

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, Messiah Bible Church | The Five Books of Psalms
Sept 3, 2025 | “Why Delight in God’s *Torah*?” | **Psalm 1:1–6**

Six Questions on the OT Book of Psalms (the Psalter):

1. What’s the historical background to the book of Psalms?

- Hebrew title is *Tehillim*, or “_____”
- 73 Psalms are from _____ (תִּלְתֵּי)
- The _____ of ancient Israel
- Utilizes _____ and _____

2. How is the Book of Psalms structured?

- Five books of relatively equal _____
 - Book 1 – Psalm 1-41
 - Book 2 – Psalm 42-72
 - Book 3 – Psalm 73-89
 - Book 4 – Psalm 90-106
 - Book 5 – Psalm 107-150
- Parallel to the Books of _____ (?)

3. What are the different types (sub-genres) of Psalms?

- _____ (e.g., Pss 146–150) – Characterized by a tone of exuberant praise to the Lord
- _____ (e.g., Pss 13, 88, 102) – Songs that express a mood of despair, abandonment, distress and suffering (typically ending in praise)
- _____ (e.g., Pss 58, 109, 137, 140) – Prayers against enemies or the invoking of a curse against an enemy
- _____ (e.g., Pss 18, 20, 45, 24, 145) – Songs of praise to King David and to King Yahweh

- _____ (e.g., Pss 1, 19, 119) – Songs that espouse the glory of God’s Word
- _____ (e.g., Pss 2, 8, 22, 110) – Point explicitly to a coming Messiah

4. What do the Psalms teach us about worship?

- God is _____ and worthy of our _____
- God deserves _____ regardless of our emotional state
- God gave us _____ and _____ to use for worship

5. What are the theological themes in the book of Psalms?

- God (Yahweh) is _____ and reigns over all the world
- God is in a dynamic, intimate relationship with his _____
- God’s people long for _____ and a _____
- God is a God of _____ and _____

6. Why delight in God’s Torah?

- 1) God’s *torah* is the source of _____ (1:1–3)
- 2) God’s *torah* provides _____ (1:4–5)
- 3) God’s *torah* directs us to _____ (1:6)

Questions for further application of God’s Word:

What are some of the unique features of the Book of Psalms? How is it like the rest of the OT and the Bible as a whole? How is it different?

In Psalm 1, how does the author contrast wickedness and righteousness? What’s the key to righteousness and blessedness according to the author? From a NT perspective how is righteousness attained?

How does a person delight in the Law of the Lord? Are you delighting in it? If so, how and how often? Does your life resemble more the chaff of Psalm 1:4 or the tree of Psalm 1:3?