

## “The Book of Psalms” (Route 66)

All right, let's turn in our Bibles, this morning... to the Book of Psalms... We are INSERTING our study of PSALMS today, right alongside our study of 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel...

Dr. Graham Scroggie—the author of ‘*Know your Bible*’—calls PSALMS “*the Hymn Book of the ancient Hebrews.*”

The Hebrew TITLE—‘*Tehillim*’—means “*to praise.*” – The English title comes from the Greek *psalmoi*, which denotes “*a singular poem... accompanied by a stringed instrument.*”

Dr. Scroggie says: “*A hymn book does not lend itself to formal analysis. Each individual Psalm may—to some extent—but the whole collection does not.*”

IMAGINE if—instead of our Bibles, this morning—I said: “*Today, we’re going to study our Hymnal!*” – William Hendrickson said: “*Any attempt to give an outline of [this] book... with a different phrase—or title—for each chapter would fail.*”

This Book is UNLIKE any of the OTHER books we have looked at so far... because it’s not TRACING any kind of HISTORY in a linear fashion.

Now, that’s not to say there isn’t SOME **STRUCTURE** to it... As it appears in OUR BIBLES, the Book of Psalms is broken into FIVE SECTIONS... we call them “Books.”

Book 1 is Psalms 1—41... Book 2 is Psalms 42—72... Book 3 is Psalms 73—89... Book 4 is Psalms 90—106... and Book 5 is Psalms 107—150... And EACH of these books closes with a DOXOLOGY...

For instance; if we were to turn to Psalm 41, Verse 13 (this is the end of Book 1)... It says: “**Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting. Amen. Amen.**” – And the VERY NEXT THING written in our Bibles says: “**Book 2, Psalms 42-72.**”

Now... If we were to look at the END of Psalm 72... Verse 18... It says: “**Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel Who only does wonderous things... and blessed be His glorious name forever. Let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen. Amen.**”

You’ll FIND one of these “**DOXOLOGY VERSES**” at the end of EACH of the FIVE BOOKS of the Psalms (with the exception of Psalm 150... because that’s the LAST Psalm).

Now, the Book was not ALWAYS ARRANGED this way... In ancient times, Psalms was arranged according to SUBJECTS, or AUTHORS... So, all the PROCESSIONAL PSALMS might appear together—or the PILGRIMAGE PSALMS, the HALLEL PSALMS...

**OR**... all the Psalms of DAVID might have appeared together... all the Psalms of ASAPH, or the SONS OF KORAH... Of the 150 Psalms that appear in our Bibles... 100 of them are attributed to SPECIFIC AUTHORS.

OF the 100 that have authors: 73 are ascribed to David. – Now, Psalm 2 & Psalm 95 don't LIST who wrote them... BUT, both Acts 4 and Hebrews 4 tell us that David wrote these Psalms...

So, that means that David wrote a GRAND-TOTAL of SEVENTY-FIVE of the Psalms (maybe more!)... but, that's FIFTY PERCENT! – So, again, that's **WHY** we're **INSERTING** it HERE... As we have been looking at the Reign of David from 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel...

David would have been a VERY SUITABLE CANDIDATE to compose the Psalms... 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 23:1 CALLS him the “**sweet Psalmist of Israel**”... From what we READ of David in scripture, it SEEMS he was a very skilled POET, MUSICIAN, and SINGER...

We find references to this in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel, 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Amos. – Dr Graham Scroggie writes: “*David's reign was marked by the development of poetry and music. He is credited with the orchestration of wind, stringed, and percussion instruments...*”

Of course, we KNOW from looking at David... that he ALSO had TREMENDOUS EXPERIENCES... GOOD & BAD... HIGH ‘highs,’ and LOW ‘lows,’ in his walk with God...

In a LOT of the Psalms—David actually TELLS us the OCCASION when he is writing...

For instance... PSALM 3... It has a HEADING before the VERSES... that say: “**A Psalm of David when he fled from Absalom, his son.**” – So, if we READ Psalm 3, we get an IDEA of what was GOING ON in David's HEART while that was happening.

Psalm 51 (which we mentioned LAST week), a Psalm of Repentance... The HEADING says: “**A Psalm of David when Nathan the prophet went to him after he had gone into Bathsheba.**”

Psalm 18 contains the heading: “**To the Chief Musician a Psalm of David the servant of the Lord who spoke to the Lord the words of this psalm on the day the Lord delivered him from hand of all his enemies and the hand of Saul.**” – That's a PRETTY SPECIFIC occasion!

Now, some OTHER headings read: “**A Psalm of David when he pretended madness before Abimelech...**” – “**A Psalm of David when the Philistines captured him...**” – Or, “**A Psalm of David when he fled from Saul into the cave.**”

In fact, the phrase: “**A Psalm of David,**” or “**A Contemplation of David,**” “**A Michtam of David,**” a “**Meditation of David**” appear THROUGHOUT THE PSALMS...

And, what's really cool is... to GO THROUGH THE BOOK of PSALMS and READ THE WORDS that David WRITES in these INCIDENCES of his life...

Because, a LOT of times we think: “*Nobody's ever gone through this before.*” – Or, “*How do I process my thoughts?*” – “*How am I supposed to FEEL about this?*” – “*I feel confused, abandoned, alone.*” – READ THE PSALMS!

EVER FELT BETRAYED... by somebody close to you? – Listen to Psalm 55... David writes: “Give ear to my prayer, O God, and do not hide Yourself from my supplication. I am restless in my complaint, and moan noisily, Because of the voice of the enemy... For they bring down trouble upon me, And in wrath they hate me. My heart is severely pained... the terrors of death [are] upon me. Fearfulness and trembling... and horror [have] overwhelmed me. I said, “Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest. I would wander... off, and remain in the wilderness... [Because] it is not an enemy who reproaches me; Then I could bear it... But it was you, a man my equal, My companion and... acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked to the house of God...”

David is saying: “*We used to go to CHURCH together!*” – He says: “As for me, I will call upon [the Lord], and He shall save me. Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice. He has redeemed my soul in peace from the battle that was against me...”

You see, IN THIS BOOK, we see MEN OF GOD EXPERIENCING the HIGHS and LOWS of LIFE... and giving VOICE to their FEELINGS **under the INSPIRATION** of the Holy Spirit...

NOT ENOUGH CHRISTIANS seem to know how to **PROPERLY** PROCESS THEIR EMOTIONS... But a Book like PSALMS can become EXTREMELY IMPORTANT in this...

One commentator writes: “*In the course of dealing with the adversities of life, people are often frustrated by not being able to adequately express their emotional pain or... anguish. The Book of Psalms releases us from that frustration. Through emotional-drenched complaints, humble confession, desperate pleas, penitent prayers or screams of pain, the writer of Psalms skillfully expose and express the yearnings of our deepest thoughts. This use of the Psalms is often the first step to our own deliverance. By song and spirit, they comfort the lonely, strengthen the weary, bind the broken-hearted, and turn the eyes of the downcast up toward their Creator. Hope returns, faith is renewed and life becomes bearable again.*”

It's been said: “*Other parts of the Bible represent God speaking to man... Psalms represent man speaking to God.*” – John Calvin called the Psalms “*the anatomy of all parts of the soul.*” Jon Courson said: “*There is a Psalm for every sigh, but there is also a Psalm for every high. [It] deals with the entire spectrum of human emotion.*” – William Henrickson writes...

“*Here, the believer pours out his heart before [God]... Repentance, communion, faith, hope and love abound. There are Psalms for every occasion, and every spiritual condition... so this book is universal in its appeal...*” – “[Here] the reader finds himself and is, therefore, especially attracted—and SPOKEN to—by Psalms.” – It's a **POWERFUL BOOK!**

Now, David was not the ONLY AUTHOR (as we already mentioned)... of the REST of the Psalms... TEN are ascribed to “**the sons of Korah.**” – TWELVE were written by ASAPH (who was David's choir conductor)... TWO are ascribed to SOLOMON...

ONE to ETHAN, one to HEMAN, and ONE to MOSES... Psalm 90 BEGINS: "**A Prayer of Moses, the man of God.**" – Psalm 90 is actually believed to be the OLDEST Psalm [Moses LIVED around the 15<sup>th</sup> Century B.C.]...

The REMAINING FIFTY PSALMS are sometimes called the "*Orphan Psalms*," simply because we DON'T KNOW who WROTE them...

Now, the Septuagint—which is the GREEK TRANSLATION of the Hebrew Old Testament— ascribes one Psalm to Jeremiah, one to Haggai, and Zechariah. – And, it's ALSO POSSIBLE that King Hezekiah wrote some of the Psalms...

The LAST Psalms were probably written during the days of Ezra [around the 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C.]. – Psalm 137 REFERENCES the Babylonian captivity. – And so, that has led MANY to suggest that Ezra actually **COMPILED** the Book of Psalms...

As for DATES... it's virtually IMPOSSIBLE to give DATES to EACH Psalm... One author writes: "*A careful examination... reveals that the Psalms... were written by many... people... across... a thousand years... They must have been... put together in their present form by some unknown editor shortly after the captivity ended, around 537 B.C.*"

And, there's OTHER sub-headings in the Book of Psalms... MANY of them are MUSICAL TERMS... Like, "**On an instrument of ten strings, on the lute, on the harp**" – "**To the tune of 'Death of the Son.'**" – Or "**Set to 'Lily of the Testimony.'**" – "**To the Chief Musician.**"

And—although there is no LINEAR progression to the Book of Psalms—there is SOMETHING of a STRUCTURE... In EACH of the five BOOKS we mentioned, there are 3 MAIN things: There are **Cries for RESCUE**... **Psalms of DELIVERANCE**... and **Anthems of PRAISE**...

William Henrickson writes: "*These three [are] certainly... not the limit of what you find expressed in the Book of Psalms...*" – But—for instance—Psalm 7 says: "**Save me from... those who persecute me and deliver me lest they tear me like a lion, rending me in pieces... Arise, oh Lord in your anger, lift Yourself up because of the rage of my enemies. Rise up for me to the judgment that you have commanded.**" – That's a cry for RESCUE...

Psalm 30 says: "**I will extol you Oh Lord, for you have lifted me up and not let my foes rejoice over me... I have cried to you and you healed me... you brought up my soul from the grave, [and] have kept me alive that I should not go down to the pit... You have turned... my mourning into dancing. You have put off my sackcloth and girded me with gladness. To the end that my glory may sing praise to You and not be silent oh Lord my God. I will give thanks to you forever.**" – That's a **PSALM OF DELIVERANCE**...

As an **ANTHEM OF GRATITUDE**... Psalm 100 says: "**Make a joyful shout to the Lord all you lands. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before His presence with singing. Know that the Lord, He is God. It is He that has made us and not we ourselves. We are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into His**

**courts with praise. Be thankful to Him and bless His name. For the Lord is good, His mercy is everlasting and His truth endures for all generations.”**

And—if we TAKE these three things—these CRIES of RESCUE, PSALMS of DELIVERANCE, and ANTHEMS of PRAISE—and apply them to the OVERALL Book of Psalms—we DO see that there is a PROGRESSION, of sorts, throughout the entire Book...

So, Book One—Psalms 1 through 41—are ESSENTIALLY **cries for rescue...** When you come to Books Two and Three... there's STILL cries for rescue, but there's a lot **MORE** **Psalms of DELIVERANCE...**

When you come to Books Four and Five—there's still cries for rescue & Psalms of deliverance, but—more than ANYTHING—we see **ANTHEMS OF PRAISE...**

NOTE the **CRESCENDO** of the LAST PSALM, Psalm 150... It says: “**Praise the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary. Praise Him in His mighty firmament. Praise Him for His mighty acts. Praise Him according to His excellent greatness. Praise Him with the sound of a trumpet. Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; Praise Him with stringed instruments and flutes! Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD!**

Do you see what I mean? – Do you hear the **EXPLOSION OF PRAISE** that this book concludes with???

Now—even though we're **INSERTING** our study of Psalms alongside 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel—*technically*, the Book belongs to a section of scripture known as “*the poetical books.*” – Other books in this section would be: Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, and Lamentations.

Although—as Dr Scroggie points out—“*Very much of what passes for prose in scripture is—in fact—‘poetry. ’This is true of large portions of the prophetic writings AND EVEN parts of the Gospels and Epistles. – Poetry is scattered throughout the Old Testament in passages like: Genesis 4, Exodus 15, Numbers 21, Judges 5, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel Chapter 1.*”

My point is... the Book of Psalms is not the **ONLY** place in scripture where we find PSALMS... Exodus 15, Deuteronomy 32, Judges 5, 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 2, Luke 1 all contain PSALMS... Now—in the English language—**OUR** appreciation of poetry is usually connected to the **rhyming of SOUNDS**... “*Roses are red, violets are blue... You love me, and I love you,*” etc.

But—in the HEBREW language—poetry relies MORE upon the **rhyming**—or **repetition**—of **IDEAS**, or **THOUGHT**... Aaron Dremmers writes: “*The genius of Hebrew poetry... is a technique called parallelism, or the correspondence of one thought with another thought.*”

FOR INSTANCE... Psalm 29 opens by saying: “**Give unto the Lord, O you mighty ones. Give unto the Lord glory and strength. Give unto the Lord the glory due His name.**” – Now, we might hear that, and think, “*That doesn't sound like poetry!*”

But NOTICE the **REPETITION**—or the RHYMING—of the idea “give.” – **GIVE, GIVE, GIVE**... That’s Hebrew poetry! – Psalm 7 says...

“**His trouble shall return upon his own head, his violet dealing upon his own crown.**” – There’s the RHYMING of **THOUGHT**... Two different things being said that express the SAME IDEA... This is the TYPE OF POETRY we find in the Book of Psalms.

Now, there’s many different **FORMS** of Hebrew poetry... There is the ‘Ode,’ or the ‘Elegy,’ the ‘Ideal,’ the ‘Lyric,’ the ‘Drama.’ – **JOB** is a **DRAMATIC** Hebrew poem. – **Song of Solomon** is an **ELEGY**... Psalms are largely **LYRICAL** in form.

There’s also the **ACROSTIC** poem—where a different **LETTER** starts-off each thought. If we look at Psalm 119... This is one of the more **FAIRLY** Psalms...

It’s also the **LONGEST** Chapter in the Bible... But, you’ll notice that **EVERY EIGHT VERSES** there is a different **SYMBOL** with a **HEADING**...

At the BEGINNING of the Psalm, we read “*Aleph*” and there’s a symbol. – At the end of Verse 8, we read “*Beth*” and there’s a symbol. After Verse 16, we read “*Gimel*” and there’s a symbol.

Those words—“*Aleph, Beth, Gimel*”—these are **LETTERS** in the Hebrew alphabet. – And each heading INDICATES what HEBREW LETTER the FOLLOWING EIGHT VERSES are going to begin with...

So, the first 8 Verses ALL begin with the letter “*Aleph*”... The next 8 Verses begin with the letter “*Beth*”... the NEXT eight lines all begin with “*Gimmel*”... And so on throughout the PSALM...

This is WHY this is the LONGEST CHAPTER... it has to work through the ENTIRE Hebrew alphabet... It’s called an **ACROSTIC**... And it’s an **AMAZING** FORM of Hebrew poetry.

Now, I recognize that—for SOME—these kinds of details probably seem somewhat **TEDIOUS** and **BORING**... But, one author writes: “[*Understanding*] Poetic form... is extremely important for our interpretation [*of scripture*], and unless the proper structure of a passage is rightly discerned, its meaning may be... missed by the reader.”

In other words, if we don’t understand the various **FORMS** OF **HEBREW POETRY**... then the **MEANING** of certain Psalms could be **LOST**... He adds: “*Let’s remember... poetry [has to] be read as poetry, not as history [or] doctrine.*”

And honestly, I just think that... the Bible—strictly as a piece of **LITERATURE**—has not been fully apprehended by a **LARGE PORTION** of the Bible-reading public, in general...

Psalms has been called the most **DIVERSE BOOK** of the Bible, covering topics like **CREATION, WAR, WORSHIP, WISDOM, SIN, EVIL, JUDGMENT**...

In fact, the Psalms are **classified** into several categories. In **NO PARTICULAR ORDER**—there are WISDOM Psalms... HALLELUJAH Psalms... ENTHRONEMENT Psalms, PRAYER Psalms... Psalms of REPENTANCE... ROYAL Psalms... TROUBLE Psalms...

DEVOTIONAL Psalms, Psalms for the MORNING, Psalms for the EVENING, MEDITATION Psalms, PROPHETIC Psalms, HISTORICAL Psalms, and MESSIANIC Psalms...

In fact, if we want to see JESUS in a FRESH—and POWERFUL—way... IMMERSE YOURSELF in the PSALMS... In Luke Chapter 24...

When Jesus APPEARED to the disciples AFTER His resurrection—He said: “**These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.**”

And then it says that: “**He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.**” – The MESSIAH is written about ALL THROUGH the Psalms...

Psalm 2 portrays the Messiah’s KINGDOM... Psalm 16 portrays the Messiah’s DEATH and RESURRECTION... Psalm 22 provides an INCREDIBLY VIVID picture of the CRUCIFIXION—CENTURIES before crucifixion was even invented! – In fact, Psalm 22 is what Jesus QUOTES while hanging on the cross!

The apostles write about **PSALMIC references** to: Jesus’ birth, His lineage, His zeal, His use of parables, His rejection, His priesthood, His betrayal, His suffering, His ascension, His reign—they’re all found in the Book of Psalms!

Again, Dr. Graham Scroggie writes: “*Messianic references in... Psalms must be obvious to all who read, but far more numerous are the references which are not so obvious... Nearly half of all messianic references in the New Testament come from Psalms. Of the 283 direct quotations from the Old Testament found in the New, 116 of them are taken from Psalms.*”

Jon Courson adds: “*The gospels tell us that Jesus went to the mountain to pray, but the Psalms tell us what He prayed. The gospels tell us Jesus was crucified, but the Psalms tell us what He was thinking about while on the cross.*” – I think this is COOL...

If we’ve ever WONDERED what Jesus was THINKING about as He went to the cross, perhaps He was **MEDITATING** on the PSALMS...

Psalm 1 opens by saying: “**Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night.**”

Now, when you hear the word ‘MEDITATE,’ don’t think: “OOOMMM...” – To “meditate”—BIBLICALLY—means “*to mutter, or to repeat out loud.*” – BIBLICAL MEDITATION is to QUIETLY RECITE SCRIPTURE to yourself... SO...

When you read something like Colossians 2, Verses 9 & 10... That “**in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him...**”

To MEDITATE on that passage is to REPEAT IT OVER-AND-OVER to yourself: “**in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him...**” -- “**in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him...**” – “**You are complete in Him...**” – “**You are COMPLETE in Him...**”

Ephesians 1:6: “**...to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.**” – “**ACCEPTED in the Beloved...**” – “**ACCEPTED in the Beloved.**” – That’s MEDITATION... Now, somebody might ask: “*Well, what’s your POINT?*”

The POINT is... we will ALL CHALLENGED, and TRICKED, and TEMPTED to believe that something is MISSING from our lives—that we are IN-COMPLETE... that God HASN’T ACCEPTED US...

But the TRUTH OF SCRIPTURE is that: “**You are COMPLETE in Him...**” – And you ARE “**accepted in the Beloved.**” – And you need to PREACH THAT to your OWN SOUL... Until you know, that you Know, that you KNOW it...

That is MEDITATION! – BIBLICALLY SPEAKING... We’re INSTRUCTED to do it... And it is what will GET US THROUGH certain situations!

Not **QUIETING YOURSELF...** or **BREATHING TECHNIQUES...** or achieving an ALTERED STATE... but the TRUTH of SCRIPTURE SPOKEN to our own hearts...

The Psalmist even DID this, in Psalms 42 and 43... THREE TIMES, he asks: “**Why are you cast down, O my soul? Why are you disquieted within me?**” – And then, he TELLS himself: “**HOPE IN GOD!**” – What’s he doing? He’s PREACHING to himself!

Stop WORRYING... And start MEMORIZING—and MEDITATING upon—scripture...

One last thought... I want to read an excerpt from Jon Courson’s Commentary on Psalms...

He says: “*This Book is all about praising the Lord—in every situation and on every occasion. It’s a book that gives us—not only the exhortation to praise—but instructions about [how to] praise. Psalms is the definitive workbook on worship. If you desire to know how to worship Jesus, this book is... for you. Many think of Psalms as an historical curiosity or record of how ancient cultures worshipped God. But, rather than being a theological explanation of historical expression, [Psalms] is a present-day picture of powerful praise... As believers, we are the bride of Christ. And our Bridegroom, Jesus, desires for us to bring passion into our relationship with him. The book of Psalms allows [us] to do that—to hear the heart of our Lord and express our love in a way that pleases Him. I challenge you to apply the Psalms directly to your life: when you see the Psalmist shout to the Lord, do the same. When he stands in awe of the Lord, stand with him. When he bows before the Lord, join him. Be a doer of the word, and not... a hearer only. As you have devotions with the Lord, you might find yourself bending your knee, lifting*

*your hands or shouting for joy, and you might find yourself being enlarged and expanded as you better understand how the Lord desires to be worshipped.”*

And, I just want to ENCOURAGE you guys with something... God has CREATED us as **EMOTIONAL BEINGS**... And God wants us to **USE OUR EMOTIONS** as we EXPRESS OUR LOVE to Him!

Now, He doesn't want us **RULED BY OUR EMOTIONS**... But He wants us to **USE OUR EMOTIONS**, as we worship Him...

Don't forget that one of the RESULTS of being FILLED with the Spirit is to **SING**... And **‘Psalms’** provides us with the ‘SONG BOOK’ of the early church!

\*James 5 says: “**Is anyone among you cheerful? Let him sing Psalms.**”

\*Ephesians 5 says: “**speak to one another in Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs...**”

\*Colossians 3:16 says: “**Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly... teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.**”

The only way we are going to be able to do those things, is if we're familiar with the **Psalms**. We can't speak to one another in Psalms—or **TEACH** one another in Psalms—if we DON'T KNOW the PSALMS...

There's a whole generation of Christians out there (and, I don't mean that related to AGE)... I just mean... who can sing about God's RECKLESS LOVE, or how there's a LION INSIDE OF US TRYING TO GET OUT... [which AREN'T HOLY INSPIRED SCRIPTURE]...

But those same people don't have a **SINGLE PASSAGE** FROM PSALMS (which is the Word of God) hidden in their heart...

I think one of the most **DIABOLICAL THINGS** Satan has invented is CHRISTIAN ENTERTAINMENT... where people think watching the CHOSEN is the SAME THING as studying the Bible...

Or that quoting the latest Brandon Lake song is somehow going to help us STAND AGAINST OUR ENEMY in Spiritual Warfare... meanwhile, our ENEMY can **QUOTE THE BIBLE!**

And, don't misunderstand... It ISN'T that those things are BAD, necessarily... But they should **NEVER** SUPERCEDE scripture... they should NEVER TAKE THE PLACE of READING the BIBLE and MEDITATING on GOD'S WORD...

We should IMMERSE ourselves in this WONDERFUL BOOK of Psalms. – And, in reality: we have only scratched the surface, this morning...

This has been just an OVERVIEW... Or, perhaps, an INTRODUCTION... to—HOPEFULLY—help us understand the **PURPOSE** of this Book... and its **PLACEMENT** in our Bibles...

If nothing else, I hope this study DRIVES YOU to read the WHOLE BOOK OF PSALMS for yourself... just STEEP YOURSELF in it, become FAMILIAR with it... You will be so BLESSED as you do...

But we are OUT OF TIME, this morning... NEXT WEEK, we are back to the MAIN NARRATIVE of our series...

And, we see Solomon come on the scene in 1<sup>st</sup> Kings... We're gonna talk about his WISDOM... his JUDGEMENT... and the TEMPLE... but—ULTIMATELY—his FOLLY...

And then—AFTER THAT—we'll look at some of HIS specific writings in the Books of Song of Solomon, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes...

So, that's where we're headed as Route 66 continues... So, read ahead, and join us next week!