

**LESSON 15 - Psalms**

# **LOGOS**

**A General and Light Survey of the Bible**

**By Dr. Steven Wood**

## (REVISED) TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Lesson 1:	Overview
Lesson 2:	Genesis
Lesson 3:	Exodus
Lesson 4:	Leviticus
Lesson 5:	Numbers
Lesson 6:	Deuteronomy
Lesson 7:	Joshua
Lesson 8:	Judges, Ruth
Lesson 9:	1st & 2nd Samuel
Lesson 10:	1st & 2nd Kings
Lesson 11:	1st & 2nd Chronicles
Lesson 12:	Ezra, Nehemiah
Lesson 13:	Esther
Lesson 14:	Job
Lesson 15:	Psalms
May 15, 2024:	Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs
May 22, 2024:	Isaiah
May 29, 2024:	Jeremiah, Lamentations

### --- SUMMER ---

September 4, 2024:	Ezekiel
September 11, 2024:	Daniel
September 18, 2024:	Hosea, Joel, Amos
September 25, 2024:	Obadian, Jonah, Micah
October 2, 2024:	Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah
October 9, 2024:	Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi
October 16, 2024:	INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT
October 23, 2024:	The Synoptics (Matthew, Mark, Luke)
October 30, 2024:	John
November 6, 2024:	Acts
November 13, 2024:	Romans
November 20, 2024:	1st & 2nd Corinthians
November 27, 2024:	Galatians

### --- ADVENT / CHRISTMAS ---

January 8, 2025:	Ephesians
January 15, 2025:	Colossians
January 22, 2025:	1st & 2nd Thessalonians
January 29, 2025:	1st & 2nd Timothy
February 5, 2025:	Titus, Philemon
February 12, 2025:	Hebrews
February 19, 2025:	James
February 26, 2025:	1st & 2nd Peter, Jude
March 5, 2025:	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
March 12, 2025:	1st, 2nd, 3rd John
March 19, 2025:	Revelation

# Lesson 15

## PSALMS

- With 150 chapters the Book of Psalms is by far the largest book in the Bible.
- The Psalms were written individually from the days of Moses through the days of Ezra and collected gradually with frequent revisions as a hymnal for worship.
  - David probably collected many of the Psalms when he organized the Levites and musicians for worship in the Tabernacle (1 Chronicles 15-16).
  - Other kinds organized and reorganized the Temple musicians and may have revised the Book of Psalms as part of their reforms: Solomon (2 Chronicles 5:11–14; 7:6; 9:11; Ecclesiastes 2:8), Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 20:21–22), Jehoiada (2 Chronicles 23:18), Hezekiah (2 Chronicles 29:25–28, 30; 30:21; 31:2), and Josiah (2 Chronicles 35:15, 25).
  - There must have been a criterion for inclusion in the Book of Psalms as selections by Moses (Exodus 15:1–18; Deuteronomy 32:1–43), Miriam (Exodus 15:21), Deborah (Judges 5), Jonah (Jonah 2), and even David (2 Samuel 1) were not included.
  - In David’s time Levites also prepared psalms for temple services (1 Chron. 16:4).
  - By the days of Ezra five books of Psalms were collected into one:
    - Book I (Psalms 1–41).
    - Book II (Psalms 42–72).
    - Book III (Psalms 73–89).
    - Book IV (Psalms 90–106).
    - Book V (Psalms 107–150).

\*Each book concludes with a doxology, and the entire Psalter concludes with Psalm 150, a grand doxology.
- Jesus authenticated the Book of Psalms. *“This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms”* (Luke 24:44).
- Authors according to the superscriptions:
  - David wrote 73 (3–9, 11–32, 34–41, 51–65, 68–70, 86, 101, 103, 108–110, 122, 124, 131, 133, 138–145).
  - Asaph (David’s choir leader at Jerusalem) wrote 12 (50, 73–83).
  - The descendants of Korah wrote 10 (42, 44–49, 84–85, 87).
  - Solomon wrote 2 (72, 127).
  - Ethan wrote 1 (89).
  - Heman wrote 1 (88).
  - Moses wrote 1 (90).
  - Fifty of the Psalms are anonymous (1-2, 10, 33, 43, 66-67, 71, 92, 94- 97, 99, 102, 104-107, 111, 113- 121, 123, 125-126, 128-130, 132, 134-137, 146-149).

- Many of the Psalms can be classified as follows:
  - Instructional (1, 5, 7, 15, 50, 73, 94, 101).
  - History in reference to Israel (78, 105, 106, 136).
  - Praise (106, 111, 112, 113, 115, 116, 117, 135, 146–150).
  - Confession (6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143).
  - Supplication (86).
  - Thanksgiving (16, 18).
  - Curses (35, 52, 58, 69, 83, 109, 137, 140).
  - The Word of God (119).
  - Messianic (2, 8, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 31, 35, 40, 41, 45, 50, 55, 61, 68, 69, 72, 89, 96, 97, 98, 102, 109, 110, 118, 132).
- Remember, the entire Book of Psalms is poetry.

### **The Word of God (Psalm 119)**

- *“Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the LORD” (v. 1).*
- *“I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you” (v. 11).*
- *“Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law” (v. 18).*
- *“I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I have set my heart on your laws” (v. 30).*
- *“Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law and obey it with all my heart” (v. 34).*
- *“I will walk about in freedom, for I have sought out your precepts” (v. 45).*
- *“In the night, LORD, I remember your name, that I may keep your law” (v. 55).*
- *“I have considered my ways and have turned my steps to your statutes” (v. 59).*
- *“You are good, and what you do is good; teach me your decrees” (v. 68).*
- *“Your hands made me and formed me; give me understanding to learn your commands” (v. 73).*
- *“All your commands are trustworthy; help me, for I am being persecuted without cause” (v. 86).*
- *“Your word, LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens” (v. 89).*
- *“Your commands are always with me and make me wiser than my enemies” (v. 98).*
- *“Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path” (v. 105).*
- *“You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your word” (v. 114).*
- *“I am your servant; give me discernment that I may understand your statutes” (v. 125).*
- *“The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple” (v. 130).*

- *“Your righteousness is everlasting, and your law is true” (v. 142).*
- *“Long ago I learned from your statutes that you established them to last forever” (v. 152).*
- *“All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal” (v. 160).*
- *“Great peace have those who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble” (v. 165).*
- *“I have strayed like a lost sheep. Seek your servant, for I have not forgotten your commands” (v. 176).*

**Messianic Psalms** (Psalm 2, 8, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 31, 35, 40, 41, 45, 50, 55, 61, 68, 69, 72, 89, 96, 97, 98, 102, 109, 110, 118, 132).

- *“Therefore, my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead, nor will you let your faithful one see decay” (16:9-10).*
- *“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish... I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted within me... They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment” (22:1, 14, 18)?*
- *“Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, LORD, my faithful God” (31:5).*
- *“You are the most excellent of men and your lips have been anointed with grace, since God has blessed you forever” (45:2).*
- *“The Mighty One, God, the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to where it sets. From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth. Our God comes and will not be silent; a fire devours before him, and around him a tempest rages. He summons the heavens above, and the earth, that he may judge his people: ‘Gather to me this consecrated people, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice’” (50:1-5).*
- *“You know how I am scorned, disgraced and shamed; all my enemies are before you. Scorn has broken my heart and has left me helpless; I looked for sympathy, but there was none, for comforters, but I found none. They put gall in my food and gave me vinegar for my thirst” (69:19-21).*
- *“For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight” (72:12-14).*
- *“Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it. Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy. Let all creation rejoice before the LORD, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness” (96:11-13).*

- *”Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God” (98:1-3).*
- *”The LORD looked down from his sanctuary on high, from heaven he viewed the earth, to hear the groans of the prisoners and release those condemned to death” (102:19-20).*
- *”The LORD says to my lord: ‘Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.’ The Lord is at your right hand; he will crush kings on the day of his wrath. He will judge the nations, heaping up the dead and crushing the rulers of the whole earth. He will drink from a brook along the way, and so he will lift his head high” (110:1. 5-7).*
- *”The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. The LORD has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad” (118:22-24).*

*Praise the LORD.*

*Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens.*

*Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness.*

*Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,*

*praise him with the harp and lyre,*

*praise him with timbrel and dancing,*

*praise him with the strings and pipe,*

*praise him with the clash of cymbals,*

*praise him with resounding cymbals.*

*Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.*

*Praise the LORD. (Psalm 150)*

**NEXT WEEK:** Read the books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon; or key chapters — Proverbs 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 14, 20, 25, 31; Ecclesiastes 1, 5, 11, 12; Song of Solomon 1, 2.