

# Introduction to the Psalms

## 1. The Popularity of the Psalms

## 2. The Title: “Psalms”

## 3. Genres / Types of Psalms

## 4. Authors / Psalmists

David (73/76) \*cf. **Ps.2, 9-10, 95**

Asaph (12) \***50, 73-83**

Sons of Korah (11) \***42, 44-49, 84-85, 87-88**

Solomon (2) \***72, 127**

Moses (1) \***90**

Heman the Ezrahite (1) \***88**

Ethan the Ezrahite (1) \***89**

Anonymous (101 / 97)

## 5. Collection: Five “Books”

Book 1: **Pss. 1–41**

Book 2: **Pss. 42–72**

Book 3: **Pss. 73–89**

Book 4: **Pss. 90–106**

Book 5: **Pss. 107–150**

\*The five books reflecting Israel’s history:

\***1–2**: primarily Davidic, represent his triumph, often in crisis, usually end in praise

\***3**: anticipates Israel’s exile: “dark book” of Psalter

\***4**: oriented to Israel in exile: No king

\***5**: praises for Israel’s restoration & return from exile

## 6. Theme

## 7. Value / Use

## 8. To Remember while Reading:

Historical Setting

Canonical Perspective

**Psalm 150**