

PSALMS

FOR EVERY SEASON

Normal, IL • Sept 25-30, 2022

PSALMS FOR EVERY SEASON

Sun, 9:00 AM **The Story of the Psalms**

Sun, 10:00 AM **Psalm 22 & 23 - Songs for Suffering & Refuge**

Mon, 7:00 PM **Psalm 113-118 - Jesus' Final Songs**

Tue, 7:00 PM **Psalm 32 & 51 - Songs for Repentance**

Wed, 7:00 PM **David & Jesus**

Thu, 7:00 PM **Psalm 7 & 137 - Songs about Justice and Vengeance**

Fri, 7:00 PM **Psalm 89 & 107 - Songs about God's Steadfast Love**

The Flow of the Psalms

Less Praise, Increasing Lament

Less Lament, Increasing Praise

89 & 90

Book 1: 3-41

Introduction

- 1: Torah
- 2: Messiah

3-41: David
[-10,33: Anonymous]

41:13

Book 2: 42-72

42-49: Sons of Korah
[-43: Anon]

50: Asaph

51-71: David
(Historical Titles)
[-66,67,71: Anon]

Solomon: 72

72:18-20

Book 3: 73-89

73-83: Asaph

84-88:
Sons of Korah
[-86: David]

88: Heman
89: Ethan

89:52

Book 4: 90-106

90: Moses

91-106: Anonymous
[-101,103: David]

93-99:
The LORD Reigns

104-106:
Historical

106:48

Book 5: 107-145

107: *God's Hese*
[Anonymous]

108-110: David

111-137: Anonymous
[-122,124,131,133: David]
[-127: Solomon]

113-118: Passover
119: Torah
120-134: Ascent

138-145: David

Conclusion

146-150:
Hallelu-YAH

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.

Seams and Themes: Trusting God's *Hese* after Exile

Books 1-2: David's Triumphs and Failures (72:20)

3: David flees from Absalom

41: David betrayed & delivered

42/43: Longing for God's House

51: David's Great Failure

72: Solomon's Blessing

Book 3: Exile Devastation

73: Why wicked prosper?
74,79,80,84: Communal laments (like exile)

88: All darkness, no praise

89: Lament over promises to David—where is *hese*?

Book 4: Trust—God is King

90: Moses: God has been faithful from everlasting
93-99: The LORD reigns! (Even w/o physical king)

105/106: God is faithful, despite unfaithful Israel

Book 5: Awaiting Messiah

107: God's *hese* delivers
110: David's Lord as King and Priest

Passover/Torah/Ascent:
Anticipation of Restoration
145: David praises forever

PSALM 7 - GOD IS A RIGHTEOUS JUDGE

- How is God described in this psalm?
 - **v1** Refuge
 - **v6** Anger, **v11** Indignation every day
 - **v6-8,11** Righteous Judge, **v17** Righteous
 - **9-10** Vindicator of Righteous
 - **v12-13,16** Avenger
- Whom does God judge (**v8**)?
 - The peoples & David himself—no one is exempt
 - **v3-5** - A self-curse if found guilty (see **Job 31**)
- What condition is put on God's judgment (**v12**)?
 - *If* a man does not repent...
 - God is the Righteous Judge—in mercy and punishment

GOD AS THE RIGHTEOUS JUDGE

- Other reflections:
 - **Ps 9:11-12** - In vengeance, God is mindful of oppressed
 - **Ps 9:19-20** - When God judges, it humbles nations
 - **Ps 51:4** - God is still righteous judge when we've sinned
 - **Ps 58:10-11** - Others see judgment & respect God
- How does this help us understand vengeance psalms?
 - The psalmists are asking the Judge to give justice
 - This is not personal vengeance, no one is exempt
- What comfort can we take from God's righteous judgment?
 - All unpunished wrong resolved—no one ever “gets away with it”
 - We are free to forgive, heal, and serve

PSALMS OF VENGEANCE AND CURSING

- What makes imprecatory psalms so hard for us to deal with?
 - Is it even right & godly to *feel* that, let alone *pray* that?
 - Cursing the wicked, *and* their children? (**109:9-10; 137:9**)
 - Includes: **Ps 35,55,58,59,69,79,83,94,109,137**
 - Other OT: Moses (**Num 16:15**); Nehemiah (**4:4-5; 6:14**); Jeremiah (**11:20; 18:19-23**)
- Are there any New Testament passages that curse the wicked or call for vengeance from God?
 - **Mt 11:20-24; 1 Cor 16:22; Gal 1:8-9; 5:12; 1 Th 2:14-16; 2 Th 1:6-9; 2 Tim 4:14-16; 2 Pt 2:12-14; Rev 6:9-11; 18:20; 19:1-3**

PSALM 137 - BY THE RIVERS OF BABYLON

- Historical context?
 - Babylonian captivity—taunts of the captors
 - It is hard to imagine what this generation saw
 - **Jer 39:1-2; Lam 2:20; 4:10; Jer 19:9; Ezk 5:10**
 - Evil is real and it is sometimes unthinkable
- **v1-6** - Memories of Zion—they will not forget!
- **v7-9** - Call for vengeance on Edom and Babylon (**Ob 10-14**)
 - **v8-9** - Parallelism: This is what Babylon did first

LESSONS FROM VENGEANCE PSALMS

- Who is the psalmist asking to take vengeance? **Rom 12:19-21**
 - We must NOT take personal vengeance **Pr 20:22; 1 Sam 24:12**
 - *God's vengeance* frees us to *forgive* others! **Pr 25:21-22**
- Desire for vengeance and forgiveness can coexist. **Ps 83:13-18**
 - Jesus models both: **Matt 11:24; Lk 23:34**
 - Paul models both: **1 Th 2:14-16; Rom 9:1-3;10:1; 2 Tim 4:14-16**
- No one is exempt from God's judgment: **Ps 7:3-5; Job 31**
- How can we pray about God's justice/mercy on the wicked?
 - **2 Pt 3:9,12** - We pray for both when we "hasten the day."
 - **2 Th 1:5-10** - We can endure, knowing God will win
 - **Rev 6:10** - We can pray for God to do as He has promised.

