



# Year 2 Bible College



# **THE BOOK OF PSALMS**

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## **OVERVIEW**

# Psalms

The background of the slide is decorated with various musical-themed elements. There are several colorful musical notes, including a purple one on the right and a light blue one in the center. Wavy lines in yellow and blue are scattered across the bottom and right sides. The overall design is bright and cheerful, emphasizing the theme of music and praise.

There was music and singing before man was created.

## **Job 38: 6,7**

*On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone—  
while **the morning stars sang together**  
and **all the angels shouted for joy?***

## **Revelation 5: 11,12**

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice: “**Worthy is the Lamb who was slain** to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honour and glory and blessing!”



# THE BOOKE OF Psalmes.

## PSALME I.

1 The happinesse of the godly. 4 The vn-  
happinesse of the vngodly.



Blessed is the man  
that walketh not  
in the counsell of  
the vngodly, nor  
standeth in the  
way of sinners,  
nor sitteth in the  
seat of the scorn-  
full.

2 But his delight is in the Law of  
the LORD, and in his Law doeth he  
meditate day and night.

3 And he shalbe like a tree planted  
by the riuers of water, that bringeth  
forth his fruit in his season, his leafe  
also shall not wither, and whatsoever  
he doeth, shall prosper.

4 The vngodly are not so: but are  
like the chaffe, which the winde dis-  
ueth away.

5 Therefore the vngodly shall not  
stand in the iudgement, nor sinners in  
the Congregation of the righteous.

6 For the LORD knoweth the  
way of the righteous: but the way of  
the vngodly shall perish.

## PSAL. II.

1 The kingdome of Christ. 10 Kings are ex-  
horted to accept it.



Why do the heathen rage,  
and the people imagine  
a vaine thing:

2 The Kings of the  
earth set themselves, and  
the rulers take counsell together, a-  
gainst the LORD, and against his  
Anointed, saying,

3 Let vs breake their bandes asun-  
der, and cast away their cords from vs.

4 Hee that sitteth in the heauens  
shall laugh: the LORD shall haue them  
in derision.

5 Then shall hee speake vnto them  
in his wrath, and bere them in his sore  
displeasure.

6 Yet haue I set my King vpon  
my holy hill of Sion.

7 I will declare // the decree: the  
LORD hath said vnto mee, Thou art  
my sonne, this day haue I begotten  
thee.

8 Aske of me, and I shall giue thee  
the heathen for thine inheritance, and  
the uttermost parts of the earth for thy  
possession.

9 Thou shalt breake them with a  
rod of iron, thou shalt dash them in pie-  
ces like a potters vessell.

10 See wile now therefore, O ye  
Kings: be instructed ye Iudges of the  
earth.

11 Serue the LORD with feare,  
and reioyce with trembling.

12 Kisse the Sonne lest he be angry,  
and ye perish from the way, when his  
wrath is kindled but a little: Blessed  
are all they that put their trust in him.

## PSAL. III.

The securitie of Gods protection.

A Psalm of David when he fled  
from Absalom his sonne.

LORD, how are they in-  
creased that trouble mee:  
many are they that rise vp  
against me.

2 Many there bee which  
say of my soule, There is no helpe for him  
in God. Selah.

3 But

\*Prou.1.  
26.

|| Or, trouble.

|| Hebr. an-  
anted.

|| Hebr. open  
Sion, the hill  
of my holie-  
nesse.

\* Acts. 13.  
33. heb. 1.

\* \* \* \* \*

|| Or, for a  
decree.

\* Psal. 73.  
8.

\* Apoc. 1.  
27. and 19.  
15.

\* Prou. 16.  
20. id. 30.

18. iere. 47.  
7. rom. 9. 33  
and 10. 11.

1. pet. 2. 6.

\* 2 Sam. 15.  
15.

# Using the Psalms superscriptions

Pay close attention to the  
superscription as they are part of the  
inspired text of Scripture.

❖ The core of these titles presents  
either the category of the text ie.  
song, praise, prayer, etc., or the  
name of the author to whom the  
psalm is attributed to, or both  
pieces of information.

- The address, ie. “to the choirmaster,” it can precede or follow this core.
- Between the address and the core, musical instructions occasionally appear. These focus on the instrumentation or the manner of playing: ie. “on stringed instruments.”
- Following the focus, one sometimes finds liturgical instructions: ie. “a psalm for the Sabbath day”; or “a psalm of love.”
- There may also appear historical information: ie. Psalm 52 “when Doeg the Edomite had gone to Saul and told him: “David has gone to the house of Ahimelek.”.
- Consider what the superscription tells you about the context and purpose of the psalm. Ie. Psalm 51 means far more because of the circumstances surrounding the psalm—David’s adultery with Bathsheba and his murder of Uriah.



The word “**Selah**” appears  
in Psalms 71 times

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It has been interpreted as  
musical notation calling for a  
break in the singing or pause.

**SELAH**



# הללויה HalleluYAH

In the Hebrew Bible, it is a compound word, from hallelu, meaning “to praise joyously,” and yah, a shortened form of the unspoken name of God. So, this “**hallelujah**” is an active imperative, an instruction to the listener or congregation to sing tribute to the Lord. \*

**The Jews sing the Hallel at their religious feasts.**

## Hallel

(Hebrew: “Praise”), **Jewish** liturgical designation for **Psalms 113–118** (“Egyptian **Hallel**”) as read in synagogues on festive occasions. In ancient times **Jews** recited these hymns on the three Pilgrim Festivals, when they offered their required sacrifices in the Temple of Jerusalem.\*

# The Psalms

**The Gideons included Psalms and proverbs in the publication of the new testament “pocket size bible”.**

These Bibles have been distributed to hospitals, hotels, schools and colleges, military bases, as well as jails and prisons.

They have reached around 200 countries since 1908 and are available in 100 different languages.

These little bibles have been life savers spiritually and physically.

There are many soldiers that have testified of how bullets were lodged in these bibles during battles, preventing them from penetrating the heart, thus saving the soldiers life.



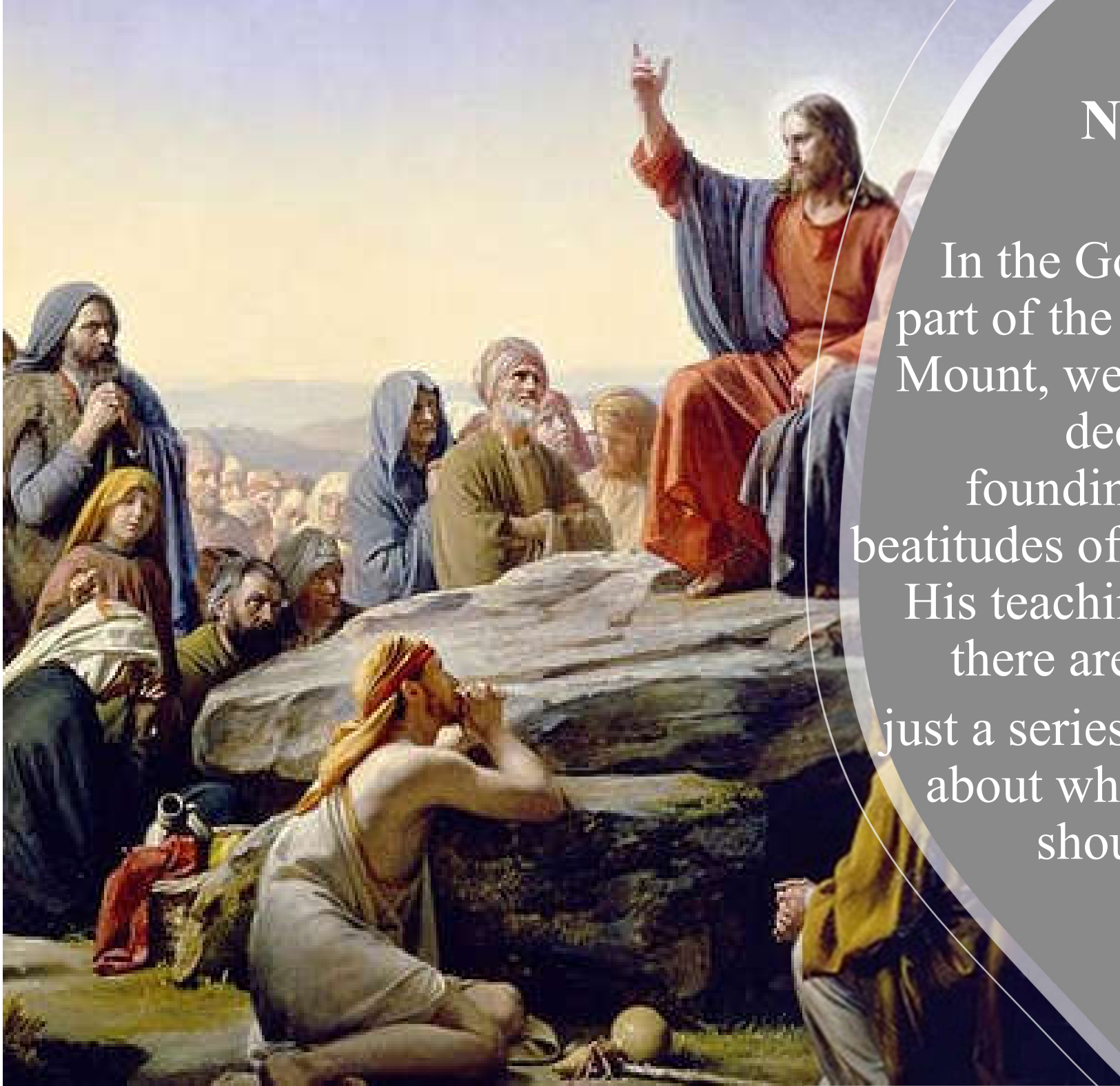
Martin Luther



[The Psalms are] a Little Bible,  
wherein everything contained in  
the entire Bible is beautifully  
and briefly comprehended.

# Psalms in the New Testament

In the Gospels, the first part of the Sermon on the Mount, we see how Jesus declares the eight founding principles or beatitudes of His Kingdom. His teachings are simple, there are no narratives, just a series of statements, about what our attitudes should be and how they result in a blessing.





# Beatitudes in Psalms.

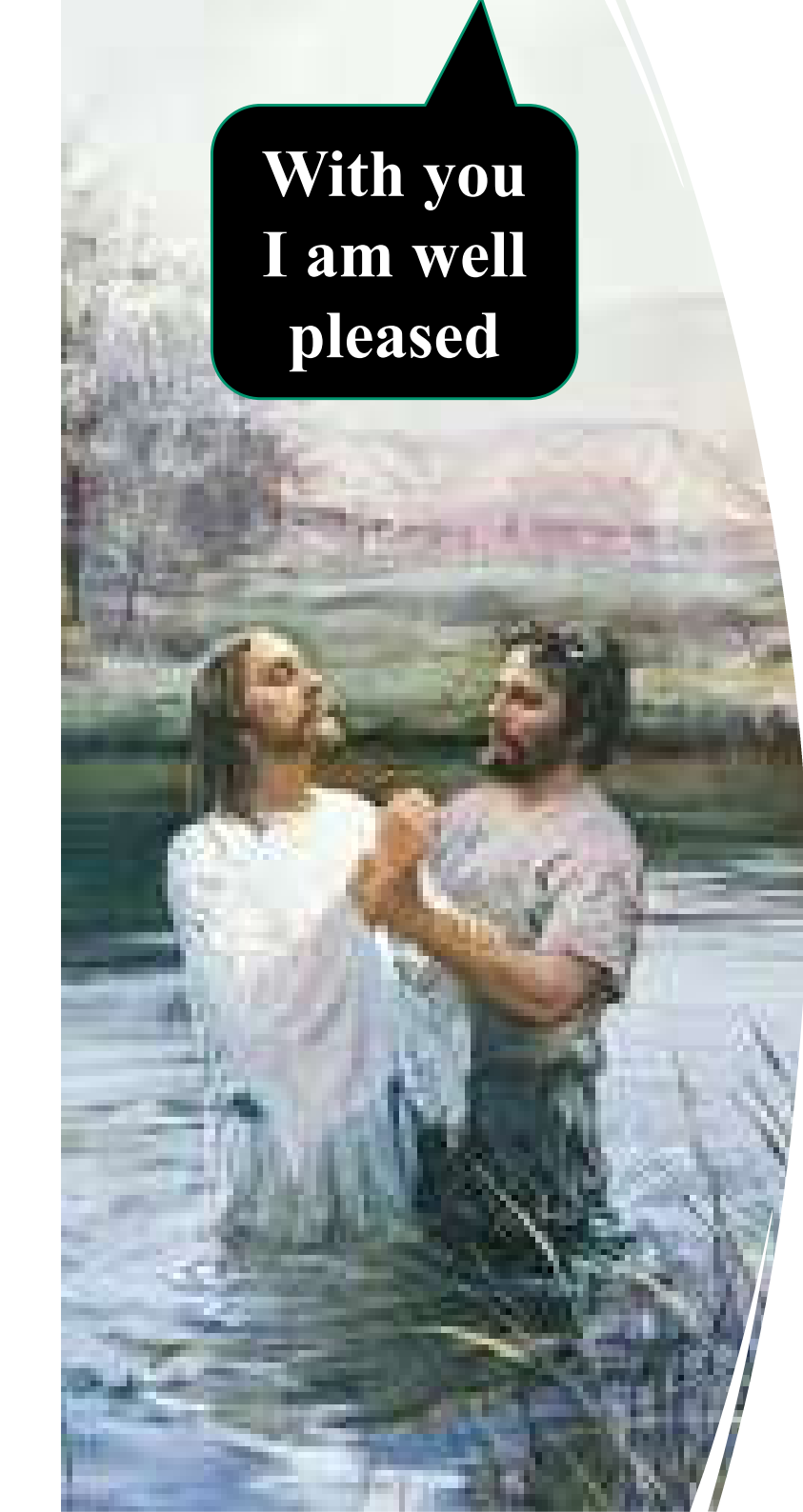
The first Psalm starts with blessed and the second ends with blessed.

## ❖ Psalms 1:1

*Blessed is the man that walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law does he meditate day and night.*

## ❖ Psalms 2:12b

*Blessed are all who take refuge in him.*

A painting depicting the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist in the Jordan River. Jesus is standing in the water, wearing a white robe, with his head tilted back. John the Baptist is standing in the water, wearing a brown robe, and pouring water over Jesus' head. The background shows a hilly landscape with trees and a small town in the distance. A black speech bubble with a green border is overlaid on the top left of the image, containing the text "With you I am well pleased".

**With you  
I am well  
pleased**

# Jesus and the Psalms

Jesus began and concluded His earthly ministry by quoting from the Psalms.

At His baptism a Psalm is quoted:

***Mark 1:11***

*And a voice came from heaven:  
You are my Son, whom I love;  
with you I am well pleased.*

***Psalms 2:6-7***

*I will declare the decree:  
The Lord has said to Me,  
'You are My Son,  
Today I have begotten You.*

# Satan used Psalms

## Matt 4:5-6

*Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple 6 and said to him, If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,*

*He will command his angels concerning you, and on their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.*

## Psalm 91:11,12

*For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot.*



# 1. Who was the main author of Psalms?

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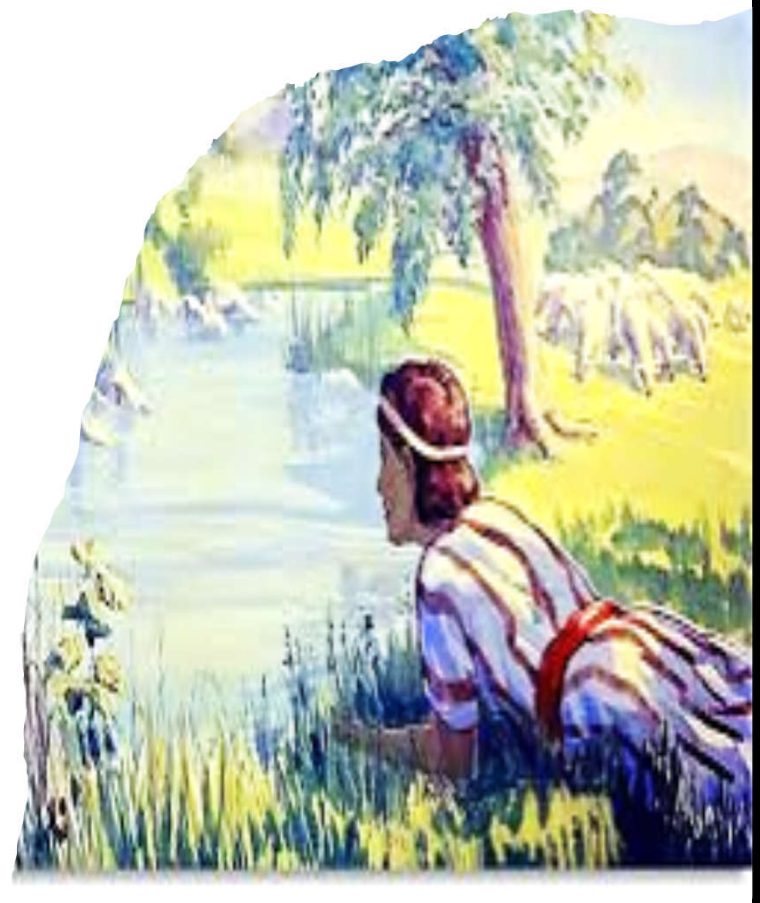
It is clear that David wrote many of the individual Psalms, he is definitely not the only author, he only wrote 73 psalms. Moses wrote 1, Solomon wrote 2 and the rest were written by Priests and Levites who were responsible for providing music for the sanctuary worship during David's reign. Fifty of the Psalms had no specific authors.



## 2. What was the occupation of the main author?

David, meaning "Beloved" was a born leader of men, also known as the "sweet psalmist of Israel", who later became King of Israel.

As a young boy David was a shepherd, and this must have been the inspiration for writing the most loved and popular Psalm.



# David a Shepherd

## Psalm 23

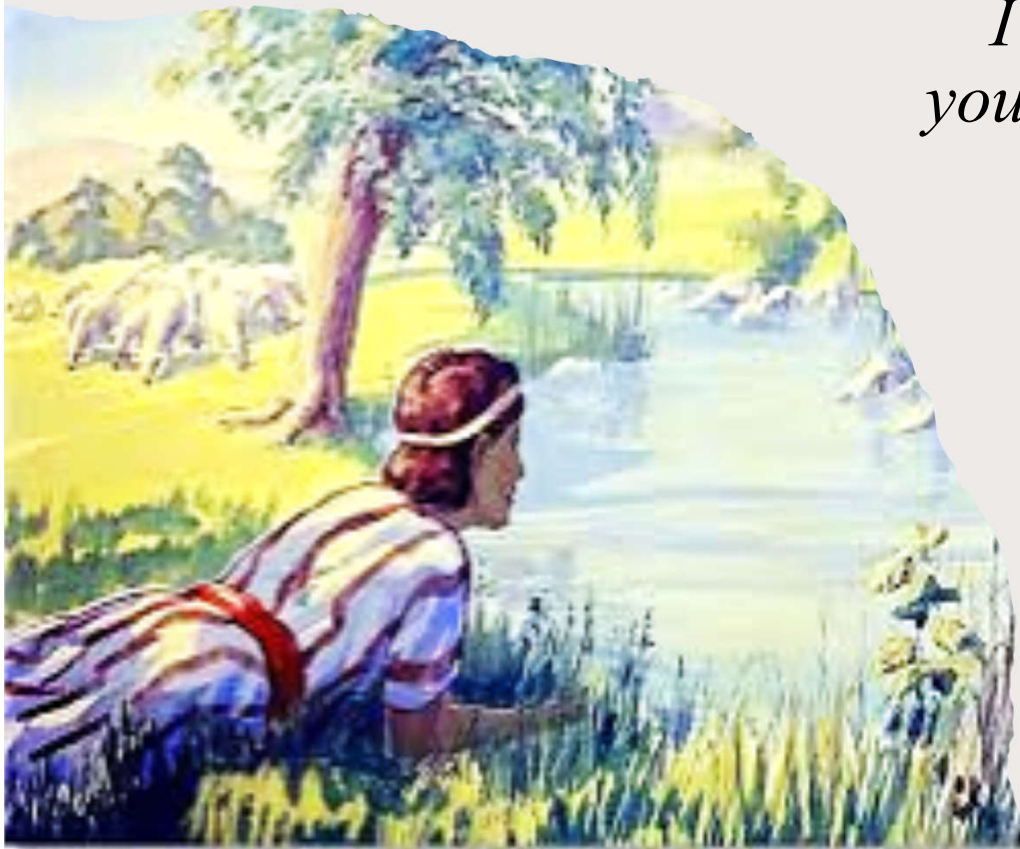
*The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
He leads me beside quiet waters,  
He refreshes my soul.*

*He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*

*You prepare a table before me in the  
presence of my enemies.*

*You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.*

*Surely your goodness and mercy will  
follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house  
of the LORD forever.*



# The lost Psalm

## Psalm 151

1. I was small among my brothers And the youngest in my father's house. I tended my father's flock.

2. My hands made a musical instrument, and my fingers fashioned a lyre.

3. And who shall proclaim for my Lord?

The Lord himself, he hears everything.

4. He himself sent his messenger and took me from my father's sheep, and anointed me with the oil of his anointing.

5. My brothers were handsome and tall, but the Lord was not pleased with them.

6. I went out to meet the Philistine, and he cursed me by his idols.

7. But drawing his sword from him  
I removed shame from the sons of Israel.

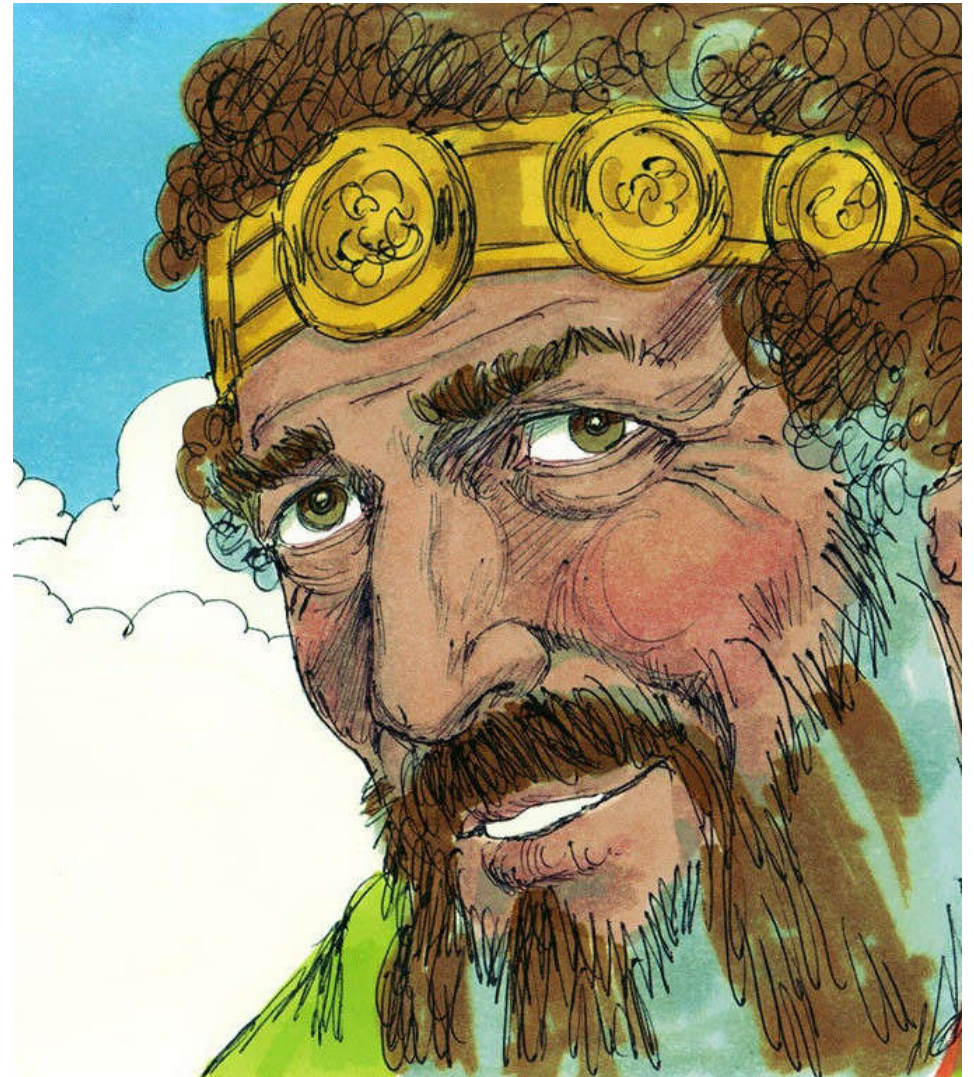


# King David

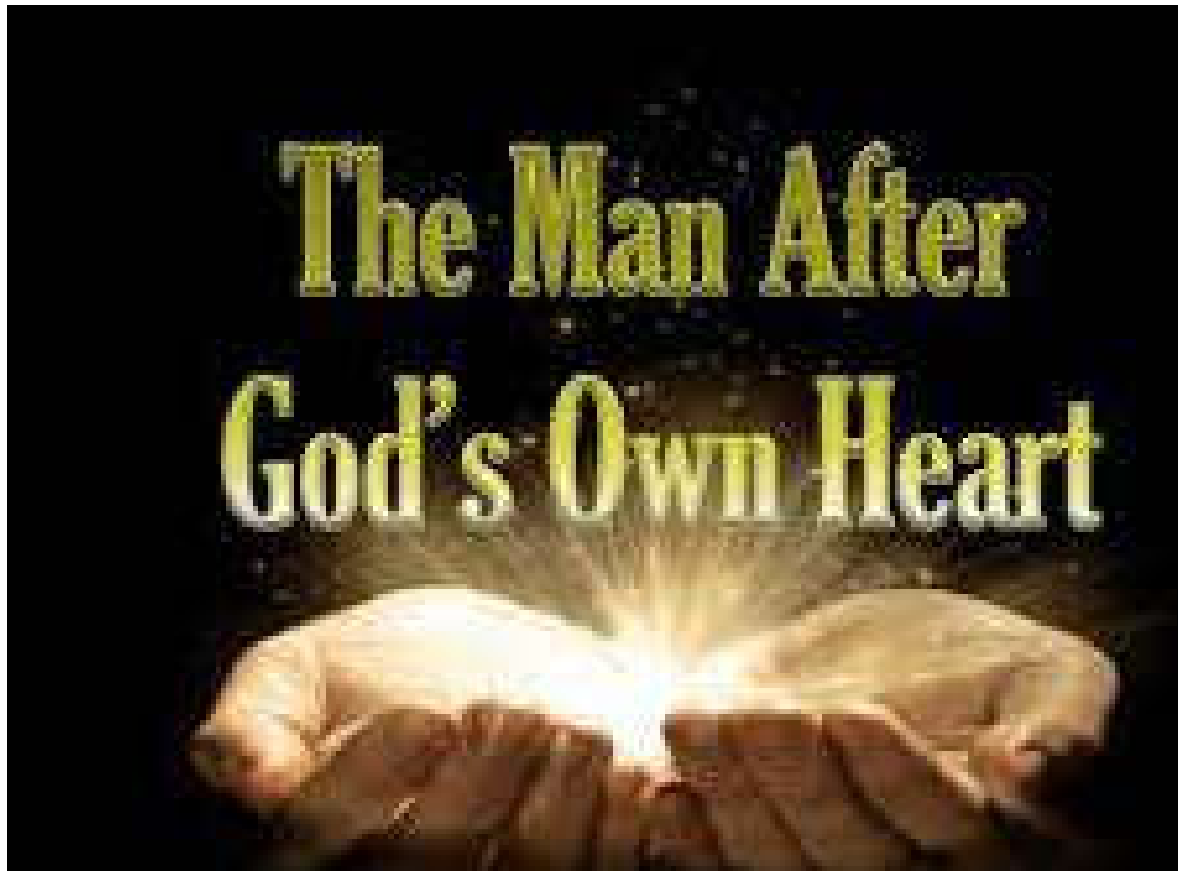
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He was the second King to rule over Israel, a young shepherd boy who gained fame first as a musician and later by killing Goliath.

God promises David that Jesus would come from his lineage, and so Jesus was often called the “Son of David” in the new testament.



# Characteristics



He was a fair and  
righteous King

**1 Samuel 17:36-37**

*David ruled over the  
whole nation of  
Israel.*

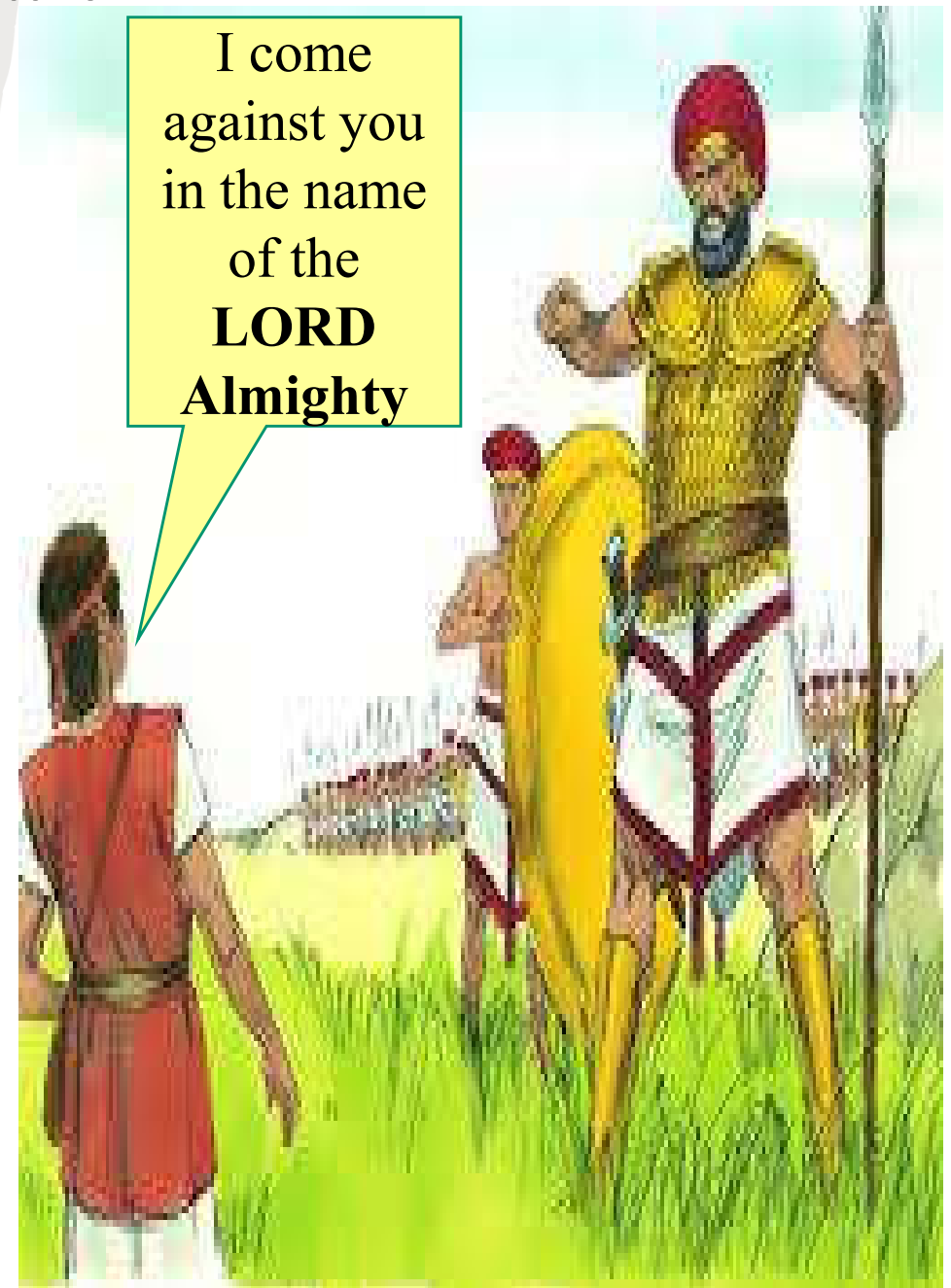
*He did what was fair  
and right for all his  
people.*

# He was know as a man of faith

He had a deep and unwavering faith in God from a very young age, that is why he wasn't intimidated by Goliath.

## 1 Samuel 17:36-37

*Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine.*



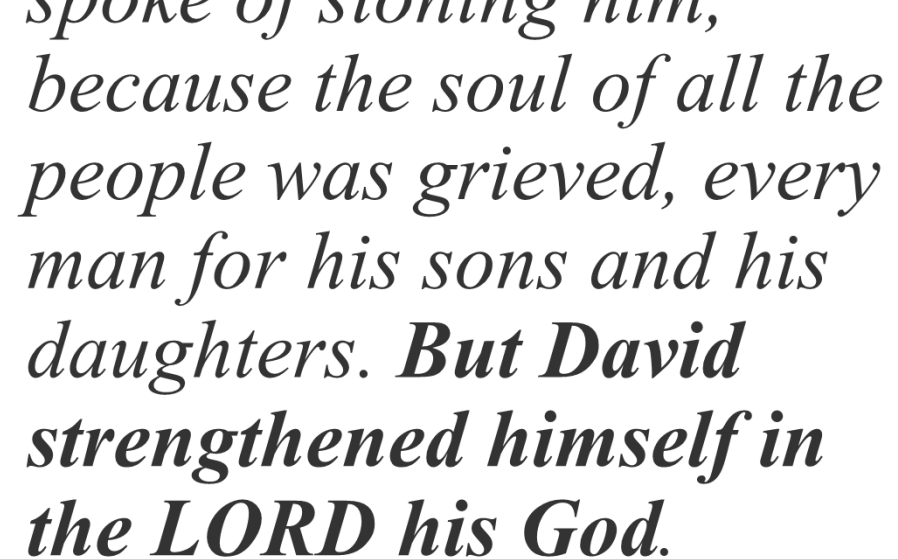


# Man of faith

## David always sought the Lord

### 1 Samuel 30:6

*Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters. **But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.***



# Man of prayer

Prayer was the secret ingredient to his success

## **Psalm 27:4**

*I have asked the Lord for one thing; one thing only do I want: to live in the Lord's house all my life, to marvel there at his goodness, and to ask for his guidance.*

## **Psalm 26:2**

*Test me, Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind;*



# Man of prayer

He prays for cleansing of his sin after the prophet Nathan confronted him about the adultery and murder he committed.

Note the transparency and how quick he is to confess his Sin

## **Psalm 51:2-4**

*Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.  
For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before  
me.*

*Against you, you only, have I  
sinned and done what is evil  
in your sight; so you are right  
in your verdict and justified  
when you judge.*





David faced many battles in life, he was skilled in military affairs, and had undaunting courage and bravery.

## Warrior

### Psalm 143:1

*Blessed is the Lord, my God, who trains my hands for the battle and my fingers for the war.*

### 1 Samuel 16:18

*One of the servants answered, "I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the lyre. **He is a brave man and a warrior.***

*He speaks well and is a fine-looking man. And the LORD is with him."*

### **3. Where was the Book of Psalms written from?**

The Book of Psalms was written in various locations – **unknown.**

### **4. When was the book of Psalms written?**

The Psalms are believed to have been written over approximately 1000 years from 1490BC to 444BC.

## **5. Where does the book of Psalms get its name from?**

### **Psalms meaning**

A sacred song or poem used especially in worship.



## **6. What Language was Psalms originally written in?**

Originally written in Hebrew.

## 7. Where does Psalms fit into the Jewish Tanach?

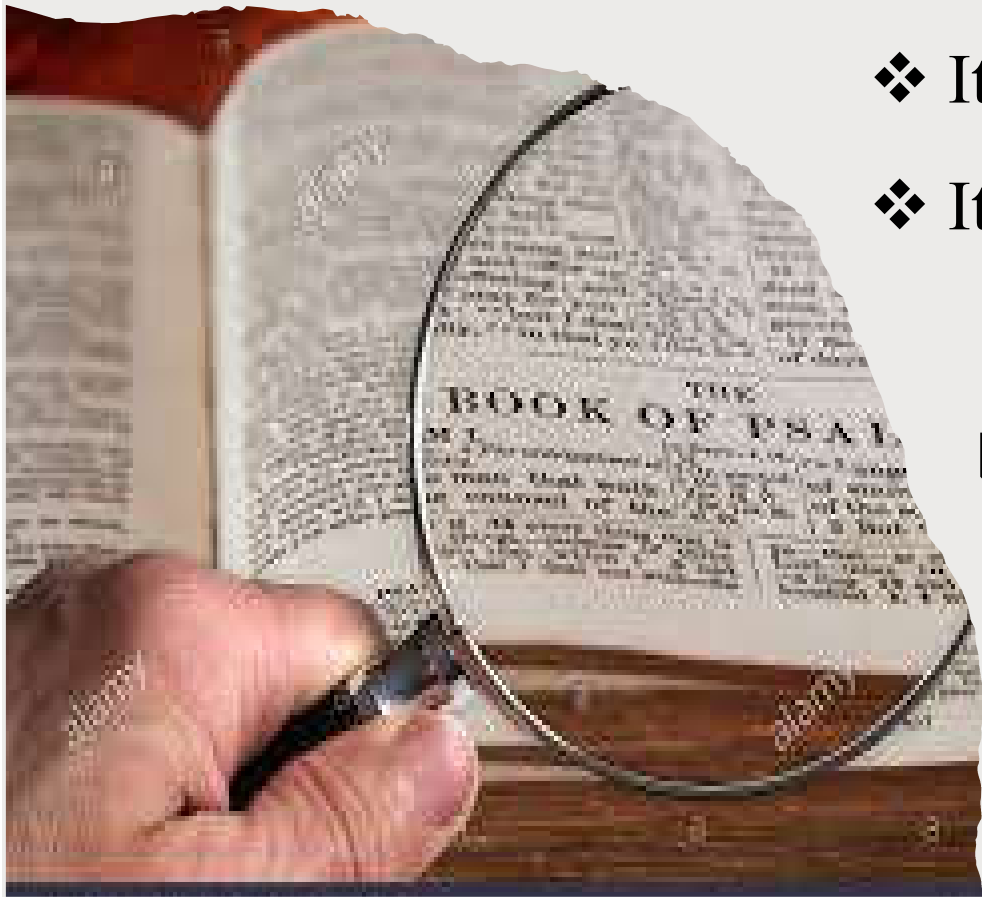
It is the first book of the **Ketuvim** (Writings) of the Tanach.



## 8 & 9. Where does Psalms fit into the Bible and which group ?

- ❖ It is found in the centre of the Bible.
- ❖ It is the longest book in the Bible.
- ❖ It is made up of 150 individual Psalms.
- ❖ It has the longest chapter in the Bible.
- ❖ It has the shortest chapter in the Bible.
- ❖ It is the most Loved book of the Bible.
- ❖ It is the best known part of the Bible.

❑ It is found among the **poetic** books of the **Old Testament**





**10. Which group of people was Psalms initially written to?**

The book of Psalms is a hymn and prayer book of **the inhabitants of Israel**, it is believed to have been used in the second temple and in the synagogues.

It is the most personal portion of the Old Testament and they are comprehensive in their treatment of biblical themes.

# The Psalms.

The Psalms are different to the other books in scripture, because we see man speaking to God pouring out his heart in prayer and praise.

There is almost a complete absence of altars, priests, vestments and incense.

The Psalms are a unique part of the Bible because of the raw emotion when speaking to God.

## Prophets

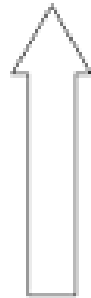
God



Man

## Psalms

God



Man

# Emotions

The Psalms more than any other book in the Bible is designed to carry, express and shape our emotions. They touch on so many emotions you can almost always find yourself in the Psalms, they are meant to move us not just inform us. There are two types of Psalms, Praise and Lament



# A song of Ascents

A lament or Ascent was a cry to God in song, a song of sorrow that was sung as a group of people or the nation would make their way up the stairs leading to the temple of Jerusalem.

The song was to ask for God's blessing and for his intervention during times of great travail. In the psalm that they sing they remember a time of terrible difficulties, but at the same time they would be encouraged when remembering past events and the mercy God had shown them.

In this prayer they would then ask and hope that God would extend that same favour to them now in the predicament that they were facing.



## Psalm 126

### **A song of ascents.**

*When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, The LORD has done great things for them. The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.*



## Psalm 126

**And then the next  
minute**

*Restore our  
fortunes, LORD, like  
streams in the Negev.  
Those who sow with  
tears will reap with  
songs of joy.*

*Those who go out  
weeping, carrying  
seed to sow, will  
return with songs of  
joy, carrying sheaves  
with them.*

# Emotions.

## ❖ Awe

### Psalm 33:8

*Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in **awe** of him.*

## ❖ Broken heartedness

### Psalm 34:18

*The LORD is near to the **broken-hearted**; He saves the contrite in spirit.*

## ❖ Confident

### Psalm 27:3b

*Though war break out against me, even then will I be **confident**.*

# Emotions.

## ❖ Delight

### Psalm 1:2

*But his **delight** is in the Law of the LORD,  
and in His law he meditates day and night.*

## ❖ Exaltation

### Psalm 1:2a

*LORD, you are my God;  
I will **exalt** you and praise your name.*

## ❖ Fear

### Psalm 111:5

*O **fear** the Lord, you His saints;  
For to those who fear Him there is no want.*



# Emotions.

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## ❖ Gladness

### Psalm 9:2

*I will be **glad** and rejoice in you;  
I will sing the praises of your name,  
O Most High.*

## ❖ Hope

### Psalm 111:5

*Let your steadfast love, O LORD,  
be upon us, even as we **hope** in you.*

## ❖ Isolation

### Psalm 27:10

*Though my father and mother forsake  
me, the LORD will receive me.*

# Emotions.

## ❖ Joy

### Psalm 30: 5

*For his anger endureth but  
a moment; in his favour is life:  
weeping may endure for a night,  
but **joy** cometh in the morning.*

## ❖ Kindness

### Psalm 4:7

*For thy loving-**kindness** is better than life:  
my lips shall praise thee.*

## ❖ Love

### Psalm 89:1

*I will sing of the LORD's great **love** forever;  
with my mouth I will make your faithfulness  
known through all generations.*

# **11. Broad outline of Psalms.**

**The book can be divided up into five sections:**

- Book One.  
Psalms 1 - 41, emphasizes how God is beside us.
- Book Two.  
Psalms 42 - 72, here attention is given to how God goes before us.
- Book Three.  
Psalms 73 – 89, reminds us that God is all around us.
- Book Four.  
Psalms 90 – 106, focuses on how God is above us.
- Book Five.  
Psalms 107 - 150, the spotlight is on how God is among us



# 12. What does the book of Psalms consist of?

Literation of topics for the Psalms:

- ❖ **Prayer & Praise**
- ❖ Provision & Protection
- ❖ Prophecy
- ❖ Pain
- ❖ Poetry
- ❖ Preaching
- ❖ Pardon



# Literation of topics for the Psalms:

❖ Prayer & Praise

❖ Provision & Protection

❖ Promise & Prophecy

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❖ Preaching

❖ Pardon



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- ❖ **Preaching**
- ❖ **Pardon**



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- ❖ Poetry
- ❖ Preaching
- ❖ **Pardon**

# Pain

The Psalmist describes in graphic fashion how our tears are preserved and how God takes note of them and uses them in our lives.

## **Psalm 56:8**

*You keep track of all my sorrows.  
You have collected all my tears in  
your bottle. You have recorded  
each one in your book.*

When Jewish people wanted to express their sympathy at the death of a loved one, they didn't send flowers or wreaths to the funeral, but instead they would fill bottles with their tears and send it to the bereaved relatives as an expression of sympathy.



# Preaching

## Preaching

Fortunately, the Psalms provide many important principles regarding the will of God. He is not trying to hide His will for our lives; He wants His children to know His will and follow it.

## Psalm 32:8

*I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go.*

The Psalms are filled with clear statements regarding God's plan that apply to all believers.

Be joyful always; pray continually; we need to give thanks regardless of our circumstances.



## 12. What does Psalms teach us?

THE BOOK OF  
YAHWEH

*The Holy Scriptures*



The Psalms are remarkably balanced in their view of God. We seen how His transcendence (*Elohim*) is balanced by his immanence (*Yahweh*).

They encourage us to magnify God, not because we can make him greater than he already is, but so that our view of him may be enlarged.

They tell us about Gods attributes.



# The Attributes of God



## God is the Most High - Elohim

We describe objects of exaltation as being “higher” than we are: higher in rank, in title, in beauty, in position, or in intelligence. Which means that there is no god, idol, or created being that should be worshiped or exalted above Yahweh.

### Psalm 97:9

*For You are the LORD Most High  
over all the earth;  
You are exalted far above  
all gods.*

# The Attributes of God



**God is Omnipotent -  
He is all-powerful**

Man needs tools and materials to create things but God simply spoke, and by the power of His word, everything was created from nothing.

**Psalm 33:6**

*By the word of the LORD  
were the heavens made,  
their starry host by  
the breath of his mouth.*

# The Attributes of God

**God Is Omnipresent  
He Is Always  
Everywhere**



Psalm 139:7-12

*Where can I go from your Spirit. Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. If I say, Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me, even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.*



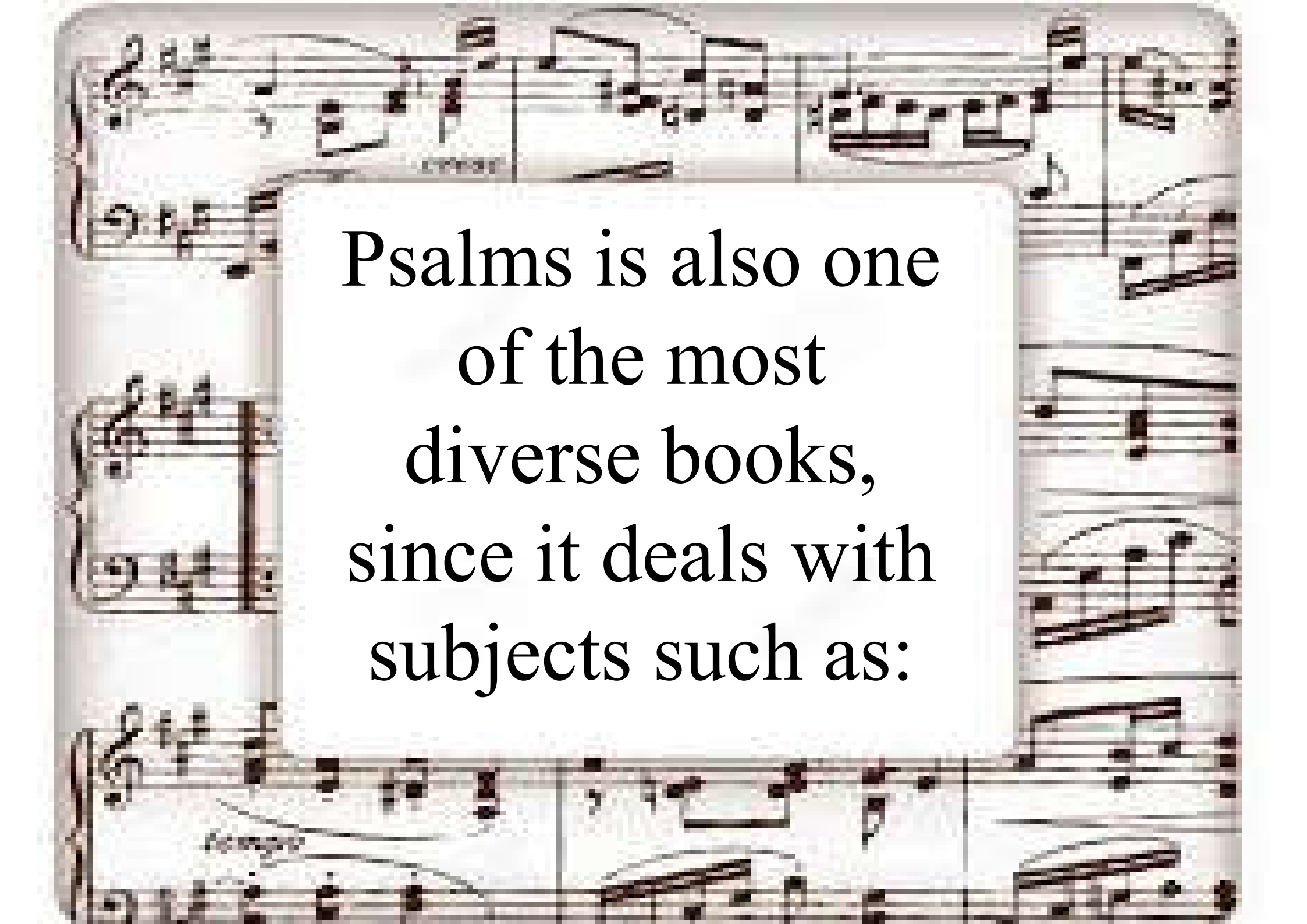
# The Attributes of God

**God Is Omniscient  
He Is All-Knowing**

**Omniscient means  
having knowledge  
of all things;  
universal knowledge.**

**Psalm 147:5**

***Great is our Lord  
and mighty in power;  
his understanding  
has no limit.***



Psalms is also one  
of the most  
diverse books,  
since it deals with  
subjects such as:



# God and His creation

**Psalm 19:1**

“The heavens declare the glory  
of God,  
and the sky above proclaims  
his handiwork.”

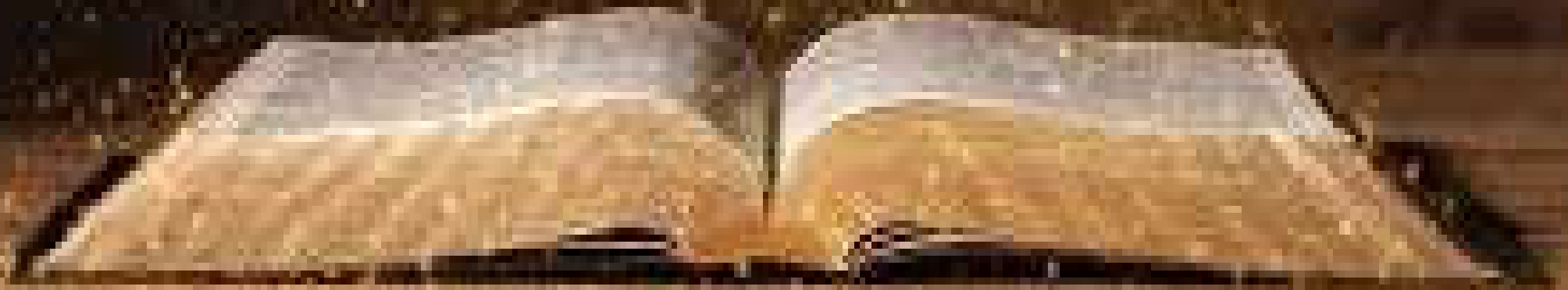
# Sin and evil



A photograph of a war-torn landscape. In the foreground, there is a dark, rocky or rubble-strewn ground. In the middle ground, there are several large, dark, rectangular structures, possibly ruins or military equipment. In the background, there is a large, bright, yellowish-white plume of smoke or fire rising into the sky. The overall scene is one of destruction and conflict.

**War**

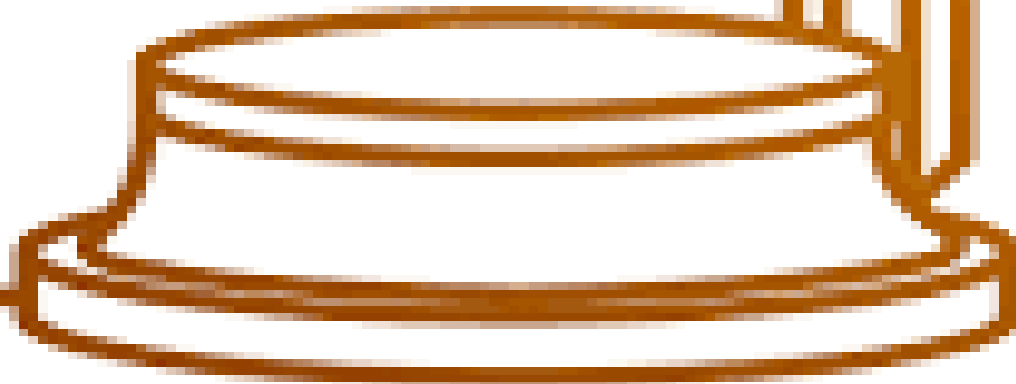
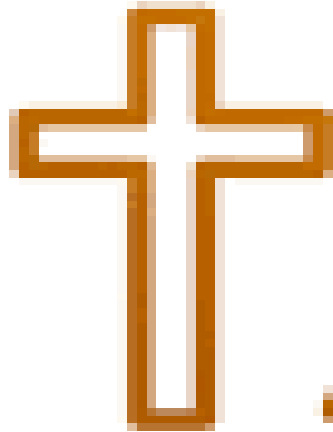
# Wisdom



# Worship



Justice





Death



**Judgment**

**We need to remember that God is patient because His  
judgment is final**

# The Psalms.



It has a timeless quality to it, and can easily be applied to Christian life. That's why many hymn-writers throughout history have drawn inspiration from them.

Psalms is for our daily living experiences and can be applied to almost all our struggles and victories.

Its about God up close and personal