

## **I. Importance to the People of God**

- A. Originally the first book in the collection called Writings
  - 1. Hebrew title meant "The book of Praises"
  - 2. Written for musical accompaniment - "Psalms"
- B. Central place in the Christian Bible
  - 1. Psalms is the middle of the overall Scriptures
  - 2. The most read book in the Bible
  - 3. The most quoted OT book in the NT
    - a) Deuteronomy - most quoted book of Law
    - b) Isaiah - most quoted prophet
    - c) Psalms - most quoted overall
  - 4. Central place in Church History

## **II. Authorship of the Psalms**

- A. The book, as we have it, was obviously organized late in OT history
- B. Seven men are named as authors of particular Psalms
  - 1. There is strong evidence of other writers
  - 2. Some of Psalms attributed to David, Korah, and Asaph may have been collected by and not written by these authors
- C. Psalms were written over a 1000 year period

## **III. David's influence on the Psalms**

- A. 73 of the 150 are designated as Psalms of David
  - 1. Some of the other psalms seem to be his by how they are written

---

## B. David's heart

1. Psalm 27 - *When you said, "Seek my face." My heart said to you, "Your face I will seek."*
  - a) One thing I have asked of the Lord
    - (1) Dwell in His house
    - (2) Meditate in His temple
  - b) David desires to build a temple
    - (1) David was a leader / teacher
    - (2) He had a drive for others to know what he knew and to honor God.
    - (3) David never built a temple but did make preparation
      - (a) Organized for choirs to sing
      - (b) Goal was to use music to lift the heart to God
2. David as a leader / teacher
  - a) Honesty
    - (1) David had to meet people where they were
    - (2) He knew where they were because he had been there
  - b) Faith
    - (1) David found the answer to his need in God
    - (2) David called others to join him
      - (a) Testified to God's greatness
      - (b) Called others to experience the same thing

## C. Psalms stand as a testimony to the grace of God to David

1. He learned to live in God's presence despite not being free to worship at the temple
2. He has led many to God despite never building the temple