

Book 5: Psalms 107–150

Psalms of Praise: The Son of David is David's Lord

Author(s): David (108–110, 122, 124, 131, 133, 138–145), Solomon (127)

Overview: At last, a son of David will rule righteously on his father's throne. From the ingathering of the exiles, to the arrival of the Son, to the exaltation of his throne, and final spiritual battle, Jesus Christ will lead his people to infinite praise.

107	108–110	111–117	118–119	120–134	135–137	138–145	146–150
Ingathering Introduction	A New David Arrives	Egyptian Hallel 3 — 1 — 3	Crown & Covenant	Songs of Ascent 7 — 1 — 7	Worship & War	David's Final Victory	Infinite Praise

Ps 107

- The ingathering of the exiles (107:1–3) answers the plea of Ps 106:47.
- Four kinds of exiles are delivered when God hears their cry; this redemption leads to jubilant praise.



Pss 108–110

- Three David Psalms
- "Right hand" permeates - 108:6; 109:6, 31; 110:1, 5
- Psalms 108, 109 speak of David's enemies.
- Psalm 110 introduces the son of David who is David's Lord.



Pss 111–117

- 3 Hallel Psalms (111–113)
- 1 Psalm about Egypt (114)
- 3 Hallel Psalms (115–117)
- Ps 111–17 respond to Ps 110; their praise is not ultimate but remains outside Zion. (116:19).



Pss 118–119

- 3rd King-Torah Pair (1–2, 18–19, 118–119)
- 118** – The priest-king who defeats enemies in Ps 110 now brings New Covenant.
- 119** – The New Covenant creates a delight in the Law of the Lord unlike anything before.



What's 'in the air' of Book 5?**

- Hesed** – "His steadfast love endures forever" (107:1; 118:1, 29; 26x in Ps 136)
- Ingathering** – Like the Prophets (Isa 11:10–12; 66:18–21; Jer 31:8–11; Ezek 20:34–41), Book 5 gathers God's people from the nations (107:3).
- A New David** - Receives the throne (110), enjoys a new temple (132), and defeats his enemies (108–10, 138–45).
- Hallelujah!** – "Praise" is prominent in Book 5 unlike other books, but there is also escalation. Psalms 111–17 praise YHWH incompletely from outside of Jerusalem (cf. 116:19); Psalms 146–50 praise YHWH endlessly (40x in 5 Pss) within Zion.

The Shaping in Book 5**

- Four Acrostic Psalms** – Psalms 111, 112, 119, 145 are all acrostic.
- Psalm 108** is a combination of Psalms 57 and 60, only 108 omits all the struggles David faced with his enemies.
- Psalm 144** is a collection of previous Psalms.
 - vv. 1–2 = 18:34 v. 7 = 40:1–2 v. 15 = 33:11
 - v. 3 = 8:4 v. 9 = 96:1
 - vv. 5–6 = 104:32 v. 12 = 128
- Psalm 145** – the last David Psalm is his only psalm of praise; the placement is intentional.

** cf. O. P. Robertson, *The Flow of the Psalms*, pp. 183–237.

Temple

- 127 – The Lord has built his house (=temple).
- 126 – The return to Zion is like a dream come true.
- 125 – Security is found in Zion

124 – Thanksgiving

123 – Trust in God

122 – Entering Jerusalem

Exile

- 121 – Help for the journey
- 120 – Sojourning outside Israel

Exaltation 134 – Final Blessing

133 – North & South Unite

132 – God established David's house.

131 – Israel is contented in the Lord.

130 – Forgiveness is granted to God's people.

129 – YHWH cut off the enemies of Zion.

128 – Blessings come to the covenant keeper.

The Songs of Ascent (Pss 120–134)

- Centers on the Lord's Temple — Solomon's Psalm is central.
- The name of the LORD (YHWH) is perfectly distributed — 24x (1st 7 songs); 24x (2nd 7 songs).
- On both sides of Solomon's psalm (127) are two psalms of David (122, 124 II 131, 133).
- Elements of the Aaronic Blessing (Numbers 6:24–26) are distributed throughout.
- Fifteen songs may correspond to fifteen steps in Temple (*m. Suk.* 5.4; *t. Suk.* 4.7–9).
- The ascension corresponds to the entrance of God's people into God's place



Pss 146–150

- Every psalm begins and ends with 'Praise the Lord!'; "praise" is called for over 40x.
- All creation is reconciled to God; the Maker is now enthroned in Zion.
- The laments of Books 1–2 have been replaced by infinite praise.

Pss 138–145

- The final 8 Psalms of David. Ps 145 is David's only praise psalm.
- In them, the presence of enemies returns (e.g., 138:7; 139:19–22; 140:9–11; 141:8–10; 143:9; 145:20) and warfare must again take place.
- David's throne is finally established bringing infinite praise.



Pss 135–137

- Another abbreviated round of praise (135), thanksgiving (136)
- In response the establishment of David's house (132) and access to God's presence, Pss 135–36 worship YHWH.
- Worship is followed by warfare, as Ps 137 remembers the pain of exile.

