

## The Psalms by Author, Topic & Correlation

Number	Author	Topic	Correlation/notation
1	Anonymous	Contrasting the blessings of the righteous and the fate of the wicked	
2	Anonymous	The futility of national opposition to God	
3	David	God's protection in face of adversity	Absalom's take-over (2 Samuel 15:14-16:14)
4	David	Confronting the powerful who oppose him, addressing men who pursue false gods	For the choir director, with stringed instruments
5	David	Access to God for the god-fearing; rejection for the wicked	For the choir director, for flutes
6	David	Weariness under God's discipline	For the choir director, with stringed instruments
7	David	Refuge from the wicked	When falsely accused by the Benjamite, Cush
8	David	Admiring God's handiwork and marveling that He cares for insignificant people	For the choir director
9	David	Praise for God's protection	For the choir director
10	Anonymous	Appeal to God for justice against the arrogant	
11	David	God's awareness of our condition	For the choir director
12	David	Distress at the lack of sincere people and the prevalence of fools	For the choir director
13	David	How long, O Lord...?	For the choir director
14	David	A fool rejects God.	Similar to #53
15	David	Who has access to God	
16	David	God is our refuge and inheritance	
17	David	Prayer for justice, considering his allegiance to God and the wickedness of his enemies	
18	David	God's help and protection against his enemies	For the choir director; after God delivered him from all his enemies, esp. Saul (2 Samuel 22)
19	David	Praise for God's handiwork	For the choir director
20	David	Promise to his sons/successors that God will help	For the choir director
21	David	Thanks to God for making him king and blessing him	For the choir director
22	David	Prophetic psalm describing the crucifixion	For the choir director
23	David	Shepherd psalm	Probably while David tended his father's sheep
24	David	The majesty of God, the King, and who may approach Him	
25	David	Complete dependence and submission to God	
26	David	Certain of his integrity before God, David invites the Lord to scrutinize his heart	
27	David	Considering the completeness of God's protection, we have no one to fear.	
28	David	Appeal for mercy and distinction from the wicked	
29	David	Worship our mighty God who blesses His people.	
30	David	The help and favor of God	The dedication of the temple (2 Samuel 6:17)
31	David	God's help and protection for the faithful	For the choir director
32	David	The struggle of hiding sin and the relief in God's forgiveness	
33	Anonymous	Worship, adore and depend on our mighty God, not men.	

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34	David	God's protection and blessing for those who depend on Him	When he pretended insanity at Abimelech's court (1 Samuel 21:10-15)
35	David	Appeal for God to take up his cause against his enemies	Someone was falsely accusing and plotting against him.
36	David	The rebellion of the wicked, the greatness of God and an appeal for help	For the choir director
37	David	Don't freak out when evildoers seem to prosper, but depend on God, who rewards those who trust Him.	
38	David	Physical and circumstantial hardship, due to unconfessed sin	
39	David	The futility of trying to avoid sin on our own, versus relying on God	For the choir director, Jeduthun
40	David	Appeal for God to help, as He has in the past	For the choir director
41	David	Blessing for those who help others; plea for pity because of people who gossip about him	For the choir director
42	Sons of Korah	Longing for God and self-consolation	For the choir director
43	Anonymous	Continuation or companion piece for #42	
44	Sons of Korah	Grief over God's abandonment of His people	For the choir director
45	Sons of Korah	A love song from a king to his queen	Perhaps sung at Solomon's wedding?
46	Sons of Korah	Why worry when a God as mighty and faithful as ours defends us?	For the choir director
47	Sons of Korah	Worship God, the King, with your hands, music and song	For the choir director
48	Sons of Korah	The greatness of God and His holy city	
49	Sons of Korah	Fools trust in their own resources, but the righteous depends on God's deliverance	For the choir director
50	Asaph	A mighty God confronts hypocrisy	
51	David	Appeal for forgiveness for sin and restoration	For the choir director; when Nathan confronted David about his sin with Bathsheba (2 Samuel 12)
52	David	Curses against an evil man who spreads lies and bloodshed	For the choir director; when Doeg, the Edomite told Saul about David's visit to Ahimelech (1 Samuel 22:6-23)
53	David	A fool rejects God.	Similar to #14
54	David	Appeal for protection against spies and enemies	For the choir director; when the Ziphites told Saul David was hiding among them (1 Samuel 23:15-29)
55	David	Appeal for help when he felt he had been betrayed by a friend	For the choir director

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56	David	The stress of being watched and pursued	For the choir director; when David was captured by the Philistines in Gath (1 Samuel 21:10-15)
57	David	Seeking refuge in God in face of oppression and finding confidence in Him	For the choir director; when David fled from Saul and hid in a cave (1 Samuel 22:1-2)
58	David	Crooked from birth, wicked rulers deserve destruction	For the choir director, to the tune of "Do Not Destroy"
59	David	Prayer for deliverance from enemies and punishment for those who seek to harm him	For the choir director; when Saul sent men to watch his house to ambush him (1 Samuel 19:8-18)
60	David	God's help against the enemies of Israel	For the choir director; when David fought Aram Naharaim and Aram Zobah, and Joab came back and killed 12K Edomites in the Dead Sea region (2 Samuel 8:13 & 1 Chronicles 18:12)
61	David	Remembering God's help in times past, the king appeals for His help and presence now.	For the choir director
62	David	Finding serenity in face of adversity in our reliable God	For the choir director, according to Jeduthun
63	David	Longing for God and hoping for His intervention	When he was in the wilderness of Judah (1 Samuel 23:14)
64	David	Complaint and cursing about his enemies	For the choir director
65	David	Marveling at how God created and sustains the earth	For the choir director
66	Anonymous	Everyone should praise our mighty God	For the choir director
67	Anonymous	Blessings from and to God	For the choir director
68	David	All nations should praise God for Who He is and all He does	For the choir director
69	David	Prayer for help and punishment of enemies in desperate circumstances	For the choir director
70	David	Rescue him and all who trust God; punish the wicked	For the choir director
71	Anonymous	Dependence on God from the womb to the tomb	
72	Solomon	A blessing on the king of Israel	
73	Asaph	Perspective on the apparent well-being of the wicked	
74	Asaph	Prophetic description of the destruction of Jerusalem	
75	Asaph	God's authority over the nations	For the choir director
76	Asaph	The nations will fear the God of Israel.	For the choir director on stringed instruments
77	Asaph	When he felt like God didn't hear his cry, the Psalmist remembers what God did at the Red Sea.	For the choir director, according to Jeduthun

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78	Asaph	Recounting God's dealings with Israel from the Exodus until the time of David, to instruct the current generation about keeping His commands.	A <i>maskil</i>
79	Asaph	A prophetic vision of the fall of Jerusalem and prayer for compassion for the Jews and revenge on the invaders.	
80	Asaph	Prophetic vision of God's rejection of Israel, comparing her to a vine He planted and then abandoned	For the choir director, according to <i>shosannim eduth</i> (Isaiah 5:1-7)
81	Asaph	Praise God with every instrument; worship and serve Him alone, because wants to bless Israel.	For the choir director on the <i>gittith</i>
82	Asaph	God, the ultimate Judge admonishes the "gods" who rule the earth.	
83	Asaph	Imprecatory prayer that the enemies of God's people will suffer the same destruction as those defeated by Israel in the past	
84	Sons of Korah	"How lovely is your dwelling place..." The blessing of being in God's presence.	For the choir director on the <i>gittith</i>
85	Sons of Korah	An appeal for God's mercy and favor, restoration of the fortunes of Israel as in the past	For the choir director
86	David	Prayer for God's help in time of oppression.	
87	Sons of Korah	Zion, the city of God, is favored above all others. He will add worshipers from other nations.	
88	Heman, the Ezrahite (I Kings 4:31)	Desperate appeal from one who is in the pits and near death.	By the sons of Korah, for the choir director, according to <i>mahalath leannoth</i> , a <i>maskil</i> ; good companion piece at Psalm 116
89	Ethan, the Ezrahite (I Kings 4:31)	God's everlasting covenant with David; YHWH is unmatched in power and authority over all He created; the fall of Israel in the future and an appeal to restore its greatness.	A <i>maskil</i>
90	Moses	The awesome power and eternity of God in comparison to man, "...a thousand years are like a day...", and a prayer for mercy instead of punishment for sin	
91	Anonymous	God's absolute protection for those who trust Him	
92	Anonymous	Praise to God, who causes His people to flourish and destroys those who do evil	Song for the day of worship
93	Anonymous	Our majestic King rules over the oceans.	
94	Anonymous	Warning to the arrogant who misuse their power that God defends His people and will restore justice	
95	Anonymous	Admonition to shout and sing joyfully and bow in worship to the "great king above all gods," rather than resisting and testing Him like the Israelites in the wilderness	
96	Anonymous	"Sing to the LORD a new song...all the earth!" Worship the God who is greater than any other, who made the heavens and is coming to judge the earth.	
97	Anonymous	The fearsome presence of the Lord, to whom all the other gods will bow. Protection and joy are available to those who love Him and hate evil.	

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98	Anonymous	Let everyone and everything on earth loudly and joyfully worship the Lord with every instrument available. He is coming to judge the earth with justice.	
99	Anonymous	"Exalt the LORD our God, bow down at his footstool." YHWH rules over angels and men. He revealed Himself to His priests	
100	Anonymous	"Shout happily to the LORD, all the earth... Enter His gates with thanksgiving..."	A psalm of thanksgiving
101	David	Desire to know God and a willingness to do away with anything or anyone who would lure him away	
102	Anonymous	Vivid description of someone worn out with physical suffering, appealing to God for help and that He will rebuild Zion and restore it as a worship center; contrasting God's eternity and the transitory nature of everything else	
103	David	Praise the LORD, because of all of His mercy and kindness toward those who fear Him.	
104	Anonymous	God's splendor and majesty revealed through His creation and how He provides for all the creatures He has made	Good companion piece to Psalm 147
105	Anonymous	Recounting the marvelous things God did for His people from the days of Abraham, Joseph and Moses.	Same as psalm of thanksgiving offered when David brought the ark to Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 16:8-36)
106	Anonymous	Recounting the failures of the Jews from the time of Egypt until the present; appealing to God to rescue them from the nations where they have been scattered.	
107	Anonymous	"Give thanks to the LORD, because He is good, His mercy endures forever." God's discipline and deliverance of His people.	
108	David	Worshiping and praying to God for help when his armies are facing Edom and have no one but God to help	
109	David	Imprecatory prayer against a betrayer; prophetic of Judas, Jesus' betrayer	For the choir director
110	David	Anticipating the rule of Messiah to come	
111	Anonymous	In light of the glory, majesty, faithfulness, etc. of YHWH, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom."	
112	Anonymous	The character and blessings of a godly person; the negative reaction of the wicked and their fate	
113	Anonymous	"From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised." His glory is over all He made and rules; he helps the helpless.	
114	Anonymous	God's might displayed when the Israelites left Egypt and took possession of the promised land; "Earth, tremble in the presence of the Lord, ..the God of Jacob."	
115	Anonymous	The uselessness of idols; appeal to God to bless His people for the glory of His name	

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116	Anonymous	Response in praise to God for rescuing him from the pits of death and despair	Companion piece to Psalm 88?
117	Anonymous	"Praise the LORD, all you nations...all you people of the world! His mercy toward us is powerful. The LORD's faithfulness endures forever."	Shortest chapter of the Bible
118	Anonymous	"The LORD is on my side. I am not afraid. What can mortals do to me?" It's better to trust in God's help than that of men, considering how YHWH has helped in the past. Cornerstone passage appears immediately before the Hosanna passage quoted during Christ's triumphal entry.	
119	Anonymous	Acrostic poem—lines of each section begin with letter of the Hebrew alphabet—extolling the virtues of God's word	
120	Anonymous	Appeal for rescue from liars and schemers; hazards of living among those who hate peace and love war (Meshech & Kedar)	Song of ascents
121	Anonymous	"I lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from?" God as an unfailing Guardian of His people	Song of ascents
122	David	"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD... Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.'" Wishing the holy city well for the sake of God and His worshipers	Song of ascents
123	Anonymous	Dependence on God in face of suffering and ridicule	Song of ascents
124	David	"...if the LORD had not been on our side when men attacked us...Our help is in the name of the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth." The defense of God from those who would destroy us.	Song of ascents
125	Anonymous	Those who trust in the LORD are safe. He does good for those who are good and opposes those who are wicked.	Song of ascents
126	Anonymous	YHWH restores the fortunes of His people, inspiring praise among the nations. "Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy."	Song of ascents
127	Solomon	If God is not involved in something, it fails. The blessing of children	Song of ascents
128	Anonymous	Blessing on a man's home and family when he trusts God and lives His way	Song of ascents
129	Anonymous	God delivers His people from oppression. Curses against those who oppose them	Song of ascents
130	Anonymous	Calling out and waiting on God, who rescues and forgives us from sin	Song of ascents; possible companion piece to Psalm 88?
131	David	An unpretentious heart, calm and quiet as a child	Song of ascents
132	Anonymous	David's zeal for God's house and God's promise to him and his people	Song of ascents (2 Samuel 7:12-16 & 1 Chronicles 17:11-14)
133	David	"How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!" Comparing God-given peace and harmony to the blessing of anointing oil or rain on the mountains.	Song of ascents
134	Anonymous	"...bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD..." Admonition to bless God and receive His blessing.	Song of ascents

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135	Anonymous	Praise God, who is good, great and far superior to any nation or idol.	Companion piece to Psalms 115 & 136
136	Anonymous	Antiphonal song about the goodness and might of God.	Companion piece to Psalms 115 & 135
137	Anonymous	Grieving the destruction of Jerusalem, cursing the Babylonians who demanded 'songs of Zion' from the captives of Israel	Deportation of survivors after the fall of Jerusalem (2 Kings 25:1-21)
138	David	Thanks and praise for God's protection and enduring mercy	
139	David	God's omniscience, omnipresence and omnipotence demonstrated in David's conception and life; request for God to know him even more intimately than He does now and to conform him to His ways	For the choir director
140	David	Prayer for protection against violent people and that God will rain down destruction on their own heads	For the choir leader
141	David	Praise to God, prayer for discreet speech, thanks for loving rebuke and prayer for protection	
142	David	Prayer for escape from those who pursue him	A <i>maskil</i> , when he was in the cave (1 Samuel 22:1-2)
143	David	Prayer for deliverance from a pursuing enemy; thirsting for God, as one who is in a desert	When he was in the wilderness, fleeing from Saul? (1 Samuel 23:24-26)
144	David	Thanks to God for training him to fight and giving him victory; "O LORD, what is man that you care for him, the son of man that you think of him?" prayer for rescue from his enemies and blessing for his nation; "blessed are the people whose God is the LORD."	
145	David	"All you have made will praise you, O LORD..." Everyone will tell each other about His greatness. He takes care of every living thing that trusts in Him.	A song of praise
146	Anonymous	Don't trust in human beings, but God. He helps those in need and thwarts the plans of the wicked.	
147	Anonymous	Sing praise to God for how He heals and delivers, provides, protects and instructs.	Good companion piece to Psalm 104
148	Anonymous	Let all of creation in heaven, seas and earth praise the One who made them	
149	Anonymous	Praise God with all sorts of musical instruments, because He takes pleasure in His people. Do battle in His name against His enemies.	
150	Anonymous	Praise God with every imaginable instrument. "Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!"	