



## Old Testament

β 19th book of the Bible (out of 66)

β 7.91% of the verses in the Bible

β Written by King David and several others

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The Book of Psalms is called Tehillim in it's original language of Hebrew. This mean "Praises." The Septuagint (the OT translated into Greek) calls it Psalmoi - songs sung to an instrument you twang or pluck. Written over a period of around 600 years, it was the hymnbook of the Second Temple, with a strong worship focus. Do you wonder how they were originally sung? The different emotions and moods that they cover are still experienced by most people alive today. Could that be why it is such a popular Book? Some of them are Messianic - prophecies pointing to Jesus.

There are five Books of Psalms which make up the whole and each one ends with a doxology. Was this division into five done on purpose to match the Pentateuch? 116 Psalms have various introductions - often they add to the understanding of what

comes next. The word 'Selah' occurs 71 times. One possible meaning is "pause and calmly think about that."

**Fact:** Psalm 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible; Psalm 117 is both the shortest and middle chapter.

Aim to read some of the Psalms from a different translation than you normally would. Alec Motyer's from 2016 is extremely good.

**Join us as we read all of the Psalms together on 8th September.**