

Insights From Psalms (Book 3)

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Insights From Psalms (Book 3)

Psalm 73 to 89

by Jonathan Cooper

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Introduction

One of the ways I've been studying the Word of God is by making a list of everything that each book of the Bible teaches. This has resulted in more than a thousand pages of material. Although it's interesting and I've learned a lot from writing it, that's a lot of bullet points to read through!

The purpose of this book is to extract the most interesting insights from that massive list. This isn't intended to summarize each book of the Bible because that's what my "Chapter Summary of the Bible" is for. It's also not intended to list the major points of each book because you're probably already familiar with them. Finally, it's not intended to offer in-depth commentary because that's what my regular commentary is for. This book is simply a collection of points that I found interesting.

I hope there's some material here that you find edifying.

Jon Cooper
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Psalm 73 to 89

- God is good to those who have a clean heart (Psalm 73:1).
- When a wicked person has an easy and painless life, it can make them violent (Psalm 73:6).
- It can be tempting to look at the prosperous lives of the wicked and conclude that since the righteous suffer but the wicked don't, it's better to be wicked than righteous (Psalm 73:13). However, that's a mistake.
- Just because you've cleansed your heart and are doing what's right in God's sight doesn't mean you'll have a prosperous life. In fact, you might suffer more than the wicked people who are around you (Psalm 73:14). There are times when being righteous makes life more difficult.
- Some truths are painful (but still true) (Psalm 73:16).
- Going into the presence of God can help us understand things that are otherwise difficult or painful to understand (Psalm 73:17).
- It's foolish to envy the wicked because God is against them and will destroy them one day (Psalm 73:18).
- It's better to be righteous than to be wicked because the righteous have a better future than the wicked (Psalm 73:24). The righteous will be received into glory while the wicked will be destroyed.
- We must desire God above everything and everyone else (Psalm 73:25).
- God strengthens our heart (Psalm 73:26).
- God is our everlasting inheritance (Psalm 73:26).

- Those who are far from God will perish (Psalm 73:27).
- Those who have put their trust in God should declare His works to others (Psalm 73:28).
- There are times when the enemies of God blaspheme His name, and God allows it to continue for a time (Psalm 74:10).
- God set all the borders of the earth (Psalm 74:17).
- God made summer (Psalm 74:17).
- God made winter (Psalm 74:17).
- It's not wrong to pray that God would remember the evil acts of the wicked (Psalm 74:18).
- We must not reproach God (Psalm 74:22).
- We should give thanks for the wonderful works of God (Psalm 75:1).
- We must judge with upright judgment (Psalm 75:2).
- God determines whether we're humbled or exalted (Psalm 75:7).
- One day the wicked will be defeated (Psalm 75:10).
- One day the righteous will be exalted (Psalm 75:10).
- God is stronger than weapons of war (Psalm 76:3).
- One day God will arise in judgment (Psalm 76:9).
- One day God will save all the meek of the earth (Psalm 76:9).
- There are times when God uses the wrath of man for His glory (Psalm 76:10).

- It's good to bring presents to God (Psalm 76:11).
- God is greater than the kings of this world (Psalm 76:12).
- When we're troubled and need comfort we should seek God (Psalm 77:2).
- When our spirit is overwhelmed we should remember God (Psalm 77:3).
- When we're troubled we should think of the mighty things God has done in the past (Psalm 77:5).
- There will come a time when God will show His favor again (Psalm 77:7).
- The promises of God don't fail (Psalm 77:8).
- God is greater than everyone and everything else (Psalm 77:13).
- When we're troubled we should meditate upon the greatness of God (Psalm 77:13).
- People should teach the law of God to their children (Psalm 78:6). Each generation should be taught the law of God.
- We must not forget the works of God (Psalm 78:11).
- We must not provoke God (Psalm 78:17).
- It's a sin for people to cast doubt upon God (Psalm 78:19).
- We must not speak against God (Psalm 78:19).
- It angers God when people speak against Him (Psalm 78:21).
- It angers God when people don't trust in His salvation (Psalm 78:22).

- Manna is called the corn of heaven (Psalm 78:24).
- It seems that manna is the food of angels (Psalm 78:25).
- There are times when God uses the wind to achieve His purposes (Psalm 78:26).
- There are times when God gives wicked people what they desire, and then kills them when they take it (Psalm 78:31).
- God is our rock (Psalm 78:35).
- God is our redeemer (Psalm 78:35).
- We must not flatter God (Psalm 78:36). There's a difference between praising God (which is good) and flattering Him (which is wrong). God doesn't desire flattery.
- God is full of compassion (Psalm 78:38).
- It's possible to grieve God (Psalm 78:40).
- God is holy (Psalm 78:41).
- We must not forget what God has done for us (Psalm 78:42).
- Mount Horeb is called the sanctuary of God (Psalm 78:54).
- Asaph said that the right hand of God purchased mount Horeb (Psalm 78:54).
- Idolatry provokes God to jealousy (Psalm 78:58).
- There was a time when the tabernacle of God at Shiloh was destroyed (Psalm 78:60).
- It seems the reason God delivered the Ark of the

Covenant into the hand of the Philistines was because the Israelites provoked Him through their idolatry (Psalm 78:61).

- The Ark of the Covenant was called the strength of God and the glory of God (Psalm 78:61).
- There are times when God punishes nations by bringing them into perpetual reproach (Psalm 78:66).
- It's a bad thing in God's sight when a dead body isn't buried (Psalm 79:2).
- It's a bad thing in God's sight when a dead body is eaten by animals (Psalm 79:2).
- It's important for kingdoms to call upon the name of God (Psalm 79:6).
- It's not wrong to pray that God would pour out His wrath upon those who don't know Him (Psalm 79:6).
- When Asaph interceded on behalf of the Jews, he didn't ask God to forgive them because they deserved it. Instead he prayed that God would forgive them to bring glory to His name (Psalm 79:9).
- It's not wrong to pray that God would make Himself known (Psalm 79:10).
- It's not wrong to pray that God would avenge the murder of His servants (Psalm 79:10).
- It's good to pray that God would preserve the lives of the saints who are sentenced to death (Psalm 79:11).
- It's not wrong to pray that God would repay nations who reproach Him (Psalm 79:12).
- God dwells between the cherubims (Psalm 80:1). There

are cherubims around the throne of God.

- It's good to pray that God would shine forth (Psalm 80:1).
- It's good to pray that God would come and save us (Psalm 80:2).
- There are times when God puts people into terrible situations and makes them weep (Psalm 80:5).
- When we're weeping and in great pain, we should cry out to God (Psalm 80:5).
- The Israelites are called a vine that God brought out of Egypt (Psalm 80:8).
- Israel's strength and prosperity comes from God (Psalm 80:15).
- There are times when God rebukes nations (Psalm 80:16). The rebuke of God is a very serious matter.
- Before we can call upon the name of God, He must first work in us to bring us to life (Psalm 80:18).
- Our praise to God should be joyful (Psalm 81:1).
- It's good and pleasant to praise God with a harp (Psalm 81:2).
- The people who worship idols are those who don't listen to God's words (Psalm 81:9).
- Even though God commanded the Israelites to open their mouth so He could fill it, they refused to listen to Him (Psalm 81:11). They rejected the blessing that God tried to give them.
- There are times when God punishes people for not listening to Him by giving them over to the lusts of their

heart (Psalm 81:12). This is a terrible judgment against them.

- We must not walk in our own counsel (Psalm 81:12-13). Instead we must walk in God's ways.
- It's a terrible thing to hate God (Psalm 81:15).
- If the Israelites had submitted to God then He would have satisfied them (Psalm 81:16).
- Rulers must remember that God holds them accountable (Psalm 82:2).
- Rulers must not judge unjustly (Psalm 82:2).
- Rulers must not do wicked things (Psalm 82:2).
- Rulers must not show partiality to the wicked (Psalm 82:2).
- Rulers must defend the poor and the fatherless (Psalm 82:3).
- Rulers must carry out justice for those who are afflicted and in need (Psalm 82:3).
- Rulers must deliver the poor out of the hand of the wicked (Psalm 82:4).
- The rulers of this world lack knowledge and walk in darkness (Psalm 82:5). They don't know or understand the ways of God.
- The rulers of this world may think that they're better than everyone else, but in the end they'll die just like other people and will be gone (Psalm 82:7).
- It's not wrong to pray that God would arise and judge the earth (Psalm 82:8).

- One day God will inherit all nations (Psalm 82:8). This seems to be referring to the time in the future when all the nations of the world will be given to the Messiah, who will reign over all the earth.
- It's not wrong to pray that God would arise and take action (Psalm 83:1).
- It's a terrible thing to seek to eradicate the nation of Israel (Psalm 83:5).
- Those who seek to destroy Israel are attacking God Himself (Psalm 83:5).
- Asaph prophesied of a time when a confederation of nations would seek to destroy Israel. This alliance included the Edomites, the Ishmaelites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, the people of Gebal, the Ammonites, the Amalekites, the Philistines, the people of Tyre, and the people of Assur (Psalm 83:8).
- It's not wrong to pray that God would kill those who are trying to destroy the nation of Israel (Psalm 83:9).
- There are times when God kills the enemies of Israel (Psalm 83:9).
- It's not wrong to pray that God would fill the enemies of Israel with fear (Psalm 83:15).
- It's not wrong to pray that God would persecute the enemies of Israel (Psalm 83:15).
- It's not wrong to pray that God would fill the enemies of Israel with shame (Psalm 83:16).
- It is not wrong to pray that God would fill someone with shame so they repent and seek Him (Psalm 83:16). The wicked need to be ashamed of their wickedness and seek

God's forgiveness.

- It's not wrong to pray that God would bring trouble to the enemies of Israel (Psalm 83:17).
- God is the most high over all the earth (Psalm 83:18). There's no one higher than Him.
- One of the ways God brings glory to Himself is by defeating Israel's enemies (Psalm 83:18).
- We should desire the place where God dwells (Psalm 84:1).
- Our heart and our flesh should cry out for God (Psalm 84:2).
- God is the living God (Psalm 84:2).
- God is King (Psalm 84:3).
- We should earnestly desire God (Psalm 84:3).
- We should desire to bring our children to God (Psalm 84:3).
- Those who dwell in the house of God are blessed (Psalm 84:4).
- Those who dwell in the house of God will continuously praise God (Psalm 84:4).
- God is our strength (Psalm 84:5).
- Those who have the ways of God in their heart are blessed (Psalm 84:5).
- Those who look to God for strength will find strength (Psalm 84:7).
- God is our shield (Psalm 84:9). We must look to God for

protection.

- One day in the courts of God is better than a thousand spent elsewhere (Psalm 84:10).
- It's better to be a doorkeeper in the house of God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness (Psalm 84:10).
- God will give grace (Psalm 84:11).
- God will give glory (Psalm 84:11).
- God won't withhold any good thing from those who walk uprightly (Psalm 84:11).
- Those who trust in God are blessed (Psalm 84:12).
- One day God will bring the Jews back to the promised land (Psalm 85:1).
- One day God will forgive all the sins of the Jews (Psalm 85:2).
- It's good to pray that God would turn the Jews back to Him (Psalm 85:4).
- It's good to pray that God would revive the Jews so that they turn from their sins and repent (Psalm 85:6).
- In order for people to rejoice in God they must first be revived by Him (Psalm 85:6). In other words, they need to repent (which they can only do after God works in their heart).
- It's good to pray that God would be merciful to the Jews (Psalm 85:7).
- It's possible for mercy and truth to go together (because God can have mercy on people so that they believe the truth) (Psalm 85:10).

- It's possible for righteousness and peace to go together (because one day God will give peace to the righteous) (Psalm 85:10).
- One day God will bless the Jews and give them good things (Psalm 85:12).
- When David's life was in danger he looked to God to save him (Psalm 86:2).
- When David approached God he did so with great humility (Psalm 86:2).
- There's no other god like the Lord (Psalm 86:8). God is greater than all other gods.
- One day all nations will worship God (Psalm 86:9).
- One day all nations will glorify the name of God (Psalm 86:9).
- God is the only god. There is no other (Psalm 86:10).
- It's good to pray that God would teach us His ways (Psalm 86:11).
- We must learn God's ways so that we walk in His truth (Psalm 86:11).
- In order for us to walk in God's truth He must teach us His ways (Psalm 86:11).
- In order for us to fear God, He must change our heart (Psalm 86:11).
- We must pray that God will change our heart so that we fear Him (Psalm 86:11). God has power over our heart, and He can give people a heart that fears Him.
- We must seek to fear God (Psalm 86:11).

- We must praise God with all of our heart (Psalm 86:12).
- We must glorify God's name forever (Psalm 86:12).
- It's good to praise and glorify God when He's merciful to us and saves us (Psalm 86:13).
- There may be times when violent people rise up against us (Psalm 86:14).
- There may be times when wicked people try to kill us (Psalm 86:14).
- God is full of compassion (Psalm 86:15).
- The mercy of God is plentiful (Psalm 86:15).
- The truth of God is plentiful (Psalm 86:15).
- We must look to God for truth (Psalm 86:15).
- God can comfort people (Psalm 86:17).
- It's good to go to God for comfort in times of trouble and distress (Psalm 86:17).
- It's not wrong to pray that God would bring shame upon the wicked (Psalm 86:17).
- God loves the dwellings of the Jews (Psalm 87:2).
- God loves the gates of Zion (Psalm 87:2).
- Zion is the city of God (Psalm 87:3).
- One day being born in Zion will be a glorious thing and a great blessing (Psalm 87:5).
- It's good to use instruments to make music that praises God (Psalm 87:7). Instruments aren't sinful.
- One of the major themes in the psalms is people asking

God to hear them (Psalm 88:2).

- There may be times when our life is full of trouble (Psalm 88:3).
- There may be times when it looks like we're about to die (Psalm 88:3).
- One of the major recurring themes of the psalms is people whose life was full of serious trouble, or who were in great danger (Psalm 88:3).
- There may be times when we have no strength left (Psalm 88:4). In those moments we should cry out to God.
- There may be times when we think that God has forgotten us or is no longer with us (Psalm 88:5). However, the truth is that He will never leave us or forsake us.
- One of the major recurring themes in the psalms is that God is the one who brings trouble into our life (Psalm 88:6).
- There may be times when God afflicts us (Psalm 88:7).
- There may be times when God drives our friends away from us or causes them to hate us (Psalm 88:8). We may find ourselves suffering and alone (but God is always with us).
- It's not wrong to weep when we're afflicted (Psalm 88:9).
- There may be times when we're afflicted and call out to God, but things don't get better and we're not delivered from our affliction (Psalm 88:9).
- God is loving, kind, and faithful (Psalm 88:11).
- God does wonders (Psalm 88:12).

- God is righteous (Psalm 88:12).
- When we're greatly afflicted, it's good to cry out to God (Psalm 88:13).
- There may be times when we're afflicted for many years (Psalm 88:15).
- There may be times when our enemies come against us each day (Psalm 88:17).
- We should sing about the mercies of God forever (Psalm 89:1).
- We should teach all generations about God's faithfulness (Psalm 89:1).
- The mercy of God is everlasting (Psalm 89:2).
- God chooses the people He makes a covenant with (Psalm 89:3).
- God made a covenant with David (Psalm 89:3).
- The covenant that God made with David stated that He would establish his seed forever and build up his throne to all generations (Psalm 89:4). This is a reference to the Messiah (who will live and reign forever).
- No one in heaven can be compared to God (Psalm 89:6).
- No one among the sons of the mighty is like God (Psalm 89:6). God is greater than everyone and everything else.
- The assembly of the saints should greatly fear God (Psalm 89:7).
- All those who are around God should revere Him (Psalm 89:7).

- No one is as strong as God (Psalm 89:8).
- No one is as faithful as God (Psalm 89:8).
- God is stronger than the sea (Psalm 89:9).
- God's enemies aren't able to overcome Him (Psalm 89:10).
- God created the world and all the things that are in the world (Psalm 89:11).
- The throne of God is a throne of justice (Psalm 89:14).
- The throne of God is a throne of judgment (Psalm 89:14).
- The throne of God is a throne of mercy (Psalm 89:14).
- The throne of God is a throne of truth (Psalm 89:14).
- We should seek to walk in the light of God (Psalm 89:15).
- The saints are exalted in the righteousness of God (Psalm 89:16).
- The righteousness of the saints comes from God (not from themselves) (Psalm 89:16).
- The saints are exalted through righteousness (v16)
- God is the glory of the saints (Psalm 89:17).
- God is the strength of the saints (Psalm 89:17).
- God exalts the saints (Psalm 89:17).
- God gives power to the saints (Psalm 89:17).
- God shows favor to the saints (Psalm 89:17).
- God is our defense (Psalm 89:18).
- God is our king (Psalm 89:18).

- God is holy (Psalm 89:18).
- God is the one who sets the boundaries of nations (Psalm 89:25).
- God is able to exalt those He chooses (Psalm 89:27).
- God promised that He would always be merciful to David and would never take His mercy away from him (Psalm 89:28).
- God promised that He would never cancel or change the covenant He made with David (Psalm 89:28).
- God promised that even if David's descendants were wicked, He would still keep the covenant He made with David (Psalm 89:33). The covenant that God made with David was unconditional.
- There are times when God swears an oath (Psalm 89:35).
- There are times when God swears by His holiness (which is infinite) (Psalm 89:35).
- The strongholds of a nation can't save it from God's judgment (Psalm 89:40).
- One of the punishments that God sends upon nations is destroying their reputation (Psalm 89:41).
- One of the punishments that God sends upon nations is handing them over to those who wish to rob them (Psalm 89:41).
- There are times when God strengthens a nation's enemies (Psalm 89:42).
- There are times when God destroys the glory of a nation (Psalm 89:44).

- There are times when God destroys the power of a nation (Psalm 89:44).
- There are times when God casts thrones to the ground (Psalm 89:44).
- There are times when God covers nations with shame (Psalm 89:45).
- There's a recurring theme in the psalms of people asking God how long His wrath would last (Psalm 89:46).
- It's good for us to bless the Lord, even when we're being reproached (Psalm 89:52).