

An open Bible with a wooden cover lies on a wooden surface. The pages are filled with text, and the Bible is open to a page with a large, bold heading. The background is a dramatic sunset over a body of water, with a bright sun low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and water. The sky is filled with scattered, dark clouds, and a few birds are seen flying in the distance. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

# Chronological Bible Study

Week 15:

Solomon Becomes King

1 Kings 1:1-2:46

1 Chronicles 21:1-30

Psalms 4-6, 9-14, 16-17, 22, 25-28, 31, 35-36,  
38, 40-41, 53, 55, 58, 61, 64, 69-71, 86, 102,  
109, 139-141, 143

# Opening Prayer

[Video Link](#)







# **Introductions**

As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? Did you do anything like that as an adult?

# Questions?

# Comments?

## **Summary of This Week's Readings**

David's Succession

David's Census

Psalms of Lament

# Kings and Chronicles

[Video Link](#)



# Big Ideas in 1 & 2 KINGS



A king's legacy is based not on his power but on his character

Idolatry drives the demise of God's people; repentance draws their rescue

David's obedience sets the standard by which all other kings are measured

God is patient and merciful, but he will not allow sin to go unpunished

God speaks through his prophets

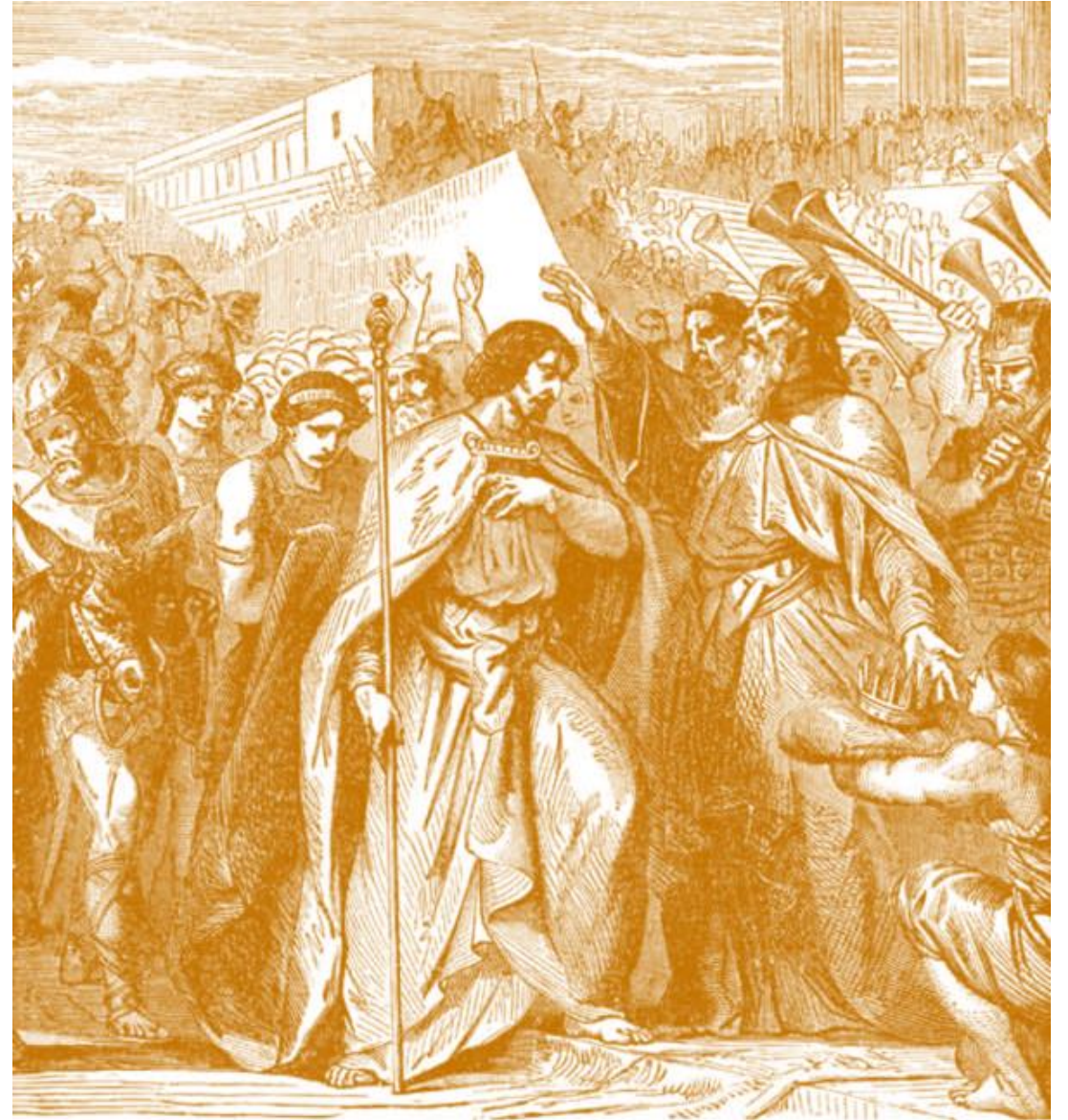
## Summary of 1 and 2 Kings

- Author unknown, but likely written over time by several generations of authors.
- Likely written sometime between 561-539 BC.
- The audience was the returned exiles from the Babylonian captivity.
- Carries on major themes of Deuteronomy: Serve only YAHWEH and obey his law
- 1-2 Kings is a theological history book that records events from a specific time and place in the past.
- The kings' accomplishments were rated as good or bad based on whether he eliminated rather than perpetuated idolatry.
- Key themes include:
  - The nature of the monarchy as a God-given task with conditions defined in the Davidic covenant.



# The Last Days of David's Rule

- Abishag found to care for David in his last days.
- David's son Adonijah plans to take over the throne.
- Bathsheba and Nathan (and other of David's closest allies) appeal to David to support Solomon
- David names Solomon king and David's supporters inform Adonijah while he is celebrating his succession.







# Succession After David

- David began including Solomon in leadership to help with his success in succession
- David arranged for Solomon to be publically anointed as king, transferred the symbols of monarchy to him, and presented him publically as the new king while David was still living.
- David Charges to Solomon
  - Walk in obedience with God
  - Keep God's commands as written in the Law of Moses
  - Be faithful to ensure the Davidic Covenant is maintained – that David's descendants would rule



# DISCUSSION

- What kind of king does David want Solomon to be? What do these verses say about David?



# David's Census

- This is the same census described in last week's reading (2 SAM 24).
- God was furious with Israel, but it is not said why. The text says David was persuaded by Satan (an adversary or evil) to conduct the census – it was not considered a request of God.
- The census was not in keeping with Israel's traditions.
- It took nearly 10 months to conduct the census
- Israel suffered a plague attributed to the census, killing 70,000 people
- David recognized his sin and begged forgiveness from God.
- David buys Araunah's threshing floor, builds an altar and the plague stops. This will be the land where the temple is built.







# Psalms of Lament

- An address to God in the form of a complaint or request with an expression of trust
- Key elements of a lament psalm:
  - Address or Invocation
  - Lament or complaint
  - Petition
  - Praise
- David's laments often tied to specific events in his life

# How to Lament

[Video Link](#)





# Lament versus Groaning

- Lament is a common type of prayer for God's people.
- It is not reserved for occasional tragic events, but part of ongoing worship of God's people.
- Lament gives us words for our groaning.
- Groaning/complaining is easy. We naturally complain about hardship. It takes faith to lament.
- A lament without trust in the Lord is a complaint.
- Laments include the humility to understand that God's plan and power is greater than our own

Four steps or movements in Biblical Lament:

**TURN** | ADDRESS GOD

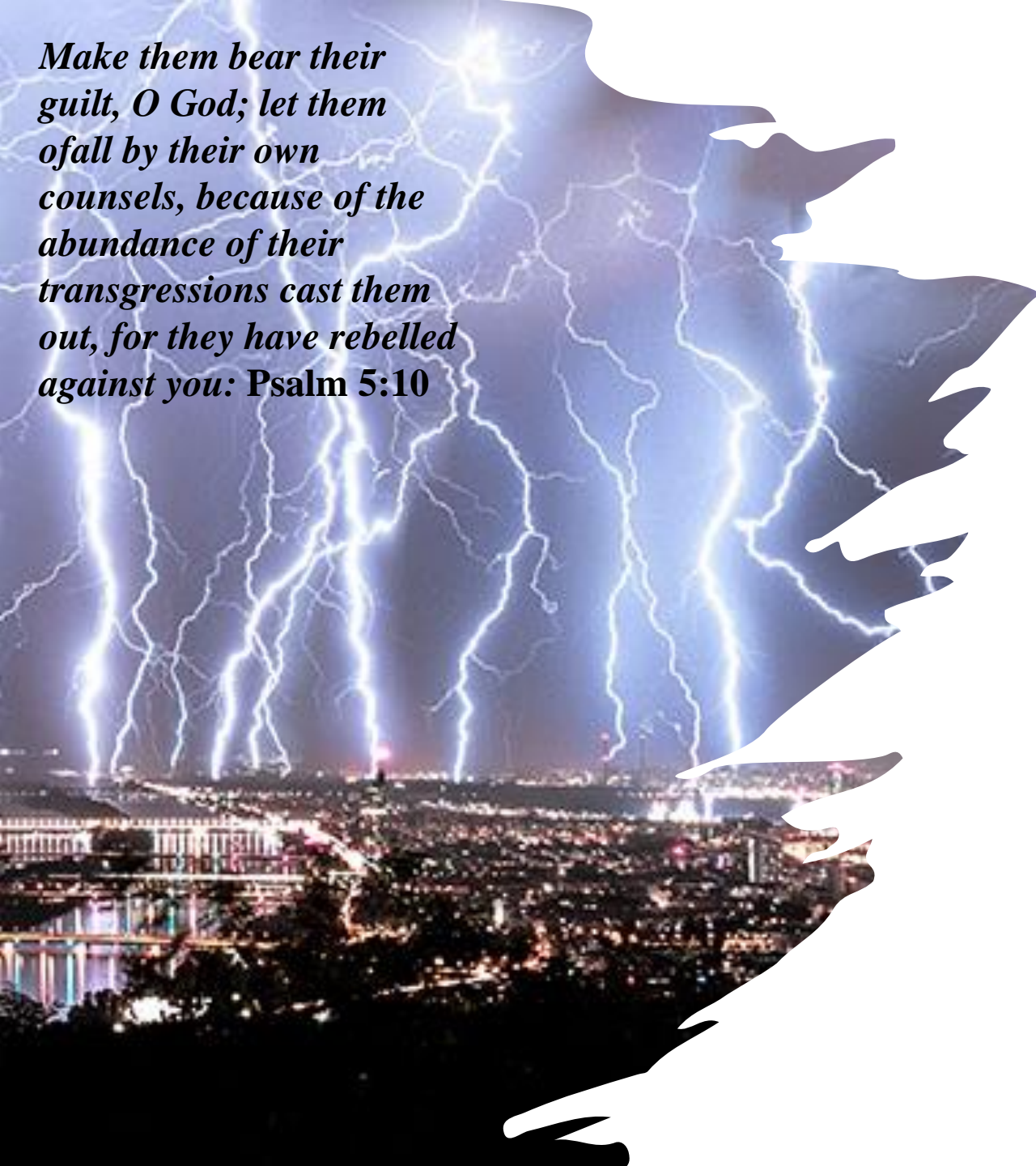
**COMPLAIN** | STATE YOUR CASE  
EARNESTLY

**ASK** | BOLDLY MAKE YOUR  
REQUEST(S) KNOWN

**TRUST** | EXPRESS TRUST OR  
PRAISE

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*Make them bear their  
guilt, O God; let them  
of all by their own  
counsels, because of the  
abundance of their  
transgressions cast them  
out, for they have rebelled  
against you: Psalm 5:10*

# Imprecatory Prayers

- Prayers against an enemy.
- Not asking God to be unjust.
- Praying that God's purposes prevail and that God's will be done.
- Vengeance, mercy, and salvation belong to God not man.
- They are prayers for justice.
- They must be prayed with wisdom and love and prayed rarely.



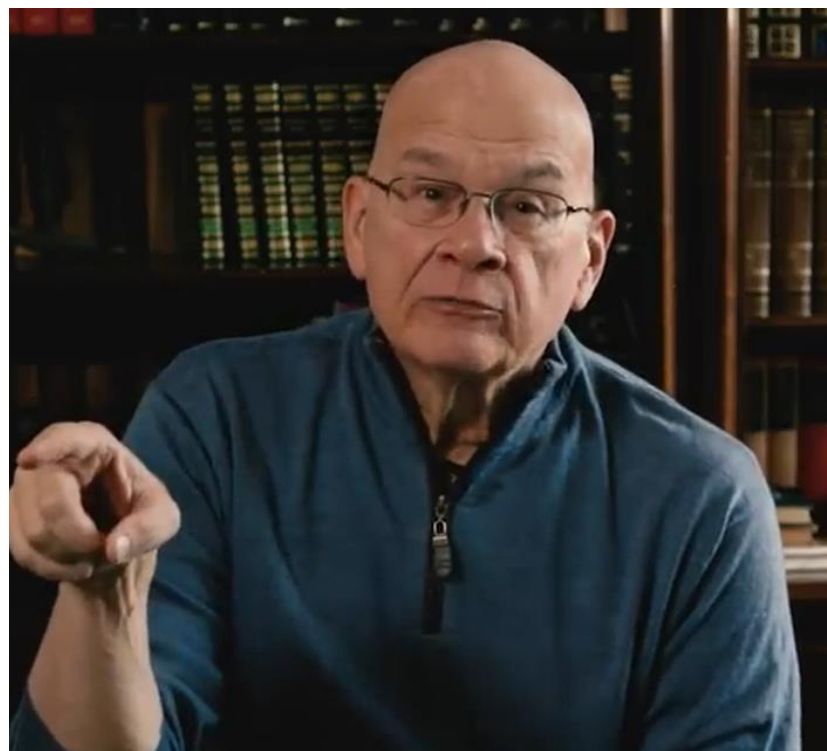
# DISCUSSION

- Do you pray these kinds of Prayer?
- How can laments help keep you from being despondent in difficult times?
- What Psalms of lament might Christians pray today as a community?



# Trusting God in Difficult Times: Psalm 11

[Video Link](#)



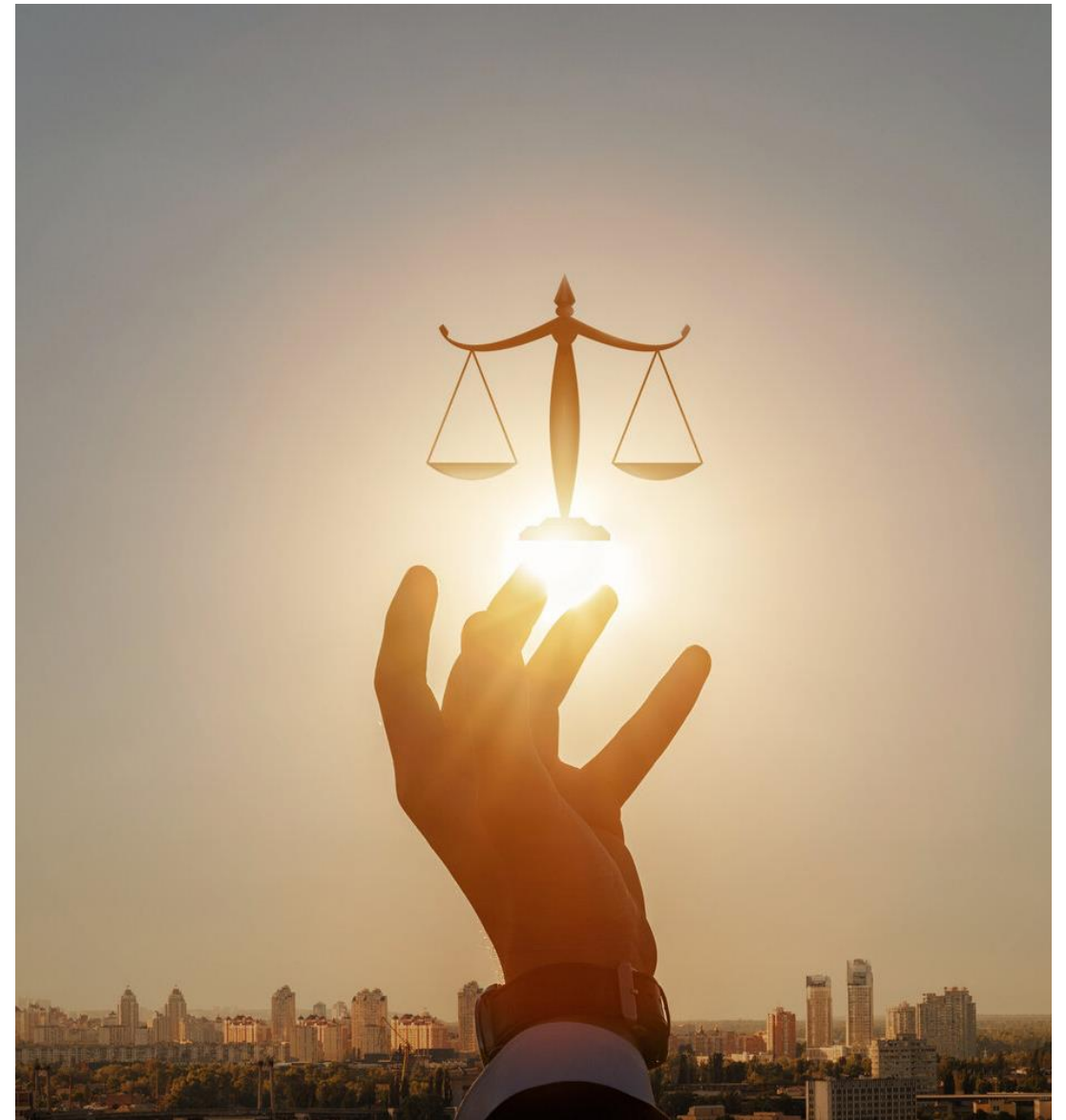


# Summary of This Week's Psalms

| Psalm | Theme   |
|-------|---|
| 4     | <b>Trust in God</b> brings great joy and a peace that allows sleep. God has set you apart and you are secure. The sufferings today will heighten your future glory and joy. |
| 5     | Leave the punishment of enemies in God's hands. <b>Seek refuge in God.</b>  |
| 6     | In times of trouble and anguish we need to look to and <b>trust in God.</b>   |
| 9     | God is not surprised by global upheaval and strife. We need to <b>trust God's grace.</b>  |
| 10    | <b>God is just</b> and will right wrongs and cleanse the world of injustice.  |
| 11    | Nothing goes unnoticed by <b>God, who is in control. Trust in God.</b>  |
| 12    | God, unlike liars, is not deceptive when making promises. <b>God's words can be trusted.</b>  |
| 13    | <b>God's steadfast love</b> must be remembered when we feel God has forgotten us.   |
| 14    | Sin is universal but grace is universally available when we trust God.  |

# What Is Righteousness and Justice?

- The quality of being right in the eyes of God in character, conscience, action, and word,
- Righteousness is a God Centered attribute: God is the standard for righteousness. No man can attain it on his own effort.
- Righteousness is not legalistic – it's not about our achievements.
- Justice is a specific expression of God's righteousness. Justice and righteousness are central to the heart of God.
- Jesus commands us to pursue righteousness.
- Faith brings righteousness. This is a theme we will see throughout our readings.





# Summary of This Week's Psalms

| Psalm | Theme  |
|-------|--|
| 16    | <b>God's presence brings joy</b>   |
| 17    | <b>God will bring final justice</b> and we can seek <b>refuge</b> in him.                            |
| 22    | There is pain in feeling forsaken. <b>God is always with us.</b> We should acknowledge his kingship. |
| 25    | We need God in our life journey. <b>Take refuge and abide in God.</b>                                |
| 26    | We can count on God to deliver us. <b>God is there for his people and delivers them.</b>             |
| 27    | <b>If God is your light and salvation you need not fear.</b>   |
| 28    | <b>Turn to God when helpless and confused.</b>   |
| 31    | <b>Take refuge in God, He is our protector.</b>  |
| 35    | <b>God rescues the lowly and protects them</b>   |

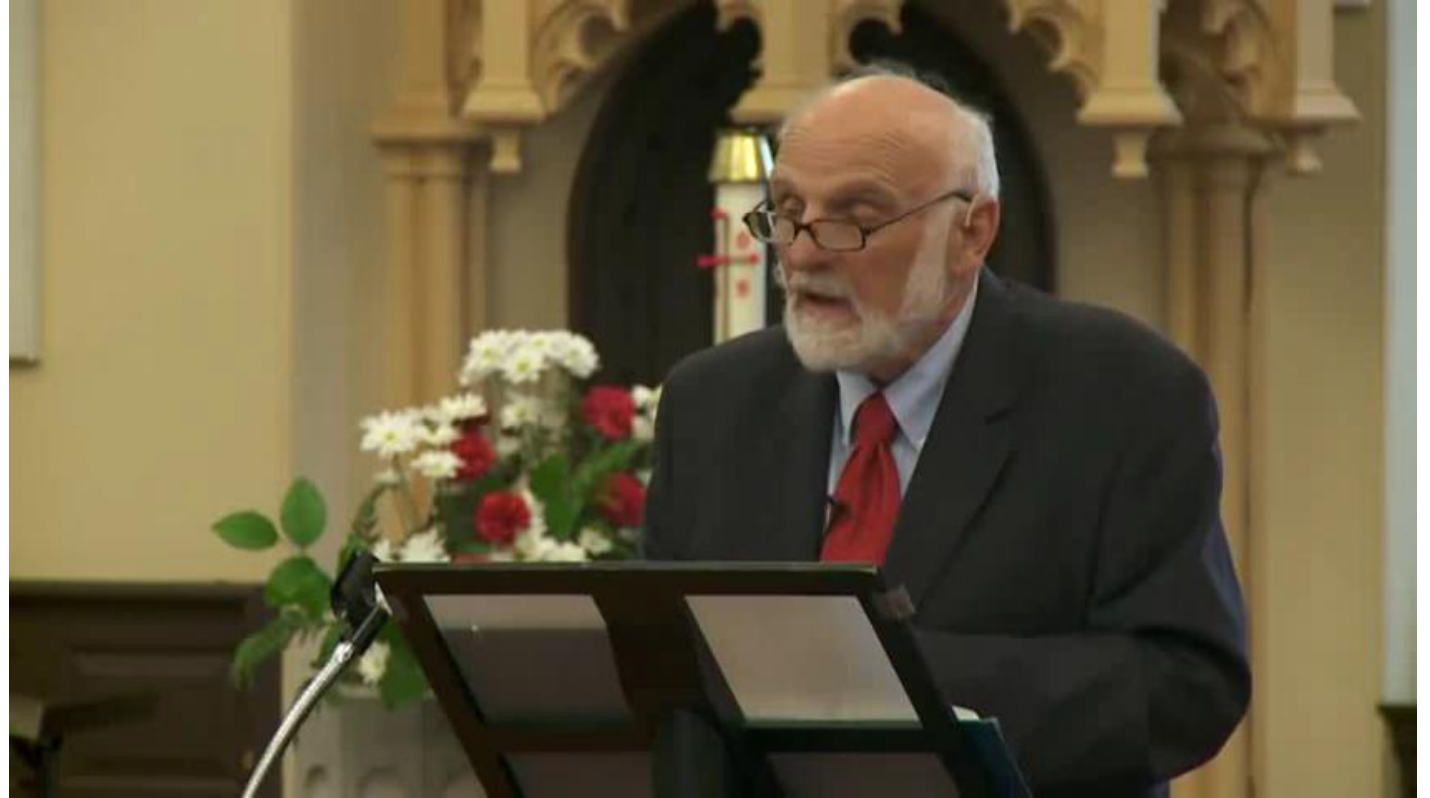
# Summary of This Week's Psalms

| Psalm | Theme  |
|-------|--|
| 36    | <b>Take refuge in God.</b> God will triumph and care for us.   |
| 38    | <b>God is graceful.</b> He is less a judge than a teacher. There is hope for deliverance.              |
| 40    | We need <b>God, who is always present.</b> Consider God's work in the past to foretell the future.     |
| 41    | Concern for the poor and needy and weak is righteous. <b>We all need God's mercy and grace.</b>        |
| 53    | <b>We all need the mercy of God, who is graceful.</b>  |
| 55    | <b>Seek God's refuge</b> when feel betrayed.   |
| 58    | <b>God is just and will put things right.</b> We do not need to judge. We can leave it in God's hands. |
| 61    | We can trust that <b>God is with us and will protect us. God is full of grace.</b> We are not alone.   |
| 64    | The tongue has destructive powers. <b>Justice is God's to give. We take refuge in God.</b>             |



# The Power of Lament

[Video Link](#)



# DISCUSSION

What are your thoughts on the power of the lament? Do you find comfort in invoking God in your prayers?



# Summary of This Week's Psalms

| Psalm | Theme   |
|-------|---|
| 69    | <b>God is merciful and will protect us</b> from our enemies.  |
| 70    | We must look outside ourselves. <b>We must rely on God.</b>   |
| 71    | <b>Pain and suffering are meant to draw our hearts to God. We must pass down faith to future generations.</b> |
| 86    | <b>Submit humbly to God. God is full of grace and mercy.</b>  |
| 102   | <b>God's grace has significance beyond our brief life.. Teach future generations to praise God.</b>           |
| 109   | <b>God is just and we can rely on His steadfast love.</b> Injustice does not have the final word.             |
| 139   | God can see the true devotion in our heart. <b>God is wise, omnipotent and great. We can trust God.</b>       |
| 140   | <b>God judges justly.</b> We should not take judgement into our own hands. <b>We can trust God.</b>           |
| 141   | There is a need for accountability. <b>We can trust God</b> to vindicate in his own way and time.             |
| 143   | We have a deep need for the <b>grace of God.</b> No one is righteous.   |





## Readings:

1 Chronicles 22-29

Psalms: 2, 15, 20-21, 24, 30, 37, 42-49, 72, 88-85, 87, 93-95, 97-99, 101, 110, 144

*Consider registering for “**Following Jesus for Life**” with Pastor Jack – a 6-week course after church on Sunday Jan 21-Feb 28 (11:45 – 1:15). Light lunch provided. [Click to Register](#) on the church website.*

# Psalm 27 Original Melody

[Video Link](#)



# Solomon Becomes King

9-15 JAN 2024

1 KI 1-2; 1 CH 21; PS 4-6, 9-14, 16-17, 22, 25-28, 31, 35-36, 38, 40-41, 53, 55, 58, 61, 64, 69-71, 86, 102, 109, 139, 141, 143

Week 15

We begin our readings with David making his son Solomon king. The succession was not “clean”, however, with Solomon’s elder brother feeling entitled to the throne. Prior to his death, David urges Solomon to remain obedient to God and to pay close attention to the consequences of his actions. David dedicated all of the spoils of war to God, suggesting that he viewed his battles as campaigns of holy war – initiated and led by God. All proceeds of the victory belonged to God. As we read, thank God for our spiritual forefathers and recommit ourselves to passing on God’s truth to the next generation.

## Weekly Reading Plan

Day 1: 1KI 1:1-2:46; 1CH 21:1-30  
Day 2: PS 4, 5, 6, 9, 10  
Day 3: PS 11-14, 16, 17, 22  
Day 4: PS 25-28, 31  
Day 5: PS 35, 36, 38, 40, 41  
Day 6: PS 53, 55, 58, 61, 64, 69-71  
Day 7: PS 86, 102, 109, 139-141, 143

## Outline

Establishing Solomon as King [Day 1]  
The Military Victories of King David [Day 1]  
David’s Final Years [Day 1]  
David’s Psalms of lament [Days 2-7]

## Key Characters

David            Nathan  
Bathsheba     Adonijah  
Solomon        Joab  
Zadok

## Key Locations

Judah  
Jerusalem  
Moab

## Key Terms

Covenant  
Lament  
Obedience

## Key Verses

“So be strong, act like a man, and observe what the Lord your God requires: Walk in obedience to him, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and regulations, as written in the Law of Moses. Do this so that you may prosper in all you do and wherever you go and that the Lord may keep his promise to: “If your descendants watch how they live, and if they walk faithfully before me with all their heart and soul, you will never fail to have a successor on the throne of Israel.” [1 KI 2:2-4]

Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord. [PS 4:6]

For the Lord is righteous, he loves justice. Upright men will see his face. [PS 11:7]

Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long. [PS 25:4-5]

The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear? [PS 27:1]

This is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life. [PS 27:4]

Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall. [PS 55:22]



## Chapter Summaries (from @biblesummary)

**1Ki1:** David was very old. His son Adonijah exalted himself as king. When David heard he told Zadok and Nathan to anoint Solomon as king.

**1Ki2:** David charged Solomon to keep the law and to punish Joab and Shimei. Then David died. Solomon had Adonijah, Joab and Shimei executed.

**1Ch21:** Satan led David to count the Israelites. God sent a plague and a destroying angel. David bought Ornan's field and made offerings.

**Ps4:** Answer me when I call, O God! O people, how long will you seek lies? Put your trust in the LORD! O LORD, you make me sleep in safety.

**Ps5:** Hear my cry, O LORD! You hate all evildoers. Lead me in righteousness because of my enemies. Let all who take refuge in you rejoice!

**Ps6:** Be merciful to me, O LORD! My soul is in anguish. I flood my bed with tears. Depart from me, you evildoers! The LORD has heard my cry.

**Ps9:** I will praise you, O LORD! You have rebuked the nations. The LORD will judge the world with justice. The needy will not be forgotten.

**Ps10:** O LORD, why do you stand far off? The wicked man hunts the weak. He says, "God will never see." O God, break the arm of the wicked!

**Ps13:** How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? Look on me and answer! Give light to my eyes. But I will trust in your unfailing love.

**Ps14:** The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." There is no one who does good. Will evildoers never learn? God is with the righteous.

**Ps16:** Protect me, O God! I have no good besides you. The LORD is my portion. I will not be shaken. In your presence is fullness of joy!

**Ps17:** Hear a just cause, O LORD. My steps have held to your paths. Hide me in the shadow of your wings. Deliver my life from the wicked.

**Ps22:** My God, why have you forsaken me? I am despised. They have pierced my hands. You have answered me! The nations will worship the LORD!

## Chapter Summaries (from @biblesummary)

Ps25: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. Show me your ways, teach me your paths. Be gracious to me, forgive my sins. I take refuge in you.

Ps26: Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked with integrity. I do not sit with deceitful men. I love the place where your glory dwells.

Ps27: The LORD is my light and my salvation. My heart will not fear. I will seek your face, O LORD; do not forsake me! Wait for the LORD.

Ps28: To you I cry, O LORD my rock. Repay the wicked according to their works! The LORD is my shield. He is the strength of his people.

Ps31: In you, O LORD, I seek refuge. Into your hand I commit my spirit. Deliver me from my enemies. Praise the LORD for his steadfast love!

Ps35: O LORD, fight against those who fight against me! Then I will rejoice. They repay evil for good. Vindicate me in your righteousness!

Ps36: The wicked flatter themselves. Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens. In your light we see light. There the evildoers lie fallen.

Ps38: O LORD, your arrows have pierced me! My guilt has overwhelmed me. My strength fails me. I confess my sin. Do not forsake me, my God!

Ps40: I waited patiently for the LORD. He drew me up from the pit. I delight to do your will, O God. My heart fails me, but you are my help.

Ps41: Blessed are those who consider the weak. My enemies say, "When will he die?" They gather slander. But you, O LORD, have upheld me.

Ps55: Give ear to my prayer, O God. My heart is in anguish. It is my equal, my friend who rises against me! Cast your burden on the LORD.

Ps58: Do you rulers judge justly? No, you mete out violence. O God, break their teeth! The righteous will rejoice when they see vengeance.

Ps61: Hear my cry, O God! Lead me to the rock that is higher than I. Prolong the life of the king. So I will ever sing praise to your name.

## Chapter Summaries (from @biblesummary)

**Ps64:** Hear me, O God! Hide me from the plots of the wicked, who ambush the blameless. God will bring them to ruin. Let the upright be glad!

**Ps69:** Save me, O God! I endure scorn for your sake. Rescue me from the mire. My foes are all known to you. Let your salvation protect me!

**Ps70:** Make haste to help me, O God! May those who seek my life be put to shame. May all who seek you rejoice, O LORD, do not delay.

**Ps71:** In you, O LORD, I take refuge. Do not forsake me when my strength fails. I will tell of your righteousness. I will praise you, O God.

**Ps86:** Hear, O LORD, and answer me. Save your servant! You alone are God. I will glorify your name forever. Show me a sign of your favor.

**Ps102:** Hear my prayer, O LORD; I wither away like grass. You sit enthroned forever. The heavens will perish, but your years have no end.

**Ps109:** Do not be silent, O God. For wicked mouths speak against me. May his name be blotted out! Let curses come upon him! Help me, O LORD.

**Ps139:** O LORD, you have known me. Where can I go from your Spirit? You knit me together in my mother's womb. Search me and know my heart.

**Ps40:** I waited patiently for the LORD. He drew me up from the pit. I delight to do your will, O God. My heart fails me, but you are my help.

**Ps140:** Rescue me, O LORD, from evildoers; protect me from the violent. You are my God, my salvation. The LORD executes justice for the poor.

**Ps141:** O LORD, may my prayer be as incense. Do not turn my heart to evil. Let the righteous rebuke me. Keep me from the traps of the wicked.**Ps58:** Do you rulers judge justly? No, you mete out violence. O God, break their teeth! The righteous will rejoice when they see vengeance.

**Ps143:** Hear my prayer, O LORD! My enemy has crushed my life. My soul thirsts for you. Teach me the way I should go. Destroy my adversaries.



## Teachings About God

- God keeps his promises. Solomon becomes king even though Adonijah was David's oldest living son.
- God does everything for a reason.
- God tests people's hearts to show them their sins.
- God wants people to know their need for His mercy.
- God is compassionate, slow to anger and quick to forgive.
- God's way is perfect.
- God can transform failure into victory and into faith.
- God is with us, even in times of trouble.

## Teachings About Humanity

- 1 Kings 2 reveals how to be a spirit led leader: obedience, justice, faith, impartiality, mercy, judgment and fairness
- People must be faithful to keep true to their calling. Have faith in God alone.
- It is important to follow God's Word and allow him to help us become the people he wants us to be.
- A godly man instructs his children.
- A godly person cultivates and practices a life of courage. God gives us confidence.
- All have sinned and rebelled against God.
- We must ascribe glory to God for our victories.
- The decisions of leaders have consequences for those who follow them.

## Teachings About Salvation

- The Holy Spirit convicts people to cause them to repent (1 CHR 21)
- God wants people to have faith in Him for deliverance.
- Deliverance does not come without sacrifice.
- We must put our trust in God as a just judge.

## Reflections of Christ/Holy Spirit

- In 1 CHR 21, David pays the full cost to build an altar at Jesus' future place of sacrifice.
- In Psalm 4, Jesus is the face that shines on us.
- Jesus recited psalms of lament from the cross.

## Literary Genres/Techniques

- 1 Kings focuses on Solomon's reign. The author was interested in chronological data. Typical formula: in the \_\_\_ year of \_\_\_ son of \_\_\_ became king over Judah (or Israel) and he reigned \_\_\_ years.
- Everything in 1 Kings happened in either Judah or Israel
- Both 1 Kings and 1 Chronicles are narrative history.
- The psalms this week are lament psalms: a complaint, request and expression of trust to God.

## Author/Date of Writing

- Ezra may have written 1 CH c450 BC to Israelites in Jerusalem after they returned from exile.
- Jeremiah may have written 1 Kings c560 BC. The perspective is that of the exile in Babylon but used sources from an earlier time.
- The Psalms were songs of David written in his times of troubles and attack.

1 KI 1-2; 1 CH 21; PS 4-6, 9-14, 16-17, 22, 25-28, 31, 35-36, 38, 40-41, 53, 55, 58, 61, 64, 69-17, 86, 102, 109, 139, 141, 143

Week 15

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## What did I learn about God?

- What does the story in 1 CH 21:1-30 (David taking a census) say about the link between sin and suffering? Between sin and sacrifice? Between humility and service? Between wrath and mercy? What bearing does this have on our confidence that God brings good out of the trials we endure?
- Psalm 9 says “The Lord is known by his justice” and Psalm 10 says sometimes the Lord seems far away in times of trouble. What hope do these psalms give people suffering injustice? Why is God sometimes so silent in time of great need?
- What does Psalm 26 tell us are the ways God tests the mind and heart?
- In Psalm 86 David describes many actions and attributes that define the nature of God. Do we see these today? How is God the Lord of modern day affairs? Of our life? What personal demands does God’s lordship make on us?

## What did I learn about human nature?

- What kind of king does David want Solomon to be (1 KI 2:2-4)? What advice does David give in verses 5-9? What do these verses say about David?
- How does the desire for vengeance, even if justified, affect a person’s life? How did David recommend Solomon deal with vengeance in 1 KI 2:5-17)? How did Solomon secure his kingdom (1 KI 2:13-46)? Is it reasonable that Solomon needed to protect himself?
- Psalm 12, the Psalmist talks of “flattering lips”. Why are a person’s words so important? When can a small word hurt a lot? Encourage a lot? What does PS 12:4 mean (“We will triumph with our tongues; we own our lips – who is our master?”)?
- In Psalm 35, David prays for vengeance on his enemies. Are you comfortable with this? How might a Christian pray “against” enemies?

## What did I learn about my life/relationship with God?

- Regarding Psalm 5: Why pray for the same thing day after day? How can you tell if God is answering “Wait” or “No”? When God doesn’t seem to answer your prayer (Psalm 10) do you persevere in faith anyway? How?
- In what areas of your life could someone be praying Psalm 10 against you? In what areas of your life are you part of solution? Part of the problem?
- In Psalm 53 David says “the fool says in his heart, there is no God”. Is there any area of your life that runs without (or with little) regard to God? How can you put your faith to work in that area today?
- When you experience serious problems or calamity can you direct your thoughts to God as David did in Psalm 143 to keep from becoming despondent? What do you focus on? When is the last time you felt you were walking on “level ground”? Are you usually climbing upwards or going “downhill”? Are you teachable? When did you last change your mind on an important matter?

## Insights about the time and/or customs?

- Explain how PS 86:8 fits Israel’s unique view of the oneness and onliness of YHWH.
- What organ of the human body was believed to be the origin of thought and feelings (see Psalm 16)?