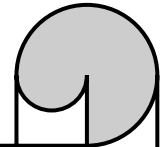


The Book of Psalms is a collection of 150 prayers, poems, and songs written by godly men in ancient Israel. Calvin spoke of the Psalms as “an anatomy of all parts of the soul,” because it contains the entire spectrum of human emotions. The final form of the Psalter took shape late in the biblical period (400s-300s B.C.), when it was arranged into five “books” (perhaps to parallel the five books of the Torah) that outline Israel’s history. The key theme of the Psalter is the **kingdom of God**, in which both God and His chosen King in David’s line (ultimately Jesus Christ) reign.



Psalms

Kingship: Divine and Davidic

	Introduction (Pss. 1-2)	Book I (Pss. 3-41)	Book II (Pss. 42-72)	Book III (Pss. 73-89)	Book IV (Pss. 90-106)	Book V (Pss. 107-145)	Conclusion (Pss. 146-150)
Emphasis	Torah (Ps 1) Divine + Davidic Kingship (Ps 2)	Davidic Kingship	Davidic Kingship	Failure of Davidic Kingship	Exile	Divine Kingship	Praise Yahweh! (“Hallelujah”)
First Psalm in Book	Pss 1-2: Introduction to the Main Themes of Psalms: “Blessed” is the one who meditates on Torah; “Blessed” is the one who takes refuge in Yahweh’s anointed king		Pss 42-43: Lament	Ps 73: Why do evildoers Prosper?	Ps 90: Moses’ Prayer (death in exile)	Ps 107: “Regathering” from Exile (v. 3)	
Notable Psalms	Pss 1-2: Kingship + Torah Pss 18-19: Kingship + Torah Pss 8, 24, 33: Creation			Pss 74, 79, 89: Downfall of Jerusalem	Pss 93, 95-99: Divine Kingship	Pss 118-119: Kingship + Torah Pss 120-134: Songs of Pilgrimage to Zion/Jerusalem	
Final Psalm in Book	Ps 41: “Blessed” is the one who considers the poor		Ps 72: Solomon’s/ Messiah’s Kingdom; “the prayers of David are ended” (v. 20)	Ps 88: Pure Lament Ps 89: Davidic Covenant Fails	Pss 105-106: History of Israel, ending in a prayer to be “regathered” from Exile (v. 47)	Ps 150: Resounding praise to Yahweh (“Hallelujah”)	
Doxology	41:13		72:18-19	89:52	106:48	150:6	
%Davidic	93%		58%	6%	12%	32%	
Lament vs. Praise	59% Lament 20% Praise		65% Lament 29% Praise	47% Lament 35% Praise	24% Lament 29% Praise	23% Lament 52% Praise	

Psalm Classifications (some overlap):

1. Individual Lament: Pss. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 13, 17, 22, 25, 26, 27, 31, 35, 38, 39, 41, 42-43, 52, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 69, 77, 86, 88, 94, 102, 109, 139-40, 142. **2. Communal Lament:** Pss. 12; 44; 60; 74; 79; 80; 83; 85; 89; 94:1-11; 126; 137. **3. Psalms of Praise:** Pss. 8, 19a, 29, 33, 46, 47, 48, 65, 66a, 68, 76, 84, 87, 93, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 103, 104, 111, 113, 114, 117, 122, 134, 135, 136, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150. (**A. Creation Psalms:** Pss. 8; 19A; 33; 104; 136; **B. Zion Psalms:** Pss. 46; 48; 76; 84; 87; 122; **C. Psalms of Thanksgiving:** Pss. 18; 30; 32; 40A; 52; 66B; 67; 92; 116; 118; 129; 138.) **4. Royal Psalms (about Israel’s Kings):** Pss. 2; 18; 20; 21; 45; 72; 89; 101; 110; 118; 132; 144:1-11. **5. Wisdom Psalms:** Pss. 1; 37; 49; 73; 112; 128. **6. Torah Psalms:** Pss. 1; 19; 119.