

Today, we will study the book of Psalms. /The book of Psalms is made up of 150 chapters. /The most notable of the writers of the book is David. /David recorded about 72 Psalms. /Solomon is another author of the Psalms.

/So is Asaph. /Asaph was the leader of the choir. /The sons of Korah also wrote a part of the Psalms. /There is one account of Ethan's writing as well. /Moses also wrote one Psalm. /To add to the list, there are a number of anonymous writers.

/The book of Psalms is made up of five books. /The first book was edited by Solomon. /The second book was edited by the sons of Korah. /The third book was edited by Asaph during the time of King Hezekiah. /The fourth and fifth books are known to be edited by the prophet Ezra.

/Today, we will begin our study with Psalm 1. /Psalm 1 is about the way of the righteous.

/Verse 1. Please read. /Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

/Who is the blessed person? /First, the blessed person does not follow the plans of the wicked. /He does not stand in the way of evil. /This person does not participate in their plans. /Second, the blessed person does not stand in the way of sinners.

/This person does not hang around with people whom God does not like. /1 Corinthians 15:33 says, / "Bad company ruins good morals." /Who are our friends? /Who are the people I hang out with?

/If we stand in the way of sinners, we too will sin. /Third, the blessed person does not sit in the seat of scoffers. /A scoffer is one who is proud. /Who is a proud person? A proud person is someone who disobeys the word of God.

/Why would this person disobey God's word? /The proud person believes he is strong. /1 Samuel 15:23 calls such a person arrogant. /There are those whose hearts are arrogant. /This is different from being stubborn. /It is different from being strong-willed. /An arrogant person is someone whose God is himself. /The Bible says this kind of person is proud. /What kind of person can we say is blessed?

/The blessed person is the person who seeks God. /Like a child searching for his parents, we too must search for God. /A child without his parents thinks he is going to die. /Do we have a heart that feels the same way about God?

/Second, the blessed person is someone who has received spiritual gifts and the truth. /Spiritual gifts exist. /We need to have the grace of God that is like the morning dew. /We believers of Jesus Christ are people who survive on grace.

/How can we live when we have not received grace? /In grace, we must pray. /In grace, we must yearn for the word. /Third, the blessed person has a spirit that flourishes and matures. /This means that our spirits will grow.

/In other words, we will be saved. /God had planned our salvation even before creation. /In God's eternal kingdom, eternal salvation is prepared for us.

/In the present, we need to make progress in our salvation. /To do this means to become sanctified. /Sanctification refers to the believer's change in character. /Sanctification means that our knowledge, hearts, and thoughts become like those of Jesus.

/What can we do to move forward in our salvation? /We need to firmly hold on to the word of God. /We must obey God's words. /If we do this, we will encounter hardships and difficulties.

/If we obey God during such hardships, then our salvation will be fulfilled. /In the midst of these events, our spirits will mature. /This is in the spiritual sense. /Fourth, the blessed person /is someone who has received the eternal crown. /He is a loyal believer. /Someone who protects his faith. /There is a crown of life prepared for this person.

/Verse 2. /but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

/The verse says "his delight is in the law of the LORD." /The blessed person is someone who delights in God's word. /Fifth, this person meditates day and night on his law.

/We need to become people who deeply meditate on God's word. /If you receive a letter from someone you love, wouldn't you read the letter frequently? /Even after the person they love has gone away, some people continue to read the letters.

/Is it not because their hearts are still there? /Our hearts need to truly love God. /Do I truly love God? /If I do, then I will meditate on his word. /What happens when we walk down the path of the blessed person?

/Verse 3. /He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

/The verse says, "He is like a tree planted by streams of water. /This person is not afraid when famine comes. /The reason is his roots send out to the streams. /Jeremiah 17:8 says this person puts his trust in the LORD.

/Therefore, he is not thirsty. /He does not wither. /He bears its fruit in its season. /God helps this person. /He is not afraid. /Even if bad things happen in the world, he does not worry.

/He is someone who is satisfied with God. /He rejoices in God alone. /We need to become this blessed person.

/The verse says, “Its leaf does not wither. /In all that he does, he prospers.” /When it says “Its leaf does not wither,” it means that all goes well for this person. /Every external thing flourishes for this person. /We need to yearn for this grace.

/God’s word is sweeter than honey. /Psalm 19:10. /We need to meditate on this message. /However, the Bible says that the wicked are not so.

/Verse 4. /The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

/It says that the wicked are like chaff that the wind drives away. /There is no substance in this person. /He has no life. /If the chaff is planted in soil, will it sprout? /God does not consider the chaff to be grain. /Psalm 37:10 says that in a little while, the wicked will be no more. /Even if we look carefully, the wicked will not be seen. /They will be blown away by the wind.

/Verses 5-6. /Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

/The wicked cannot join the gatherings of the righteous. /The wicked can enter the sanctuary and participate in worship. /He can be a ceremonial believer. /However, he cannot officially join the congregation of God’s people.

/God does not consider this person a member of God’s family. /God acknowledges the way of the righteous. /He blesses the righteous. /But the way of the wicked is bound to perish. /What happens when a believer walks in the way of the wicked?

/God brings the believer to repentance and makes him stand properly. /We need to walk in the way of the righteous.

/Now we will study Psalm 2. /Psalm 2 mentions the Christ.

/Verses 1-3. /Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying, “Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”

/The verse says that the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain. /The kings and rulers of the world conspire together. /These leaders go against the person anointed by God. /They plot in vain.

/The Anointed one is Jesus Christ. /In the Old Testament, they call him the Messiah. /The kings of the world are against Jesus Christ. /They refuse to serve God. /They want to burst their bonds and cast their cords.

/They say that they feel uncomfortable living by the word of God. /They are burdened by the word. /The verse says they “cast away their cords from us.” /They say, “Let us freely practice our faith.” / “If we serve God, shouldn’t we serve him freely?”

/ “There is no need for the law.” /All of these things are calling for abolishing the law. /On the other hand, there is legalism. /What is legalism? /We need to live according to the word of God. /Legalism claims that salvation is earned by keeping the law.

/We are saved by believing in Jesus Christ. /We believe in Evangelism. /We are certain that salvation is found through Jesus Christ. /Why do we need to obey God’s word?

/There are sons who do not obey their fathers at home. /Let’s say there is a son who always causes trouble. /This son upsets his father and mother. /They may say, “You are not my son.” /But is he really not their son? /We are God’s people.

/There may be times when we disobey God. /There are believers in Christ who do not obey the word of God. /How does God feel when we disobey him? /He feels the same things that parents of this world feel.

/What happens when we obey the word of God? /Obedience has nothing to do with salvation. /Salvation is given to us through faith. /But when we obey God, we bring him joy.

/When we remember the Sabbath, God rejoices. /When we meditate on his word day and night, God rejoices. /When we keep the commandments, our faith matures.

/Galatians 3:24 says, / “The law was our guardian until Christ came.” /Who says, “Let us burst our bonds?” /Who says, “Let us cast our cords away?” /The righteous do not say this. /The person of faith does not say this.

/Verses 4-6. /He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

/The verse says that our God in heaven laughs. /God laughs at those who stand against him. /God views those who reject Christ with contempt. /He becomes angry.

/The verse also says, “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.” /Zion is the holy hill. /Where is this place? /It is the place where God dwells. /It speaks of God’s throne. /We call this place the holy place. /It can be called the spiritual realm as well. /We need to have a faith that looks to Mount Zion.

/Verses 7-9. /I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of

the earth your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

/The psalm says the writer will declare the LORD's decree. /The decrees are God's plans. /It is God's decision about Christ. /What kind of decision are we talking about?

/Ephesians 1:4 talks about / the grace of salvation made possible through Jesus Christ. /It is talking about God's plan of salvation. / "You are my Son." / "Today I have begotten you." /God is predicting the birth of Jesus Christ.

/Christ came into this world through the body of a virgin. /Christ entered the world in a weak form. /Isaiah 53:2 says, / "He had no form or majesty that we should look at him." / From the outside, believing in Jesus may not appear to have beauty.

/Believers of Christ do not look sophisticated. /However, within them is hidden the world of God. /It is a world of joy and glory. /It is a world of grace that is overflowing with God's eternal love.

/God says, "Ask of me." / "I will make the nations your heritage." /The Lord says he will give us all the power. /Matthew 28:18 says that /Jesus holds all authority in heaven and on earth. /We do not need to brag about people.

/We must not brag of anything of this world. /1 Corinthians 3:21 says, "For all things are yours." /To whom do all things belong? /All things belong to believers. /They belong to Christ. /They are the possession of those who live according to God's will.

/God left his unfinished work to Jesus Christ. /Verse 9 says, "You shall break them with a rod of iron, / and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." /Anyone who stands against Christ will fail. /God will punish anyone who stands against the church.

/We need to be careful about God's church. /In the Lord's church, we must make sure we do not disturb the work of God.

/Revelation 2:26 says / God will give authority to the one who conquers. /He says, "The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, /to him I will give authority over the nations." /God will give us the power to break everything that is the similar to breaking a potter's vessel with a rod of iron.

/Verses 10-12. /Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

/The verse says, "O kings, be wise." /How can we be wise? /The person whom Jesus guides is wise. /The wise person receives the lessons of Jesus Christ.

/The person who fears God and reveres him is a wise person. /To what extent should we yearn for Jesus? /The verse says, “Kiss the son.” /We need to sincerely and earnestly love Christ.

/In Hosea 13:2, /there is a person who kisses a calf. /He is an idol worshiper. /We need to love Jesus Christ and not the world.

/What happens when people do not love Jesus? /God’s anger will be upon them and they will perish in their ways. /The message says, “Blessed are all who take refuge in him.”

/Now, we will study Psalm 3. /Psalm 3 is about God, my salvation.

/Verses 1-4. Please read. /O LORD, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; many are saying of my soul, there is no salvation for him in God. *Selah*
But you, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head. I cried aloud to the LORD, and he answered me from his holy hill. *Selah*

/ “O LORD, how many are my foes!” /David said this while he was being chased by his son Absalom. /David’s friend and counselor Ahithophel joined Absalom in conspiring against David.

/In 2 Samuel 15:31, /many people talk about David. /They say that God will not rescue David. /They say that David’s time is over. /Even Ahithophel betrayed David.

/In John 7:7, /the world hates Jesus. /The world hates believers as well. /If we live by faith, many people will stand against us. /We may be hated. /Verse 3 says that the LORD will be my shield.

/God is my glory, and he is the lifter of my head. /God brings us to restoration. /God gave David restoration. /God will always help us. /We need to stand in our faith until the very end.

/Even during his suffering, David did not resent God. /He did not lament over his circumstances. /God restores glory to his believers. /He is the lifter of our heads.

/Verses 5-6. /I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the LORD sustained me. I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.

/The verse says, “I lay down and slept; I woke again.” /The believer cries out to God. /In verse 4, when the author cried aloud to the LORD, he answered from his holy hill./The God who dwells on his holy hill answers us.

/We need to look to God. /We must not be afraid of people’s threats and slander. /We need to look towards God.

/When I lay down and sleep, God sustains me. /Psalm 121:4 says that /God neither slumbers nor sleeps. /There is a God who watches over me. /The verse says “Many thousands of people who have set themselves against me.”

/How many is this talking about? /Although a countless number of people surround me, I am not afraid. /God removes all fear from us. /Proverbs 28:1 says, / “The righteous are bold as a lion.” /God grants us the heart of a lion. /Verse 7 says, “Arise, O LORD!”

/Verses 7-8. /Arise, O LORD! Save me, O my God! For you strike all my enemies on the cheek; you break the teeth of the wicked. Salvation belongs to the LORD; your blessing be on your people! *Selah*

/God will strike the enemies on the cheek. /He will break the teeth of the wicked. /David was sure that God would save him. /Where does our salvation lie?

/Verse 8 says that “Salvation belongs to the LORD.” /We must remember that our salvation belongs to God. /We need to believe that we have already received what we have prayed to God. /Matthew 11:24

/Who holds on to our salvation? /1 Samuel 17:47. /Our salvation is in God’s hands. /It is not won with many armies. /Numerous warriors do not bring us salvation. /1 Samuel 33:16. /The battle belongs to the LORD.

/Running quickly does not mean we will arrive first. /Having talent does not mean one will succeed. /Ecclesiastes 9:11. /Time and chance belong to God.

/We will study Psalm 4. / “Bring an offering of righteousness, and trust in the LORD.”

/Verse 1. Please read. /Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

/The verse says, “Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!” David wants his prayers to be heard. /When he says “I am in great distress,” David is praying. /David is crying out to God.

/Verse 2. /O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? *Selah*

/It says, “How long shall my honor be turned into shame?” /The people were not acknowledging David’s kingship. /Treason was happening. /The people went against David. /How long would the people bring David shame? /They loved vain words and sought after lies. /God is not happy with such things.

/Verses 3-5. /But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him. Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. *Selah*

Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

/God sets apart those who are godly. /The godly person is someone who is loved by God. /God has set them apart. /God has distinguished them from others. /When the godly person cries out to God, God listens to their prayers.

/God hears the prayers of the godly believer. /James 1:27 /asks about godliness. /Godliness is keeping oneself unstained from the world. /We must be believers who are not stained from the world.

/In our anger, we must not sin. /We must get rid of our anger. /Are there times when you get angry? /Are there times when you get worked up? /We must not express our anger, but we need to leave everything to God.

/The verse says, "Ponder in your own hearts on your beds." /It also says, "And be silent." /We need to be careful with our words. /This means to hold our thoughts in our hearts but not expressing them.

/Verse 5 says, "Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD." /What is a right sacrifice? /It is the fulfillment of righteousness. /It means doing things that bring God joy. /It is observing the word. /God will solve everything. /God will know everything.

/Verses 6-8. /There are many who say, "Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!" You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound. In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

/The Bible is saying that many people will talk. /They will say, "Who will show us some good?" /They are saying there will be no use in doing good. /I may keep my faith, but evil people will prosper. /Even though I pray, God will not listen.

/Are there times when we think in this way? /The verse says, "Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!" /What happens to us when God shows his face to us? /Everything that is frozen will melt.

/The cold wind passes away and the winds of spring will blow. /Dark places will become bright. /If God simply turns his face towards us, we will find joy.

/ "Shine the light of your face upon us, O LORD." /God, you put joy in my heart." / "God is my joy, / and God is my provider."

/Verse 8 says, "In peace I will both lie down and sleep." /In the grace of God, we can lie down and sleep in peace. /There is safety in God.

/We will continue with Psalm 5. /There are believers who seek God in the morning.

/Verses 1-3. Please read. /Give ear to my words, O LORD; consider my groaning. Give attention to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to you do I pray. O LORD, in the morning you hear my voice; in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.

/The writer prays when he says, “Give ear to my words, O LORD.” /He wants God to listen to his prayers. /He wants God to hear his cries. / The writer says, “My God.” /He is a God of power.

/There are believers who pray in the morning. /They cry out to God in the silence. /In Mark 1:35, /the Lord prayed early in the morning.

/Verses 4-8. /For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you. The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man. But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house. I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you. Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way straight before me.

/God is a God who does not delight in wickedness. /God hates those who do evil. /He despises liars. /God is disgusted by those who shed blood in violence.

/We search for God in God’s love. /The prayer in the verse says, “Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness.” /It says, “Make your way straight before me.”

/Verse 9 says that the wicked perish because of their treason. /It says, “Their throat is an open grave.” They vomit words of flattery. /Wickedness spills out from their actions.

/However, verse 11 says that God rejoices in and protects those who take refuge in him. / We need to rejoice in God and bring him joy. /Verse 12 says God is our shield, and he protects us with his grace.

/This ends the first lecture on the book of Psalms. /Thank you.