



Mapping the Psalms 
Week 11: Mapping THANKSGIVING
Wednesday Night Church Fall 2024 Series

Nov 27: Family Thanksgiving Svc
Dec 4: Advent **MESSIANIC**

Dec 11: WNC Christmas Party 
Dec 18: **No WNC**

Dec 25: Merry Christmas: **No WNC**
Jan 1: Happy New Year! **No WNC**
WNC resumes on January 8th

1 Corinthians 2:14NKJV	1 Corinthians 2:14 CEB
¹⁴ But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them because they are spiritually discerned .	But people who are unspiritual don't accept the things from God's Spirit. They are foolishness to them and can't be understood, because they can only be comprehended in a spiritual way.

DEFINING THANKSGIVING:

What other words can we use instead of **THANKSGIVING**?

1 Timothy 4:4

CEB: ⁴ Everything that has been created by God is good, and nothing that is received with thanksgiving should be rejected.

NKJV: ⁴ For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving;

THANK'-WORTHY, *adjective* [thank and worthy.] Deserving thanks; meritorious.

1 Peter 2:1-3

Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, ² as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, ³ **if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.**

A WORKING DEFINITION of THANKSGIVING:

Event. Attitude. State of Mind. A Character Trait embedded in our 

Which one is the Psalmist after?

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PSALM 18 NKJV	PSALM 18 CEB
God the Sovereign Savior	For the music leader.
To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David the servant of the Lord, who spoke to the Lord the words of this song on the day that the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. And he said:	Of David the Lord's servant, who spoke the words of this song to the Lord after the Lord delivered him from the power of all his enemies and from Saul.
<p>18 I will love You, O Lord, <u>my strength</u>.</p> <p>² The Lord is my <u>rock</u> and my <u>fortress</u> and my <u>deliverer</u>; My God, my ^[a]strength, in whom I will trust; My <u>shield</u> and the ^[b]horn of my salvation, my <u>stronghold</u>.</p> <p>³ I will call upon the Lord, <i>who is worthy</i> to be praised; So shall I be <u>saved</u> from my enemies.</p> <p>⁴ The pangs of death surrounded me, And the floods of ^[c]ungodliness made me afraid.</p> <p>⁵ The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; The snares of death confronted me.</p> <p>⁶ In my distress I called upon the Lord, And cried out to my God; He <u>heard my voice</u> from His temple, And my cry came before Him, <i>even</i> to His ears.</p> <p>⁷ Then the earth shook and trembled; The foundations of the hills also quaked and were shaken, Because He was angry.</p> <p>⁸ Smoke went up from His nostrils, And devouring fire from His mouth; Coals were kindled by it.</p> <p>⁹ He bowed the heavens also, <u>and came down</u> With darkness under His feet.</p> <p>¹⁰ And He rode upon a cherub, and flew; He flew upon the wings of the wind.</p> <p>¹¹ He made darkness His secret place; His canopy around Him <i>was</i> dark waters <i>And</i> thick clouds of the skies.</p> <p>¹² From the brightness before Him, His thick clouds passed with hailstones and coals of fire.</p> <p>¹³ The Lord thundered from heaven, And the Most High uttered His voice, ^[d]Hailstones and coals of fire.</p> <p>¹⁴ He sent out His arrows and scattered ^[e]the foe,</p>	<p>18 He said: I love you, Lord, my strength.</p> <p>² The Lord is my solid rock, my fortress, my rescuer. My God is my rock— I take refuge in him!— he's my shield, my salvation's strength, my place of safety.</p> <p>³ Because he is praiseworthy, ^[b] I cried out to the Lord, and I was saved from my enemies.</p> <p>⁴ Death's cords were wrapped around me; rivers of wickedness terrified me.</p> <p>⁵ The cords of the grave ^[c] surrounded me; death's traps held me tight.</p> <p>⁶ In my distress I cried out to the Lord; I called to my God for help. God heard my voice from his temple; I called to him for help, and my call reached his ears.</p> <p>⁷ The earth rocked and shook; the bases of the mountains trembled and reeled because of God's anger.</p> <p>⁸ Smoke went up from God's nostrils; out of his mouth came a devouring fire; flaming coals blazed out in front of him!</p> <p>⁹ God parted the skies and came down; thick darkness was beneath his feet.</p> <p>¹⁰ God mounted the heavenly creatures and flew; he soared on the wings of the wind.</p> <p>¹¹ God made darkness cloak him; his covering was dark water and dense cloud.</p> <p>¹² God's clouds went ahead of the brightness before him;</p>

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Lightnings in abundance, and He vanquished them.

¹⁵ Then the channels of the sea were seen,
 The foundations of the world were uncovered
 At Your rebuke, O Lord,
 At the blast of the breath of Your nostrils.

¹⁶ He sent from above, He took me;
 He drew me out of many waters.

¹⁷ He delivered me from my strong enemy,
 From those who hated me,
 For they were too strong for me.

¹⁸ They confronted me in the day of my calamity,
 But the Lord was my support.

¹⁹ He also brought me out into a broad place;
He delivered me because He delighted in me.

²⁰ The Lord rewarded me according to my
 righteousness;
 According to the cleanness of my hands
 He has recompensed me.

²¹ For **I have kept** the ways of the Lord,
 And have not wickedly departed from my God.

²² For all His judgments *were* before me,
 And I did not put away His statutes from me.

²³ **I was also blameless** [□]before Him,
 And **I kept myself** from my iniquity.

²⁴ Therefore the Lord has recompensed me according
 to my righteousness,
 According to the cleanness of my hands in His sight.

²⁵ With the merciful You will show Yourself merciful;
With a blameless man You will show Yourself
blameless;

²⁶ With the pure You will show Yourself pure;
And with the devious You will show Yourself shrewd.

²⁷ For You will save the humble people,
 But will bring down haughty looks.

²⁸ For You will light my lamp;
 The Lord my God will enlighten my darkness.

²⁹ For by You I can [□]run against a troop,
 By my God I can leap over a wall.

³⁰ *As for* God, His way *is* perfect;
 The word of the Lord is [□]proven;
 He *is* a shield to all who trust in Him.

³¹ For who *is* God, except the Lord?
 And who *is* a rock, except our God?

³² *It is* God who arms me with strength,

hail and coals of fire went too.

¹³ The Lord thundered in heaven;
 the Most High made his voice heard
 with hail and coals of fire.

¹⁴ God shot his arrows, scattering the enemy;
 he sent the lightning and threw them into
 confusion.

¹⁵ The seabeds were exposed;
 the earth's foundations were laid bare
 at your rebuke, Lord,
 at the angry blast of air coming from your
 nostrils.

¹⁶ From on high God reached down and grabbed
 me;
 he took me out of all that water.

¹⁷ God saved me from my powerful enemy,
 saved me from my foes,
 who were too much for me.

¹⁸ They came at me on the very day of my distress,
 but the Lord was my support.

¹⁹ He brought me out to wide-open spaces;
 he pulled me out safe
 because he is pleased with me.

²⁰ The Lord rewarded me for my righteousness;
 he restored me because my hands are clean,
²¹ because I have kept the Lord's ways.
 I haven't acted wickedly against my God.

²² All his rules are right in front of me;
 I haven't turned away from any of his laws.

²³ I have lived with integrity before him;
 I've kept myself from wrongdoing.

²⁴ And so the Lord restored me for my
 righteousness
 because my hands are clean in his eyes.




²⁵ You deal faithfully with the faithful;
 you show integrity
 toward the one who has integrity.

²⁶ You are pure toward the pure,
 but toward the crooked, you are tricky.

²⁷ You are the one who saves people who suffer
 and brings down those with proud eyes.

²⁸ You are the one who lights my lamp—
 the Lord my God illumines my darkness.

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And makes my way perfect.
³³ He makes my feet like the *feet of deer*,
 And sets me on my high places.
³⁴ He teaches my hands to make war,
 So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.
³⁵ You have also given me the shield of Your
 salvation;
 Your right hand has held me up,
 Your gentleness has made me great.
³⁶ You enlarged my path under me,
 So my feet did not slip.
³⁷ **I have pursued my enemies and overtaken them;**
 Neither did I turn back again till they were destroyed.
³⁸ I have wounded them,
 So that they could not rise;
 They have fallen under my feet.
³⁹ For You have armed me with strength for the
 battle;
 You have subdued under me those who rose up
 against me.
⁴⁰ You have also given me the necks of my enemies,
 So that I destroyed those who hated me.
⁴¹ They cried out, but *there was* none to save;
Even to the Lord, but He did not answer them.
⁴² Then I beat them as fine as the dust before the
 wind;
 I cast them out like dirt in the streets.
⁴³ You have delivered me from the strivings of the
 people;
 You have made me the head of the nations;
 A people I have not known shall serve me.
⁴⁴ As soon as they hear of me they obey me;
 The foreigners submit to me.
⁴⁵ The foreigners fade away,
 And come frightened from their hideouts.
⁴⁶ **The Lord lives!**
Blessed be my Rock!
Let the God of my salvation be exalted.
⁴⁷ *It is* God who avenges me,
 And subdues the peoples under me;
⁴⁸ He delivers me from my enemies.
 You also lift me up above those who rise against me;
 You have delivered me from the violent man.
⁴⁹ **Therefore I will give thanks to You, O Lord,**

²⁹ With you I can charge into battle;
 with my God I can leap over a wall.
³⁰ God! His way is perfect;
 the Lord's word is tried and true.
 He is a shield for all who take refuge in him.
³¹ Now really, who is divine except the Lord?
 And who is a rock but our God?
³² Only God! The God who equips me with strength
 and makes my way perfect,
³³ who makes my step as sure as the deer's,
 who lets me stand securely on the heights,
³⁴ who trains my hands for war
 so my arms can bend a bronze bow.
³⁵ You've given me the shield of your salvation;
 your strong hand has supported me;
 your help has made me great.
³⁶ You've let me walk fast and safe,
 without even twisting an ankle.
³⁷ I chased my enemies and caught them!
 I didn't come home until I finished them off.
³⁸ I struck them down;
 they couldn't get up again;
 they fell under my feet.
³⁹ You equipped me with strength for war;
 you brought my adversaries down
 underneath me.
⁴⁰ You made my enemies turn tail from me;
 I destroyed my foes.
⁴¹ They cried for help,
 but there was no one to save them.
 They cried for help to the Lord,
 but he wouldn't answer them.
⁴² I crushed them
 like dust blown away by the wind;
 I threw them out
 like mud dumped in the streets.
⁴³ You delivered me from struggles with many
 people;
 you appointed me the leader of many
 nations.
 Strangers come to serve me.
⁴⁴ After hearing about me, they obey me;
 foreigners grovel before me.

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among the ^[d]Gentiles,
 And sing praises to Your name.
⁵⁰ Great deliverance He gives to His king,
 And shows mercy to His anointed,
 To David and his ^[m]descendants forevermore.

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 18:2](#) Lit. *rock*
- b. [Psalm 18:2](#) Strength
- c. [Psalm 18:4](#) Lit. *Belial*
- d. [Psalm 18:13](#) So with MT, Tg., Vg.; a few Heb. mss., LXX omit *Hailstones and coals of fire*
- e. [Psalm 18:14](#) Lit. *them*
- f. [Psalm 18:23](#) *with*
- g. [Psalm 18:29](#) Or *run through*
- h. [Psalm 18:30](#) Lit. *refined*
- i. [Psalm 18:39](#) Lit. *caused to bow*
- j. [Psalm 18:43](#) *Gentiles*
- k. [Psalm 18:44](#) *feign submission*
- l. [Psalm 18:49](#) *nations*
- m. [Psalm 18:50](#) Lit. *seed*

⁴⁵ Foreigners lose their nerve;
 they come trembling out of their fortresses. ^[d]
⁴⁶ The Lord lives! Bless God, my rock!
 Let the God of my salvation be lifted high!
⁴⁷ This is the God who avenges on my behalf,
 who subdues people before me,
⁴⁸ who delivers me from my enemies.
 Yes, you lifted me high above my adversaries;
 you delivered me from violent people.
⁴⁹ That's why I thank you, Lord,
 in the presence of the nations.
 That's why I sing praises to your name.
⁵⁰ You are the one who gives great victories to your
 king,
 who shows faithful love to your anointed
 one—
 to David and to his descendants forever.

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 18:1](#) This poem also occurs in [2 Sam 22](#) with some variations.
- b. [Psalm 18:3](#) Heb uncertain
- c. [Psalm 18:5](#) Heb *Sheol*
- d. [Psalm 18:45](#) Or *prisons*

Psalm 18

Of the first eighteen psalms, this one would be outstanding if only for its length, with more than twice as many verses as the next longest, and ten times as many as the shortest. As we shall see, it is outstanding in other respects too, a vivid and powerful song of thanksgiving. The first three stanzas of Christopher Idle's modern metrical version, 'I love you, O Lord, you alone', well render the first quarter of it, and the last one summarizes the rest.

Nine significant phrases will lead us through it. Each represents one of the sections into which it may be divided, and each looks beyond its own section and thus colours our reading of the whole.

1. 'I love you, O LORD' (vv. 1–3)
2. 'In my distress' (vv. 4–6)
3. 'Consuming fire, dark clouds' (vv. 7–15)
4. 'Into a spacious place' (vv. 16–19)
5. 'He has rewarded me' (vv. 20–24)
6. 'You save the humble' (vv. 25–29)
7. 'He is ... the Rock' (vv. 30–34)
8. 'You have made me the head of nations' (vv. 35–45)
9. 'Unfailing kindness to his anointed' (vv. 46–50)¹

18, 30, 65, 66, 67, 75, 105, 106, 108, 116, 135, 136, 138

¹ Wilcock, M. (2001). [The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God](#) (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 1, pp. 61–71). Inter-Varsity Press.

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PSALM 30 NKJV	PSALM 30 CEB
The Blessedness of Answered Prayer A Psalm. A Song at the dedication of the house of David.	A psalm. A song for the temple dedication. Of David.
<p>30 I will extol You, O Lord, for You have lifted me up, And have not let my foes rejoice over me.</p> <p>² O Lord my God, I cried out to You, And You healed me.</p> <p>³ O Lord, You brought my soul up from the grave; You have kept me alive, ^[a]that I should not go down to the pit.</p> <p>⁴ Sing praise to the Lord, you saints of His, And give thanks at the remembrance of ^[b]His holy name.</p> <p><u>⁵ For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life;</u></p> <p>Weeping may endure for a night, But ^[c]joy comes in the morning.</p> <p>⁶ Now in my prosperity I said, "I shall never be ^[d]moved."</p> <p><u>⁷ Lord, by Your favor You have made my mountain stand strong;</u></p> <p>You hid Your face, <i>and</i> I was troubled.</p> <p>⁸ I cried out to You, O Lord; And to the Lord I made supplication:</p> <p>⁹ "What profit is <i>there</i> in my blood, When I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise You? Will it declare Your truth?"</p> <p>¹⁰ Hear, O Lord, and have mercy on me; Lord, be my helper!"</p> <p>¹¹ You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;</p> <p>You have put off ^[e]my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,</p> <p>¹² To the end that <i>my</i> ^[f]glory may sing praise to You and not be silent.</p> <p>O Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever.</p> <p>Footnotes</p> <p>a. Psalm 30:3 So with Qr., Tg.; Kt., LXX, Syr., Vg. <i>from those who descend to the pit</i></p> <p>b. Psalm 30:4 Or <i>His holiness</i></p> <p>c. Psalm 30:5 <i>a shout of joy</i></p> <p>d. Psalm 30:6 <i>shaken</i></p> <p>e. Psalm 30:11 The sackcloth of my mourning</p> <p>f. Psalm 30:12 <i>soul</i></p>	<p>30 I exalt you, Lord, because you pulled me up; you didn't let my enemies celebrate over me.</p> <p>² Lord, my God, I cried out to you for help, and you healed me.</p> <p>³ Lord, you brought me ^[a]up from the grave, ^[b]brought me back to life from among those going down to the pit.</p> <p>⁴ You who are faithful to the Lord, sing praises to him; give thanks to his holy name!</p> <p>⁵ His anger lasts for only a second, but his favor lasts a lifetime.</p> <p>Weeping may stay all night, but by morning, joy!</p> <p>⁶ When I was comfortable, I said, "I will never stumble."</p> <p>⁷ Because it pleased you, Lord, you made me a strong mountain. But then you hid your presence. I was terrified.</p> <p>⁸ I cried out to you, Lord. I begged my Lord for mercy:</p> <p>⁹ "What is to be gained by my spilled blood, by my going down into the pit? Does dust thank you? Does it proclaim your faithfulness?"</p> <p>¹⁰ Lord, listen and have mercy on me! Lord, be my helper!"</p> <p>¹¹ You changed my mourning into dancing. You took off my funeral clothes and dressed me up in joy</p> <p>¹² so that my whole being might sing praises to you and never stop.</p> <p>Lord, my God, I will give thanks to you forever.</p> <p>Footnotes</p> <p>a. Psalm 30:3 Or <i>my soul</i></p> <p>b. Psalm 30:3 Heb <i>Sheol</i></p>

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We have found several psalms in which the psalmist has been in trouble, and some in which he has been rescued from it. In a few (6; 16; 18; 22) the trouble appears to have threatened his life. We need go no further than its first three verses to see that Psalm 30 is one of these.

1. The structure of the psalm

2. A deliverance psalm

3. A church psalm

Psalm 30 belongs in this part of Book I not only in length, style, and structure, **but also in being a community psalm and not just an individual one.**²

18, 30, 65, 66, 67, 75, 105, 106, 108, 116, 135, 136, 138

PSALM 65 NKJV	PSALM 65 CEB
Praise to God for His Salvation and Providence To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. A Song.	For the music leader. A psalm of David. A song.
<p>65 Praise is awaiting You, O God, in Zion; And to You the ^[a]vow shall be performed. ² <u>O You who hear prayer,</u> To You all flesh will come. ³ Iniquities prevail against me; As for our transgressions, You will provide atonement for them. ⁴ Blessed is the man You choose, And cause to approach You, That he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, Of Your holy temple. ⁵ By awesome deeds in righteousness <u>You will answer us,</u> <u>O God of our salvation,</u> You who <u>are the confidence of all</u> the ends of the earth, And of the far-off seas; ⁶ Who established the mountains by His strength, <u>Being clothed with power;</u> ⁷ You who still the noise of the seas, The noise of their waves, And the tumult of the peoples. ⁸ They also who dwell in the farthest parts are afraid of Your signs; You make the outgoings of the morning and evening ^[b]rejoice.</p>	<p>65 God of Zion, to you even silence is praise. Promises made to you are kept— ² you listen to prayer— and all living things come to you. ³ When wrongdoings become too much for me, you forgive our sins. ⁴ How happy is the one you choose to bring close, the one who lives in your courtyards! We are filled full by the goodness of your house, by the holiness of your temple. ⁵ In righteousness you answer us, by your awesome deeds, God of our salvation— you, who are the security of all the far edges of the earth, even the distant seas. ⁶ You establish the mountains by your strength; you are dressed in raw power. ⁷ You calm the roaring seas; calm the roaring waves, calm the noise of the nations. ⁸ Those who dwell on the far edges stand in awe of your acts. You make the gateways of morning and evening sing for joy. ⁹ You visit the earth and make it abundant, enriching it greatly</p>

² Wilcock, M. (2001). *The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God* (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 1, pp. 103–106). Inter-Varsity Press.

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<p>⁹ You ^[a] visit the earth and water it, You greatly enrich it; The river of God is full of water; You provide their grain, For so You have prepared it. ¹⁰ You water its ridges abundantly, You settle its furrows; You make it soft with showers, You bless its growth. ¹¹ You crown the year with Your goodness, And Your paths drip <i>with</i> abundance. ¹² They drop <i>on</i> the pastures of the wilderness, And the little hills rejoice on every side. ¹³ The pastures are clothed with flocks; The valleys also are covered with grain; They shout for joy, they also sing.</p> <p>Footnotes</p> <p>a. Psalm 65:1 A promised deed b. Psalm 65:8 shout for joy c. Psalm 65:9 give attention to</p>	<p>by God’s stream, full of water. You provide people with grain because that is what you’ve decided. ¹⁰ Drenching the earth’s furrows, leveling its ridges, you soften it with rain showers; you bless its growth. ¹¹ You crown the year with your goodness; your paths overflow with rich food. ¹² Even the desert pastures drip with it, and the hills are dressed in pure joy. ¹³ The meadowlands are covered with flocks, the valleys decked out in grain— they shout for joy; they break out in song!</p>
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Psalm 65

The next four psalms are also called songs. Though we can only guess at the precise meaning of this double title, it does at least serve to mark off 65–68 as a group. Certainly we are here breathing a different air from that of 51–64, a sequence of psalms so readily identifiable with many of the conflicts that harassed David.

This, the first of the group, divides into three sections so clearly that some suppose it to be a combining of poems which were originally separate. **The fact is that the psalm as a whole sings not only of one and the same God as we see him in the temple, in the world, and in the harvest, but also of the way in which each of these aspects of him is related to the others. It has a profound unity.**

1. *God in the temple (vv. 1–4)*
2. *God in the world (vv. 5–8)*
3. *God in the harvest (vv. 9–13)*³

18, 30, 65, 66, 67, 75, 105, 106, 108, 116, 135, 136, 138

PSALM 66	PSALM 66
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³ Wilcock, M. (2001). *The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God* (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 1, pp. 226–229). Inter-Varsity Press.

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NKJV	CEB
Praise to God for His Awesome Works To the Chief Musician. A Song. A Psalm.	For the music leader. A song. A psalm.
<p>66 Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth! ² Sing out the honor of His name; Make His praise glorious. ³ Say to God, "How awesome are Your works! Through the greatness of Your power Your enemies shall submit themselves to You. ⁴ All the earth shall worship You And sing praises to You; They shall sing praises <i>to</i> Your name." <i>Selah</i> ⁵ Come and see the works of God; <i>He is awesome in His doing toward the sons of men.</i> ⁶ He turned the sea into dry <i>land</i>; They went through the river on foot. There we will rejoice in Him. ⁷ He rules by His power forever; His eyes observe the nations; Do not let the rebellious exalt themselves. <i>Selah</i> ⁸ Oh, bless our God, you peoples! And make the voice of His praise to be heard, ⁹ Who keeps our soul among the living, And does not allow our feet to ^[a]be moved. ¹⁰ For You, O God, have tested us; You have refined us as silver is refined. ¹¹ You brought us into the net; You laid affliction on our backs. ¹² You have caused men to ride over our heads; We went through fire and through water; But You brought us out to ^[b]rich fulfillment. ¹³ I will go into Your house with burnt offerings; I will pay You my ^[c]vows, ¹⁴ Which my lips have uttered And my mouth has spoken when I was in trouble. ¹⁵ I will offer You burnt sacrifices of fat animals, With the sweet aroma of rams; I will offer bulls with goats. <i>Selah</i> ¹⁶ Come <i>and</i> hear, all you who fear God, And I will declare what He has done for my soul. ¹⁷ I cried to Him with my mouth, And He was ^[d]extolled with my tongue.</p>	<p>66 Shout joyfully to God, all the earth! ² Sing praises to the glory of God's name! Make glorious his praise! ³ Say to God: "How awesome are your works! Because of your great strength, your enemies cringe before you. ⁴ All the earth worships you, sings praises to you, sings praises to your name!" <i>Selah</i> ⁵ Come and see God's deeds; his works for human beings are awesome: ⁶ He turned the sea into dry land so they could cross the river on foot. Right there we rejoiced in him! ⁷ God rules with power forever; keeps a good eye on the nations. So don't let the rebellious exalt themselves. <i>Selah</i> ⁸ All you nations, bless our God! Let the sound of his praise be heard! ⁹ God preserved us among the living; he didn't let our feet slip a bit. ¹⁰ But you, God, have tested us— you've refined us like silver, ¹¹ trapped us in a net, laid burdens on our backs, ¹² let other people run right over our heads— we've been through fire and water. But you brought us out to freedom! ¹³ So I'll enter your house with entirely burned offerings. I'll keep the promises I made to you, ¹⁴ the ones my lips uttered, the ones my mouth spoke when I was in deep trouble. ¹⁵ I will offer the best burned offerings to you</p>

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<p>¹⁸ If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear. ¹⁹ <i>But</i> certainly God has heard <i>me</i>; He has attended to the voice of my prayer. ²⁰ Blessed <i>be</i> God, Who has not turned away my prayer, Nor His mercy from me!</p> <p>Footnotes</p> <p>a. Psalm 66:9 <i>slip</i> b. Psalm 66:12 <i>abundance</i> c. Psalm 66:13 <i>Promised deeds</i> d. Psalm 66:17 <i>praised</i></p>	<p>along with the smoke of sacrificed rams. I will offer both bulls and goats. <i>Selah</i></p> <p>¹⁶ Come close and listen, all you who honor God; I will tell you what God has done for me: ¹⁷ My mouth cried out to him with praise on my tongue. ¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart, my Lord would not have listened. ¹⁹ But God definitely listened. He heard the sound of my prayer. ²⁰ Bless God! He didn't reject my prayer; he didn't withhold his faithful love from me.</p>
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Psalm 66

The occasion for a psalm like 65 to be sung in Old Testament times would have been, not what we call a harvest festival (a fairly recent invention of our own), but one of the three historic festivals in Israel's calendar. The harvesting of a variety of crops began in April and ended in October, and Passover, Weeks, and Tabernacles fitted into that sequence. The second in this group of four song-psalms, 66, would similarly have suited one of these.

It divides into two major sections: verses 1–12 are for *us*, the congregation, to sing, and at verse 13 *I*, an individual lead singer, or cantor, takes over. Two *selahs* divide the first section into three, and another divides the second section into two. As we work through these five stanzas, the possible identity of both festival and lead singer will emerge.

1. **Great expectations (vv. 1–4)**
2. **Vivid recollections (vv. 5–7)**
3. **Hard times (vv. 8–12)**
4. **Wholehearted offerings (vv. 13–15)**
5. **Personal testimonies (vv. 16–20)**

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18, 30, 65, 66, 67, 75, 105, 106, 108, 116, 135, 136, 138

PSALM 67 NKJV	PSALM 67 CEB
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⁴ Wilcock, M. (2001). [The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God](#) (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 1, pp. 229–232). Inter-Varsity Press.

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<p style="text-align: center;">An Invocation and a Doxology To the Chief Musician. On ^[a]stringed instruments. A Psalm. A Song.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">For the music leader, with stringed instruments. A psalm. A song.</p>
<p>67 God be merciful to us and bless us, <i>And</i> cause His face to shine upon us, <i>Selah</i> ² That Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations. ³ Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You. ⁴ Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy! For You shall judge the people righteously, And govern the nations on earth. <i>Selah</i> ⁵ Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You. ⁶ <i>Then</i> the earth shall ^[b]yield her increase; God, our own God, shall bless us. ⁷ God shall bless us, And all the ends of the earth shall fear Him.</p> <p>Footnotes</p> <p>a. Psalm 67:1 Heb. <i>neginoth</i> b. Psalm 67:6 <i>give her produce</i></p>	<p>67 Let God grant us grace and bless us; let God make his face shine on us, <i>Selah</i> ² so that your way becomes known on earth, so that your salvation becomes known among all the nations. ³ Let the people thank you, God! Let all the people thank you! ⁴ Let the people celebrate and shout with joy because you judge the nations fairly and guide all nations on the earth. <i>Selah</i> ⁵ Let the people thank you, God! Let all the people thank you! ⁶ The earth has yielded its harvest. God blesses us—our God blesses us! ⁷ Let God continue to bless us; let the far ends of the earth honor him.</p>

Psalm 67

In a more concise form, Psalm 67 shows the same spirit and has the same themes as its neighbours, and may belong to the same occasion.

1. Two roots

2. Two themes

3. Two applications⁵

18, 30, 65, 66, 67, 75, 105, 106, 108, 116, 135, 136, 138

<p>PSALM 75 NKJV</p>	<p>PSALM 75 CEB</p>
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⁵ Wilcock, M. (2001). [The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God](#) (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 1, pp. 232–234). Inter-Varsity Press.

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Thanksgiving for God’s Righteous Judgment To the Chief Musician. Set to “Do Not Destroy.” A Psalm of Asaph. A Song.	For the music leader. Do not destroy. A psalm of Asaph. A song.
<p>75 We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks! For Your wondrous works declare <i>that</i> Your name is near.</p> <p>² “When I choose the ^[b]proper time, I will judge uprightly.</p> <p>³ The earth and all its inhabitants are dissolved; I set up its pillars firmly. <i>Selah</i></p> <p>⁴ “I said to the boastful, ‘Do not deal boastfully,’ And to the wicked, ‘Do not ^[c]lift up the horn.</p> <p>⁵ Do not lift up your horn on high; Do <i>not</i> speak with ^[d]a stiff neck.’ ”</p> <p>⁶ For exaltation <i>comes</i> neither from the east Nor from the west nor from the south.</p> <p>⁷ But God <i>is</i> the Judge: He puts down one, And exalts another.</p> <p>⁸ For in the hand of the Lord <i>there is</i> a cup, And the wine is red; It is fully mixed, and He pours it out; Surely its dregs shall all the wicked of the earth Drain <i>and</i> drink down.</p> <p>⁹ But I will declare forever, I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.</p> <p>¹⁰ “All the ^[e]horns of the wicked I will also cut off, <i>But</i> the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.”</p> <p>Footnotes</p> <p>a. Psalm 75:1 Heb. <i>Al Tashcheth</i></p> <p>b. Psalm 75:2 <i>appointed</i></p> <p>c. Psalm 75:4 Raise the head proudly like a horned animal</p> <p>d. Psalm 75:5 Insolent pride</p> <p>e. Psalm 75:10 Strength</p>	<p>75 We give thanks to you, God. Yes, we give thanks! Your name is near. Your marvelous deeds are declared.</p> <p>² God says, ^[a] “When I decide the time is right, I will establish justice just so.</p> <p>³ The earth and all its inhabitants will melt, but I will keep its pillars steady.” <i>Selah</i></p> <p>⁴ I said to the arrogant, “Don’t be arrogant!” To the wicked I said, “Don’t exalt your strength!</p> <p>⁵ Don’t exalt your strength so highly. Don’t speak so arrogantly against the rock.” ^[b]</p> <p>⁶ Because what exalts someone doesn’t come from the east or west; it’s not from the south either.</p> <p>⁷ Rather it is God who is the judge. He brings this person down, but that person he lifts up.</p> <p>⁸ Indeed, there’s a cup in the Lord’s hand full of foaming wine, mixed with spice. He will pour it out, and all of the earth’s wicked people must drink it; they must drink every last drop!</p> <p>⁹ But I will rejoice ^[c] always; I will sing praises to Jacob’s God! ¹⁰ God says: ^[d]</p> <p>“I will demolish every bit of the wicked’s power, but the strength of the righteous will be lifted up.”</p> <p>Footnotes</p> <p>a. Psalm 75:2 Heb lacks <i>God says</i>.</p> <p>b. Psalm 75:5 LXX <i>against God</i>; MT <i>speak with an arrogant neck</i></p> <p>c. Psalm 75:9 LXX; MT <i>I will declare</i></p> <p>d. Psalm 75:10 Heb lacks <i>God says</i>.</p>

Psalm 75

Who says what in this psalm? As can happen in the world of biblical studies, the various opinions are at once very decided and mutually exclusive. In verse 1, we are presumably the congregation, and in verses 2–3 God speaks. But is he speaking also in verses 4–5? And in verse 10? And are we to visualize a temple ceremony in which parts are taken by the king, or a prophet, or a ‘worship leader’ of some kind? The NIV underlines the obvious by inserting two words between the first two verses: *O God ... You say, ‘I choose ...’* The Hebrew text does not do that. It leaves us to draw our own conclusions. It draws attention less to how the psalm might have been used as liturgy, more to what it actually says. The theme is an Asaph speciality, God the Judge, made vivid by a series of striking pictures in verses 2–8.

1. *The pillars of the earth* (vv. 2–3) 2. *The horns of arrogance* (vv. 4–5) 3. *The wheel of fortune?* (vv. 6–7) 4. *The cup of wrath* (v. 8) ⁶

18, 30, 65, 66, 67, 75, 105, 106, 108, 116, 135, 136, 138

PSALM 105 NKJV	PSALM 105 CEB
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⁶ Wilcock, M. (2001). *The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God* (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 2, pp. 15–18). Inter-Varsity Press.

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The Eternal Faithfulness of the Lord	
<p>105 Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples! ² Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works! ³ Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the Lord! ⁴ Seek the Lord and His strength; Seek His face evermore! ⁵ Remember His marvelous works which He has done, His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth, ⁶ O seed of Abraham His servant, You children of Jacob, His chosen ones! ⁷ He <i>is</i> the Lord our God; His judgments <i>are</i> in all the earth. ⁸ He remembers His covenant forever, The word <i>which</i> He commanded, for a thousand generations, ⁹ <i>The covenant</i> which He made with Abraham, And His oath to Isaac, ¹⁰ And confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, To Israel <i>as</i> an everlasting covenant, ¹¹ Saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan As the allotment of your inheritance," ¹² When they were few in number, Indeed very few, and strangers in it. ¹³ When they went from one nation to another, From <i>one</i> kingdom to another people, ¹⁴ He permitted no one to do them wrong; Yes, He rebuked kings for their sakes, ¹⁵ <i>Saying</i>, "Do not touch My anointed ones, And do My prophets no harm." ¹⁶ Moreover He called for a famine in the land; He destroyed all the provision of bread. ¹⁷ He sent a man before them— Joseph—<i>who</i> was sold as a slave. ¹⁸ They hurt his feet with fetters, ¹⁹ He was laid in irons. ²⁰ Until the time that his word came to pass, The word of the Lord tested him. ²¹ The king sent and released him,</p>	<p>Give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make his deeds known to all people! ² Sing to God; sing praises to the Lord; dwell on all his wondrous works! ³ Give praise to God's holy name! Let the hearts rejoice of all those seeking the Lord! ⁴ Pursue the Lord and his strength; seek his face always! ⁵ Remember the wondrous works he has done, all his marvelous works, and the justice he declared— ⁶ you who are the offspring of Abraham, his servant, and the children of Jacob, his chosen ones. ⁷ The Lord—he is our God. His justice is everywhere throughout the whole world. ⁸ God remembers his covenant forever, the word he commanded to a thousand generations, ⁹ which he made with Abraham, the solemn pledge he swore to Isaac. ¹⁰ God set it up as binding law for Jacob, as an eternal covenant for Israel, ¹¹ promising, "I hereby give you the land of Canaan as your allotted inheritance." ¹² When they were few in number— insignificant, just immigrants— ¹³ wandering from nation to nation, from one kingdom to the next, ¹⁴ God didn't let anyone oppress them. God punished kings for their sake: ¹⁵ "Don't touch my anointed ones; don't harm my prophets!" ¹⁶ When God called for a famine in the land, destroying every source of food, ¹⁷ he sent a man ahead of them, who was sold as a slave: it was Joseph.</p>

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The ruler of the people let him go free.
21 He made him lord of his house,
And ruler of all his possessions,
22 To ^[a]bind his princes at his pleasure,
And teach his elders wisdom.
23 Israel also came into Egypt,
And Jacob dwelt in the land of Ham.
24 He increased His people greatly,
And made them stronger than their enemies.
25 He turned their heart to hate His people,
To deal craftily with His servants.
26 He sent Moses His servant,
And Aaron whom He had chosen.
27 They performed His signs among them,
And wonders in the land of Ham.
28 He sent darkness, and made *it* dark;
And they did not rebel against His word.
29 He turned their waters into blood,
And killed their fish.
30 Their land abounded with frogs,
Even in the chambers of their kings.
31 He spoke, and there came swarms of flies,
And lice in all their territory.
32 He gave them hail for rain,
And flaming fire in their land.
33 He struck their vines also, and their fig trees,
And splintered the trees of their territory.
34 He spoke, and locusts came,
Young locusts without number,
35 And ate up all the vegetation in their land,
And devoured the fruit of their ground.
36 He also ^[c]destroyed all the firstborn in their land,
The first of all their strength.
37 He also brought them out with silver and gold,
And *there was* none feeble among His tribes.
38 Egypt was glad when they departed,
For the fear of them had fallen upon them.
39 He spread a cloud for a covering,
And fire to give light in the night.
40 *The people* asked, and He brought quail,
And satisfied them with the bread of heaven.
41 He opened the rock, and water gushed out;
It ran in the dry places *like* a river.

18 Joseph's feet hurt in his shackles;
his neck was in an iron collar,
19 until what he predicted actually happened,
until what the Lord had said proved him true.^[a]
20 The king sent for Joseph and set him free;
the ruler of many people released him.
21 The king made Joseph master of his house and
ruler over everything he owned,
22 to make sure his princes acted according to
his will,
and to teach wisdom to his advisors.
23 That's how Israel came to Egypt,
how Jacob became an immigrant in the land of
Ham.
24 God made his people very fruitful,
more powerful than their enemies,
25 whose hearts God changed so they hated his
people
and dealt shrewdly with his servants.
26 God sent Moses his servant
and the one he chose, Aaron.
27 They put God's signs on Egypt,^[b]
his marvelous works on the land of Ham.
28 God sent darkness, and it became dark,
but the Egyptians rejected his word.
29 God turned their waters into blood
and killed their fish.
30 God made their land swarm with frogs^[c]—
even in the bedrooms of their king!
31 God spoke, and the insects came—
gnats throughout their whole country!
32 God turned their rain into hail
along with lightning flashes throughout their land.
33 God destroyed their vines and their fig trees;
shattered the trees of their countryside.
34 God spoke, and the locusts came—
countless grasshoppers came!
35 They devoured all the plants in their land;
they devoured the fruit of their soil.
36 God struck down all the oldest sons throughout
their land; struck down their very pride and joy.
37 Then God brought Israel out, filled with silver and
gold; not one of its tribes stumbled.

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<p>⁴² For He remembered His holy promise, <i>And</i> Abraham His servant. ⁴³ He brought out His people with joy, His chosen ones with ^[4]gladness. ⁴⁴ He gave them the lands of the ^[4]Gentiles, <i>And</i> they inherited the labor of the nations, ⁴⁵ That they might observe His statutes <i>And</i> keep His laws. ^[1]Praise the Lord!</p> <p>Footnotes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Psalm 105:18 <i>His soul came into iron</i> b. Psalm 105:22 Bind as prisoners c. Psalm 105:36 Lit. <i>struck down</i> d. Psalm 105:43 <i>a joyful shout</i> e. Psalm 105:44 <i>nations</i> f. Psalm 105:45 Heb. <i>Hallelujah</i> 	<p>³⁸ Egypt celebrated when they left, because the dread of Israel had come upon them. ³⁹ God spread out clouds as a covering; gave lightning to provide light at night. ⁴⁰ The people asked, and God brought quail; God filled them full with food from heaven. ⁴¹ God opened the rock and out gushed water— flowing like a river through the desert! ⁴² Because God remembered his holy promise to Abraham his servant, ⁴³ God brought his people out with rejoicing, his chosen ones with songs of joy. ⁴⁴ God gave them the lands of other nations; they inherited the wealth of many peoples— ⁴⁵ all so that they would keep his laws and observe his instructions. Praise the Lord!</p> <p>Footnotes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Psalm 105:19 Heb uncertain b. Psalm 105:27 Correction; MT <i>they put on them the words of God's signs</i> c. Psalm 105:30 Correction; DSS (11QPs^a) <i>their land swarmed with frogs</i>
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Psalm 105

The last two psalms of Book IV are non-identical twins. Fittingly for the close of this Exodus Collection, each is a review of the exodus story, but the contrast between the positive tone of 105 and the negative tone of 106 could not be greater.

- 1. Form and freedom again**
- 2. Remember, remember (vv. 1–11)**
- 3. From Canaan to Egypt (vv. 12–23)**
- 4. In Egypt (vv. 24–36)**
- 5. From Egypt to Canaan (vv. 37–45)**
- 6. All the constellations of the storie**
- 7. What was it for?**
- 8. Descendants of Abraham his servant⁷**

18, 30, 65, 66, 67, 75, 105, 106, 108, 116, 135, 136, 138

PSALM 106 NKJV	PSALM 106 CEB
Joy in Forgiveness of Israel’s Sins	

⁷ Wilcock, M. (2001). *The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God* (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 2, pp. 128–134). Inter-Varsity Press.

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106 Praise^[a] the Lord!
 Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for *He is good!*
 For His mercy *endures* forever.
² Who can ^[b]utter the mighty acts of the Lord?
 Who can declare all His praise?
³ Blessed *are* those who keep justice,
 And ^[c]he who does righteousness at all times!
⁴ Remember me, O Lord, with the favor *You have*
*toward*Your people.
 Oh, visit me with Your salvation,
⁵ That I may see the benefit of Your chosen ones,
 That I may rejoice in the gladness of Your nation,
 That I may glory with ^[d]Your inheritance.
⁶ We have sinned with our fathers,
 We have committed iniquity,
 We have done wickedly.
⁷ Our fathers in Egypt did not understand Your
 wonders;
 They did not remember the multitude of Your
 mercies,
 But rebelled by the sea—the Red Sea.
⁸ Nevertheless He saved them for His name’s sake,
 That He might make His mighty power known.
⁹ He rebuked the Red Sea also, and it dried up;
 So He led them through the depths,
 As through the wilderness.
¹⁰ He saved them from the hand of him who
 hated *them*,
 And redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.
¹¹ The waters covered their enemies;
 There was not one of them left.
¹² Then they believed His words;
 They sang His praise.
¹³ They soon forgot His works;
 They did not wait for His counsel,
¹⁴ But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness,
 And tested God in the desert.
¹⁵ And He gave them their request,
 But sent leanness into their soul.
¹⁶ When they envied Moses in the camp,
 And Aaron the saint of the Lord,
¹⁷ The earth opened up and swallowed Dathan,
 And covered the faction of Abiram.

Praise the Lord!
 Give thanks to the Lord because he is good,
 because his faithful love endures forever.
² Who could possibly repeat all of the Lord’s mighty
 acts
 or publicly recount all his praise?
³ The people who uphold justice,
 who always do what is right, are truly happy!
⁴ Remember me, Lord, with the favor you show your
 people.
 Visit me with your saving help
⁵ so I can experience the good things your
 chosen ones experience,
 so I can rejoice in the joy of your nation,
 so I can praise along with your possession.
⁶ We have sinned—right along with our ancestors.
 We’ve done what is wrong.
 We’ve acted wickedly.
⁷ Our ancestors in Egypt didn’t understand your
 wondrous works.
 They didn’t remember how much faithful love
 you have.
 So they rebelled by the sea—at the Reed Sea.^[a]
⁸ But God saved them for the sake of his good
 name,
 to make known his mighty power.
⁹ God scolded the Reed Sea, and it dried right up;
 he led them through the deeps like they were
 a dry desert.
¹⁰ God saved them from hostile powers;
 he redeemed them from the power of the
 enemy.
¹¹ But the waters covered over their foes—
 not one of them survived!
¹² So our ancestors trusted God’s words;
 they sang God’s praise.
¹³ But how quickly they forgot what he had done!
 They wouldn’t wait for his advice.
¹⁴ They were overcome with craving in the desert;
 they tested God in the wastelands.
¹⁵ God gave them what they asked for;
 he sent food^[b] to satisfy their appetites.

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18 A fire was kindled in their company;
The flame burned up the wicked.
19 They made a calf in Horeb,
And worshiped the molded image.
20 Thus they changed their glory
Into the image of an ox that eats grass.
21 They forgot God their Savior,
Who had done great things in Egypt,
22 Wondrous works in the land of Ham,
Awesome things by the Red Sea.
23 Therefore He said that He would destroy them,
Had not Moses His chosen one stood before Him in
the breach,
To turn away His wrath, lest He destroy *them*.
24 Then they despised the pleasant land;
They did not believe His word,
25 But complained in their tents,
And did not heed the voice of the Lord.
26 Therefore He raised His hand *in an oath* against
them,
To ^[a]overthrow them in the wilderness,
27 To ^[b]overthrow their descendants among
the ^[c]nations,
And to scatter them in the lands.
28 They joined themselves also to Baal of Peor,
And ate sacrifices ^[d]made to the dead.
29 Thus they provoked *Him* to anger with their
deeds,
And the plague broke out among them.
30 Then Phinehas stood up and intervened,
And the plague was stopped.
31 And that was accounted to him for righteousness
To all generations forevermore.
32 They angered *Him* also at the waters of ^[e]strife,
So that it went ill with Moses on account of them;
33 Because they rebelled against His Spirit,
So that he spoke rashly with his lips.
34 They did not destroy the peoples,
Concerning whom the Lord had commanded them,
35 But they mingled with the Gentiles
And learned their works;
36 They served their idols,
Which became a snare to them.
37 They even sacrificed their sons

16 But then they were jealous of Moses in the camp,
jealous too of Aaron, the Lord's holy one.
17 So the earth opened up, swallowing Dathan,
and covering over Abiram's crowd.
18 Fire blazed throughout that whole group;
flames burned up the wicked.
19 They made a calf at Horeb,
bowing down to a metal idol.
20 They traded their glorious God^[a]
for an image of a bull that eats grass.
21 They forgot the God who saved them—
the one who had done great things in Egypt,
22 wondrous works in the land of Ham,
awesome deeds at the Reed Sea.
23 So God determined that he would destroy them—
except for the fact that Moses, his chosen one,
stood in the way, right in front of him,
and turned God's destructive anger away.
24 But then they rejected the land that was so
desirable.
They didn't trust God's promise.
25 They muttered in their tents
and wouldn't listen to the Lord's voice.
26 So God raised his hand against them,
making them fall in the desert,
27 scattering their offspring among the nations,
casting them across many lands.
28 They joined themselves to Baal-peor
and ate sacrifices offered to the dead.
29 They made God angry by what they did,
so a plague broke out against them.
30 Then Phinehas stood up and prayed,
and the plague was contained.
31 That's why Phinehas is considered righteous,
generation after generation, forever.
32 But they angered God at Meribah's waters,
and things went badly for Moses because of
them,
33 because they made him bitter
so that he spoke rashly with his lips.
34 They didn't destroy the nations
as the Lord had ordered them to do.
35 Instead, they got mixed up with the nations,

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And their daughters to demons,
³⁸ And shed innocent blood,
 The blood of their sons and daughters,
 Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan;
 And the land was polluted with blood.
³⁹ Thus they [Ⓜ]were defiled by their own works,
 And played [Ⓜ]the harlot by their own deeds.
⁴⁰ Therefore the wrath of the Lord was kindled
 against His people,
 So that He abhorred His own inheritance.
⁴¹ And He gave them into the hand of the Gentiles,
 And those who hated them ruled over them.
⁴² Their enemies also oppressed them,
 And they were brought into subjection under their
 hand.
⁴³ Many times He delivered them;
 But they rebelled in their counsel,
 And were brought low for their iniquity.
⁴⁴ Nevertheless He regarded their affliction,
 When He heard their cry;
⁴⁵ And for their sake He remembered His covenant,
 And relented according to the multitude of His
 mercies.
⁴⁶ He also made them to be pitied
 By all those who carried them away captive.
⁴⁷ Save us, O Lord our God,
 And gather us from among the Gentiles,
 To give thanks to Your holy name,
 To triumph in Your praise.
⁴⁸ Blessed *be* the Lord God of Israel
 From everlasting to everlasting!
 And let all the people say, "Amen!"
[Ⓜ]Praise the Lord!

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 106:1](#) Heb. *Hallelujah*
- b. [Psalm 106:2](#) *express*
- c. [Psalm 106:3](#) LXX, Syr., Tg., Vg. *those who do*
- d. [Psalm 106:5](#) The people of Your inheritance
- e. [Psalm 106:26](#) *make them fall*
- f. [Psalm 106:27](#) *make their descendants fall also*
- g. [Psalm 106:27](#) *Gentiles*
- h. [Psalm 106:28](#) *offered*
- i. [Psalm 106:32](#) *Or Meribah*
- j. [Psalm 106:39](#) *became unclean*
- k. [Psalm 106:39](#) *Were unfaithful*
- l. [Psalm 106:48](#) Heb. *Hallelujah*

learning what they did
³⁶ and serving those false gods,
 which became a trap for them.
³⁷ They sacrificed their own sons and daughters to
 demons!
³⁸ They shed innocent blood,
 the blood of their own sons and daughters—
 the ones they sacrificed to Canaan's false
 gods—
 so the land was defiled by the bloodshed.
³⁹ They made themselves unclean by what they did;
 they prostituted themselves by their actions.
⁴⁰ So the Lord's anger burned against his people;
 he despised his own possession.
⁴¹ God handed them over to the nations;
 people who hated them ruled over them.
⁴² Their enemies oppressed them,
 and they were humbled under their power.
⁴³ God delivered them numerous times,
 but they were determined to rebel,
 and so they were brought down by their own
 sin.
⁴⁴ But God saw their distress
 when he heard their loud cries.
⁴⁵ God remembered his covenant for their sake,
 and because of how much faithful love he has,
 God changed his mind.
⁴⁶ God allowed them to receive compassion
 from all their captors.
⁴⁷ Lord our God, save us!
 Gather us back together from among all the
 nations
 so we can give thanks to your holy name
 and rejoice in your praise!
⁴⁸ Bless the Lord, the God of Israel,
 from forever ago to forever from now!
 And let all the people say, "Amen!"
 Praise the Lord!

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 106:7](#) *Or Red Sea*; also in [106:9](#), [22](#)
- b. [Psalm 106:15](#) LXX
- c. [Psalm 106:20](#) *Or their Glory*

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Psalm 106

Like the last psalm, this one is a review of the exodus years. It begins later, not with Abraham but with the exodus itself and Israel’s departure from Egypt, and ends later, looking ahead into the period of the judges and perhaps further.

Again the style of writing and the development of the theme combine to suggest a possible division. Praise and remembrance (vv. 1–5) precede a very condensed account of the plagues and the crossing of the Red Sea (vv. 6–12). Conversely, working backwards from the end of the psalm—it is another chiasmus—we find remembrance and praise (vv. 43–48) following an overview of events in Canaan after Israel’s arrival there (vv. 34–42). This Canaanite section corresponds to the Egyptian section near the beginning. In between is a series of six episodes taken from the story of the desert wanderings, all of them much to Israel’s discredit (vv. 13–33).

1. *Praise and remembrance (vv. 1–5)*
2. *In Egypt (vv. 6–12)*
3. *In the desert: craving (vv. 13–15)*
4. *In the desert: envy (vv. 16–18)*
5. *In the desert: idolatry (vv. 19–23)*
6. *In the desert: grumbling (vv. 24–27)*
7. *In the desert: apostasy (vv. 28–31)*
8. *In the desert: rebellion (vv. 32–33)*
9. *In Canaan (vv. 34–42)*
10. *Remembrance and praise (vv. 43–48)*⁸

18, 30, 65, 66, 67, 75, 105, 106, 108, 116, 135, 136, 138

PSALM 108 NKJV	PSALM 108 CEB
Assurance of God’s Victory over Enemies	A song. A psalm of David.

⁸ Wilcock, M. (2001). *The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God* (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 2, pp. 134–143). Inter-Varsity Press.

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A Song. A Psalm of David.	
<p>108 O God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and give praise, even with my glory. ² Awake, lute and harp! I will awaken the dawn. ³ I will praise You, O Lord, among the peoples, And I will sing praises to You among the nations. ⁴ For Your mercy <i>is</i> great above the ^[a]heavens, And Your truth <i>reaches</i> to the clouds. ⁵ Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, And Your glory above all the earth; ⁶ That Your beloved may be delivered, Save <i>with</i> Your right hand, and ^[b]hear me. ⁷ God has spoken in His holiness: <i>"I will rejoice; I will divide Shechem And measure out the Valley of Succoth. ⁸ Gilead is Mine; Manasseh is Mine; Ephraim also is the ^[c]helmet for My head; Judah is My lawgiver. ⁹ Moab is My washpot; Over Edom I will cast My shoe; Over Philistia I will triumph." ¹⁰ Who will bring me <i>into</i> the strong city? Who will lead me to Edom? ¹¹ <i>Is it not You, O God, who</i> cast us off? And <i>You, O God, who</i> did not go out with our armies? ¹² Give us help from trouble, For the help of man is useless. ¹³ Through God we will do valiantly, For <i>it is He who</i> shall tread down our enemies.</i></p> <p>Footnotes a. Psalm 108:4 skies b. Psalm 108:6 Lit. answer c. Psalm 108:8 Lit. protection</p>	<p>108 My heart is unwavering, God. I will sing and make music— yes, with my whole being! ² Wake up, harp and lyre! I will wake the dawn itself! ³ I will give thanks to you, Lord, among all the peoples; I will make music to you among the nations, ⁴ because your faithful love is higher than heaven; your faithfulness reaches the clouds. ⁵ Exalt yourself, God, higher than heaven! Let your glory be over all the earth! ⁶ Save me by your power and answer me so that the people you love might be rescued. ⁷ God has spoken in his sanctuary: <i>"I will celebrate as I divide up Shechem and portion out the Succoth Valley. ⁸ Gilead is mine, Manasseh is mine; Ephraim is my helmet, Judah is my scepter. ⁹ But Moab is my washbowl; I'll throw my shoe at Edom. I shout in triumph over Philistia! ¹⁰ I wish someone would bring me to a fortified city! I wish someone would lead me to Edom!" ¹¹ But you have rejected us, God, haven't you? You, God, no longer accompany our armies. ¹² Give us help against the enemy— human help is worthless. ¹³ With God we will triumph: God is the one who will trample our adversaries.</i></p> <p>Footnotes a. Psalm 108:1 Ps 108:1-5 parallels Ps 57:7-11; Ps 108:6-13 parallels Ps 60:5-12.</p>

Psalm 108

Arriving at this psalm after working steadily through the previous hundred-odd, we may well have the feeling that we have been here before. Does this not duplicate something somewhere else in the Psalter, as 53 very nearly duplicates 14? Yes, it does; it reproduces parts of two earlier psalms, in fact—half of 57 and two-thirds of 60.

1. **An old enmity reawakened**
2. **An old promise remembered**
3. **An old prayer refashioned**⁹

18, 30, 65, 66, 67, 75, 105, 106, 108, 116, 135, 136, 138

PSALM 116 NKJV	PSALM 116 CEB
Thanksgiving for Deliverance from Death	

⁹ Wilcock, M. (2001). *The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God* (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 2, pp. 153–155). Inter-Varsity Press.

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116 I love the Lord, because He has heard My voice *and* my supplications.
² Because He has inclined His ear to me, Therefore I will call *upon Him* as long as I live.
³ The ^[a]pains of death surrounded me, And the ^[b]pangs of Sheol ^[c]laid hold of me; I found trouble and sorrow.
⁴ Then I called upon the name of the Lord: "O Lord, I implore You, deliver my soul!"
⁵ Gracious *is* the Lord, and righteous; Yes, our God *is* merciful. ⁶ The Lord preserves the simple; I was brought low, and He saved me.
⁷ Return to your rest, O my soul, For the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.
⁸ For You have delivered my soul from death, My eyes from tears, *And* my feet from falling.
⁹ I will walk before the Lord In the land of the living.
¹⁰ I believed, therefore I spoke, "I am greatly afflicted."
¹¹ I said in my haste, "All men *are* liars."
¹² What shall I render to the Lord *For* all His benefits toward me? ¹³ I will take up the cup of salvation, And call upon the name of the Lord. ¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the Lord Now in the presence of all His people.
¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the Lord *is* the death of His saints. ¹⁶ O Lord, truly I *am* Your servant; I *am* Your servant, the son of Your maidservant; You have loosed my bonds.
¹⁷ I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving, And will call upon the name of the Lord.
¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the Lord Now in the presence of all His people,
¹⁹ In the courts of the Lord's house, In the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

^[d] Praise the Lord!

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 116:3](#) Lit. *cords*
- b. [Psalm 116:3](#) *distresses*
- c. [Psalm 116:3](#) Lit. *found me*
- d. [Psalm 116:19](#) Heb. *Hallelujah*

16 I love the Lord because he hears my requests for mercy. ² I'll call out to him as long as I live, because he listens closely to me. ³ Death's ropes bound me; the distress of the grave^[a] found me— I came face-to-face with trouble and grief.
⁴ So I called on the Lord's name: "Lord, please save me!"^[b]
⁵ The Lord is merciful and righteous; our God is compassionate. ⁶ The Lord protects simple folk; he saves me whenever I am brought down.
⁷ I tell myself, You can be at peace again, because the Lord has been good to you.
⁸ You, God, have delivered me from death, my eyes from tears, and my foot from stumbling,
⁹ so I'll walk before the Lord in the land of the living.
¹⁰ I have remained faithful, even when I said, "I am suffering so badly!" ¹¹ even when I said, out of fear, "Everyone is a liar!"
¹² What can I give back to the Lord for all the good things he has done for me? ¹³ I'll lift up the cup of salvation. I'll call on the Lord's name. ¹⁴ I'll keep the promises I made to the Lord in the presence of all God's people.
¹⁵ The death of the Lord's faithful is a costly loss in his eyes. ¹⁶ Oh yes, Lord, I am definitely your servant! I am your servant and the son of your female servant— you've freed me from my chains.
¹⁷ So I'll offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to you, and I'll call on the Lord's name.
¹⁸ I'll keep the promises I made to the Lord in the presence of all God's people,
¹⁹ in the courtyards of the Lord's house, which is in the center of Jerusalem.
 Praise the Lord!

Footnotes

- a. [Psalm 116:3](#) Heb *Sheol*
- b. [Psalm 116:4](#) Or *my soul*; also in [116:7-8](#)

Psalm 116

As with 115, there are fine things here, but no very obvious train of thought to hold them together. Two facts, however, we do know from the outset, one from Jewish tradition, the other from the text itself.¹⁰

18, 30, 65, 66, 67, 75, 105, 106, 108, 116, 135, 136, 138

PSALM 135 NKJV	PSALM 135 CEB
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¹⁰ Wilcock, M. (2001). [The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God](#) (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 2, pp. 184–187). Inter-Varsity Press.

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Praise to God in Creation and Redemption	
<p>135 Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord; Praise <i>Him</i>, O you servants of the Lord! ² You who stand in the house of the Lord, In the courts of the house of our God, ³ Praise the Lord, for the Lord <i>is</i> good; Sing praises to His name, for <i>it is</i> pleasant. ⁴ For the Lord has chosen Jacob for Himself, Israel for His ^[a]special treasure. ⁵ For I know that the Lord <i>is</i> great, And our Lord <i>is</i> above all gods. ⁶ Whatever the Lord pleases He does, In heaven and in earth, In the seas and in all deep places. ⁷ He causes the ^[b]vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightning for the rain; He brings the wind out of His treasuries. ⁸ He ^[c]destroyed the firstborn of Egypt, ^[d]Both of man and beast. ⁹ He sent signs and wonders into the midst of you, O Egypt, Upon Pharaoh and all his servants. ¹⁰ He defeated many nations And slew mighty kings— ¹¹ Sihon king of the Amorites, Og king of Bashan, And all the kingdoms of Canaan— ¹² And gave their land <i>as</i> a ^[e]heritage, A heritage to Israel His people. ¹³ Your name, O Lord, <i>endures</i> forever, Your fame, O Lord, throughout all generations. ¹⁴ For the Lord will judge His people, And He will have compassion on His servants. ¹⁵ The idols of the nations <i>are</i> silver and gold, The work of men’s hands. ¹⁶ They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see; ¹⁷ They have ears, but they do not hear; Nor is there <i>any</i> breath in their mouths. ¹⁸ Those who make them are like them; <i>So is</i> everyone who trusts in them.</p>	<p>Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord’s name! All you who serve the Lord, praise God! ² All you who stand in the Lord’s house—who stand in the courtyards of our God’s temple— ³ praise the Lord, because the Lord is good! Sing praises to God’s name because it is beautiful! ⁴ Because the Lord chose Jacob as his own, God chose Israel as his treasured possession. ⁵ Yes, I know for certain that the Lord is great— I know our Lord is greater than all other gods. ⁶ The Lord can do whatever he wants in heaven or on earth, in the seas and in every ocean depth. ⁷ God forms clouds at the far corners of the earth. God makes lightning for the rain. God releases the wind from its storeroom. ⁸ God struck down the Egyptians’ oldest offspring— both human and animal! ⁹ God sent signs and wonders into the very center of Egypt— against Pharaoh and all his servants. ¹⁰ God struck down many nations and killed mighty kings: ¹¹ Sihon the Amorite king, Og the king of Bashan, and all the Canaanite kings. ¹² Then God handed their land over as an inheritance— as an inheritance to Israel, his own people. ¹³ Lord, your name is forever! Lord, your fame extends from one generation to the next! ¹⁴ The Lord gives justice to his people and has compassion on those who serve him. ¹⁵ The nations’ idols are just silver and gold— things made by human hands. ¹⁶ They have mouths, but they can’t speak. They have eyes, but they can’t see. ¹⁷ They have ears, but they can’t listen. No, there’s no breath in their lungs!</p>

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<p>¹⁹ Bless the Lord, O house of Israel! Bless the Lord, O house of Aaron! ²⁰ Bless the Lord, O house of Levi! You who fear the Lord, bless the Lord! ²¹ Blessed be the Lord out of Zion, Who dwells in Jerusalem! Praise the Lord!</p> <p>Footnotes</p> <p>a. Psalm 135:4 <i>precious possession</i> b. Psalm 135:7 <i>Water vapor</i> c. Psalm 135:8 <i>Lit. struck down</i> d. Psalm 135:8 <i>Lit. From man to beast</i> e. Psalm 135:12 <i>inheritance</i></p>	<p>¹⁸ Let the people who made these idols and all who trust in them become just like them! ¹⁹ House of Israel, bless the Lord! House of Aaron, bless the Lord! ²⁰ House of Levi, bless the Lord! You who honor the Lord, bless the Lord! ²¹ Bless the Lord from Zion— bless the one who lives in Jerusalem! Praise the Lord!</p>
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Psalm 135

Like 105, then, 135 reviews the story of Israel, and sees it as the story of what the Lord has done for his people. Far from being a mere history lesson, though, it is a call to them to join in singing his praises.

1. *A rich song of praise*
2. *A subtle mosaic of borrowings*
3. *An enthusiastic statement of faith*¹¹

18, 30, 65, 66, 67, 75, 105, 106, 108, 116, 135, 136, 138

PSALM 136 NKJV	PSALM 136 CEB
Thanksgiving to God for His Enduring Mercy	
<p>136 Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for <i>He is good!</i> For His mercy <i>endures</i> forever. ² Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! For His mercy <i>endures</i> forever. ³ Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy <i>endures</i> forever: ⁴ To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy <i>endures</i> forever; ⁵ To Him who by wisdom made the heavens, For His mercy <i>endures</i> forever; ⁶ To Him who laid out the earth above the waters, For His mercy <i>endures</i> forever; ⁷ To Him who made great lights,</p>	<p>Give thanks to the Lord because he is good. God’s faithful love lasts forever! ² Give thanks to the God of all gods— God’s faithful love lasts forever. ³ Give thanks to the Lord of all lords— God’s faithful love lasts forever. ⁴ Give thanks to the only one who makes great wonders— God’s faithful love lasts forever. ⁵ Give thanks to the one who made the skies with skill— God’s faithful love lasts forever. ⁶ Give thanks to the one who shaped the earth on the water— God’s faithful love lasts forever. ⁷ Give thanks to the one who made the great lights—</p>

¹¹ Wilcock, M. (2001). [The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God](#) (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 2, pp. 246–249). Inter-Varsity Press.

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For His mercy *endures* forever—
⁸ The sun to rule by day,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;
⁹ The moon and stars to rule by night,
 For His mercy *endures* forever.
¹⁰ To Him who struck Egypt in their firstborn,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;
¹¹ And brought out Israel from among them,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;
¹² With a strong hand, and with ^[a]an
 outstretched arm,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;
¹³ To Him who divided the Red Sea in two,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;
¹⁴ And made Israel pass through the midst of
 it,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;
¹⁵ But overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the
 Red Sea,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;
¹⁶ To Him who led His people through the
 wilderness,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;
¹⁷ To Him who struck down great kings,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;
¹⁸ And slew famous kings,
 For His mercy *endures* forever—
¹⁹ Sihon king of the Amorites,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;
²⁰ And Og king of Bashan,
 For His mercy *endures* forever—
²¹ And gave their land as a ^[a]heritage,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;
²² A heritage to Israel His servant,
 For His mercy *endures* forever.
²³ Who remembered us in our lowly state,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;
²⁴ And rescued us from our enemies,
 For His mercy *endures* forever;

God's faithful love lasts forever.
⁸ The sun to rule the day—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
⁹ The moon and the stars to rule the night—
 God's faithful love lasts forever!
¹⁰ Give thanks to the one who struck down the
 Egyptians' oldest offspring—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
¹¹ Give thanks to the one who brought Israel out of
 there—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
¹² With a strong hand and outstretched arm—
 God's faithful love lasts forever!
¹³ Give thanks to the one who split the Reed Sea^[a] in
 two—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
¹⁴ Give thanks to the one who brought Israel
 through—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
¹⁵ And tossed Pharaoh and his army into the Reed
 Sea—
 God's faithful love lasts forever!
¹⁶ Give thanks to the one who led his people through
 the desert—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
¹⁷ Give thanks to the one who struck down great
 kings—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
¹⁸ And killed powerful kings—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
¹⁹ Sihon, the Amorite king—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
²⁰ Og, king of Bashan—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
²¹ Handing their land over as an inheritance—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
²² As an inheritance to Israel, his servant—
 God's faithful love lasts forever!
²³ God remembered us when we were humiliated—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
²⁴ God rescued us from our enemies—
 God's faithful love lasts forever.
²⁵ God is the one who provides food for all living

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<p>25 Who gives food to all flesh, For His mercy <i>endures</i> forever. 26 Oh, give thanks to the God of heaven! For His mercy <i>endures</i> forever.</p> <p>Footnotes a. Psalm 136:12 Mighty power b. Psalm 136:21 <i>inheritance</i></p>	<p>things— God’s faithful love lasts forever! 26 Give thanks to the God of heaven— God’s faithful love lasts forever!</p> <p>Footnotes a. Psalm 136:13 Or <i>Red Sea</i>; also in 136:15</p>
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Psalm 136

One of the oldest English hymns still in use, John Milton’s ‘Let us with a gladsome mind’, is based on this psalm. Together with the metrical version by Isaac Watts, ‘Give to our God immortal praise’, it enables Christian congregations to sing at least part of a psalm that would otherwise be a rare bird indeed in its visits to our Sunday services. **A companion to Psalm 135** ¹²

18, 30, 65, 66, 67, 75, 105, 106, 108, 116, 135, 136, 138

PSALM 138 NKJV	PSALM 138 CEB
The Lord’s Goodness to the Faithful A Psalm of David.	Of David.
<p>138 I will praise You with my whole heart; Before the gods I will sing praises to You. ² I will worship toward Your holy temple, And praise Your name For Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word above all Your name. ³ In the day when I cried out, You answered me, <i>And</i> made me bold <i>with</i> strength in my soul. ⁴ All the kings of the earth shall praise You, O Lord, When they hear the words of Your mouth. ⁵ Yes, they shall sing of the ways of the Lord, For great <i>is</i> the glory of the Lord. ⁶ Though the Lord <i>is</i> on high, Yet He regards the lowly; But the proud He knows from afar. ⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me; You will stretch out Your hand Against the wrath of my enemies, And Your right hand will save me. ⁸ The Lord will ^[a]perfect <i>that which</i> concerns me; Your mercy, O Lord, <i>endures</i> forever; Do not forsake the works of Your hands.</p> <p>Footnotes a Psalm 138:8 <i>complete</i></p>	<p>138 I give thanks to you with all my heart, Lord. ^[a] I sing your praise before all other gods. ² I bow toward your holy temple and thank your name for your loyal love and faithfulness because you have made your name and word greater than everything else. ^[b] ³ On the day I cried out, you answered me. You encouraged me with inner strength. ^[c] ⁴ Let all the earth’s rulers give thanks to you, Lord, when they hear what you say. ⁵ Let them sing about the Lord’s ways because the Lord’s glory is so great! ⁶ Even though the Lord is high, he can still see the lowly, but God keeps his distance from the arrogant. ⁷ Whenever I am in deep trouble, you make me live again; you send your power against my enemies’ wrath; you save me with your strong hand. ⁸ The Lord will do all this for my sake. Your faithful love lasts forever, Lord! Don’t let go of what your hands have made.</p> <p>Footnotes a. Psalm 138:1 LXX, Syr, Tg, DSS (11QPs^a); MT lacks <i>Lord</i>. b. Psalm 138:2 Correction; Heb uncertain c. Psalm 138:3 Heb uncertain</p>

Psalm 138

The eight psalms of the fourth and last David Collection begin with 138. If it is right to see here a larger group of psalms almost completing the Psalter with a week’s sequence of fifteen (135–149), this collection is the core of it. ¹³

¹² Wilcock, M. (2001). *The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God* (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 2, pp. 249–252). Inter-Varsity Press.

¹³ Wilcock, M. (2001). *The Message of Psalms: Songs for the People of God* (J. A. Motyer, Ed.; Vol. 2, pp. 256–258). Inter-Varsity Press.