

PSALMS

The God Who Rules Through His Messiah

Jason S. DeRouchie, PhD
Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
www.jasonderouchie.com

Structure

- ◆ **Book 1** (1–41, with doxology in 41:13)
- ◆ **Book 2** (42–72, with doxology in 72:18–19)
- ◆ **Book 3** (73–89, with doxology in 89:52)
- ◆ **Book 4** (90–106, with doxology in 106:48)
- ◆ **Book 5** (107–150, with five Hallelujah psalms as doxology in 146–150)

The Messianic Introduction

◆ **Catchwords:** “blessed” (1:1; 2:12); “way” (1:1, 6; 2:12); “sit” (1:1; 2:4); “meditate/plot” (1:2; 2:1); “perish” (1:6; 2:12)

◆ Psalm 1

❖ 1:1 with 2:12

❖ 1:2 with Josh 1:8

❖ 1:3 with Ezek 47:12; John 7:36; Rev 22:1–2

◆ Psalm 2

- ❖ 2:1–2 with Acts 4:25–26
- ❖ 2:7 with Acts 13:32–33
- ❖ 2:8 with Matt 28:18–20
- ❖ 2:9 with Rev 12:5; 19:15 with 2:26–27

The Messianic Conclusion

- ◆ **Ps 146:** Yahweh is the great Creator of all who keeps the downtrodden.
- ◆ **Ps 147:** Yahweh is the great Architect, Overseer, and Provider of the universe who takes special pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.
- ◆ **Ps 148:** Yahweh is the Supreme One who is worthy of praise in all creation because of his saving work through his messianic king (148:14; cf. 1 Sam 2:10).
- ◆ **Ps 149:** Yahweh is the great King who saved a humble people for his pleasure and their joy and shape an army that will execute his vengeance on the nations (cf. Ps 2:9; Rev 2:26–27).
- ◆ **Ps 150:** Yahweh is God over all whose actions and person are worthy of praise from all that has breath.

The Messianic Body

◆ **Book 1 (1–41): Kingdom Crisis**

- ❖ **Ps 3:** Despite his King's numerous adversaries, Yahweh has saved and will save his King and people.
- ❖ **Ps 41:** Despite his King's many enemies, Yahweh counts his kind-hearted, representative King as blessed, will protect and preserve his life, and will set him in his presence forever.

◆ **Book 2 (42–72): Kingdom Expected**

- ❖ **Pss 42–43:** God is a sure Rock worth hoping in amid despair, for he will save, vindicate, and defend his King's cause against ungodly adversaries.
- ❖ **Ps 72:** Yahweh God will glorify himself by elevating his royal Son's global kingdom forever, which will fulfill all of David's prayers.

◆ **Book 3 (73–89): Kingdom Judged**

- ❖ **Ps 73:** The true Israel are those who follow the pure-hearted King in looking to God for strength and waiting upon him to cause the evil doers to perish and to receive his own into glory.
- ❖ **Ps 89:** Yahweh's wrath has brought a temporary end to the Davidic monarchy, but his steadfast loyalty and faithfulness ensures that his promises to David to establish an eternal throne are still sure.

◆ **Book 4 (90–106): Kingdom in Exile**

- ❖ **Pss 90–91:** With typological anticipations of exile and a longing for rest, Moses pleads with Yahweh from the wilderness to satisfy and sustain his people with his steadfast love and to show sustained favor upon them as they pass their years under God's wrath and as they look ahead to fresh times of favor (Ps 90). He then predictively proclaims to the coming King that God will deliver him and protect him (Ps 91:1–13), to which Yahweh affirms that he will satisfy him with long life and save (Ps 91:14–16).
- ❖ **Ps 106:** Yahweh God's steadfast loyalty is greater than Israel's sin, and just as he has done in the past, his will remember his covenant and save his people from exile through a new exodus.

◆ **Book 5 (107–150): Kingdom Restored and Consummated**

- ❖ **Ps 107:** Praise Yahweh for and consider the significance of his steadfast loyalty by which he redeemed his people from exile—from trouble, distress, and the shadow of death (cf. Luke 1:79).
- ❖ **Ps 145:** Yahweh, who is God and King, is worthy of highest and eternal praise for his character and deeds manifest on behalf of his saints.

Examples of the NT Application of the Psalms to Christ

◆ **Jesus is David's Lord.**

❖ Ps 110:1 with Mark 12:35–37; Acts 2:33–36

◆ **Jesus is the new High Priest.**

❖ Ps 110:4 with Heb 7:15–22

◆ **Jesus was crucified and rose to life.**

❖ Ps 16:10–11 with Acts 2:25–32

❖ Jesus the sufferer (Ps 22:1 with Matt 27:46; vv. 7–8 with Matt 27:39, 43; v. 15 with John 19:28; v. 16 with Luke 24:39–40 and John 20:25; v. 17 with John 19:36; v. 18 with Matt 27:35)

❖ Jesus the victor (v. 22 with Heb 2:12; v. 27 with Matt 27:54)

◆ **Jesus is the new Adam.**

❖ Ps 8:4–6 with Heb 2:6–8

Summary of Psalms

Sovereign Yahweh will establish his global reign over his new creation through his Anointed King, who will triumph over curse, death, and enemies by means of great tribulation, with the result that the wicked will perish, those finding refuge in him will flourish, lament will end, and praise to Yahweh will endure forever.