



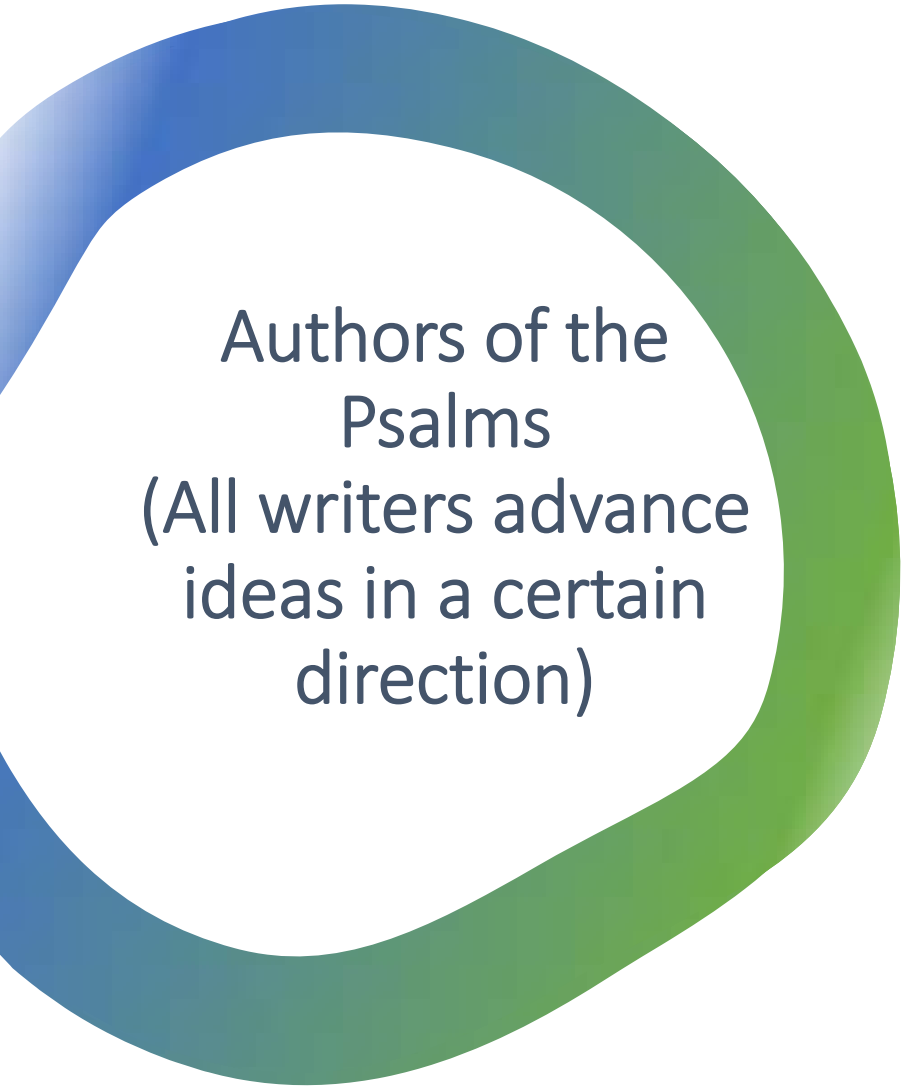
A Study of Psalms

An Examination of the Interior of
the Heart

Background

(Collection of the Anthology)

- What is a Psalm? (poetic and prayerful reflections of the heart)
- How is a Psalm used? For public worship, private prayer, historical, memory, sharing folklore and teaching)
- The setting of the Psalms (Pre – exilic, post exilic, daily life conditions)
- The themes of the Psalms (The supremacy of the word of God, God's protection, Nationalism, Exceptionalism, wisdom, love, God's grace and mercy and revenge for personal or national enemies and pleading for order over chaos....laments).

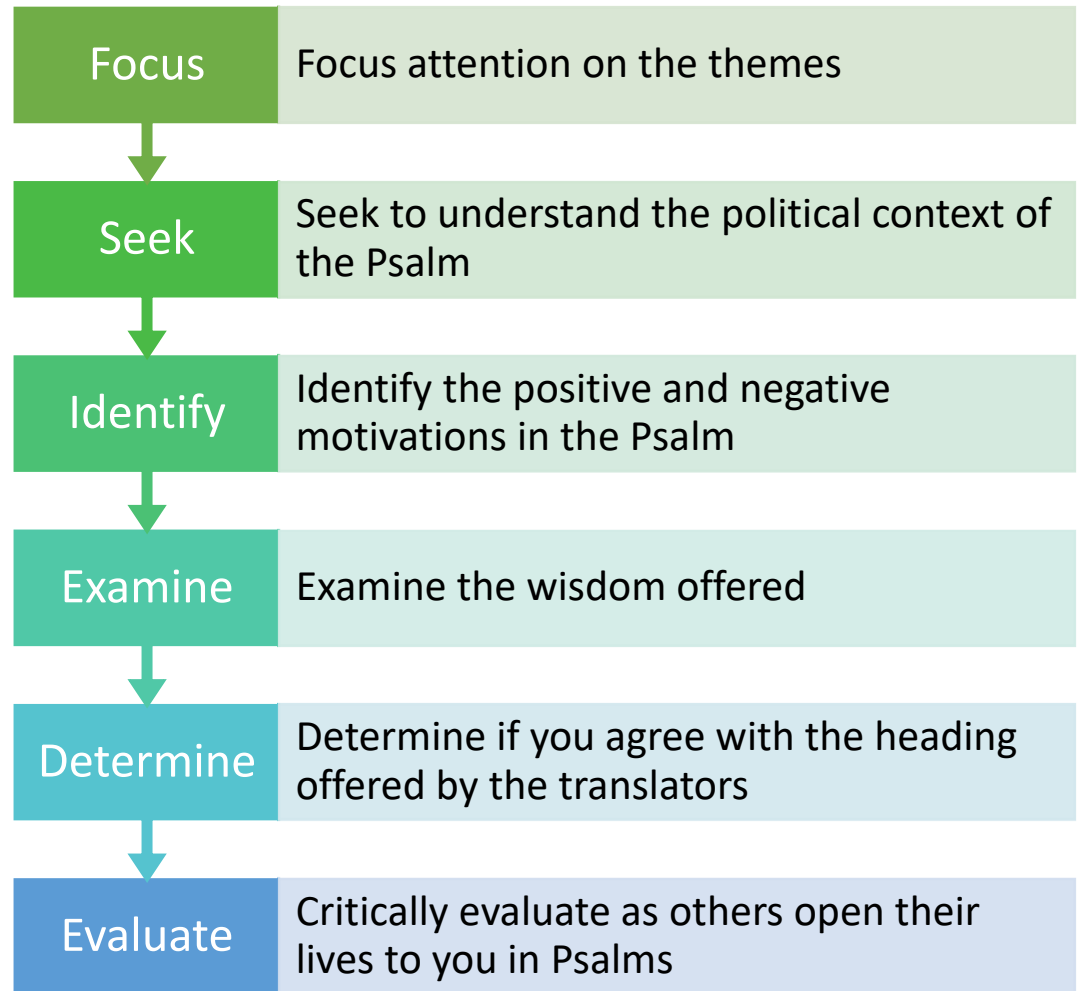


Authors of the
Psalms
(All writers advance
ideas in a certain
direction)

- Moses
- David
- Asaph (I Chron 25:1)
- Ethan
- Solomon
- Heman (I Chron 2:6)
- Sons of Korah (Numbers 26:11)



Considerations When Reading



Psalm 1
The Two Ways
(NRSV)

¹ Happy are those
who do not follow the advice of the
wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;
² but their delight is in the law of
the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and
night.
³ They are like trees
planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.

Psalm 1
The Two Ways
(NRSV)

⁴ The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind
drives away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand
in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of
the righteous;

⁶ for the LORD watches over the way
of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will
perish.

Psalm 2
God's Promise
to His
Anointed

- ¹ Why do the nations conspire,
and the peoples plot in vain?
- ² The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and his anointed, saying,
- ³ "Let us burst their bonds asunder,
and cast their cords from us."
- ⁴ He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the LORD has them in derision.
- ⁵ Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,
- ⁶ "I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill."

Psalm 2
God's Promise
to His
Anointed

⁷ I will tell of the decree of the LORD:
He said to me, "You are my son;
today I have begotten you.

⁸ Ask of me, and I will make the nations your
heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.

⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron,
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

¹⁰ Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.

¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear,
with trembling ¹² kiss his feet, ^[a]
or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way;
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Happy are all who take refuge in him.

Psalm 3
Trust in God
under Adversity
A Psalm of
David, when he
fled from his
son Absalom.

¹ O LORD, how many are my foes!
Many are rising against me;
² many are saying to me,
“There is no help for you^[a] in
God.” *Selah*

³ But you, O LORD, are a shield around
me,
my glory, and the one who lifts up
my head.

⁴ I cry aloud to the LORD,
and he answers me from his holy
hill. *Selah*

Psalm 3
Trust in God
under Adversity
A Psalm of
David, when he
fled from his
son Absalom.

⁵ I lie down and sleep;
I wake again, for the LORD sustains me.
⁶ I am not afraid of ten thousands of
people
who have set themselves against me all
around.

⁷ Rise up, O LORD!
Deliver me, O my God!
For you strike all my enemies on the
cheek;
you break the teeth of the wicked.

⁸ Deliverance belongs to the LORD;
may your blessing be on your
people! *Selah*

Psalm 4
Confident Plea
for Deliverance
from Enemies
To the leader:
with stringed
instruments. A
Psalm of David.

¹ Answer me when I call, O God of my right!
You gave me room when I was in
distress.

Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

² How long, you people, shall my honor suffer
shame?

How long will you love vain words, and
seek after lies? *Selah*

³ But know that the LORD has set apart the
faithful for himself;
the LORD hears when I call to him.

Psalm 4
Confident Plea
for Deliverance
from Enemies
To the leader:
with stringed
instruments. A
Psalm of David.

⁵ Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶ There are many who say, “O that we
might see some good!
Let the light of your face shine on us,
O LORD!”

⁷ You have put gladness in my heart
more than when their grain and
wine abound.

⁸ I will both lie down and sleep in peace;
for you alone, O LORD, make me lie
down in safety.

Psalm 5
Trust in God for
Deliverance from
Enemies
To the leader: for
the flutes. A Psalm
of David.

¹ Give ear to my words, O LORD;
give heed to my sighing.

² Listen to the sound of my cry,
my King and my God,
for to you I pray.

³ O LORD, in the morning you hear my
voice;
in the morning I plead my case to
you, and watch.

⁴ For you are not a God who delights in
wickedness; evil will not sojourn with you.

Psalm 5
Trust in God for
Deliverance from
Enemies
To the leader: for
the flutes. A Psalm
of David.

⁵ The boastful will not stand before your eyes;
you hate all evildoers.

⁶ You destroy those who speak lies;
the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and
deceitful.

⁷ But I, through the abundance of your
steadfast love,
will enter your house,
I will bow down toward your holy temple
in awe of you.

⁸ Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness
because of my enemies;
make your way straight before me.

Psalm 5
Trust in God for
Deliverance from
Enemies
To the leader: for
the flutes. A Psalm
of David.

- ⁹ For there is no truth in their mouths;
their hearts are destruction;
their throats are open graves;
they flatter with their tongues.
- ¹⁰ Make them bear their guilt, O God;
let them fall by their own counsels;
because of their many transgressions cast them
out,
for they have rebelled against you.
- ¹¹ But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;
let them ever sing for joy.
Spread your protection over them,
so that those who love your name may
exult in you.
- ¹² For you bless the righteous, O LORD;
you cover them with favor as with a shield.