

# The Psalms

(Sunday, June 26)

David the main contributor of the Psalms wrote many of the Psalms out of great affliction, such as, when he was fleeing as a fugitive from jealous king Saul or dealing with the rebellion of his son Absalom.

## 1. The Title of Psalms

- A. The Hebrew title means Songs of Praise as in Psalm 145
- B. The Greek title means “Pluck with the fingers.”

## 2. The Authors of the Psalms

- A. David wrote 73 of the Psalms according to the inscriptions
  - 1. One hundred Psalms have ascriptions
  - 2. Psalm 3 has a historical notation; Psalm 4 has musical notations; Psalm 32 is a Maschil
- B. Asaph, David’s chief musician (1 Chronicles 15:17), wrote 12 Psalms (50, 73-83)
- C. The sons of Korah are associated with 11 Psalms (42-49; 84, 85, 87, 88)
- D. Solomon wrote 2 Psalms (72 and 127)
- E. Moses wrote 1 Psalm (90)
- F. Heman wrote 1 Psalm (88) (Heman and Ethan were among the wise men, 1 Kings 4:31)
- G. Ethan wrote 1 Psalm (89)
- H. 49 Psalms are called “Orphan Psalms” (The NT credits two of these to David: Acts 4:25 says David wrote Psalm 2 and Hebrews 4:7 says David wrote Psalm 95)

## 3. The Division of the Psalms

- A. The Holy Spirit divided the Psalms into 5 Books. Each begins with a preface and ends with a doxology (Book 1 is Psalms 1-41; Book 2 is 42-72; Book 3 is 73-89; Book 4 is 90-106; Book 5 is 107-150)
- B. The Psalms is a collection of collections (Psalm 72:19-20) covering 1000 years

## 4. The Different Types of Psalms

Messianic (2) Nature (19) Praise (150) Confession (51) Pilgrim (120-134)  
Imprecatory (137) Complaints (88) Prayers (139) The Hallel (115-118).

## 5. Jesus and the Psalms

- A. Jesus’ mother had memorized the Psalms (Luke 1:46)
- B. Jesus quoted Psalms (6:8; 8:2; 110:1; 22:1; 31:5)