

Singing in the King's Choir Keswick 2024

1: The Universal King (Psalms 1-2)

Introduction

The Psalms are

- ancient and contemporary
They speak to us and for us
- diverse and unified
A collection of collections joined together by a later editor into ONE BOOK

The Psalms as one book

Motive: What's the issue?

"How can we sing the songs of the Lord in a foreign land?" (137:4)

Message: What's the thrust?

Praise the Lord, whatever the circumstances, because he is lovingly faithful and will one day fulfil his promises by destroying his enemies and returning to his loving rule through his Messiah/King

Introduction (Psalms 1 & 2)

The way of blessing (1:1; 2:12)

1. *Delight in God's word (Psalm 1)*

The human race is divided into 'mockers and praisers' (Augustine)

The righteous ('praisers') v1-3

"does not walk... stand... sit" (v1)

but 'delight(s)' in and 'meditates' on "the Law of the Lord" (v2)

"a tree planted by streams of water" (v2)

stability and vitality

The wicked ('mockers') v4-5

"like chaff that the wind blows away" (v4)

Conclusion (v6)

Two ways to live

2. *Worship God's Son (Psalm 2)*

The big story behind the Psalms (and the whole Bible)

- **Rebellious humanity (v1-3)**

“against the Lord and his anointed one” (v2)

- **The Sovereign God (v4-6)**

“The one enthroned in heaven laughs” (v4)

“I have installed my King on Zion” (v6)

- **The divine King (v7-9)**

“You are my Son; today I have become your father”

(v7; 2Sam 7:14; Mk 1:11; 9:7; Acts 13:32-33; Rom 1:4)

“I will make the nations your inheritance” (v8)

We are meant to read the Psalms messianically (Lk 24:44)

- **An appeal (v10-12)**

“Kiss his son, or he will be angry” (v12)

“Blessed are all who take refuge in him” (v12)

Outline of the series

Introduction (1-2)	The Universal King
Books I and II (3-72)	The Suffering King
Book III (73-89)	The Absent King
Book IV (90-106)	The Divine King
Book V (107-150)	The Coming King