

## **I. Introduction to the Book of Psalms**

### **A. The Structure of the Book of Psalms**

1. Theme: The book of Psalms is purposefully structured, and this helps us to understand the meaning of the book.
2. Text: Psalm 1; Psalm 150
3. Reading: Psalm 119:1-8

### **B. The Psalms As Instruction: The Abundant Life**

1. Theme: The Psalms are given to instruct us in how we can live a blessed, abundant life.
2. Text: Psalm 1
3. Reading: Psalm 112

### **C. The Psalms As Instruction: The Lord Reigns**

1. Theme: The Psalms are given to instruct us to live with the assurance that the Lord reigns.
2. Text: Psalm 2
3. Reading: Psalm 99

### **D. Seeing Christ in the Psalms**

1. Theme: Christ is the central figure of the book of Psalms, and in its pages we see the grand picture of His life, death, and resurrection.

2. Text: Psalm 2

3. Reading: Hebrews 1:1-6

### **E. The Psalms and the Future**

1. Theme: The book of Psalms teaches us to look forward to the final Day, when all of God's Promises will be fulfilled.
2. Text: Psalm 2
3. Reading: Psalm 98

## **II. An Overview of the Psalms**

### **A. Laments: God's People Sing the Blues**

1. Theme: The psalms of lament show God's people crying out to Him in distress, yet confident He will hear and respond.
2. Text: Psalm 13
3. Reading: Psalm 4

### **B. Thanksgiving: From Wailing to Dancing!**

1. Theme: The psalms of thanksgiving show God's people giving Him thanks for delivering them when they cried out in distress.
2. Text: Psalm 30
3. Reading: Psalm 116:1-7

C. Confidence: The Lord Provides for and Protects Me

1. Theme: The psalms of confidence display the confidence God's people have in His loving care for them.
2. Text: Psalm 23
3. Reading: John 10:11-16

D. Remembrance: O God Our Help in Ages Past

1. Theme: The psalms of remembrance recount God's great acts in behalf of His people in the past as a guide for their faith in the present.
2. Text: Psalm 136
3. Reading: Psalm 107:1-9

E. Confession: Have Mercy on Me O God! (no data – taught by Perry)

F. Imprecation: Avenge Your People O God!

1. Theme: The imprecatory psalms cry out for God to act against the enemies of God and His people.
2. Text: Psalm 137
3. Reading: Ephesians 6:10-18

G. Questions: What is Happening (Where Is Your Focus – taught by Don Sr.)

H. Praise: How Awesome is the Lord!

1. Theme: The psalms of praise call us to give praise to God for His character and His actions.
2. Text: Psalm 150
3. Reading: Psalm 113

### III. The Psalms and the Believer Today

A. The Psalms and the Word of God

1. Theme: The psalms help us to love God's word and to live in obedience to it.
2. Text: Psalm 119:97
3. Reading: Psalm 119:17-24

B. The Psalms and Prayer

1. The Psalms: The Breadth of Prayer
  - a. Theme: The psalms teach us to experience and utilize the full breadth of prayer as we encounter the full range of life.
  - b. Text: Psalm 116:1-2
  - c. Reading: Philippians 4:4-9

## 2. The Psalms: The Depth of Prayer

- a. Theme: The psalms teach us that prayer includes a depth of intimacy with God and intensity for God and the requests we are laying before Him.
- b. Text: Psalm 130:1-2
- c. Reading: Luke 18:1-8

## C. Using the Book of Psalms Today

1. Theme: Christians should use the Book of Psalms as a manual for godly living and biblical prayer.
2. Text: Colossians 3:16
3. Reading: Psalm 130

Psalms