



PSALMS

An Introduction

COMPOSITION

HISTORY OF THE NATION OF ISRAEL

The Nation
Redeemed

The Nation
Ruled

The Nation
Returned

955 Years

Moses

David

Post-Exile

1491 BC

1015 BC

536 BC

Exodus
from
Egypt

Death
of
David

Return
under
Zerubbabel

Historical Background of the Psalms

COMPOSITION

“No one generation can claim the honor of having given it birth, for **the history of the poems** of which it is made up **runs parallel** to that of **the whole Hebrew Scriptures**, beginning with Moses and ending with the contemporaries of Ezra and Malachi.”

William Binnie, *The Psalms: Their History, Teaching, and Use*

THE BOOKS OF THE PSALTER

The Three-Fold Work of the Holy Spirit

Stage 1

COMPOSING



**Writing the
Individual
Psalms**

Stage 2

COLLECTING



**Gathering the
Individual
Psalms**

Stage 3

ARRANGING



**Ordering the
gathered
Psalms**

THE BOOKS OF THE PSALTER

BOOK 1

Psalm 1
To
Psalm 41

BOOK 2

Psalm 42
To
Psalm 72

BOOK 3

Psalm 73
To
Psalm 89

BOOK 4

Psalm 90
To
Psalm 106

BOOK 5

Psalm 107
To
Psalm 150

DOXOLOGY

Ps. 41:13

DOXOLOGY

Ps. 72:18,19

DOXOLOGY

Ps. 89:52

DOXOLOGY

Ps. 106:48

DOXOLOGY

Ps. 150

THE BOOKS OF THE PSALTER

PSALMS

<u>INTRO</u>	<u>MAIN BODY</u>					<u>CONCLUSION</u>
	<u>BOOK 1</u>	<u>BOOK 2</u>	<u>BOOK 3</u>	<u>BOOK 4</u>	<u>BOOK 5</u>	
Psalm 1	Psalms 2-41	Psalms 42-72	Psalms 73-89	Psalms 90-106	Psalms 107-145	Psalms 146-150

THE PSALM TITLES

Topics Included in the Psalm Titles

- 1.** Authorship
- 2.** Historical Origin
- 3.** Literary Feature
- 4.** Specific Use
- 5.** Musical Indicator

THE PSALM TITLES

Authorship of the Psalms

<u>Authors Identified</u>	<u>Attributed Psalms</u>
1. David	73
2. Sons of Korah	10
3. Asaph	12
4. Solomon	2
5. Ethan	1
6. Heman	1
7. Moses	1
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	100 Total

THE PSALM TITLES

Historical Events

Events

Specific Psalms

1. Fleeing from Absalom	Ps. 3; Ps. 63
2. Persecution by his enemies	Ps. 7; Ps. 34; Ps. 52; Ps. 54; Ps. 56; Ps. 57; Ps. 59; Ps. 142
3. Deliverance from his enemies	Ps. 18
4. Dedication of the Temple Site	Ps. 30
5. Confrontation over Bathsheba	Ps. 51
6. Edom's invasion	Ps. 60

THE PSALM TITLES

Literary Features

1. Prayer

THE PSALM TITLES

Literary Features

“Meanwhile I simply remark, that it relates not so much to the particular psalm to which it is annexed, as to the book or division of the Psalter which ends with that psalm – the second of the five books of which the whole is made up. It implies therefore that **every Psalm of David** may be correctly described as a **Prayer of David.**”

THE PSALM TITLES

Literary Features

2. Psalm

THE PSALM TITLES

Literary Features

“Every psalm is a prayer, but every prayer is not a psalm. To the production of the psalms art was required, – the art of the poet and the art of the musician.”

William Binnie, *The Psalms: Their History, Teaching, and Use*

THE PSALM TITLES

Literary Features

3. Song

THE PSALM TITLES

Literary Features

“And here it may be remarked, that these two titles (Psalm/Song) **not only** distinguish the psalms from **ordinary prayers**, and from such **prose compositions** as we possess in the Bible histories and epistles, **but also** from such **poetical compositions** as are found in Job, in the Proverbs, and in the prophets.”

THE PSALM TITLES

Literary Features

4. Song of Praise

THE PSALM TITLES

Literary Features

“They are not only Prayers and Songs, but Hymns also; that is to say, they are songs which have for their chief scope the glory and praise of God.”

THE PSALM TITLES

Literary Features

5. Maskil

THE PSALM TITLES

Literary Features

“It holds forth, as one of the purposes they were designed to serve, the edification of souls in the truth and ways of the Lord.”

William Binnie, *The Psalms: Their History, Teaching, and Use*

THE PSALM TITLES

Literary Features

“The psalm differs from some other kinds of sacred song in these **two points**, that it is, in every instance **the fruit of supernatural inspiration**; and that it is, in every instance, **designed for permanent use in the public worship of God.**”