

“Why Do We Need the Psalms?”

Summer in the Psalms #1

Psalm 113 (various)

June 24, 2018

**Scripture Reading: Psalm 113:1-9**

### **Introduction**

**Big Idea:** The Psalms invite us to connect with our transcendent God

Spurgeon — The delightful study of the Psalms has yielded me boundless profit and ever-growing pleasure; common gratitude constrains me to communicate to others a portion of the benefit, with the prayer that it may induce them to search further for themselves.

### **I. What Are the Psalms?**

1. The Psalms are...Songs and prayers of praise
  2. The Psalms are...a wide-ranging collection
  3. Written by multiple authors
  4. Multiple genres | Gordon Fee & Douglas Stewart, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*
    - a. Lament | communal, individual, imprecatory
    - b. Thanksgiving | for specific circumstances
    - c. Praise | for God’s character and attributes
    - d. Salvation history | particularly the Exodus
    - e. Public Celebration | Covenant renewal, royal celebration, enthronement ceremony, Psalms of Ascent (Jerusalem/Zion)
    - f. Wisdom | instruction for living
- Fee & Stewart — Psalms are to be treated as wholes, not atomized into single verses or thought of, as so often happens with proverbs, as so many pearls on a string, each to be enjoyed for its own sake apart from its relationship to the whole. As you read a given psalm, learn to follow its flow and balance. Each psalm has a pattern of development by which its ideas are presented, developed, and brought to some kind of conclusion.

### **II. Why Do We Need the Psalms?**

1. Theology | Psalm 113:5-6
2. Worship | Psalm 113:1-3
  - a. Tim Keller — The Psalms were the divinely inspired hymnbook for the public worship of God in ancient Israel. Because psalms were not simply read, but sung, they penetrated the minds and imaginations of the people as only music can do. They so saturated the heart and imagination of the average person that when Jesus entered Jerusalem, it was only natural that the crowd would spontaneously greet him by reciting a line from a psalm (Mark 11:9, Psalm

118:26).....All theologians and leaders of the the church have believed that the Psalms should be used and reused in every Christian's daily private approach to God and in public worship. We are not simply to read psalms; we are to be immersed in them so that they profoundly shape how we relate to God. The psalms are the divinely ordained way to learn devotion to our God.

3. Prayer | Psalm 113:7-9
4. Emotions | Psalm 113:9
5. Jesus | Psalm 113:5-8

### **III. The Psalms are About Jesus**

1. Jesus most often quoted the Psalms
2. Jesus said they were about him | Luke 24:44-45
3. The Gospel from the Psalms
  - a. David | Matthew 1:1, Psalm 132:11
  - b. Temptation | Matthew 4:6, Psalm 91:11-12
  - c. Teaching | Mark 12:35-37, Psalm 110:1
  - d. Rejection | Luke 20:17, Psalm 118:22
  - e. Betrayal | Mark 14:20-21, Psalm 41:9
  - f. Suffering | John 19:24, Psalm 22:18
  - g. Crucifixion | Luke 24:40, Psalm 22:16
  - h. Forsaken | Mark 15:34, Psalm 22:1
  - i. Death | Luke 23:46, Psalm 31:5
  - j. Resurrection | Acts 2:27, Psalm 16:10

### **God desires to connect with you through the Psalms**

#### **The Lord's Table**

Psalm 113 <sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord! Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord! <sup>2</sup> Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and forevermore! <sup>3</sup> From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised! <sup>4</sup> The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens! <sup>5</sup> Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high, <sup>6</sup> who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? <sup>7</sup> He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, <sup>8</sup> to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. <sup>9</sup> He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the Lord!

#### **Benediction**

Psalm 22:26b-28 Those who seek him shall praise the Lord! May your hearts live forever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. For kingship belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.