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**VARIOUS**

## TYPES OF PSALMS

All Psalms can be divided into five types:

1. Hymns
2. Communal Laments
3. Individual Laments
4. Individual Thanksgiving
5. Royal Psalms

### Thanksgiving

Individual Psalms of thanksgiving are the counterpoint to Psalms of individual lament. Here an individual is moved to offer a prayer of praise and gratitude following deliverance or blessing from God.

## Royal Psalms

There are the Royal Psalms. A difficult category to define. Gunkel uses the category to refer to Psalms centered around events of a king-coronation, marriage, battle, etc. no one king is referenced directly, leading some to assert that these Psalms are designed to point back to God as the true ruler of all.

In Gunkel's present form of categorization, there still exist some Psalms that do not fit neatly into just one category. Likewise, there are other subcategories, aiming at an even greater

	<p>level of specificity, such as the Wisdom Psalms and the Pilgrimage Psalms. These "type designations are not hard and fast rules; instead, they help readers to think about the book of Psalms as a whole. These major Psalm types illuminate the flow and pattern of worship poetry and prayer.</p>
<b>Hymns</b>	<p>These are the Psalms praising God's work through creation and time. They recount the goory and wonder of the Lord and call readers and listeners to lift their voices in praise.</p> <p>Hymn Psalms have two additional</p>

	<p>subcategories enthronement hymns (which refer to God as king and ruler of all) and Zion hymns (which point to Mount Zion, the location known as God's dwelling place).</p>
<b>Psalm of communal Lament</b>	<p>Communal laments make up the next type of Psalm. These Psalms lift up the griefs and sorrows of the nation or community following a disaster. Generally speaking, lament Psalms all contain eight key elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. An address to God.</li><li>2. A description of the suffering.</li><li>3. Denunciation or cursing of the party responsible for the suffering.</li></ol>

	<p>4. An assertion of innocence of admission of guilt.</p> <p>5. A plea for divine assistance.</p> <p>6. A statement of faith in God's receipt of the prayer.</p> <p>7. A refrain of anticipation of a divine response.</p> <p>8. A song of thanksgiving.</p>
<p><b>Imprecatory Psalms</b></p>	<p>Imprecatory Psalms are those in which the author imprecates; that is, he calls down calamity, destruction and God's anger and judgment.</p> <p>An imprecation is a curse that invokes misfortune upon someone.</p> <p>Imprecatory Psalms</p>

	<p>are those in which the author imprecates; that is, he calls down calamity, destruction, and God's anger and judgment on his enemies. This type of Psalm is found throughout the book. The major imprecatory Psalms are Psalms 5, 10, 17, 35, 58, 59, 69, 70, 79, 83, 109, 129, 127, and 140.</p>
<p><b>Wisdom Psalms</b></p>	<p>Wisdom literature was a category of literature in many cultures in the time of the Old Testament. Wisdom literature deals with the way the world "works." It can deal with the big philosophical problems and the</p>

smaller things that may be addressed with common sense. The wisdom literature of ancient Israel was unique in that God was recognized as the fountainhead of all wisdom. "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding (Proverbs 9:10). There are 150 Psalms, all examples of wisdom literature and generally prayers and/or songs of worship. Many of them deal with the difficult problems of life such as "WHY DO THE WICKED PROSPER?" (73, 27).

	<p>As the name suggests, individual Psalms of laments are set apart by their scope, lifting up the griefs of a particular singular person. These two types of lament Psalms can usually be distinguished by their use of "we" or "I", with communal laments using the plural pronoun and individual laments using the singular.</p>
<b>Praise</b>	<p>Express warm approval or admiration of. The expression of approval or admiration for someone or something. Praise refers to lifting God up. It is the joyful recounting of</p>



**Enthronement Psalms**

Psalms 121:2, 151,  
69:28, 1:2, 119, 90:17,  
22:1, 1  
The act of enthroning.  
To seat in a place  
associated with a  
position of authority  
or influence.  
To place on a throne  
as a recognition of  
someone's authority,  
in this case the  
authority of Our Lord,  
Jesus Christ, our  
Sovereign King.

**Laments**

Individual laments are  
by far the most  
common type of  
Psalm. Like the  
communal laments,  
these individual  
Psalms contain the  
same eight elements  
and focus on  
expressing sorrow in  
the wake of a  
tragedy.

	<p>what God has done for us. Praise and Thanksgiving go hand in hand as thank God and offer appreciation for who He is. Praise is the acknowledgment of all the wonderful, righteous deeds of God. He is worthy of praise (Psalm 18:3).</p>
<b>Penitential Psalms</b>	<p>THE CHURCH HAS DESIGNATED CERTAIN PSALMS –6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, and 143 –as “penitential,” that is, appropriate for prayer during a time of personal or communal repentance. These psalms take the form of laments because their subject is lamenting over sin and the problems</p>

that arise for the sinner.

Christianity - a person who repents his sins and seeks forgiveness for them.

The Penitential Psalms are a gift, reminding us of the need for sincerity and a serious

acknowledgement of our frailty before God.

The purpose of the Penitential Psalms help us to recognize our sinfulness, express our sorrow and ask for God's forgiveness.