

THE PSALMS

SONGS AND POEMS OF PRAISE & PROMISE,
AND PRAYERS FOR DELIVERANCE



“Your Word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path.”
(Psalm 119:105)

KEY WORD IN PSALMS

WORSHIP

KEY VERSES IN PSALMS

PSALM 19:14

“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be pleasing in Your sight, **O YHWH, my Rock and my Redeemer.**”

PSALM 145:21

“My mouth speaks the praise of YHWH;
and all flesh will bless **His holy Name** for ever and ever.”

The Book of Psalms is the largest and perhaps the most widely used book in the Bible. The subject matter includes diverse topics including creation, jubilation, wisdom, war, peace, worship, penitence, judgment, messianic prophecy, praise and lament and testimonies.

The Psalms is actually made up of five books:

Book 1	Psalms	1 - 41
Book 2	Psalms	42 - 72
Book 3	Psalms	73 - 89
Book 4	Psalms	90 - 106
Book 5	Psalms	107 - 150

Each of the five books end with a doxology (praise to God). In fact the whole of Psalm 150 is a doxology.

The five books were compiled over several centuries. The final collection and arrangements of the Psalms was the work of the post-exile temple personnel, and was completed in or around the 3rd century BC.

The authors of 100 of the psalms are indicated as follows:

Moses 1
David 73
Solomon 2
Asaph 12
Sons of Korah 10
Heman and Elthan (Ezrahites) 2.

The other 50 psalms have no recorded author.

The majority of the psalms were written in the times of David and Solomon (10th century BC – Before Christ.)

The majority of the psalms have titles or superscriptions including the author's name, at the top of the psalm. These are editorial lines, added after the psalms were written, but they are historically accurate.

Many modern Bibles have added titles (which are not original) to the psalms to help to identify and describe each one. These titles are printed in *italic type* to indicate they are not in the original text.

The following expressions occur often in the Psalms:

Selah	The meaning may be Pause, Crescendo, or Musical Interlude.
Maskil	Possibly Contemplative, or Didactic, or Skilful Psalm
Mikhtam	Possibly Epigrammatic Poem, or Atonement Psalm
Sheol	The realm of the dead

We have used in a few places, other Hebrew words that are titles of God.

Psalm 119, with 176 verses, is the longest psalm, and is one of nine acrostic psalms.

ACROSTIC: a composition usually in verse in which sets of letters (as the initial or final letters of the lines) taken in order form a word or phrase or a regular sequence of letters of the alphabet.

This psalm is composed of 22 sections, each one prefixed by a letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The theme of the psalm is "The Word of God." It is actually 22 short 8-verse psalms.

Many of the psalms are Messianic – they anticipate the life and ministry of Y'shua the Messiah. In our text we have coloured Messianic passages in **purple**.

Messianic passages in the Psalms are indicated by these marks ^...^ And passages that are quoted in the New Testament have the references in brackets.

OUR COLOURED TEXT

Our text is coloured to highlight Deity, promises, blessings, prophecies, praise, salvation, judgment and emphasis. This is to encourage an analytical eye while studying the psalms.

COLOUR SCHEME:

ORANGE for titles and attributes of God.	GREEN for beatitudes and promises.
BLUE for emphasis.	PURPLE for Messianic passages.
RED for salvation.	MAJENTA for praise & thanksgiving.
DARK BLUE for prophetic passages.	BROWN for warnings and judgments.

SUGGESTED VERSES FOR MEMORISATION

We encourage you to memorise portions of the psalms. The verse numbers marked in red are suggested verses to commit to memory.

Now go ahead, and be blessed as you meditate on the inspired words of ...

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