**THE BOOK OF PSALMS**

**Bible Study Taught by Dr. Tmothy Tennent and Mrs. Julie Tennent**

**Indian Springs Camp Meeting, July 2022 3 Pages**

**Friday, July 15 –** Introduction, part 1

Sung Torah (5 books), yet 150 journeys

Superscriptions and collections within the psalms

Authorship, Inspired worship and whole canon intersection

Life curriculum and posture – daily “laying the tracks”

Scope of the psalms

Shared core of worship and foundation

**Saturday, July 16 –** Introduction, part 2

If the Psalms are for singing, why don’t we sing them?

Hebrew poetry – parallelism and thought rhyme

Meter and our poetic forms – sound rhyme

Process of metrical psalm setting – from Biblical text to metrical form

Brief history of psalms in Christian worship: chant, antiphons and metrical psalters

The “Two Ways” in the Psalms

**Sunday, July 17 –** Jesus and the Psalms, part 1

The Psalms - Jesus’ worship book

A look at the “Messianic psalms” and fulfillment in the New Testament

(Psalm 2, 16, 22, 40, 69, 110, 118)

A look at Theology through the lens of the psalms

**Monday, July 18 –** Jesus and the Psalms, part 2

Jesus as the fulfillment of **every** psalm

Metaphors fulfilled by Jesus: Vine (Ps.80), Shepherd (Ps.23, 80), Gate (Ps. 118)

Archetypal use of psalms: King (Psalm 72, 45)

Themes: Great reversal (Ps.146:7-9), Cup of wrath (Ps.75)

New Testament application of psalms for the Christian life

Psalms 14, 5, 140, 10, 36 and Romans 3:9-24 (redefining the wicked) – one true Israelite

Psalm 44 & Romans 8 (redemptive lens for suffering) – union with Jesus

Psalm 95 & Hebrews 3,4 (use of history for warning) – today, if you hear His voice

**Tuesday, July 19 –** The Penitential Psalms and Lament

7 Penitential psalms – what are they and what do they cover?

Lament: the language of faith (psalms are for “real life” in the “real world”)

God precedes us in lament (Gen.3:9,11,13) and Jesus enters all of these

Lament both individual and corporate (Psalms 13, 42, 88 – Psalms 44, 74, 79, 89)

Four unresolved tensions in the Psalms (pointing us to the NT and Christ)

Suffering/problem of evil, promises unfulfilled, call to holiness, cry for justice

**Wednesday, July 20 –** History and Remembrance

The role of remembrance in worship – 1 Cor. 10:1-12

History as parable and catechesis – Psalm 78 (Matthew 13:34-35), “sung history”

Re-enacting of history, going “up” to Jerusalem and the Temple (language of Zion)

Longing for God’s presence: Temple, Person of Christ, Holy Spirit, the church

John 2:19-22, Eph. 2:19-22, 1 Cor. 3:16-17

The “upper” and “under” side of history – Psalms 105 and 106

The “stories” of history and the spiritual truth we learn from them – Psalms 83 and 87

**Thursday, July 21 –** Catechesis and Formation

What are acrostics? Why psalms with acrostics? (Ps. 119 grand acrostic)

Nature of God and Attributes of God (*hesed, emet, zedek, etc.*)

Trust in the character of God and cultivation of humility

Life as spiritual battle – enemies on every side (Psalms 1, 2, and 3), Eph.6:12

Gardening as a lesson of enemies in the spiritual life (Psalm 101:8)

**Friday, July 22 –** Enemies and imprecations (curses)

We’re not supposed to sing *those* psalms, are we? (150 journeys – tool box, some not needed often)

Understanding imprecations as a longing for justice; and judgment as “setting things right”

Four lenses: Spiritual warfare, Transference, Christ and the curse, Eschatology (final resolution)

General principles: 4 ways that God’s judgment unfolds (similar to 4 ways that God’s healing comes)

**Saturday, July 23 –** Questions in the Psalms

Intense questions in the psalms – Ps. 13, 73, 77, 88, 89

Particularity of personal experience and Universality of Christian living

David’s life as a paradigm of spiritual battle in the Christian life

David’s questions to God, to his own soul, to the wicked

Shifting voices in the psalms as a paradigm for prayer

**Sunday, July 24 –** Practical Considerations

Daily prayer and devotion as opposed to sporadic inspirational use

Hard work of daily wrestling through all of the psalms, all of the verses (2 Timothy 3:16)

Psalm 84 – study and singing

Resources:

Kidner, Derek: Commentary, vol. 1 and 2

Reardon, Patrick: Christ in the Psalms

Seedbed site: psalms.seedbed.com

Tennent, Timothy and Julie: Meditative Journey