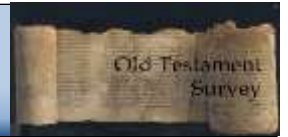




Psalms – Textbook Reading



Textbook Reading

(Other material may be read for extra credit/benefit)

Ch. 21

- ☐ The Unique Place of the Psalms in Scripture
- ☐ Classification of the Psalms

Study Guide for Textbook chapter 21

Background to the Psalms

The Unique Place of the Psalms in Scripture

- What do the Psalms teach us about the worship of ancient Israel? What difference does this make?
- What point does the textbook make about “all aspects of Hebrew life”? What is the significance of this for us today? What does this tell us about how we can use the Psalms?

Classification of the Psalms

- Describe each of the various Psalm types covered in this section and their general characteristics in your own words. Review the sidebar to compare your description with the textbook’s summary.
- What is the function of the Psalm type labeled “hymns”? What examples does the textbook give and what does this teach us about this type of Psalms? What can we learn from this? How does it apply?
- What is the function of the Psalm type labeled “Penitential Psalms”? What examples does the textbook give and what does this teach us about this type of Psalm? What does this teach us about how we should interact with God? How can we put these ideas into practice?
- How does the textbook describe “Wisdom Psalms”? What does this tell us about how they functioned and how we should apply them today? What examples are given and what does this teach us? What difference does this make?
- According to the textbook what is a “Royal Psalm”? What are its characteristics? How did it function in the life of ancient Israel? What do they say about the King? What do they say about God? What examples does the textbook give, and what do they teach us? How does this apply today?
- According to the textbook, what is a “Messianic Psalm”? What are its characteristics? Define the term “Messiah.” How are Messianic Psalms related to Royal Psalms? What examples does the textbook give? How are these applied in the New Testament? What can we learn from this?
- What are the basic characteristics of “Imprecatory Psalms”? What examples does the textbook give? What can these teach us about how to interact with God? How do they apply today?

(Continued on the next page)

- What are the characteristics and function of “Lament Psalms”? What three elements are found in Lament Psalms? How are these three things logically related? What examples of Lament Psalms are given? What does each teach us? How can we put this into practice?
- When you consider all of these Psalm types and expressions together, what does this tell us about the variety of ways we can speak and relate to God? How is this influenced by the various situations we encounter? How is this influenced by the various promises God has given and the revelation of His character and plans? What can we learn from all these things that will help us to grow in prayer, praise, and more honestly and genuinely relating to God in our own lives? How can we put these insights into practice?

Review the Study Questions and Summary at the end of the chapter