

## Core Seminars—How to Study the Bible

### Class 7: Poetic & Wisdom Literature



“My heart overflows with a pleasing theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.” (Ps. 45.1)

#### I. Poetic Literature

##### A. Types of Psalms include ...

- Messianic Psalms
- Psalms of Praise
- Thanksgiving Psalms
- Psalms of Lament
- Wisdom Psalms
- Testimonial Psalms
- Historical Psalms
- Nature Psalms
- Psalms of Ascent
- Imprecatory Psalms

##### B. Three Types of Parallelism (Ps. 18)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

#### How To Study the Bible Schedule

- I. Section One: First Things
  - a. What is the Bible & is it Reliable?
  - b. The Inductive Study Method
- II. Section Two: Anatomy of the Bible
  - a. Studying the Old and New Testaments
  - b. Genres I: Narratives and Histories
  - c. Genres II: Poetic and Wisdom Writings
  - d. Genre III: Gospels/Epistles & Prophetic/Apocalyptic Literature
- III. Section III: Interpretive Tools
  - a. Purpose and Context
  - b. Structure and Parallels
  - c. Linking Words
  - d. Repetition
  - e. Using Commentaries & Other Resource
  - f. Studying hard and familiar passages

### C. Six Interpretive Rules

1. Psalms can be read as stand-alone texts
2. Many images in the Psalms are intended to be read as metaphorical, not literal
3. Study each Psalm as a whole.
4. Read imprecatory Psalms in the context of God's special purposes and promises for the nation-state of Old Testament Israel
5. Rarely should you make doctrinal conclusions from poetry that aren't expressed in prose elsewhere in the Bible

C. Ecclesiastes:

D. Song of Solomon:

### Notes

## II. Wisdom Literature

A. Job:

B. Proverbs: