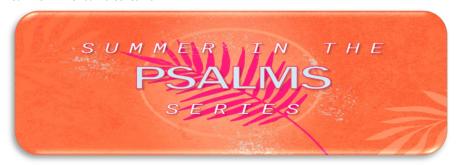
Grace Bible Church
05/29/2024
Pastor Stephen H. Converse
Wednesday Night Bible Study
Summer In The Psalms Series – 01





Summer In The Psalms Series – Lesson 1 " PSALMS AN OVERVIEW: GOD'S INSPIRED HYMNBOOK"

1. TITLE

"Psalms" comes from the Greek word meaning a song sung to a stringed instrument. The book is also called the Psalter.
The Hebrew title, *Tehillim*, means "praises."

2. ARRANGEMENT, AUTHORSHIP, DATE, FEATURES

The Psalms are arranged into 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)

Psalm emphasizes stringed accompaniment (57 psalms have this title).

Song indicates a joyful melody (12 have this label, e.g., Ps. 46).

Maskil may refer to a contemplative or didactic psalm (13 have this label, Ps. 32).

Miktam is uncertain (six Psalms: 16, 56-60).

Prayer labels five psalms (Pss. 17, 86, 90, 102, 142).

Praise, Psalm 145 has the title.

3. HEBREW POETRY

A. Parallelism

Synonymous—The second line is similar to the first.

<u>Synthetic</u>—The second line takes up and develops further a thought begun in the first line.

<u>Climatic</u>—The second line takes up some words from the first line and adds to or completes them.

<u>Emblematic</u>—One line presents an image or metaphor which the other line clarifies or applies.

Antithetical—The second line contrasts with the first.

B. Figures of Speech

Psalm 18:7-15 describes the power of God as seen in a thunderstorm. Describes God in anthropomorphic terms.

C. Acrostics

Alphabetical psalms, where each verse begins with successive letters of the Hebrew alphabet.

4. THEMES

- **A. The character of God -** Psa. 25:8, 10; 63:2-3
- **B. The Kingdom of God Psa. 2, 96-99, 110**
- C. The Messiah of God Psa. 2, 22, 45, 72, 110
- **D. The Worship of God** Psa. 5:11-12; 9:1-2; 5:7; 9:14; 84, 122
- **E. The Experience of man** Psa. 3, 7, 18, 34, 51-52, 54, 56, 57, 59, 60

5. MAIN LESSONS

- A. Praise is important.
- B. Prayer is important.
- C. Corporate worship is important.
- D. Beauty and creativity are important.

Here are a few action points:

- 1. Read the Psalms devotionally.
- 2. Memorize the Psalms.
- 3. Sing the Psalms.
- 4. Pray the Psalms.