



PSALMS

PART 8

SYLLABUS

<u>Week</u>	<u>Featured Psalm</u>	<u>Type of Psalm</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
1	137	Imprecatory Psalms	General Introduction
2	1	Introduction to Psalms	Mike Mazzalongo
3	15	Wisdom Psalms	Mike Mazzalongo
4	19	Nature Psalms	Mike Mazzalongo
5	146	Praise Psalms	Christopher Ash
6	74	Psalms of Lament	Christopher Ash
7	130	Songs of Ascent	Alistair Begg



PART 1



לִצְוֹ מִזְמוֹר



“In Psalms, it talks about God basically celebrating taking babies and smashing their heads against the rocks.”

Bob Seidensticker, 2007



לְצֹר מִפְּסַלְמִים

- ¹ By the rivers of Babylon we sit down and weep when we remember Zion.
- ² On the poplars in her midst we hang our harps,
- ³ for there our captors ask us to compose songs; those who mock us demand that we be happy, saying: “Sing for us a song about Zion!”
- ⁴ How can we sing a song to the Lord in a foreign land?
- ⁵ If I forget you, O Jerusalem, may my right hand be crippled!
- ⁶ May my tongue stick to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, and do not give Jerusalem priority over whatever gives me the most joy.
- ⁷ Remember, O Lord, what the Edomites did on the day Jerusalem fell. They said, “Tear it down, tear it down, right to its very foundation!”
- ⁸ O daughter Babylon, soon to be devastated! How blessed will be the one who repays you for what you dished out to us!
- ⁹ How blessed will be the one who grabs your babies and smashes them on a rock!



Bible & Theology / William Ross

Should We Pray the Imprecatory Psalms?

March 17, 2015

In light of the recent execution of 21 Christians and capture of hundreds more in Syria, perhaps it's time to ask, "Should we be praying the imprecatory psalms against ISIS?" Written in the theocratic context of Israel, when God himself had a throne on earth, these psalms (e.g., Ps. 58; 69; 109) invoke God's judgment upon Israel's enemies in terrifying terms (see Ps. 58:8). While we profess that all Scripture is profitable (2 Tim. 3:16), we must carefully consider the ways in which that is true of these psalms.

After all, we were once enemies of God (Col. 1:21-22), but are now redeemed and called to love our neighbors (Luke 10:27) and pray for our persecutors (Matt. 5:44; Rom. 12:14). May we identify an enemy for divine destruction as the imprecatory psalms do? Can we do so in specific terms or only general ones? Are we not to expect persecution in this age and turn the other cheek (Mark 13:13; Luke 21:17; Matt. 5:39) as we wait for Christ's return (2 Cor. 1:5; Col. 1:24)? These are complex questions.



W Imprecatory Psalms - W

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en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imprecatory_Psalms

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Imprecatory Psalms

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Imprecatory Psalms, contained within the [Book of Psalms](#) of the [Hebrew Bible](#) (תנ"ך), are those that invoke judgment, calamity, or [curses](#), upon one's enemies or those perceived as the enemies of God. Major Imprecatory Psalms include [Psalm 69](#) and [Psalm 109](#), while [Psalms 5](#), [6](#), [11](#), [12](#), [35](#), [37](#), [40](#), [52](#), [54](#), [56](#), [58](#), [69](#), [79](#), [83](#), [137](#), [139](#), and [143](#) are also considered imprecatory ([link to full text of Psalms](#)). As a sample, Psalm 69:24 states toward God, *"Pour out Your indignation on them, and let Your burning anger overtake them"* and Psalm 137:9, which declares *"Happy shall he be, that taketh and dasheth thy little ones against the stones."*

The Psalms ([Hebrew](#): Tehilim, תהילים, or "praises"), considered part of both [Hebrew](#) and [Christian Scripture](#), served as ancient [Israel](#)'s "psalter" or "hymnbook", which was used during [temple](#) and private [worship](#).

The [New Testament](#) contains passages that quote Imprecatory Psalms. [Jesus of Nazareth](#) is shown quoting from them in [John 15:25](#), and [John 2:17](#), while [Paul the Apostle](#) quotes from Psalm 69 in the [Epistle to the Romans](#) 11:9-10 and 15:3.

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Imprecations elsewhere in the Bible

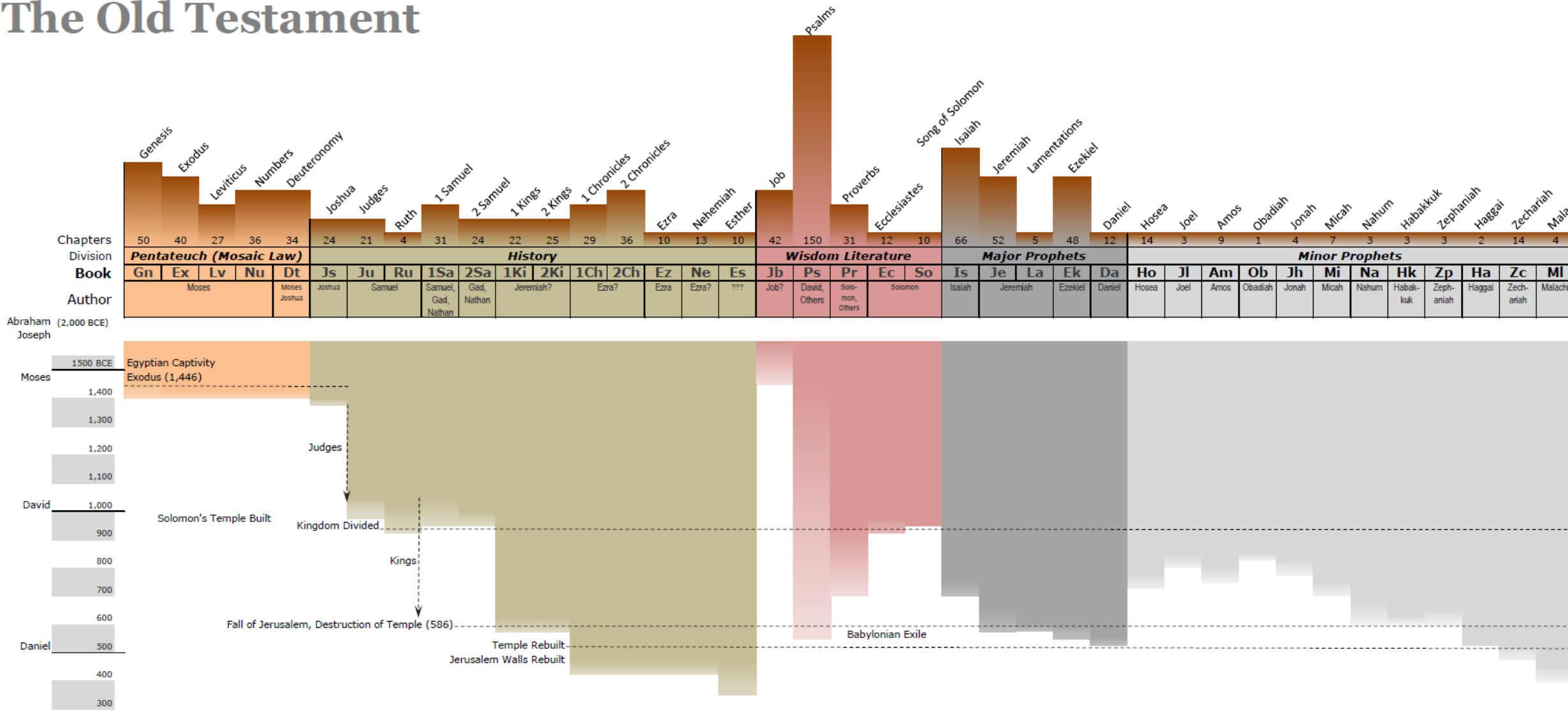
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Old Testament

[\[edit \]](#)

Imprecations in the [Hebrew Bible](#) are not limited to the Imprecatory Psalms. The [Nevi'im](#) (prophetic literature) contains many, as well, in the books of [Hosea](#), [Micah](#), and [Jeremiah](#), for example, leading to their categorization as "imprecatory topoi". As well, in the [Torah](#), in the Third Sermon of [Moses](#) in the book of [Deuteronomy](#), Moses is shown describing a litany of curses that would befall [Israel](#) for rebelliousness. Many of the same curses were later warned about by [Joshua](#), some 100 years after Moses's death.

The Old Testament



PSALMS

INTRODUCTION



YouTube

Search

PSALMS

Read Scripture Series: Psalms

456,627 views

0:05 / 8:58

CC HD

5K 54 SHARE

The Bible Project

Published on Nov 17, 2015

SUBSCRIBE 557K

A golden statue of Amenhotep III, seated on a throne, wearing a tall headdress and holding a scepter. The statue is made of gold and is seated on a black base with four golden feet.



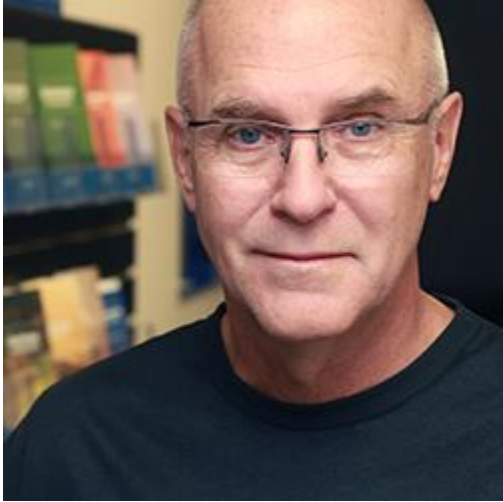
PART 2



PSALM 1

- ¹ How blessed is the one who does not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand in the pathway with sinners, or sit in the assembly of scoffers!
- ² Instead he finds pleasure in obeying the LORD's commands; he meditates on his commands day and night.
- ³ He is like a tree planted by flowing streams; it yields its fruit at the proper time, and its leaves never fall off. He succeeds in everything he attempts.
- ⁴ Not so with the wicked! Instead they are like wind-driven chaff.
- ⁵ For this reason the wicked cannot withstand judgment, nor can sinners join the assembly of the godly.
- ⁶ Certainly the LORD guards the way of the godly, but the way of the wicked ends in destruction.





MICHAEL (MIKE) MAZZALONGO

Michael Mazzalongo began his preaching and teaching ministry in Montreal, Quebec, in 1979. He was educated at Oklahoma Christian University in the United States and served as Dean of Students for that institution from 1991 to 1993. Brother Mazzalongo has preached for several congregations in Canada and the United States.

In his career he has specialized in the use of various "Medias" in the work of the local church. These have included radio, television, and more recently the internet where his teaching website BibleTalk.tv counts over 10,000 monthly visitors who download thousands of videos, eBooks and audio lessons each month.



PSALMS INTRODUCTION



YouTube psalms

Psalms
FOR BEGINNERS
MIKE MAZZALONGO

1 Introduction to the Psalms

0:01 / 35:56

Psalms Bible Study



 YouTube

Search



Miqedem - Psalm 1



PART 3





SHANA TOVA

שנה טובה







 **Yechiel Eckstein**
Founder & President, International Fellowship of Christians and Jews

0:05 / 2:57

CC HD

Celebrate Rosh Hashanah

37,815 views

293 24 SHARE

WISDOM PSALMS







Psalms
FOR BEGINNERS
MIKE MAZZALONGO

3 **Wisdom Psalms**

0:12 / 37:38

CC HD

Wisdom Psalms // Bible Study on Psalms

789 views

9 0 SHARE

PSALM 15

¹ *A psalm of David.*

Lord, who may be a guest in your home? Who may live on your holy hill?

² Whoever lives a blameless life, does what is right, and speaks honestly.

³ He does not slander, or do harm to others, or insult his neighbor.

⁴ He despises a reprobate, but honors the Lord's loyal followers. He makes firm commitments and does not renege on his promise.

⁵ He does not charge interest when he lends his money. He does not take bribes to testify against the innocent. The one who lives like this will never be upended.




CITY OF DAVID



YouTube

Search



0:28 / 5:18

Prophecy Fulfilled: City of David 'Shakes Off the Dust'

10,586 views

237 6 SHARE

PART 4



רעצון תבט

and after that the bull of purgation offering whose blood shall be taken outside the camp and purged the Shrine shall be taken outside the camp and their hides, flesh, and dung shall be washed in fire. ²⁸The one who bathed in water after that may re-enter the camp after that may re-enter the camp.

²⁹And this shall be to you a law for all time: in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall practice self-denial; and you shall do no manner of work, neither the citizen nor the alien who resides among you. ³⁰For on this day atonement shall be made for you to purify you of all your sins; you shall be pure before יהוה. ³¹It shall be a sabbath of complete rest for you, and you shall practice self-denial; it is a law for all time. ³²The priest who has been anointed and ordained to serve as priest in place of his father shall make expiation. He shall put on the linen vestments, the sacral vestments. ³³He shall purge the innermost Shrine; he

לכם לחקת עולם
בעשור לחודש
ובל-מלאכה לא תעשו
בתוכם: ³⁰ כי-ביום
לטהר אתכם מכל חטאתיכם לפני
יהוה: ³¹ שבת שקטת היא לכם
את-נפשותיכם חקת עולם:
לכהן תחת אביו ולבש את-
הקדש: ³³ וכפר את-מקדש

hands are filled with blood / Wash yourselves;
"cleanse yourselves" (Isaiah 1:15-16). A combination
perceptions of the trans-
and of

*practice self-denial. Se
abstention from food. As
of the body from trans
the internal organs.
you shall be*

WISDOM PSALMS



YouTube

pslams for beginners

Psalms
FOR BEGINNERS
MIKE MAZZALONGO

4 Nature Psalms

0:04 / 35:32

CC HD

The image shows a YouTube video player interface. At the top, the YouTube logo and a search bar containing 'pslams for beginners' are visible. The video content features a man in a white shirt and red tie on the left, and a large orange graphic on the right with the text 'Psalms FOR BEGINNERS MIKE MAZZALONGO' and a large number '4' followed by 'Nature Psalms'. The video player controls at the bottom show a progress bar at 0:04 / 35:32, along with icons for closed captions (CC), high definition (HD), and full screen.

PSALM 19

¹ For the music director; a psalm of David.

The heavens declare the glory of God; the sky displays his handiwork.

² Day after day it speaks out; night after night it reveals his greatness.

³ There is no actual speech or word, nor is its voice literally heard.

⁴ Yet its voice echoes throughout the earth; its words carry to the distant horizon.
In the sky he has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵ Like a bridegroom it emerges from its chamber; like a strong man it enjoys running its course.



PSALM 19

⁶ It emerges from the distant horizon, and goes from one end of the sky to the other; nothing can escape its heat.

⁷ The law of the Lord is perfect and preserves one's life.
The rules set down by the Lord are reliable and impart wisdom to the inexperienced.

⁸ The Lord's precepts are fair and make one joyful. The Lord's commands are pure and give insight for life.

⁹ The commands to fear the Lord are right and endure forever. The judgments given by the Lord are trustworthy and absolutely just.



PSALM 19

¹⁰ They are of greater value than gold, than even a great amount of pure gold; they bring greater delight than honey, than even the sweetest honey from a honeycomb.

¹¹ Yes, your servant finds moral guidance there; those who obey them receive a rich reward.

¹² Who can know all his errors? Please do not punish me for sins I am unaware of.

¹³ Moreover, keep me from committing flagrant sins; do not allow such sins to control me. Then I will be blameless, and innocent of blatant rebellion.

¹⁴ May my words and my thoughts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my sheltering rock and my redeemer.



PART 5





CHRISTOPHER ASH

Apart from Christopher's writing ministry, he and Carolyn hope to encourage younger scholars to grow in faithful loving loyalty to Jesus, and to use their gifts to serve the church of Christ.

In 2004 he and Carolyn moved to London where Christopher served as Director of the Proclamation Trust's Cornhill Training Course until July 2015. As well as continuing to be part of the staff team at Proclamation Trust (coordinating the conference for pastor's wives), Carolyn serves on the Board of London City Mission. Christopher and Carolyn moved back to Cambridge in July 2015. In addition to being Writer-in-Residence at Tyndale House, Christopher is Ministry Trainer at St Andrew the Great church.


Christopher is married to Carolyn. They have been entrusted with three sons and a daughter, all grown up, and three grandchildren. After working in the telecommunications industry and as a teacher of maths, Christopher studied theology at Oxford, where he was awarded the Denyer and Johnson prize. He was ordained and served as an Assistant Minister in St. Andrew the Great in Cambridge, before leading a church growth initiative to All Saints, Little Shelford, in 1997.



PREACHING A PSALM OF PRAISE



YouTube Search



22:15 / 42:28

Preaching a Psalm of Praise

A screenshot of a YouTube video player. The video shows a man with glasses and a light blue button-down shirt, gesturing with both hands while speaking. He is positioned behind a dark wooden podium. The video player interface includes a search bar at the top, a progress bar at the bottom showing 22:15 / 42:28, and standard video controls like play, pause, and volume. The video title "Preaching a Psalm of Praise" is displayed below the player.

PSALM 146

- ¹ Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!
- ² I will praise the LORD as long as I live! I will sing praises to my God as long as I exist!
- ³ Do not trust in princes, or in human beings, who cannot deliver!
- ⁴ Their life's breath departs, they return to the ground; on that day their plans die.
- ⁵ How blessed is the one whose helper is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,
- ⁶ the one who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who remains forever faithful,
- ⁷ vindicates the oppressed, and gives food to the hungry. The LORD releases the imprisoned.
- ⁸ The LORD gives sight to the blind. The LORD lifts up all who are bent over. The LORD loves the godly.
- ⁹ The LORD protects those residing outside their native land; he lifts up the fatherless and the widow, but he opposes the wicked.
- ¹⁰ The LORD rules forever, your God, O Zion, throughout the generations to come! Praise the LORD!



PART 6





The Burning of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar's Army
by Circle of Juan de la Corte (1580 - 1663)

PREACHING A PSALM OF LAMENT



christopher ash psalms

A video player showing a man in a blue shirt preaching at a podium. The video title is "Preaching a Psalm of Lament". The player interface includes a search bar with the text "christopher ash psalms", a play button, a progress bar showing 0:12 / 45:14, and various control icons like volume, full screen, and subtitles.

Preaching a Psalm of Lament

PSALM 74 ESV

Arise, O God, Defend Your Cause A Maskil of Asaph.

¹ O God, why do you cast us off forever? Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?

² Remember your congregation, which you have purchased of old, which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your heritage! Remember Mount Zion, where you have dwelt.

³ Direct your steps to the perpetual ruins; the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctuary!

⁴ Your foes have roared in the midst of your meeting place; they set up their own signs for signs.

⁵ They were like those who swing axes in a forest of trees.

⁶ And all its carved wood they broke down with hatchets and hammers.



PSALM 74 ESV

⁷ They set your sanctuary on fire; they profaned the dwelling place of your name, bringing it down to the ground.

⁸ They said to themselves, “We will utterly subdue them”; they burned all the meeting places of God in the land.

⁹ We do not see our signs; there is no longer any prophet, and there is none among us who knows how long.

¹⁰ How long, O God, is the foe to scoff? Is the enemy to revile your name forever?

¹¹ Why do you hold back your hand, your right hand? Take it from the fold of your garment and destroy them!

¹² Yet God my King is from of old, working salvation in the midst of the earth.

¹³ You divided the sea by your might; you broke the heads of the sea monsters on the waters.

¹⁴ You crushed the heads of Leviathan; you gave him as food for the creatures of the wilderness.



PSALM 74

ESV

¹⁵ You split open springs and brooks; you dried up ever-flowing streams.

¹⁶ Yours is the day, yours also the night; you have established the heavenly lights and the sun.

¹⁷ You have fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you have made summer and winter.

¹⁸ Remember this, O LORD, how the enemy scoffs, and a foolish people reviles your name.

¹⁹ Do not deliver the soul of your dove to the wild beasts; do not forget the life of your poor forever.

²⁰ Have regard for the covenant, for the dark places of the land are full of the habitations of violence.

²¹ Let not the downtrodden turn back in shame; let the poor and needy praise your name.



PSALM 74 ESV

²² Arise, O God, defend your cause; remember how the foolish scoff at you all the day!

²³ Do not forget the clamor of your foes, the uproar of those who rise against you, which goes up continually!



INSPIRATION OF SCRIPTURE



Veracity

Sharing the Joy of Personal Discipleship

Parsing Greek

By John Paine

October 25, 2012



1 Corinthians 7:12 in the Codex Sinaiticus

Scripture contains some amazing context clues that point to its trustworthiness. For example, consider the Apostle Paul's words in his letter to the Corinthians:

To the married I give this charge (not I, but the Lord): the wife should not separate from her husband (but if she does, she should remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband), and the husband should not divorce his wife. To the rest I say (I, not the Lord) that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he should not divorce her.
1 Corinthians 7:10-12 (ESV)

Paul makes a point of stating that verse 10 is *from the Lord*. But in the very next statement (verse 12) Paul writes, "I just want to add *my* thoughts here." He makes it completely clear that these are *not God's words verbatim*. This does not imply that Paul's words should be deprecated or discredited in any way—quite the opposite. Paul was careful to differentiate that which was

Veracity

Sharing the Joy of Personal Discipleship

How We Got the Bible (Part 2)

October 19, 2014

By John Paine

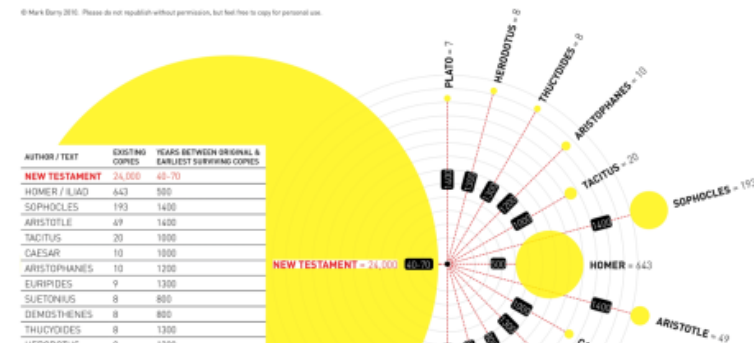
Christians believe that the Bible is the *inspired* word of God. In this post—the second in our series entitled "[How We Got the Bible](#)"—we will explore what biblical inspiration really entails (and what it does not entail). The Bible itself claims to be the inspired, special revelation of the one true God.

The Bible is *completely* unique. Not sure? OK, let's make a list of all books that took over 1,500 years to complete. With parts dating back more than 3,500 years, in which the most recent contributions are 1,900 years old. Written by 40 or so authors who corroborate each other's writings. Containing accurate historical accounts of ancient events that have shown up repeatedly in archaeology (don't skip over the preceding hyperlink). Claiming to reveal the plan of a loving God for his creation. With massive amounts of self-deprecating text to condemn the authors. Predicting trouble and ostracism for those who live by its teaching. Containing specific prophecies, many of which have proven true over long periods of time. Dwarfing other ancient writings in terms of the number and quality of surviving manuscripts.

How long is our list now?

THE RELIABILITY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT COMPARED TO OTHER ANCIENT TEXTS

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PART 5





Song of Ascents

Song of Ascents is a title given to fifteen of the [Psalms](#), 120–134 (119–133 in the [Septuagint](#) and the [Vulgate](#)), each starting with the [ascription](#) Shir Hama'aloth ([Hebrew](#): שִׁיר הַמַּעֲלוֹת, meaning "Song of the Ascents"). They are also variously called **Gradual Psalms**, **Songs of Degrees**, **Songs of Steps** or **Pilgrim Songs**. Four of them (122, 124, 131 and 133) are linked in their ascriptions to [David](#), and one (127) to [Solomon](#).

Many scholars believe the title indicates that these psalms were sung by worshippers as they ascended the road to [Jerusalem](#) to attend the [three pilgrim festivals](#) ([Deuteronomy 16:16](#)). Others think they were sung by the [Levite](#) singers as they ascended the fifteen steps to minister at the [Temple in Jerusalem](#). One view says the Levites first sang the Songs at the dedication of Solomon's temple during the night of the fifteenth of Tishri 959 [BCE](#). Another study suggests that they were composed for a celebration after [Nehemiah](#)'s rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls in 445 BC. Others consider that they may originally have been individual poems which were later collected together and given the title linking them to pilgrimage after the [Babylonian captivity](#). They were well suited for being sung by their poetic form and the sentiments they express. "They are characterized by brevity, by a key-word, by [epanaphora](#) [*i.e.*, repetition], and by their [epigrammatic](#) style.... More than half of them are cheerful, and all of them hopeful." As a collection, they contain a number of repeated formulaic phrases, as well as an emphasis on Zion.



Eastern Portion of the Southern Wall of the Temple Mount





Excavated section of Herodian street that led from Pool of Siloam to Temple Mount
(Seetheholyland.net)



Herodian Street Was Used by Jewish Pilgrims

From the Pool of Siloam, visitors can walk on a section of the **Herodian street** — now also below ground level — that hundreds of thousands of Jews used three times a year to ascend to the Temple during pilgrim feasts. Jesus almost certainly walked this way.

Beneath the level of this street is another tunnel — the **drain** that took stormwater and sewage from the Old City to the Kidron Valley in Roman times.

Now cleaned out, this tunnel enables visitors to walk **700 meters** uphill, along the edge of the Tyropoeon Valley and under the Old City wall, to an exit near the [Western Wall](#).

Among the items discovered in this tunnel were a rare **gold bell**, perhaps once sewn to a high priest's garment, and an ancient silver shekel, customarily used to pay the half-shekel head tax to the Temple.

A more somber find was a Roman **sword**, with its leather sheath partly intact. As the Romans overtook Jerusalem in AD 70 during the First Jewish-Roman War, with the Temple in flames, the last of the Jewish **rebels** hid in the sewers. "Those in the sewers were ferreted out, the ground was torn up, and all who were trapped were killed," reported the historian [Flavius Josephus](#).

PSALM 130 ESV

My Soul Waits for the Lord **A Song of Ascents**

- ¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!
- ² O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!
- ³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?
- ⁴ But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.
- ⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;
- ⁶ my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.
- ⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.
- ⁸ And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.





ALISTAIR BEGG

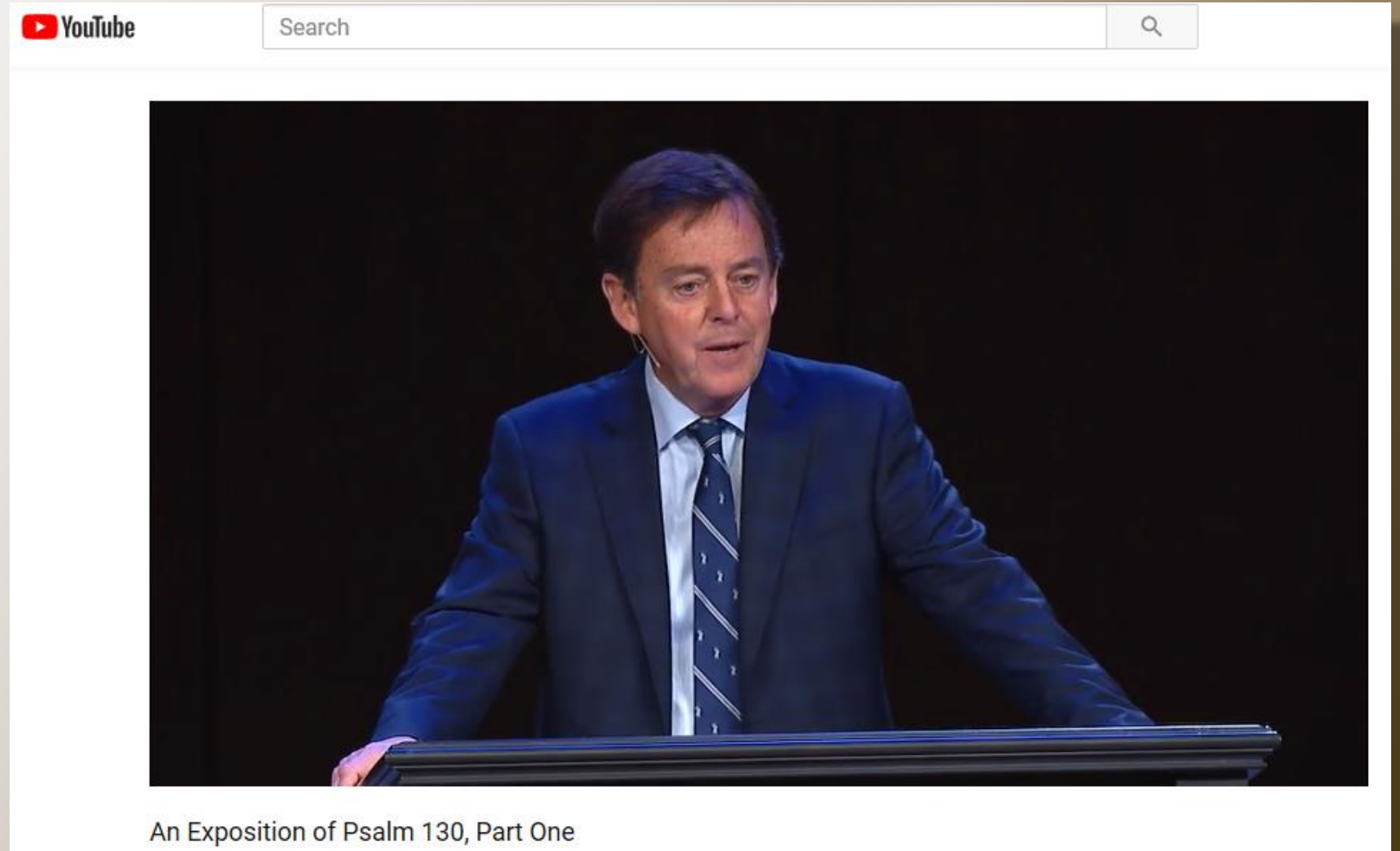
Alistair Begg is Senior Pastor at Parkside Church in Cleveland, Ohio, and the Bible teacher on Truth For Life, which is heard on the radio and online around the world.

He graduated from theological college in London and served two churches in Scotland before moving to Ohio. He is married to Susan and together they have three grown children and five grandchildren.

On February 27, 1995, Truth For Life began airing its 25-minute daily program on seven radio stations. Today, Truth For Life can now be heard in every major radio market across the U.S., and also in select Canadian markets, through 1,655 radio outlets.



AN EXPOSITION OF PSALM 130



PART 8





TIM KELLER

Timothy Keller is the founding pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Manhattan, which he started in 1989 with his wife, Kathy, and three young sons. For over twenty years he has led a diverse congregation of young professionals that has grown to a weekly attendance of over 5,000.

He is also Chairman of Redeemer City to City, which starts new churches in New York and other global cities, and publishes books and resources for faith in an urban culture. In over ten years they have helped to launch over 250 churches in 48 cities. More recently, Dr. Keller's books, including the New York Times bestselling *The Reason for God* and *The Prodigal God*, have sold over 1 million copies and been translated into 15 languages.

Dr. Keller was born and raised in Pennsylvania, and educated at Bucknell University, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and Westminster Theological Seminary. He previously served as the pastor of West Hopewell Presbyterian Church in Hopewell, Virginia, Associate Professor of Practical Theology at Westminster Theological Seminary, and Director of Mercy Ministries for the Presbyterian Church in America.





PRAYER IN THE PSALMS



DISCUSSION



DISCUSSION

