



Author: King David; Asaph; the Sons of Korah; Moses; others

Time: 11th to 6th centuries BC

Purpose: To express hope in the Lord God for salvation, using prayers and praises spoken by God's people at the tabernacle and temple or by individuals

Outline:

Book One: Psalms 1–41

intensely personal psalms of David

Book Two: Psalms 42–72

psalms of David and the kingdom; nationalistic

Book Three: Psalms 73–89

psalms of Asaph and the Sons of Korah; nationalistic

Book Four: Psalms 90–106

anonymous psalms and laments

Book Five: Psalms 107–150

songs of ascents and praise; psalms of David

Key Verses: The Shepherd Psalm (ch. 23); sincere repentance (51:7–12); the Lord reigns (ch. 110); the Psalm of the Word (119:105–107); the Mission Psalm (145:4–13)

Key People: King David; the nation of Israel; “the righteous”

Places: Chiefly Jerusalem

The Psalms

The Prayer Book of the Bible

Psalm 1

Psalm 1 (KJV)

¹ Blessed is the man

that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly,
nor standeth in the way of sinners,
nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

² But his delight is in the law of the Lord;

and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

³ And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water,

that bringeth forth his fruit in his season;

his leaf also shall not wither;

and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

⁴ The ungodly are not so:

but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

⁵ Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment,

nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

⁶ For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous:

but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen.

Introduction

The Book of Psalms: The Prayerbook of the Church

Where & How We Use the Psalms at Church & at Home

New Testament:

- Colossians 3:16
- Ephesians 5:19–20
- Luke 24:44–45

Structure: Parallelism

- Grammar
- Sounds
- Thought: compare/contrast
- Steps

Psalm 1 (KJV)

v. 1

Journey Metaphor

Blessed

-- obey/prosper?

-- general truth?

-- what about appearances?

“the Man”

Walk-stand-sit

v. 2

“But . . .”

Tree – Jeremiah 17:7–8; Job 8:16

vv. 3–4 plant metaphor

vv. 5–6

Which judgment?