

## ***Reading The Psalms***

### ***Ps. 110:1-4***

- The Makeup Of The Book Of Psalms...
  - Psalms is a compilation of five books – each one ending with words of praise to God...
    - Book 1 – Psalms 1-41 (cf. 41:13)
    - Book 2 – Psalms 42-72 (cf. 72:18-19)
    - Book 3 – Psalms 73-89 (cf. 89:52)
    - Book 4 – Psalms 90-106 (cf. 106:48)
    - Book 5 – Psalms 107-150 (cf. 150:6)
- Authorship Of The Book...
  - The Book of Psalms is not only a compilation of 5 books, but a collection of the Psalms of several different inspired authors, whose authorship spans a period of about 1,000 years.
    - David –73 Psalms.
      - The sweet psalmist of Israel. (II Sam. 1:17ff; 22;23:1)
      - Psalms attributed to David in the New Testament:
        - Ps. 2 → Acts 4:25
        - Ps. 32 → Rom. 4:7
        - Ps. 95 → Heb. 4:7
        - Ps. 110:1 → Matt. 22:44
      - Authorship Of The Book...
      - Moses – Ps. 90
      - Solomon – Ps. 72, 127
      - Asaph – Ps. 50, 73-83
      - Sons of Korah – Ps. 42-49,85,87
      - Heman the Ezrahite (cf. I Ki. 4:31) – Ps. 88
      - Ethan the Ezrahite – Ps. 89
      - Anonymous – app. 50 Psalms
    - Time span → From the time of Moses (Ps. 90) – to the reign of David – to the exile (Ps. 137) – to the post-exilic era (Ps. 126)
- Overview Of The Contents...
  - Psalms is a book of prayer and praise. (Ps. 111)
  - Psalms expresses adoration and devotion to God. (Ps. 16)
  - Psalms contains collective laments in the face of major distress and catastrophes. (Ps. 79)
  - Psalms contains individual laments in which the author finds himself threatened by his enemies, unjustly persecuted, yet expressing faith that he will be heard and delivered. (Ps. 3)
  - Psalms contains songs of thanksgiving in which God’s blessings and deliverances are expressed by the worshipper. (Ps. 136)
  - Psalms with the Messiah in view. (Ps. 2, 8, 16, 22, 110, etc.)
- Notable Features – Acrostic Psalms
  - The feature in which each line or verse or section of verses begins with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet (22) in sequence.
  - Examples found in other O.T. (Prov. 31:10-31; Lam. 1, 2, 3, 4)
  - In the Psalms – 24, 34, ect.
  - Psalms 119 – 22 sections of 8 verses each (176)
  - Notable Features – Acrostic Psalms
  - ▪ **YOD (JOT...MATT. 5:18)**
    - <sup>73</sup> Your hands have made me and fashioned me;  
Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.

- ה HE
  - <sup>33</sup> Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes,  
And I shall keep it *to* the end.
- ה HETH (TITLE...MATT. 5:18)
  - <sup>57</sup> *You are* my portion, O LORD;  
I have said that I would keep Your words.
- Parallelism is the dominant feature, the foundation of Hebrew poetry. Is a balanced repetition of lines in which they relate to and reinforce each other in a comparative manner.
  - Synonymous parallelism: same or similar thoughts:
    - Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment,  
Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. (Ps. 1:5)
    - The earth *is* the LORD's, and all its fullness,  
The world and those who dwell therein. (Ps. 24:1)
    - Day unto day utters speech,  
And night unto night reveals knowledge. (Ps. 19:2)
  - Antithetical parallelism: Contrasting thoughts
    - For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
But the way of the ungodly shall perish. (Ps. 1:6)
    - For You will save the humble people,  
But will bring down haughty looks. (Ps. 18:27)
    - Righteousness exalts a nation,  
But sin *is* a reproach to *any* people. (Prov. 14:37)
  - Emblematic parallelism – Second line illustrates the first.
    - As a father pities *his* children,  
*So* the LORD pities those who fear Him. (Ps. 103:13)
    - As a ring of gold in a swine's snout,  
*So is* a lovely woman who lacks discretion. (Prov. 11:22; cf. 27:15,17)
    - Notable Features – Parallelism
  - Climactic parallelism: one line builds on the next and builds toward the completion of the thought:
    - Give unto the LORD, O you mighty ones,  
Give unto the LORD glory and strength.  
Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name;  
Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. (Ps. 29:1-2)
  - Synthetic (constructive) parallelism: completion, comparative, reason. (cf. Ps. 2:6; Prov. 15:17; 26:4)
- Jesus In The Psalms (Lk. 24:44)
  - **His Deity** → Your throne, O God, *is* forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness *is* the scepter of Your kingdom. (Ps. 45:6; Heb. 1:8)
  - **His Humanity** → What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? (Ps. 8:4; Heb. 2:7-9)
  - **His Death** → My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? *Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning?* (Ps. 22:1ff; Matt. 27:46)
  - **His Resurrection** → For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. (Ps. 16:10; Acts 2:27)
  - **His High Priesthood** → The LORD has sworn And will not relent,  
"You *are* a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek." (Ps. 110:4; Heb. 5:6;7:17)
  - **His Reign** → The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand,  
Till I make Your enemies Your footstool." (Ps. 110:1; Acts 2:34-36; I Cor. 15:25-28)