

RESPOND

A STUDY OF THE PSALMS

MARCH 3RD, 2026 THE PSALMS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

ALL OF THE WRITERS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT WERE QUITE KNOWLEDGEABLE, FAMILIAR, AND DEPENDENT ON THE OLD TESTAMENT. YOU COULD SAY THEIR BRAINS ARE SATURATED WITH IT. THEY ARE INSPIRED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT TO WRITE THEIR RESPECTIVE ACCOUNTS WITH VARIATIONS OF STYLE AND EMPHASES. SINCE THEY ARE INSPIRED BY GOD IT IS CRUCIAL FOR TO UNDERSTAND HOW, WHY, AND WHAT THEY WROTE. THIS INCLUDES HOW THEY SAW THE FULFILLMENT OF THE OLD TESTAMENT THROUGH JESUS AND LEVERAGED BOOKS LIKE THE PSALMS FOR SHOWING HIM TO BE MESSIAH AND HOW WE SHOULD RESPOND.

#1 - PSALM 110

EVEN THOUGH PSALM 110 IS FAIRLY SHORT, ONLY 7 VERSES, IT GETS QUOTED VERY OFTEN IN THE NEW TESTAMENT, PERHAPS MORE THAN ANY OTHER PSALM. ON TOP OF THAT THOSE QUOTATIONS, OR ALLUSIONS, ARE FROM TWO PRIMARY VERSES, FURTHER EMPHASIZING ITS IMPORTANCE. YOUR GROUP IS TASKED WITH BRIEFLY STUDYING PSALM 110 AS IT WAS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN BY DAVID. THEN LOOK THROUGH THE WAYS THAT IT IS USED BY SEVERAL NT AUTHORS. AT THE END, MAKE 3 PRIMARY CONCLUSIONS TO SHARE.

- PSALM 110
 - READ PSALM 110 TOGETHER
 - WHAT ARE 4 MAJOR THEMES?
 - _____
 - _____
 - WHAT KIND OF PSALM IS THIS? PRAISE, LAMENT, THANKSGIVING, TRUST, ROYAL, WISDOM, TORAH, IMPRECATORY
 - HOW COULD V.1-3 APPLY TO DAVID?
 - _____
 - _____

- WHO IS MELCHIZEDEK?
 - SEE GENESIS 14:13-20
 - IS HE A DESCENDANT OF ABRAHAM? IS HE PART OF THE PRIESTS OF ISRAEL DESCRIBED LATER?

- NT REFERENCES
 - JESUS BRINGS PSALM 110:1 TO THE PHARISEES AS A QUESTION ABOUT HIS IDENTITY. READ
 - MATTHEW 22:44, 26:64 AND DISCUSS.
 - READ ACTS 2:29-36. WHAT DOES PETER SAY ABOUT THE PSALM?

- READ HEBREWS 1:3, 13 AND 8:1-3. WHAT DOES THIS WRITER SAY ABOUT THE PSALM?

- WHAT WOULD BE THE ANSWER TO JESUS' QUESTION?

- BEING A PRIEST IS PART OF JESUS' IDENTITY.
 - READ HEBREWS 5:1-6 AND 6:20
 - WHAT DO THESE PASSAGES SAY ABOUT JESUS BEING A GREAT HIGH PRIEST WHO EVER INTERCEDES FOR US?

- CONCLUSIONS

#2 - PSALMS 118 & 34

THESE TWO PSALMS ARE DIFFERENT KINDS: 118-THANKSGIVING & 34-WISDOM. THEY ALSO HAVE A VARIETY OF WAYS OF BEING USED BY THE NT AUTHORS. YOUR GROUP IS GOING TO LOOK AT EACH OF THEM INDIVIDUALLY IN THEIR ORIGINAL SITUATION AND THEN HOW SOME SPECIFIC PARTS OF THEM ARE INTERPRETED BY WRITERS OF THE NT. AT THE END, COME UP WITH THREE CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THESE PSALMS TO SHARE.

- PSALM 118
 - READ THE WHOLE PSALM.
 - READ VERSES 6, 22, AND 23 AGAIN.
 - WHAT MAJOR THINGS STAND OUT ABOUT THESE SPECIFIC VERSES AS THE WRITER GIVES THANKS TO GOD?

- _____

- JESUS QUOTES V.22-23 IN 'THE PARABLE OF THE TENANTS'. READ MATTHEW 21:33-46. HOW DOES JESUS USE IT? WHAT DOES IT SAY ABOUT HIMSELF AND THOSE AROUND HIM?

- _____

- THE AUTHOR OF HEBREWS QUOTES VERSE 6. READ HEBREWS 13:5-6. HOW DOES THE AUTHOR USE IT AS ENCOURAGEMENT TO HIS CONGREGATION?

- _____

- PSALM 34
 - THE APOSTLE PETER QUOTES THIS PSALM A COUPLE OF TIMES IN HIS FIRST LETTER TO EXHORT CHRISTIANS TO STEADFAST ENDURANCE AND EXCELLENT BEHAVIOR.
 - READ PSALM 34. ESPECIALLY VERSES 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16.
 - HOW DOES PETER USE THEM? SEE 1 PETER 2:1-7 AND 3:8-13

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- CONCLUSIONS

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#3 - PSALMS 8 & 2

THESE TWO PSALMS ARE DIFFERENT KINDS, 8-PRAISE & 2-ROYAL, AND THEY GET USED IN DIFFERENT WAYS BY DIFFERENT AUTHORS. WE HAVE ALREADY STUDIED PSALM 2 AS A PSALM OF THE EARTHLY KING AND NOW WE TURN TO HOW THE NT USES IT. PSALM 8 HAS ELEMENTS THAT STRETCH ALL THE WAY FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE BIBLE TO CLOSE TO THE END. YOUR GROUP IS GOING TO LOOK AT EACH PSALM AND TRY TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THE ORIGINAL AUTHOR WAS TRYING TO COMMUNICATE. THEN TURN TO THE NEW TESTAMENT TO SEE HOW THEY ARE USED. AT THE END COME UP WITH THREE CONCLUSIONS OF YOUR EXAMINATION TO SHARE.

- PSALM 8
 - READ PSALM 8 AND FOCUS ESPECIALLY ON VERSES 4, 5 AND 6.
 - THE BEAUTY OF GOD'S CREATION DWARFS HUMAN EXISTENCE. THIS ELEVATES THE WONDER THAT THE CREATOR SHOULD BE MINDFUL OR PAY ATTENTION TO HUMANS AT ALL.
 - WHAT PASSAGES IN GENESIS COULD THIS PSALM BE ECHOING?
 - _____
 - _____
 - WHAT DOES THIS SAY ABOUT THE MAJESTY OF MAN? THE TRAGEDY OF THE FALL?
 - _____
 - _____
 - IN REGARD TO VERSES 4-6 READ HEBREWS 2:5-10, 1 CORINTHIANS 15:26-27, AND EPHESIANS 1:20-23. WHAT DO THESE AUTHORS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT JESUS?
 - _____
 - _____

- PSALM 2
 - READ PSALM 2:7-9. THIS SPEAKS OF A KING WHO IS ALSO THE SON OF GOD.
 - COMPARE THIS TO ACTS 13:32-35 AND REVELATION 2:26-27; 12:15; 19:15.
 - HOW DO THESE AUTHORS SEE THIS KING AS JESUS?
 - _____
 - _____

- CONCLUSIONS
 - _____
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 - _____
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#4 - PSALM 69

THIS PSALM BY DAVID COULD BE CLASSIFIED AS A LAMENT FOR THE SICK AND ANGUISHED. IT IS A LONGER PSALM WITH SEVERAL ELEMENTS - PROBLEM, COMPLAINT, TRUST, PETITION, SOLUTION, AND A RESPONSE OF PRAISE. VARIOUS ELEMENTS ARE EMPLOYED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT IN DISTINCT WAYS. YOUR GROUP IS GOING TO DO A BRIEF STUDY OF THE PSALM AND WHAT IT SAID DURING DAVID'S TIME. THEN EXAMINE HOW THE NT AUTHORS USED IT IN REGARD TO A FEW THINGS IN THE MINISTRY OF JESUS AND MAKE THREE CONCLUSIONS AT THE END.

- PSALM 69
 - INTRODUCTION TO PSALM 69 BY THOMAS CONSTABLE
 - IN THIS IMPRECATORY PSALM OF INDIVIDUAL LAMENT, THE PSALMIST, WHO PROTESTED HIS INNOCENCE, SOUGHT GOD TO DELIVER HIM FROM DESTRUCTION. HE WAS EXPERIENCING CRITICISM AND REJECTION FROM THE ISRAELITES BECAUSE OF DECISIONS THAT HE HAD MADE TO DO GOD'S WILL (I.E., HIS RELIGIOUS CONVICTIONS). HE ASKED GOD TO DEAL WITH HIS OPPRESSORS, AND HE LOOKED FORWARD TO RELIEF AND THE RENEWAL OF PRAISE TO GOD...SOME SCHOLARS HAVE LABELED THIS PSALM "INDIRECTLY MESSIANIC" BECAUSE, WHILE IT DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY PREDICT MESSIAH, MESSIAH FULFILLED WHAT THE WRITER EXPRESSED. IT REVEALS MESSIAH'S EMOTIONAL AND SPIRITUAL SUFFERINGS...AFTER PSALMS 110 AND 22, THIS IS THE THIRD MOST FREQUENTLY QUOTED PSALM IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.
 - "PERHAPS IN NO PSALM IN THE WHOLE PSALTER IS THE SENSE OF SORROW PROFOUNDER OR MORE INTENSE THAN IN THIS." (G. CAMPBELL MORGAN)
 - READ PSALM 69 IN THE FOLLOWING PIECES AND MAKE 2 OBSERVATIONS FOR EACH SECTION. AN OBSERVATION IS MERELY WHAT IT IS SAYING THAT STANDS OUT, NOT WHAT IT MEANS OR HOW IT APPLIES TO YOU.

- 69:1-4

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- _____

- 69:5-12

- _____

- _____

- 69:13-28

- _____

- _____

- 69:29-36

- _____

- _____

- NEW TESTAMENT

- COMPARE THE FOLLOWING AND NOTE WHO THE AUDIENCE IS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT AND HOW JESUS AND OTHERS ARE INVOLVED

- PSALM 69:4 & JOHN 15:25

- _____

- PSALM 69:9 & JOHN 2:17, ROMANS 15:3

- _____

- PSALM 69:21 & MATTHEW 27:33-36, 48

- _____

- PSALM 69:22-23 & ROMANS 11:5-11

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- PSALM 69:25 & ACTS 1:18-21

- _____

- CONCLUSIONS - WHAT ARE THE WAYS THAT JESUS FULFILLS AND EXPRESSES THE SENTIMENTS IN THIS PSALM?

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#5 - HEBREWS

DEPENDING ON HOW YOU COUNT QUOTATIONS AND ALLUSIONS THE BOOK OF HEBREWS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT HAS THE MOST REFERENCES TO THE PSALMS. ONE OF THE PRIMARY GOALS OF THE AUTHOR OF HEBREWS IS TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT JESUS IS SUPERIOR. JESUS IS SUPERIOR TO ANGELS (CH. 1), MOSES (CH. 3), HIGH PRIESTS (CH. 4), THE OLD COVENANT (CH. 8), THE EARTHLY SANCTUARY/TEMPLE (CH. 9), AND PAST SACRIFICES (CH. 10). AS THE WRITER IS MAKING HIS CASE HE EXAMINES NUMEROUS PSALMS AND SHOWS HOW THEY ARE DEMONSTRATED IN JESUS CHRIST. HIS PASTORAL CONCERN FOR THE BELIEVERS WHO READ HIS LETTER IS ALSO QUITE APPARENT IN HIS EXHORTATIONS TO STAND STEADFAST TO JESUS SINCE THERE IS NO ONE LIKE HIM, NOR SHOULD WE EXPECT ANYTHING ELSE TO FULFILL GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION.

SINCE THERE ARE SO MANY REFERENCES YOUR GROUP IS ONLY GOING TO LOOK AT A HANDFUL OF PSALMS AND THEIR INTERPRETATION BY THE AUTHOR OF HEBREWS. THEN MAKE THREE CONCLUSIONS THAT YOU CAN SHARE WITH THE REST OF THE GROUP.

- HEBREWS 1
 - READ THE CHAPTER
 - COMPARE IT TO THE FOLLOWING PSALMS THAT SHOW UP
 - 2:7
 - 97:7
 - 104:4
 - 45:6-7
 - 102:25-27
 - 110:1
 - HOW DO THEY COMMUNICATE JESUS' SUPERIORITY TO THE ANGELS?
 - _____
 - _____

- HEBREWS 2
 - READ HEB 2:5-15
 - COMPARE IT TO THE FOLLOWING PSALMS THAT ARE REFERRED TO
 - 8:5-7 (GOD CREATED AND CARES ABOUT MANKIND)
 - 22:22 (PART OF THE REDEEMED PEOPLE OF GOD)
 - WHAT DO YOU SEE ABOUT THE SON OF GOD COMING IN THE FLESH AS A MAN?
 - _____
 - _____

- HEBREWS 3-4
 - READ HEB 3:7-16 AND 4:2-7
 - COMPARE IT TO PSALM 95:5-11
 - WHAT IS THE MAJOR CONCERN OF THE AUTHOR OF HEBREWS HERE?
 - _____
 - _____

- HEBREWS 10
 - READ HEB 10:1-14
 - COMPARE IT TO THE FOLLOWING PSALMS

- 40:6-8
- 110:1
- HOW DO THEY COMMUNICATE JESUS' SUPERIOR SACRIFICE OF HIMSELF?

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- CONCLUSIONS

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#6 - JESUS' EARLIER MINISTRY

AS YOU WOULD EXPECT, THERE ARE TONS OF OLD TESTAMENT QUOTATIONS AND ALLUSIONS FOR THE LIFE OF JESUS. THIS EXTENDS FROM HIS COMING AS A BABY, THROUGH HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY, AND HIS DEATH, RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION TO HEAVEN. INCLUDED IN THIS ARE NUMEROUS REFERENCES TO THE PSALMS THAT THE ACCOUNTS OF MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, AND JOHN USE TO DEMONSTRATE THE CHARACTER, ACTIONS, AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE INCARNATE MESSIAH. YOUR GROUP IS GOING TO LOOK AT THE EARLIER PORTION OF JESUS' ADVENT TO SEE HOW THE PSALMS SPEAK ABOUT HIM. THEN MAKE THREE CONCLUSIONS THAT YOU CAN SHARE WITH THE REST OF THE GROUP.

- BEGINNINGS OF PUBLIC MINISTRY

- MATTHEW 4:1-7 & PSALM 91:8-12

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- JOHN 2:12-19 & PSALM 69:7-11

- _____

- PUBLIC TEACHING

- MATTHEW 7:21-23 & PSALM 6:7-9

- _____

- JOHN 6:28-34 & PSALM 78:22-25

- _____

- MATTHEW 13:33-35 & PSALM 78:1-4

- _____

- LUKE 13:31-35 & PSALM 118:24-27

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- CONCLUSIONS - WHAT ARE SOME MAJOR LESSONS FROM THIS BRIEF STUDY ABOUT JESUS' IDENTITY AND ACTIONS?

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#7 - JESUS' PASSION

AS YOU WOULD EXPECT, THERE ARE TONS OF OLD TESTAMENT QUOTATIONS AND ALLUSIONS FOR THE LIFE OF JESUS. THIS EXTENDS FROM HIS COMING AS A BABY, THROUGH HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY, AND HIS DEATH, RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION TO HEAVEN. INCLUDED IN THIS ARE NUMEROUS REFERENCES TO THE PSALMS THAT THE ACCOUNTS OF MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, AND JOHN USE TO DEMONSTRATE THE CHARACTER, ACTIONS, AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE INCARNATE MESSIAH. EACH OF THOSE ACCOUNTS SPENDS MANY CHAPTERS ON THE LAST WEEK OF JESUS' MINISTRY, THE PASSION WEEK. THIS SHOWS THAT THE AUTHORS THOUGHT THESE DAYS OF JESUS' ADVENT ARE CRUCIAL FOR UNDERSTANDING HIM. YOUR GROUP WILL LOOK AT THE TIME LEADING UP TO AND INCLUDING THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS. THEN MAKE THREE CONCLUSIONS THAT YOU CAN SHARE WITH THE REST OF THE GROUP.

- TRIUMPHAL ENTRY - MATTHEW 21:1-7 & PSALM 118:25-26

- _____

- CLEANSING THE TEMPLE - MATTHEW 21:12-17 & PSALM 8:1-2

- _____

- CONFRONTING THE PHARISEES

- MATTHEW 21:42-46 & PSALM 118:21-24

- _____

- MATTHEW 22:41-45 & PSALM 110:1

- _____

- LAST SUPPER IN THE UPPER ROOM

- JOHN 13:18-21 & PSALM 41:9-10

- _____

- JOHN 15:23-25 & PSALM 69:4

- _____

- ON TRIAL - MATTHEW 26:61-65 & PSALM 110:1

- _____

- ON THE CROSS

- MARK 15:21-32 & PSALM 22:7-8, 18

- _____

- MATTHEW 27:32-36 & PSALM 69:20-21

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- MATTHEW 27:45-49 & PSALM 22:1

- _____

- LUKE 23:41-49 & PSALM 31:3-6

- _____

- JOHN 19:33-37 & PSALM 34:19-20

- _____

- CONCLUSIONS

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