

THE WAYFARER'S COMPANION

SERMONS FROM THE PSALTER

HYMN 1

“THE WAY OF THE WORSHIPPER”

“The Particular Path of Blessing”

(Psalm 1)

THE PSALTER – THE BOOK OF PSALMS:

- The Book of Psalms, or the Psalter, is a collection of songs and poetry compiled for both _____ and _____ worship. They date from the time of Moses (Psalm 90) to the Captivity (Psalm 137). The book is a marvelous example of Hebrew poetry and served as the Temple hymn book in the Kingdom period.
- It is divided into Five Books or Groupings (1-41; 42-72; 73-89; 90-106; 107-150) with each closing with a doxology. These Five Books correspond to the five books of the Torah. As the Torah is God _____ Himself and His will to His people, the Psalms are His people's _____. It is properly called, _____.
- Consequently, the Psalter is not simply or primarily a book to be _____, but a _____ with which we _____, _____ and _____. It is the _____ book. It is the _____ book.
- The Psalms have been classified primarily through a **thematic** approach. The themes can be very general in nature, such as **Thanksgiving** (66), **Praise** (19) and **Lament** (28) Psalms, all of which can be personal or national in focus. The more specific themes include **Royal** Psalms (20; related to the king) or **Enthronement** Psalms (47; related to the God's Reign), **Pilgrim** Psalms (84; related to the people in traveling to festivals), **Penitent** Psalms (51; related to confession of sin) and **Messianic** Psalms (24; related to the coming Anointed One). There are also Psalms that are classified as **Imprecatory** (58), that call for divine judgment on one's enemies.
- The key characteristic of Hebrew Poetry is _____. There are 5 primary types:
 - _____ - Repetition of the same thought (i.e. Psalm 27:1)
 - _____ - Contrasting the previous thought (i.e. Psalm 1:6)
 - _____ - Building on the initial thought (i.e. Psalm 1:1)
 - _____ - Building on the same words (i.e. Psalm 29:1-2a; 96:1)
 - _____ - Use of a simile or metaphor (i.e. Psalm 1:3, 4; 42:1)

PSALM 1: THE WAY OF THE WORSHIPPER

1A. TWO WAYS _____ AND _____ : (V. 1-5)

1B. The _____ Man... (v. 1-3)

"How **blessed** is the man..."

1C. ... _____ from the _____ .

"...who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor stand in the path of sinners,
Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!"

2C. ... _____ in the _____ .

"But his delight is in the law of the LORD,
And in His law he meditates day and night."

3C. ... _____ by the _____ . (Metaphor: _____)

"He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water,
Which yields its fruit in its season
And its leaf does not wither;
And in whatever he does, he prospers."

2B. The _____ Man... (v. 4-5)

"The wicked are not so..."

1C. ... _____ no _____ . (Metaphor: _____)

"But they are like chaff which the wind drives away."

2C. ... _____ no _____ .

3C. ... _____ no _____ .

"Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous."

2A. TWO WAYS _____ : (V. 6)

"For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked will perish."