

## **Worship – Lesson 10**

Key Scriptures on the topic.

### Psalms

Three hermeneutical types:

1. The Psalms are general individual expressions of spirituality. Application here is often personal and direct without consideration of the context.
2. The Psalms are considered on the virtue of their literary type (lament, request, rejoice, praise, thanks, etc.), form, and use in the original Jewish worship. Application is usually correct as we use them according to their context.
3. The Psalms are purposefully ordered in five categories for intended correlative meaning.
  - 1-41 – **Worship of God in times of trouble.**
  - 42-72 – **Worship instruction to the next generation.**
  - 73-89 – **Consequences to the next generation who reject their Godly heritage.**
  - 90-106 – **Worship and patience.**
  - 107-150 – **Worship and restoration.**

The genre of Psalms is that of poetry, lyric, and melody. It is artistic.

It is NOT a historic textbook.

It is NOT a prophetic oration.

It is NOT a catalog of laws.

The significance of headings.

Some are for instrumental or chorale cues: Psalm 5 – Upon Neginoth, a stringed instrument; Psalm 6 – Upon Sheminith, a note, scale, or chord cue perhaps for a male only choir; Psalm 46 – Upon Alamoth, soprano voice(s).

Some are for special evnts: Psalm 18 – The day of David’s deliverance; Psalm 30 – The dedication of the house of David; Psalm 45 – The coming of spring (literally the time of the blooming of the lilies).

Some are for certain individuals: Psalm 39 – Jeduthun was the chief singer (perhaps soloist) in the temple choir; Psalm 40 – The chief musician, likely a vocalist; Psalm 42 – The Sons of Korah were likely the 1<sup>st</sup> choir of the temple.

The contribution of many authors.

David is responsible for 75 Psalms

Asaph (and family) (12 psalms): 50; 73—83

The sons of Korah (11 psalms): 42; 44—49; 84—85; 87—88

Heman (1 psalm, with the sons of Korah): 88

Solomon (2 psalms): 72 and 127

Moses (1 psalm): 90

Ethan the Ezrahite (1 psalm): 89

Anonymous (the 48 remaining psalms)

Special Psalms:

The Hallel Psalms – 113-118 – Sung during the Passover celebration.

The Psalms of Ascent – 120-134 – Sung in connection with the climb of the pilgrims who came to worship in Jerusalem, especially for Succoth.

For further study: YouTube – Dr. Bruce Waltke Psalms lecture series.