

Highlights From the Psalms

January 10, 2021

Psalm 1, A Psalm of David

The collection of Psalms in the Bible were written over 1,000 years and are attributed to the following authors: David (75 total psalms; 73 noted in Psalms; Psalm 2 is attributed to David in Acts 4:25; and Psalm 95 is attributed to David in Hebrews 4:7): 3–9; 11–32; 34–41; 51–65; 68–70; 86; 101; 103; 108–110; 122; 124; 131; 133; 138–145, Asaph (and family) (12 psalms): 50; 73–83, The sons of Korah (11 psalms): 42; 44–49; 84–85; 87–88, Heman (1 psalm, with the sons of Korah): 88, Solomon (2 psalms): 72 and 127, Moses (1 psalm): 90, Ethan the Ezrahite (1 psalm): 89, Anonymous (the 48 remaining psalms). In many respects the first Psalm is a benediction and preface to the entire collection, ultimately consisting of a division into five books. As you can see from the summary, David wrote fully half of the Psalms, perhaps even more if some of the anonymous ones are from his pen. He is considered as the sweet singer of Israel and its most popular hymnist. We will be considering some of the Psalms, approximately 40, throughout this year in a subset collection I have called *Highlights*.

I. The Blessings of a Godly Life

A. Three Negatives

1. The godly one does not take advice nor pattern their life after the ungodly
2. This one does not take their stand, their allegiance, among sinners
3. Nor do they become comfortable in the presence of those who scorn their faith
4. Walk, Stand, Sit, activities avoided among unbelievers

B. Two Positives

1. The godly one delights in the Word of God and follows Its counsel
2. All throughout the day and night this one thinks upon the Word of the Lord, pondering its meaning and receiving insight from the Lord as to Its application

Things the godly one does not do and things he/she does do

II. Four Great Blessings of a Godly Person Who Heeds This Advice

- A. He/she will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, not an outgrowth or a shoot, but planted by God and anchored beside several sources of water
- B. The godly one yields fruit in season, whatever the circumstances require the Holy Spirit provides (Charles Spurgeon, Psalm 1, *The Treasury of David*)
- C. His/her leaf does not wither, always beautifully dressed and full, no matter the season
- D. The godly believer is promised true prosperity in whatever he/she does

III. The Contrast of Life For the Wicked

- A. No blessings for them; they are like chaff which the wind drives away—without substance or weight they are tossed about with the currents of the wind
- B. They will not be able to stand in the time of judgment nor be among the congregation of the righteous

The Lord is knowing the way of the righteous (His eye is always upon us), but the way of the wicked will perish.

