

Words To Treasure



"The Lord is my Shepherd,
I shall not want."
(Psalm 23:1)

**100 Great Events of the
Old Testament**
**Lesson #61 – David Writes the
Psalms**
Family / Teacher Notes
For Wednesday, March 3rd
Psalms

The Psalms. As we come to the last part of David's life, we want to remember that one of his greatest achievements was in writing many Psalms. David wrote these psalms throughout various parts of his life. The book of Psalms itself has 150 psalms in it. We don't know who wrote some of them, but it is believed that David wrote a great many of them. In II Samuel 23:1 David is called the "sweet psalmist of Israel." The Book of Psalms is a collection of prayers, poems, and hymns that help a person worship God properly in praise and adoration.

Here are some interesting facts about Psalms:

- The Book of Psalms is the longest book of the Bible.
- These psalms were composed over a period of approximately 1000 years.
- The psalms were often sung by Israel, just like there are many that we still sing today.
- Psalm 117, with 2 verses, is the shortest psalm. Psalm 119, with 176 verses, is the longest psalm.
- The Book of Psalms is sometimes called *the Bible within the Bible* because it covers all of the major themes of the Bible story.
- Jesus used quotes from the Book of Psalms more than from any other part of the Old Testament.
- At least some of the Psalms were meant to be sung by the church. Eph. 5:19 says we are to be "speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord."

David's History is Seen in the Psalms. In the history of David in Samuel and Chronicles we have the details his life and the things David did. But many of the Psalms show you how David felt during that time. Some times he was lonely, sometimes afraid, sometimes he felt very down, and sometimes he was very excited. Sometimes David couldn't understand why God was letting these problems come on his life, but he still continued to

trust God. We can see several events from David's life when we read the Psalms:

- The time Saul was coming to kill David when Michal helped him escape (I Samuel 19:11ff) is seen Psalms 59.
- David having to hide from Saul in the caves (I Samuel 22:1ff, 24:3ff) is in Psalms 57 and 142.
- David having to hide out in the Judean Desert (I Samuel 24:1-2,22) — Psalm 63
- David's repentance for having committed the sin in regard to Bathsheba and Uriah (II Samuel 11-12) is found in Psalm 51 and 32.
- How David felt during the time of Absalom's rebellion (II Samuel 15) is shown in Psalm 3

Topics in the Psalms. The Psalms cover a wide range of subjects.

There are Psalms that Urge Us to Choose the Right Path (Psalms 1,15,73,133).

A theme of several psalms is the blessing of a living the right kind of life, exhortations to faithful and righteous living.

Several Psalms Show How Righteous People Thirst for God (Psalms 27, 42-43, 63 and 84). Some of the psalms express the personal longing of the soul for God.

Some Psalms Teach Us to Marvel at God's Greatness in Creation (Psalms 8, 19, and 139). These are three psalms that marvel at the wonder of God's creation, praising God for His amazing power and love.

There are Psalms That Cry Out for Rescue (Psalms 40, 69, 71 and 80). Many of the psalms come out of times when David or others were having great troubles and they plead with God for help.

Many Psalms Look to God for Protection (Psalms 35, 58, 59, 61, 83, 91, 109, 121 and 137) When trouble is all around we can either panic or find strength in faith. In these psalms the writer sees God as his ultimate Protector. Some of the psalms look at God as the place to rest in the storms of life. (Psalms 3, 16, 23, 31, 46, 56, and 131).

Some Psalms Express The Greatness of God's Word (Psalms 19, 119). In these the Psalmist breaks out in praise for the God who has revealed Himself in His teaching. Psalm 119 is the longest psalm and every line is a praise of God's great commands.

Many Psalms are Just Words of Praise to God (Psalms 24, 57, 96, 113, 126, and 135). Many talk about the greatness of God's character (Psalms 103, 145, and 117). Several psalms speak of great thankfulness to God (Psalms 100, 107, and 34). Several psalms shout the praises of God to the highest heavens. "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!" (Psalms 95, 98, 112, 148 and 150).

There are Psalms that Ask God for Forgiveness (Psalms 6, 32, 38, 39, 51, 102, and 143). These psalms deal with repentance and God's forgiveness and restoration.

A Few of the Psalms Talk About Israel's History (Psalm 78, 105, 106). These often emphasize how God's people had not been faithful to Him.

The Most Well-Known Psalm. The psalm that most people know of, and maybe have even memorized is Psalm 23 -- The Lord is My Shepherd. This psalm is often set to music.



Rom. 15:4 “For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.”

Things About Christ in the Psalms. Did you know that many of the Psalms predicted that Jesus would come? Also Jesus quoted many of the Psalms and showed how they were about His work. After Jesus resurrected He said, “These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets **and the Psalms** concerning Me.” Lk. 24:44

This chart will show you which Psalms talk about Jesus and where we will find that fulfilled in the New Testament.

Reference in Psalms	Reference to Christ	Fulfillment in the New Testament
Psalms 2:7	The Messiah will be God's Son	Hebrews 1:5,6
Psalms 16:8-10	He will rise from the dead.	Luke 24:5-7
Psalms 22:1-21	He will experience agony on the cross	Matthew 26,27
Psalm 22:18	Evil Men cast lots for his clothing	Matthew 27:35, John 19:23,24
Psalms 22:15	He thirsts while on the cross	John 19:28
Psalms 22:22	He will declare God's name.	Hebrews 2:12
Psalms 34:20	His bones would not be broken	John 19:36,37

Psalms 40:6-8	He came to do God's will.	Hebrews 10:5-7
Psalms 41:9	His close friend would betray him.	Luke 22:48
Psalms 45:6,7	His throne will last forever	Hebrews 1:8,9
Psalms 68:18	He ascended into heaven.	Ephesians 4:8-10
Psalms 69:9	He is zealous for God	John 2:17
Psalms 69:21	He was offered vinegar for his thirst on the cross	Matthew 27:48
Psalms 89:3, 4, 35, 36	He will be a descendant of David.	Luke 1:31-33
Psalms 96:13	He will return to judge the world.	1 Thessalonians 1:10
Psalms 110:1	He is David's son and David's Lord.	Matthew 22:44
Psalms 110:4	He is the eternal priest and king.	Hebrews 6:20
Psalms 118:22	He is rejected by many but accepted by God.	1 Peter 2:7, 8

Let's also remember that Psalms is quoted from at least 116 times in the New Testament.