

# PSALMS

## Class #1 – Hymns and Wisdom Psalms Dave Wilson

Psalms – One of most well-read and best-loved books in the Bible. But there are surprises.

Wondrous diversity within the Psalms – 8 categories

### **Category #1 – HYMNS**

Hymns celebrate God as Creator and God as Redeemer.

God as Creator

Psalm 104 5:9

God as Redeemer

Psalm 105:39-41

Structure of the Hymn

1. The call to worship
2. The reason to praise
3. Renewed invitation to worship

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 103:1-2 – the psalmist

Psalm 118:1 & 2 -- Israel

Psalm 117:1 – other nations

Psalm 148:1-4 – all of creation

THE REASON TO PRAISE

Psalm 30:1-5

Psalm 47:1-3

Psalm 92:1-4

THE RENEWED INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Psalm 147:19 & 20

Psalm 104:33-35

### **Let's explore a hymn – Psalm 118**

The psalmist celebrates God as Redeemer

Structure of the Hymn

1. The call to worship – v. 1-4
2. The reason to praise – v. 5-27
3. Renewed invitation to worship – v. 28 & 29

What does this hymn communicate about God and his people?

“His love endures forever”

Love that redeems – protection and deliverance in a time of trouble

Verse 5 – The psalmist is hard-pressed

Verses 7 – he has enemies

Verses 8 & 9 – he needs protection

Verses 10 - 14 – saved when all hope seemed lost

Is David the psalmist?

Philistines, Moabites, Ammonites, Amalekites, Syrians

The rejected stone – v. 22 & 23

The identity of the stone – proverb, Israel, David?

Transition from rejected stone to cornerstone is a result of God’s gracious activity – v. 23 & 24

Completion of the temple? David’s coronation?

v.26 & 27

The Egyptian Hallel – Psalms 113-118

Celebrating a milestone in Israel’s redemptive history

Psalm 118 in the New Testament – v. 22 & 23

Luke 20:17-20

Acts 4:8-11

1 Peter 2:4-8

Psalm 118 in the New Testament – v. 26

Matt. 21:7-11

Was Psalm 118 sung at the Last Supper?

Matt. 26: 17, 27-30

So remember, a hymn is a psalm that celebrates God as Redeemer or God as Creator. Generally, it has three sections: the call to praise, the reason to worship, and the concluding call to worship.

When we read these hymns today, we can praise God for his redeeming work in our lives.

1 Cor. 1:30

## **Category #2 - WISDOM PSALMS**

Trusting in the Lord produces a blessed life

Psalm 37:3

Psalm 112:6 & 7

But not trusting in yourself or your possessions

Psalm 49:5-8, 13-14

Trusting in the Lord's instruction produces a blessed life

Psalm 19:7-9

Psalm 119:9-14

## **Let's explore a Wisdom Psalm – Psalm 112**

The ABCs of Psalm 112

Connected by the fear of the Lord

Psalm 111:10

Psalm 112:1

Connected by character

Righteousness – v.3 (both psalms)

Gracious – v. 4 (both psalms)

Giving – v. 5 (both psalms)

The character of the Redeemer is to be reflected in the lives of the redeemed

God's faithfulness frees us from fear

V. 5-9

Paul encourages the Corinthian Christians to give generously to the collection for poor Jewish Christians in Judea.

2 Cor. 9:6-11

Psalm 112 focuses on the moral character of the faithful.

The righteous life they are called to flows from the powerful work of redemption that God has affected in their lives.

*"God is always previous, God is always there first, and if you have any desire for God, and for the things of God, it is God Himself who put it there." A.W. Tozer.*

Wisdom ... true wisdom as defined by the scriptures ... is born out of the fear of the Lord.