land for the first coming of Christ. In Ezra and Nehemiah go back and they find everything is destroyed, but God has brought back a remnant. They go back because at the first coming of Christ the Jew has to be in the land.

At the 1st coming of Christ, the Jews reject Christ, so God in 70 AD sends Titus down and destroys Jerusalem and the Jews are kicked out. Now the Jews are kicked out of the land for the second time.

2.) Second time

God begins to move. God begins to fulfill Isaiah 11 and God is going to recover the Nation of Israel for the 2nd time. It starts around 1850-1880. The Jews have no homeland cause the Muslims have control of the land. But God begins to move at this point. In 1850-1880 the Zionist group – sympathy began to be for the Jews with no homeland. We see God's hand move down through history. You can't separate God from history.

In Europe a number of dynasties/Empires are in control at this time. There is the Russian Empire, Ottoman Empire, German, French, Serbian and England

Archduke Ferdinand goes down to Serbia on a goodwill trip and he is assassinated on 6-28-1914, which immediately throws Europe into turmoil. Next day Serbia declares war on Austria, Hungary and because of their military alliances all other nations have to go to war to support the other and what comes out of that is WW1.

God started WW1 because he wanted to get that Jew back in the land and they couldn't do it in Europe. At the WW1 all the empires were destroyed except one, England. Turks have Jerusalem and now England goes in under General Allenby and kicks the Turks out of Jerusalem. The Muslims are gone and now England (British) owns Jerusalem. All the monarchs are gone and England is the only one left. A guy stands up in parliament (Lord Howell) talks about a man who helped them win WW1, a Jew created a smokeless gun powder. He brought up the Balfour Declaration in 1917 – give Jerusalem back to the Jew. (Ish 11)

Didn't happen for 2 reasons:

1. Britain was not enthusiastic about this and then Arabia shows up and says if you give that land back to the Jew you will never get another drop of oil out of our nation.
2. Jews didn't really want to go. They were doing really well in Germany.

Germany was in a depression, yet the Jews were putting gold in their teeth. About this time, Adolf Hitler comes up on the political scene. He looked around Europe and his people in deep depression, and the Jews having everything else, says the problem in Europe is the Jew. Hitler says in order for Europe and Germany to grow the Jew must be exterminated. What happened? WW2 comes along. At the start of WW2 there were about nine million Jews in Europe. By the end of WW2 there is less than three million left. All wiped out by Adolf Hitler and the third Reich.

When you look at history from that perspective of the hand of God based on Ish 11 what you see is the beginning of the hand of God recovering them a second time. WW1 got the land ready for the Jew and WW2 got the Jew ready for the land and in 1948 they became a nation. Ish 11 is fulfilled and they are back in the land just like they were at the 1st coming of Christ.

1948 – Jews go back to the land

1949 – 1970 rebuild - Now a remnant back in the land ready for the second coming.

Now watch, the Order of the books in the OT show you this great event leading up to the 2nd coming of Christ by a pre-millennium return of the Lord Jesus Christ. Keep in mind he is bringing them back two times. Learn from history. History repeats itself.

In 2 Chronicles 36, in history they go into captivity just like they do in 70 AD. Now we have the two captivities. The next book in your order in the bible is the book of Ezra.

Ezra – Small group of Jews go back to the Land just like in 1948 after WW2

Nehemiah – historically they rebuild but in the order of our books they rebuild now in Europe and Jerusalem just like they did in 1949 and 1970 just like they did in the OT book of Nehemiah

Esther – The book of Esther. In Ezra, Nehemiah they rebuild but in Esther they get permission to go back IT is in the wrong order! Esther should be first, then Ezra, then Nehemiah. Why would you put it third after they are already back? Unless you wanted to show me something. The book of Esther is the strangest book in the bible. It is the only book in the bible that does not mention God anywhere. Yet behind the scenes the hand of God is setting everything up for the Jew to go back to the land. Esther is a picture of the Laodicean church period that we are living in right now. You can't see God doing hardly anything, but he is behind the scene. Behind the scene all God is focused on is the nation of Israel.

No more great revivals, no more great turning people to God. Its now just you and me going thru a diseased ridden vineyard picking a few grapes off that are ready to eat. God's attention right now as we speak is on the Middle East. Look at the world around you. Look at Russia, look at China, look at Taiwan. Look at all the upheaval in this world. All getting ready for one thing a catastrophic explosion all centered around the nation of Israel.

When we look at the book of Esther, I find in chapter 1:5 there is a feast in the wedding garden, seven days seven nights which is a picture of Rapture. You have Hamann which is a type of anti-Christ, tries to stop Mordecai and Israel. What happens to him? He gets hung like Judas. Then a Jewish wife is told in chapter 5:1 to be up and ready against the 3rd day. Just like Exodus 19 and that third day is 2nd coming of Christ.

Its all right there, by the order of your books in your bible

What's the next book?

Job –picture of tribulation period. Job was in the land of Uz, just like Israel will be in the tribulation period. Job is a type of nation of Israel. He is persecuted by the devil for seven days just like the Nation of Israel will be for seven years. Job's name means "one persecuted". Job loses everything that he had, but gets it back double in the end just like Ish 61:7 and Deut 21:17 says that Israel will at the 2nd coming of Christ. There is a resurrection in the end of the book of Job and he gets his kids back, just like at the end of the second coming. Job is tormented by three friends. With friends like these who needs enemies. They add to his misery. When I go to Revelation 16:13 in the tribulation the nation of Israel has three unclean spirits like frogs that torment the nation of Israel. Forty-two chapters in the book of Job, 42 months in the tribulation.

The next book is Psalms. Psalms is about three things:

- 1.) 2nd coming of Christ
- 2.) Millennial reign of Christ
- 3.) David on the throne of Israel

In Rev 8:4 where the tribulation saints are praying under the alter for Gods deliverance. You will find them in Psalms. I will show you them when we get there.

The next book is Proverbs. We have come up thru the millennium and eternity, Proverbs is the mind of God. Showing you everything that God believes, knows and is. The complete doctrine of pre-millennial laid out by the order of the books in your bible.

VI. Psalms in Practical/Inspirational mindset

When we study Psalms together you will find the whole book breaks down around those three doctrinal aspects. And I will show them to you and completely break them down so that when we are done you will have them listed in your bible. You will find that it deals with the tribulation psalms, tribulation prayers concerning the second coming psalms and millennial psalms. Christ is now on the throne. This will establish the basic context of Psalms and I will completely break each one down as we go through it.

I will lay out Psalms in three other formats. This is in a practical mindset. This is how Psalms plays out to you and to me and be a valuable source of life as a Christian.

There are three key aspects to David's life.

- 1.) You will find that David who has the heart of God find Psalms where David is out of fellowship.
- 2.) You will find the Psalms where David is getting back in fellowship.
- 3.) You will find the Psalms where David is back in fellowship and on his way with God.

Doctrinally Israel is typified by David in three key aspects

- 1.) Israel out of fellowship with God -tribulation period
- 2.) Israel getting right with God, prayers coming up to 2nd coming
- 3.) Israel restored the second time Ish 11, Ezk 36-48, Rev 19-22

Inspirationally me and you. This is where we find our source of comfort.

Three key aspects to our life and relationship with God found in Psalms

- 1.) Me out of fellowship
- 2.) Me trying to get back and get right with God
- 3.) Me back in fellowship enjoying the blessings of God

There it is. That is how you apply the book, doctrinally, inspirationally and historically.

I know in my own life and ministry, many times when going through something I found my strength in what David or one of the writers of Psalms are going through. And you do that through the parallels and patterns. I formed my biblical approach to music in this church through the songs of Asaph and his 10 songs. Why we sing the songs that we sing. I make no apologies for it. And when it comes to me loving the Word of God above all else and more than anything else it was Psalms 119 that showed me the way.

Psalms 119 is 176 verses and each one of them will teach you a different aspect to loving the word of God. Psalms looks to be difficult, but in truth it is probably the easiest book in the bible if you follow the simple outline that God will give you. Breaking it down into three natural formats which we will do as we go through it.

As we study together this great book, we will do as we always have done for over fifty years in my ministry and over twenty years in this church we simply let God be true and every man a liar. We simply take the book as we find it, the way we find it. We make no changes to it. We don't think we have a better idea that God should have said something a better way. We just follow the simple, natural outline and prayerfully allowing the Holy Spirit of God to lead and guide us into all truth.

Greatest survival kit is what God has given me ten

- 1.) Sword Hebrews 11 to defend myself
- 2.) Water John 4 water likened to the Word of God, so I will never be thirsty
- 3.) Apples Proverbs 23 -get my fruits
- 4.) Meat Hebrews 5 says Word of God is liken to meat
- 5.) Hammer and nails Jerm 23 WOG liken to hammer and nails so I can build with that
- 6.) Vegetables Psalms 78
- 7.) Honey Psalm 119:103 Word of God is sweeter than honey
- 8.) Bread Matthew 4
- 9.) Milk I Peter 2
- 10.) Fire Psalms 119:105

Israel is told to endure to the end and the church is told to be faithful to the end.