

## **Psalms Structure**

The Book of Psalms is a collection of 150 musical poems. Each of these is a literary unit and should be read as such. The psalm has a pattern of development by which ideas are presented, developed, and brought to a conclusion.

### **PRIMARY CATEGORIES OF PSALMS**

**Book I: (Ps. 1-41)** ***“The Law and the Gospel”*** compiled by David, Israel’s first king, about 1000 B.C. Consists mostly of personal psalms which arose out of the king’s own experiences. Contrasts old and new covenants. Emphasis on prayer.

**Book II:(Ps. 42-71)** ***“Faith and the Kingdom”*** compiled by Solomon, David’s son, he became Israel’s second king, about 900 B.C. Many Kingly Psalms, with an emphasis on prayer.

**Book III:(Ps. 73-89)** ***“God’s faithfulness towards a faithless Israel”*** Compiled by the Sons of Korah, a guild of singers and composers, about 586 B.C. Mostly prayers concerning national suffering, exile, and destruction of Jerusalem. Emphasis on prayer and praise.

**Book IV:(Ps. 90-106)** ***“Our King and Deliverer”*** Compiled by David. Emphasis on praise.

**Book V:( Ps.107-150)** ***“Praise to our Deliverer”*** All the Psalms probably compiled by Ezra, he was a priest that God used to lead the Jews out of Babylon, 539-444 B.C. after the return from exile. Emphasis on praise and prayer.

**Each Book ends with a doxology of “Amen”, “Praise the LORD”, or both.**

**41:13; 72:18-19; 89:52; 106:48; 150:1-6**