

session one

The Psalms: God's Hymn Book

Introduction: what are the psalms?

The psalms as a model for praise

Interpreting the psalms: looking at the New Testament

Ongoing, timeless truth

Ps 24:1 – 1 Cor 10:26

'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.'

God's plans of salvation fulfilled in Jesus

Psalm 110:1 – Matt 22:44, Acts 2:34-35

'The Lord said to my lord sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.'

Verse 25 – Acts 1:20

Patterns for the Christian life

Psalm 32:1 – Romans 4:7-8

'Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven; whose sins are covered.'

Psalm 69:

Verse 4 – John 15:25 Verse 9a – John 2:17 Verse 9b – Romans 15:3

The 'multi-coloured' picture of praise

Praise of God Giving thanks Expressing love Expressing trust Requests
Confession
Cries of anguish Stating truth wicked' Recounting history Rejoicing

Calling to praise

Psalm 9:1 'I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart'

Psalm 57:9 'I will give thanks to you O Lord, among the peoples' Psalm

18:1 'I love you, O LORD, my strength'

Psalm 25:1 'In you Lord my God, I put my trust'

Psalm 59:1 'Deliver me from my enemies, O God'

Psalm 51:1 'Have mercy on me, O God'

Psalm 13:1 'How long O Lord, will you forget me forever?'

Psalm 1:1 'Blessed are those who do not walk in step with the

Psalm 114:1 'When Israel came out of Egypt...'

Psalm 31:7 'I will rejoice and be glad in your steadfast love' Psalm 29:2

'Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name' Psalm 95:8 'Do not
harden your hearts'

Psalm 103:1 'Praise the LORD, O my soul'

Warning

Speaking to self

Implications:

session two

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Praise according to the psalms...

1. Objective salvation history *and* subjective personal experience

Creation: 8, 19, 24, 33, 89, 104, 148

Exodus: 66, 74, 77, 78, 80, 105, 106, 114, 135 Wilderness wanderings:
68, 78, 95, 105, 106, 136 Conquest of Canaan: 44, 105, 135

Law: 1, 19, 119 (37, 40, 78, 89, 94)

David / Kingship

God's rule / reign

Example: Psalm 77

2. Individual experience *and* corporate expression

Example: Psalm 42-43

3. Emotionally honest *and* clearly directive

Example: Psalm 13

4. Truth telling *and* heart engaging

Example: Psalm 33

The Psalms of David: A rich and heavenly treasure this is. A repository, or an altar of sacred fire. The people of God, in all succeeding, ages, have had recourse to it, both as an example and a spring of most lively and exalted devotions. Isaac Watts