

## Day 168      Psalms Chapters 1 - 9

Poetry

King David wrote most of the Psalms. These are basically songs and poetry that reveal David's heart and the Heart of God. They are not just works of art, they are Words of God! The language may be hard to follow, but finding the message is worth the effort. Let's give each Psalm a "single line" thought. Of course we realize there are many other thoughts to be gleaned from each song.

Chapter 1: The Righteous will stand, the ungodly will fall

Chapter 2: God will save the world with His Son, The King

Chapter 3: Ask God to save you from your enemies

Chapter 4: The Lord will hear us when we call to Him in prayer

Chapter 5: Commit to God even in the face of opposition

Chapter 6: God have Mercy

Chapter 7: Do the right thing and trust God to help

Chapter 8: God is greater than man

Chapter 9: God is a refuge in troublesome times

Today we realize that David had a lot of tough times, but so do we. Do you think that God cares less about our problems that He did David's?

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Jesus is the "Son of David". The undertones of all these Songs speak of God's Salvation of mankind through His Son, Jesus. Christians recognize Jesus to be the King of kings! Are you a Christian?

## Day 169      Psalms Chapters 10 - 17

Poetry

Are you ready to sing a few more songs today? We may not know the melodies, but the messages are inspiring. Here are a few suggested "Titles" for each of Today's songs.

Chapter 10: God rejects the wicked

Chapter 11: God accepts the righteous

Chapter 12: The wicked man's words are worthless

Chapter 13: Trust God even when you wonder where He is

Chapter 14: Everybody sins

Chapter 15: If you want to be with God, be good

Chapter 16: I shall not be moved

Chapter 17: God will take care of you

Wicked people's ways offended David. He was very upset they would do and say the things that they did. He asked God to intervene. Have you seen anything that offended you lately? Why not ask God to intervene?

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Look at chapter 16:10, "For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption." Peter told us in Acts 2 that David, through the Holy Spirit, was actually talking about Jesus' resurrection! Jesus, the Holy One, did not see "corruption" because he resurrected from the dead before his body decayed! Christians believe in His resurrection. Are you a Christian?

## Day 170 Psalms Chapters 18 - 22

Poetry

What "Song Titles" would you give to these Psalms? They touch different people in different ways. Here are mine:

Chapter 18: My Victories are actually His

Chapter 19: God's sun speaks of His Son

Chapter 20: Trust God to Save You

Chapter 21: God Has Blessed, and He Will Bless

Chapter 22: The World's Most "Bitter / Sweet" Day

David constantly thought about God. Shouldn't I think about God more often?

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Look at Jesus in Chapter 22. It is not for the faint of heart! Christians are broken over Jesus' death while healed at the same time! Are you a Christian?

## Day 171 Psalms Chapters 23 - 31

Poetry

Did you know that Jesus sang a song just before he died? Maybe we should learn songs that will help us in our difficult times! More song "Titles", what would you name them?

Chapter 23: The Lord is my Shepherd

Chapter 24: Who is the King of Glory?

Chapter 25: Forgive Me

Chapter 26: Be the Best You Can Be

Chapter 27: When Everyone Else Leaves Me, God's Still There

Chapter 28: God Saves His People

Chapter 29: Hear the Voice of the Lord

Chapter 30: Thank You God

Chapter 31: You're In Good Hands with God.

The only way David could recognize his need for God was his willingness to recognize his own sins. Do I realize I need God? If not, perhaps I think I'm not a sinner.

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** In Chapter 31:5 we read, "Into thine hand I commit my spirit ...". Jesus quoted that verse just before He died. Just like Jesus, Christians trust the Hand of God! Are you a Christian?

## Day 172 Psalms Chapters 32 -37

Poetry

Do you sometimes feel discouraged, especially when you watch the news and see all the wicked things going on in America today? Do you feel even more despondent when you see the wickedness of the whole world? Sing the songs of David! He saw a LOT of wickedness, yet he knew where to put his trust. How would you title these songs?

Chapter 32: How Do You Spell "Relief" - "FORGIVEN"

Chapter 33: God Is Worthy to Be Praised

Chapter 34: God Sees the Righteous and Hears Their Prayers

Chapter 35: God Knows My Enemies Hate Me for No Reason

Chapter 36: The Wicked Foolishly Reject God

Chapter 37: The Wicked Hate the Righteous, but God Loves Them

David was surrounded by enemies for most of his life. Someone was always wanting to discredit him, de-throne him, or even decapitate him! At times he wondered how long it would take God to help, but he never doubted that God would help. Do I doubt God?

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Look at Chapter 34:20, "He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken". Through all the torture Jesus endured, not a single bone was broken. God was with Jesus the entire time, regardless of what it may have seemed to others. Christians know that God is with them all the time, regardless of how things may seem! Are you a Christian?

## Day 173 Psalms Chapters 38 - 44

Poetry

Psalms is divided into five books that correspond to the first five books of the Bible. Today we finish the first "Book" titled "Genesis". It consisted of Chapters 1 - 41. We will begin the second "Book" titled "The Exodus". It covers Chapters 42 - 72. Here are the titles I have given the chapters in our reading today:

Chapter 38: I am pitiful

Chapter 39: I realize my worthlessness

Chapter 40: The pit of pride leads to a pious heart, but praise gives a new perspective

Chapter 41: So called "friends" may stab you in the back, but God is a TRUE friend

Chapter 42: When I get depressed, I pray to God

Chapter 43: No need for depression when God is near

Chapter 44: We will praise God no matter how bad things get

David realized that many of his problems stemmed from his own poor behavior and bad choices. He refused to blame God for those problems, however, he didn't hesitate to ask God to help him recover!

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** When we truly accept chapter 39:5 "... every man at his best state is altogether vanity", we are ready to receive Christ! Christians understand that Jesus came to this sin sick world to save sinners. Christians recognize that they are sinners! Are you a Christian?

## Day 174 Psalms Chapters 45 - 51

Poetry

What Titles are you giving these Psalms of David? Go ahead, write them down. If you write in the margins of your Bible, write them there. When you read the Psalm at a later date, it will serve as a reminder for what the Psalm meant to you. Later, as you have more experiences, you may see something else entirely! Here are some titles for today's reading:

Chapter 45: All Hail the King

Chapter 46: Be Still and Know God

Chapter 47: God Is the King

Chapter 48: God Is Our God

Chapter 49: Don't Trust Yourself, Trust God

Chapter 50: Don't Think God Is Like Man. He Is God

Chapter 51: Wash Me Clean

David served Israel as one of their greatest kings. He understands the concept of "King". He knew what it meant to BE one and to SERVE one. He recognizes God as "KING"!

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Chapter 45 speaks of the Marriage of the King. The first chapter of The Gospel of John tells us plainly that Jesus is God. He became man. He is the King of Kings. As King, He received a Bride to Himself. The Bride of Christ is the Church. Christians are the church. Are you a Christian?

## Day 175 Psalms Chapters 52 - 59

Poetry

David's son was Solomon. We know that God gave Solomon great wisdom. When we read what God has given David to write, perhaps God gave Solomon a lot of that wisdom through his father's songs!

Chapter 52: If You Do Wrong, God Will Destroy You

Chapter 53: Atheists Are Foolish

Chapter 54: God Help Me

Chapter 55: It's Bad When Your Enemies Are Against You, It's Worse When Your Friends Are Too

Chapter 56: God Has My Back

Chapter 57: God Loves You When Everyone Else Seems To Hate You

Chapter 58: God Will Destroy the Wicked

Chapter 59: God Will Defend When Men Attack You

David had been in many battles. He called upon God multitudes of times to save him from his enemies. His real pain came when it was his "friends" that tried to harm him. Even then, he trusted God.

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Jesus must have felt like David when one of His apostles betrayed Him, one denied Him, and ALL of them ran away when He was arrested. Perhaps that's why Jesus quoted so many of David's songs during those dreadful hours of His crucifixion. Christians understand that Jesus went through this rejection for them. Are you a Christian?

## Day 176      Psalms Chapters 60 - 67

Poetry

King David knows what it feels like when God is near and when God is far away. He knows it is much better when He is near! Here are some suggested Song Titles for today's reading:

Chapter 60: God, Please Come Back

Chapter 61: The Rock That Is Higher Than I

Chapter 62: God Is Our Rock

Chapter 63: When People Seek To Harm You, Seek God

Chapter 64: When Others "Shoot" You Down, God Will "Shoot" Them Down

Chapter 65: God Shows His Power through Nature

Chapter 66: Praise God with Singing

Chapter 67: God Responds To Our Praise

When others have let you down, just remember that God never will. He is the "Rock", men are the "Sand"!

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Paul told us in I Corinthians 10:4 "for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ." Christians know that Jesus is their ROCK! Are you a Christian?

## Day 177      Psalms Chapters 68 - 71

Poetry

God was with David when he was a young man. David knew He would not leave him when he became old. What Song titles would you give to the four songs we read today?

Chapter 68: God takes care of those who cannot take care of themselves

Chapter 69: I looked for someone to take pity upon me, no one did, except God

Chapter 70: Rejoice and be glad in the Lord

Chapter 71: God took care of you when you were young, count on Him when you're old

There have been many times in our lives that we just need a little comfort. A lot of those times you couldn't get it from your fellow man. God is the God of comfort, why not go to Him?

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Compare Psalms 68:18 to Ephesians 4:8. It was Jesus who David was referencing in his song! Also, notice Psalms 69:21. Do you suppose when they gave Jesus vinegar and gall on the cross, the folks who cried "Crucify Him" remembered the words of this song? Christians know that Jesus fulfilled the Psalms! Are you a Christian?

## Day 178      Psalms Chapters 72 - 77

Poetry

David didn't write all the Psalms. Asaph wrote several. We already read one, Psalm 50. We will read his others the next few days. Today we finish the second of five song books. The third song book begins with Chapter 73. Asaph wrote Psalms 73 - 89. God inspired Asaph's powerful songs. We will suggest some titles for them too.

Chapter 72: David's song for Solomon to be a powerful king

Chapter 73: Don't be jealous over what wicked people have

Chapter 74: God, Don't Forget Us

Chapter 75: God Is the Judge

Chapter 76: God Saves the Meek

Chapter 77: I Will Meditate On the Lord

Asaph was a very important member of David's court. He was involved in leading the worship. These inspired songs show us some of God's heart and what our response should be.

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** In Psalms 75:8 we see there is a "cup" in God's hand that is "poured out" upon those against Him. No one wants to drink from that "cup"! Jesus knew when he took the sins of the world upon Himself, he would have to drink from that "cup". Is this the "cup" that Jesus asked to pass from Him? Christians know that Jesus drank from a "cup" that they were spared from. Are you a Christian?

## Day 179      Psalms Chapters 78 - 81

Poetry

Asaph continues to bless us with his inspired songs. What Song titles would you give to these four of his songs?

Chapter 78: Children, Remember How God Dealt With Your Fathers

Chapter 79: How Long Will God Be Angry With Us? Until We Repent

Chapter 80: Restore Us to Our Former Position with God

Chapter 81: God Wants To Bless You, Don't Turn Him Away

Throughout human history man has sinned against God. When they repent, God forgives them. Soon after being forgiven, man sins again! When they repent, God forgives them again! How deep does God's mercy go?

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Asaph's songs reveal that God wants to save us from our sins. Jesus is His gift to man to redeem from sin once and for all! Christians accept His gift! Are you a Christian?

## Day 180 Psalms Chapters 82 - 89

Poetry

Asaph's final songs finish up this third Song Book in the Psalms. As we finish them, we see that God continues to reach out to His people. Consider these Song Titles for these songs:

Chapter 82: God Is a Righteous Judge

Chapter 83: God Saves Us from Our Enemies

Chapter 84: It Is Better To Be In God's House than Anywhere Else

Chapter 85: God Will Forgive Our Sins

Chapter 86: Live In God's Truth

Chapter 87: Zion Is Special To God for A Reason

Chapter 88: Call On God Even When Facing Death

Chapter 89: God Keeps His Promises

God is not willing that any should perish. However, don't make the mistake of thinking God will not withdraw His presence from those who refuse Him.

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** We see in Psalms 87 that Zion is special to God. Zion is a shadow of Jesus who comes out of Zion. Jesus gathers God's people to Himself. Christians are God's people (The Church). Are you a Christian?

## Day 181 Psalms Chapters 90 - 97

Poetry

Today we begin the 4th Song Book found in Psalms. This Song Book contains 17 songs. Today we give our own titles to the first 8 of them.

Chapter 90: God Is Eternal

Chapter 91: God Is Our Refuge

Chapter 92: God Is Great

Chapter 93: God Is Holy

Chapter 94: God Is a Just Judge

Chapter 95: God Is Worthy of Worship

Chapter 96: God Is Worthy of Praise

Chapter 97: God Is On His Throne

Do you suppose these songs are about God? I think so too! We need to think about God more often. We need to praise and worship Him. We should never forget that He will judge us one day!

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Speaking of our judgment, notice Psalm 96:13 "... for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness and the people with his truth." This is a shadow of Jesus! According to Revelation 19:11-16, God will judge us through Him! Christians will be found "Not Guilty" at His Judgment Seat! Are you a Christian?

## Day 182      Psalms Chapters 98 - 104

Poetry

If we truly believe that God is God, then why aren't we singing His praise? King David understood that God is truly powerful. What really moved David was that God actually cared about him! He cares about all of us! What would you name these next 7 songs?

Chapter 98: Sing

Chapter 99: God Will Answer Our Call

Chapter 100: Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord

Chapter 101: Do the Right Thing

Chapter 102: In Trouble? Call God

Chapter 103: Bless the Lord

Chapter 104: God Made It All

When we understand that God is who God is and we are who we are, we are in awe that God responds to our worship! Are you in awe?

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** It's really all about Jesus! Psalms 102:18 tells us "This shall be written for the generation to come: and the people which shall be created shall praise the Lord". Can you believe all this was written for us to learn so we can praise the Lord? Christians learned from the writings of the Old Testament that Jesus fulfilled every word! Are you a Christian?

## Day 183      Psalms Chapters 105 - 107

Poetry

When we sing the National Anthem it reminds us of our heritage. No doubt, when the Jews sang Psalm 105, they felt that sense of nostalgia. Yet Psalms 106 and 107 would remind them that their history wasn't perfect. Consider these titles for these three songs:

Chapter 105: God's Promise to His People

Chapter 106: God's People Rejected Him

Chapter 107: God Still Loves His People

Romans 9:6 says "... They are not all Israel, which are of Israel..." This shows that God's "Israel" (His People) are not all from Israel. The Jews are not the only people of God under the New Testament. We, who are gentiles, now have access to God! Romans 9:25 says "... I will call them my people, which were not my people; ..." At one time gentiles were not considered God's people, but now they can be! Since most of us are gentiles, I'm sure this is good news to us!

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Romans 9:33 says "Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense: and whosoever believeth on Him shall not be ashamed". Israel was chosen to be God's people through Abraham. Today, Christians are God's people through Christ. Are you a Christian?



## Day 184      Psalms Chapters 108 - 116      Poetry

David sang about Jesus! He probably didn't fully realize the full implications himself, but God was inspiring him to give the world a glimpse of His plan through songs! Here are some possible song titles for the next 9 songs?

Chapter 108: God Will Lead Us

Chapter 109: God Rejects the Proud

Chapter 110: God's Priest of Zion

Chapter 111: Wise People Obey God

Chapter 112: Happy People Fear God

Chapter 113: God Can Lift You Up

Chapter 114: Everything Responds To God's Presence

Chapter 115: Idols Are Impotent, God Is Omnipotent

Chapter 116: The Death of Saints is precious to God

God is worthy to be worshiped during our life and trusted at our death. After all, this life is just the beginning of eternity!

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Psalms 110:1 speaks of David's "Lord" who sits at the right hand of God. That's Jesus! He is also the priest "after the order of Melchizedek" mentioned in Psalms 110. Hebrews chapter 7 tells us all about that. Christians have a high priest who has offered his own blood and has now sat down at the right hand of God! Are you a Christian?

## Day 185      Psalms Chapters 117 - 118      Poetry

God is forever, don't we want to get in on that? Everything we do in this world will not last. We know that, yet we tend to put them ahead of God. What's up with that? We started the fifth and final Song Book last time. Here are the next 2 song titles:

Chapter 117: God's Truth Lasts Forever

Chapter 118: God's Mercy Lasts Forever

We try everything to make things in this life lasts as long as it can, yet we know they will not last forever. Why don't we sing about our God who does last forever?

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Take a closer look at Psalms 118:22 "The stone which the builders refused is become the head of the corner." This is called the "corner stone". Jesus is the corner stone! Everything else is based upon Him! Christians embrace the corner stone, while many refuse Him! Are you a Christian?

## Day 186      Psalms Chapter 119

Poetry

Do you know what an acrostic is? It's when the first letter in each verse or stanza of a song or poem spell out a word or phrase. In the case of today's song, the first letter in each stanza is a letter of the Hebrew Alphabet! There are 22 letters in that alphabet. David writes 8 verses for each letter. Therefore, 22 times 8 gives us 176 verses! This is the longest chapter in the Bible. There is a good reason to give it this title:

Chapter 119: The Nature of the Word of God

Every verse (except three) mentions God's Word! It is called His Laws, Ways, Testimonies, Precepts, Commandments, Judgments, Statutes, Words, etc. This song gives a deep insight into what God's Word is and how it should be respected!

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** It's really all about Jesus! Jesus IS the Word of God. John 1:1 & 14 tell us Jesus is the Word that became flesh and lived among mankind. Christians follow Jesus! Are you a Christian?

## Day 187      Psalms Chapters 120 - 135

Poetry

Sometimes the shortest songs can be the most powerful ones! Today we will read 16 short songs! Consider these titles:

Chapter 120: Some People Will Lie To You

Chapter 121: God Helps Us

Chapter 122: Be Glad To Worship God

Chapter 123: Have Mercy on Us

Chapter 124: Where Would We Be Without God

Chapter 125: I Shall Not Be Moved

Chapter 126: God Has Done Great Things

Chapter 127: If God Didn't Build It, It's Worthless

Chapter 128: God Will Take Care of You

Chapter 129: We Will Win

Chapter 130: You Can Trust God

Chapter 131: Humble Ourselves Before God

Chapter 132: Put God First

Chapter 133: Unity ... How Sweet It Is

Chapter 134: Bless the Lord

Chapter 135: Bless the Lord Some More

We can't give God more praise than He deserves, but isn't it wonderful to make the attempt?!

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Notice Psalms 132:17 "... I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed." God anointed David to be king. He said that a "lamp" would be ordained from him. Jesus is that "Lamp"! Christians know that He is the Light of the World! Are you a Christian?

## Day 188      Psalms Chapters 136 - 142      Poetry

Today we will read 7 more Songs. All of them express Thanksgiving, Praise, and Adoration for the One, True God! Here are some more titles to look at:

Chapter 136: Give Thanks To God

Chapter 137: It's Hard To Sing When You Are Away From What You Love

Chapter 138: God Strengthens Me

Chapter 139: God Knows Me

Chapter 140: God Is My God

Chapter 141: Deliver Me from Evil

Chapter 142: God Is With You

God knows everything about us. Not only is it futile to lie to God, it's robbing us of great peace! Isn't it peaceful to know that there's someone that knows, understands, and cares about you like God does?

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** Psalms 137 may have been written many years after David died. It was a song concerning the Jews when they were taken into captivity by the Babylonians. The psalmist seems to struggle with singing "God's Songs" while in a foreign land. In fact, it's possible that the Babylonians were craving to hear God's Songs from the Israelites. Perhaps they were looking for the One, True God. Jesus left His home in Heaven and came to this "foreign land". Here He proclaimed the most beautiful truths about God the world has ever heard! Christians sing about those truths to this day. Are you a Christian?

## Day 189      Psalms Chapters 143 - 150      Poetry

Today we finish the 5th Song Book of the Psalms, thus finishing the entire Book of Psalms. We have spent these last 22 days reading songs of Praise and Worship. Let's complete the Psalms with these last 8 suggested song titles:

Chapter 143: I'm Thirsty for God

Chapter 144: Sing a New Song

Chapter 145: God Is Very Close

Chapter 146: Don't Trust Man, Trust God

Chapter 147: God Gives Us What We Need

Chapter 148: Praise Him, Praise Him

Chapter 149: Praise Him Some More

Chapter 150: Praise Him ONE MORE TIME

How fitting to end the Book of Psalms with Praise to God!

**In the Shadow ... don't miss Jesus!** In Psalms 144:3 we read, "LORD, what is man, that thou takest knowledge of him! or the son of man, that thou makest account of him!" In Hebrews 2:6-9 we see this was a prophecy of Jesus! Christians believe that God sent Jesus to this world to become a man and die for all men. Are you a Christian?