



## *Psalms*

### **Jesus Christ, Our All in All**

*by Dana Burkinshaw*

July 17, 2019

## **F-L-I-G-H-T**

**F** – The book of Psalms is a collection of songs, prayers, and poetry written by many authors. Of the 150 psalms, 73 are attributed to the poet and musician King David. Other psalms were written by Asaph (12), the Korahites (12), King Solomon (2), Moses (1), Heman (1), Hezekiah (1), Ethan (1). The remaining psalms are anonymous.

The Psalms were written over a 1000-year period, beginning with Moses (c. 1450 BC) and ending with the Jewish captivity in Babylon (c. 585 BC). The Psalms were most likely collected during the time of Ezra.

*Gospel of Grace Fellowship*

*ggf.church*

1

## **F-L-I-G-H-T**

**L** – The Psalms are filled with lyrics that reflect almost every human experience and emotion on the spectrum. From the greatest sorrow and depression to the most thrilling expressions of joy and gladness, one theme in the book is constant: a complete dependence on the love and power of God.

**I** – Songs of Relationship (1-41), Songs of Redemption (42-72), Songs of Refuge (73-89), Songs of Rebellion's Cost (90-106), Songs of Revival (107-150)

*Gospel of Grace Fellowship*

*ggf.church*

2

## **F-L-I-G-H-T**

**G** – The book of Psalms plays an integral role in the grand unfolding of the gospel story. Jesus quoted the Psalms 11 times – more than any other book of the Bible.

Furthermore, there are 17 messianic psalms that predicted the Messiah's birth, life, death, burial, resurrection, second coming, universal reign, and glories of his kingdom.

*Gospel of Grace Fellowship*

*ggf.church*

3

### F-L-I-G-H-T

**H** – Though the book of Psalms was written over a period of about 1000 years, the individual songs refer to time periods that range from creation to consummation – from the beginning of time to the end. The authors of the psalms praised God for his creative acts, recalled the history of his people Israel, cried out for help and deliverance from their present enemies, and foretold the coming Messiah and the end of the age. The book of Psalms is truly universal in scope.

### F-L-I-G-H-T

**T** – **When you talk to God, you can – and should – be honest.** This is because, first of all, you can't fool him. But second, he can handle it. He knows your heart and what you're going through, so tell him the things you can't tell anyone else. **Anchor yourself to God through his Word.** Psalms 1 and 119 emphasize over and over the value and importance of knowing God's character and ways through Scripture – like a daily meal you can't afford to skip.

### F-L-I-G-H-T

**T** – **The Psalms are realistic.** Just because you are a believer doesn't mean you are not going to go through very dark valleys of the shadow of death, deep times of depression or hardship. To read many of the psalms is to watch the psalmist say in various ways at various times, "I want to crawl under a rock right now, but God is still in control and I will praise him." We should always come back to God's greatness and faithfulness, depending on him in all circumstances.

### "Wisdom"

definition:

*skill in the art of godly living, or more fully, that orientation which allows one to live in harmonious accord with God's ordering of the world*

Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes  
Psalms 19,37,49,127,133,138

### Hebrew Poetry

The basic form of all Hebrew poetry, including the Psalms, is parallelism. Typically two lines, or bicola, are linked together, although there are occasional examples of three lines (tricola) or four lines (quatrain). The parallel lines are related to one another in several possible ways.

### Parallelism

- **Synonymous parallelism:** occurs when the 2<sup>nd</sup> line repeats the 1<sup>st</sup> with little or no added meaning
- **Step parallelism:** refers to a development of thought in which the 2<sup>nd</sup> line adds ideas to the 1<sup>st</sup>
- **Climactic parallelism:** a type of step parallelism, but here several units build the thought to a climax
- **Antithetical parallelism:** the 2<sup>nd</sup> line is contrasted to the 1<sup>st</sup>, asserting the opposite

### Types of Psalms

Psalm Type	Key Example	Other Examples
Praise	<i>O LORD, our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth. (8:1)</i>	113-18, 145-150
Wisdom	<i>Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful. (1:1)</i>	19,37,49, 127,133,138

### Types of Psalms

Psalm Type	Key Example	Other Examples
Lament	<i>Hear my prayer, O LORD, and let my cry come to You. (102:1)</i>	12,25,39,86, 120,129
Messianic	<i>The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool." (110:1)</i>	2,16,21,22, 40

Types of Psalms		
Psalm Type	Key Example	Other Examples
Penitence	<i>Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. (51:1)</i>	6,38,102, 130,143

Gospel of Grace Fellowship      ggf.church      12

Types of Psalms		
Psalm Type	Key Example	Other Examples
Imprecation	<i>Let their table become a snare before them, and their well-being a trap. (69:22)</i>	35,88,109, 137,140
Thanksgiving	<i>Therefore I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the Gentiles, and sing praises to Your name. (18:49)</i>	66,108,118, 119,135

Gospel of Grace Fellowship      ggf.church      13

### Two Types of Praise Psalms

Both emerge out of deep appreciation for God’s greatness and goodness.

**Descriptive Praise Psalms:**  
 extol the **general** attributes and actions of Yahweh

**Declarative Praise Psalms:**  
 respond to how God has ministered in a **particular** experience of the psalmist

Gospel of Grace Fellowship      ggf.church      14

### Other Psalm Types

Psalm Type	Example
Nature	<i>The voice of the LORD strikes with flashes of lightning. The voice of the LORD shakes the desert... (29:7-8)</i>
Enthronement	<i>make music to the LORD with the harp...and the sound of singing...and the blast of the ram’s horn—shout for joy before the LORD, the King... (98:5-6)</i>
Songs of Trust	<i>God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea. (46:1-2)</i>

Gospel of Grace Fellowship      ggf.church      15