

Introductory Diagram: Overall Structure of the Psalter

PSALM	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	
Book	Book I: Psalms 1–41								Book II: Psalms 42–72								Book III: Psalms 73–89	
Theme	CONFRONTATION								COMMUNICATION								DEVIATION	

PSALM	95	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150
Book	Book IV: Psalms 90–106						Book V: Psalms 107–150					
Theme	MATURATION						CONSUMMATION					

Diagram 1. Book I (Psalms 1–41): CONFRONTATION

PSALM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9/10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Author			First Davidic Collection (Pss. 3–41*) →													
Torah/Messianic Coupling	Torah Psalm	Messianic Psalm														
Acrostic Psalms									Acrostic Psalm(s)							
Creation Psalms								Creation Psalm (prior to acrostic)								
Significant Groupings/ Themes	Introduction to the Psalter															
Poetic Pyramid Psalms																
Focal Messianic Psalm		Focal Messianic Psalm														

PSALM	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Author	First Davidic Collection (Pss. 3–41*) →							
Torah/Messianic Coupling	Messianic Psalm	Torah Psalm						
Acrostic Psalms								
Creation Psalms							Creation Psalm (prior to acrostic)	Acrostic Psalm
Significant Groupings/ Themes			Kingship Psalms (responding to Ps. 18)					Teaching Psalm (responding to Ps. 19)
		Messiah's Kingship	Combined Kingship				Yahweh's Kingship	
Poetic Pyramid Psalms			Pinnacle Psalm					
			Poetic Pyramid					
Focal Messianic Psalm					Focal Messianic Psalm			

* The asterisk indicates that not all the psalms of this grouping may be attributed by their titles to this author

PSALM	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41
Author	First Davidic Collection (Pss. 3–41*) (continued)															
Torah/Messianic Coupling	Second segment (Pss. 18–41) of this Davidic collection (continued)															
Acrostic Psalms									Acrostic Psalm			Acrostic Psalm				
Creation Psalms								Creation Psalm (prior to acrostic)								
Significant Groupings/ Themes					Regal Dwellingplace Psalms				4 Psalms of the Innocent Sufferer (bracketed by acrostics)				4 Psalms of the Guilty Sufferer			
Quasi-Acrostic									Quasi-Acrostic				Quasi-Acrostic			
Poetic Pyramid Psalms				Pinnacle Psalm	Poetic Pyramid											

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Diagram 2. Book II (Psalms 42–72): COMMUNICATION

PSALM	42/43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60		
Author	Sons of Korah* (1/3 of Book II)																			
Significant Groupings/ Themes	Individual Introductory Psalm(s)	Corporate Introductory Psalm	Kingship Psalms		Judicial Summons and Respondents												Atheism Revisited	7 Specified Enemies		
			Messiah's Kingship	Elohim's Kingship	Summons to the Nations	Summons to God's People	David as Respondent	Doeg as Respondent												
			Focal Messianic Psalm																	
Focal Messianic Psalm																				

PSALM	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	
Author	Second Davidic Collection (Pss. 51–71*) (2/3 of Book II) (continued)												
Significant Groupings/ Themes	Dialogue of the Kings												
	Cry of the King (4 Psalms)			Response of Elohim (4 Psalms)									Ongoing Struggle
Focal Messianic Psalm				Focal Messianic Psalm									Focal Messianic Psalm

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Diagram 3. Book III (Psalms 73–89): DEVASTATION

PSALM	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86*	87	88	89
Author	Asaph (2/3 of Book III)																
Significant Groupings/ Themes	Individual Introductory Psalm	Corporate Introductory Psalm	Elohim's Kingship over Earthly Kings	Devastation and Deliverance of Southern and Northern Kingdoms									Positive Perspective by the Sons of Korah*			Individual and Corporate Distress	
Poetic Pyramid Psalms				Pinnacle Psalm		Poetic Pyramid											
Focal Messianic Psalm				Focal Messianic Psalm													

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† Psalm 86 is the one psalm attributed to David by its title in Book III

Diagram 4. Book IV (Psalms 90–106): MATURATION

PSALM	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	
Author	Moses											Davidic Triad*						
Significant Groupings/ Themes	Introductory Psalms: The Prospect of Prosperity and Long Life	Yahweh Malak Psalms Praise and Worship												First Hallelu-YAH Triad		2 Psalms of Historical Recollection		
Poetic Pyramid Psalms							Pinnacle Psalm											Poetic Pyramid

* The asterisk indicates that not all the psalms of this grouping may be attributed by their titles to this author

Diagram 5. Book V (Psalms 107 – 150): CONSUMMATION

PSALM	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119
Author		Davidic Triad											
Torah/Messianic Coupling												Messianic Psalm	Torah Psalm
Acrostic Psalms					Acrostic Psalms								Acrostic Psalm
Significant Groupings/ Themes	Introductory Psalm				Initial Hallelu-YAH Grouping of Book V								
Poetic Pyramid Psalms								Pinnacle Psalm					
					Poetic Pyramid								
Focal Messianic Psalm				Focal Messianic Psalm								Focal Messianic Psalm	

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Diagram 5. Book V (Psalms 107–150): CONSUMMATION

PSALM	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134
Author		David	David		David			Central Solomonic Psalm				David		David	
Torah/Messianic Coupling															
Acrostic Psalms															
Significant Groupings/ Themes	Psalms of Ascents														
Poetic Pyramid Psalms	Pinnacle Psalm														
Focal Messianic Psalm	Poetic Pyramid														

PSALM	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150
Author	Final Davidic Collection (Pss. 138–145)															
Acrostic Psalms											Acrostic Psalm					
Significant Groupings/ Themes	Hallelu- YAH	Transitional Psalms of Historical Recollection		Hallelu- YAH Finale												
Poetic Pyramid Psalms	Pinnacle Psalm															
	Poetic Pyramid															