

The Book of Psalms - The Hebrew Hymn Book		
Book Divisions	Corresponding Mosaic Book and Theme	Doxology
Book One: Psalm 1-41	Genesis: Emphasizing man and creation.	41:31
Book Two: Psalm 42-72	Exodus: Emphasizing Israel and redemption.	72:19
Book Three: Psalm 73-89	Leviticus: Emphasizing worship and the temple.	89:52
Book Four: Psalm 90-106	Numbers: Emphasizing man's sojourn upon earth.	106:48
Book Five: Psalm 107-150	Deuteronomy: Emphasizing praise and the word of God.	150:1-6

Historical Headings with Cross-References		
Psalm 3	<i>A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.</i>	2 Samuel 15-18
Psalm 18	<i>A Psalm of David... in the day that the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul:</i>	??, 2 Samuel 22
Psalm 30	<i>A Psalm and Song at the dedication of the house of David</i>	2 Samuel 5
Psalm 34	<i>A Psalm of David, when he changed his behaviour before Abimelech; who drove him away...</i>	1 Samuel 21-22
Psalm 51	<i>A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.</i>	2 Samuel 11-12
Psalm 52	<i>A Psalm of David, when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul, and said unto him, David is come to the house of Ahimelech.</i>	1 Samuel 21-22
Psalm 54	<i>A Psalm of David, when the Ziphims came and said to Saul, Doth not David hide himself with us?</i>	1 Samuel 23, 26
Psalm 56	<i>...of David, when the Philistines took him in Gath.</i>	1 Samuel 21, 27, 29
Psalm 57	<i>...of David, when he fled from Saul in the cave.</i>	1 Samuel 22, 24
Psalm 59	<i>... of David; when Saul sent, and they watched the house to kill him.</i>	1 Samuel 19
Psalm 60	<i>...of David... when Joab returned, and smote Edom in the valley of salt twelve thousand.</i>	2 Samuel 8
Psalm 63	<i>A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.</i>	1 Samuel 22-23
Psalm 142	<i>...of David; A Prayer when he was in the cave.</i>	1 Samuel 22, 24

Composers or Recipients of the Psalms as Indicated by their Headings							
David (75)	Korah (10)	Asaph (12)	Heman (1)	Ethan (1)	Solomon (2)	Moses (1)	Anon. (48)
2 (Acts 4:25), 3-9, 11-32, 34-41, 51-65, 68-70, 86, 95 (Heb 4:7), 101, 103, 108-110, 122, 124, 131, 133, 138-145	42, 44-49, 84, 85, 87	50, 74-83,	88	89	72, 127	90	1, 10, 33, 66, 67, 91-121, 123, 125, 126, 128, 129, 130, 132, 134-137, 146-150

Some Hebrew Terms Found in the Psalms and their Proposed Meanings	
Term/Phrase	Possible meaning
Maschil	A skillful or cunning Psalm.
Michtam	A golden poem, or a private prayer or meditation.
Shiggaion	Wandering or irregular music or a loud cry.
On Neginoth	To play on a stringed instrument.
Upon Nehiloth	With wind instruments.
Upon Alamoth	"Maidens", sung by soprano voices.
Upon Sheminith	"The eighth", perhaps a reference to a male choir.
Upon Gittith	Winepress or Gititte instrument/melody.
Upon Muth-labben	"Death of the son."
Upon Aijeleth Hash-Shahar	"The hind of the morning"
Set to Shoshannim, Shushan Eduth, Shoshannim Eduth	"Lilies." Perhaps the tune to which it was to be sung.