



# Songs FROM THE Heart

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ANCIENT PSALMS THAT SHAPE THE HEART

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# Psalm 87

The Book of Psalms has been and still is the irreplaceable devotional guide, prayer book, and hymnal of the people of God.

The Hebrew title is “The Book of Praises”



## The Psalms are composed by:

1. King David - 73 psalms
2. Asaph - 12 psalms
3. Sons of Korah - 11 psalms
4. King Solomon - 2 psalms
5. Ethan - 1 psalm
6. Moses - 1 psalm

# The Psalms are divided into 5 books

Book 1 - Psalms 1-41

Book 2 - Psalms 42-72

Book 3 - Psalms 73-89

Book 4 - Psalms 90-106

Book 5 - Psalms 107-150



# Psalm 87

He has founded his city on the holy mountain. The Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the other dwellings of Jacob. Glorious things are said of you, city of God: “I will record Rahab and Babylon among those who acknowledge me—Philistia too, and Tyre, along with Cush—and will say, “This one was born in Zion.”

Indeed, of Zion it will be said,

# Psalm 87

This one and that one were born in her, and the Most High himself will establish her. The Lord will write in the register of the peoples: This one was born in Zion. As they make music they will sing,  
'All my fountains are in you.'

# Psalm 87:2

The Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the other dwellings of Jacob.



# Why did the Lord love the gates of Zion?

The gates of Zion let in crowds that wanted to worship God in his temple.

# The two sides of Worship

1. Inner essence of worship
2. External expression of worship

# Matthew 15:8-9

“These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; They worship me in vain.”

# John 4:23-24

The hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.

## True worship is based on a

1. Right **understanding** of God's nature
2. It is a right **valuing** of God's worth

True worship is valuing and treasuring  
God above all things.



## The inner essence of worship:

1. The **mind** is rightly understanding God
2. The **heart** is rightly valuing God

Worship is designed to put the supreme worth of God on display.





## Two Acts of Worship

1. Acts of the mouth - praise and repentance
2. Acts of love with the body - sacrifices made for the good of others

# Hebrews 13:15-16

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the **fruit of lips** that openly profess his name. And do not forget to **do good** and to **share with others**, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

# Nehemiah examining the damage with the gates



# Nehemiah 12:37

By the Fountain Gate, in front of them, they went up the stairs of the City of David, on the stairway of the wall, beyond the house of David, as far as the Water Gate eastward.

What may ruin worship for you?



# Worldviews

## 1. Materialism

# Luke 12:15

“A person’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

Our problem is not that we have too little, nor is it that we possess too much. Our problem is that we want more than we need.





- # Worldviews
1. Materialism
  2. Individualism

# Matthew 16:25

“If you try to keep your life for yourself, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for me, you will find true life.”

# Worldviews

1. Materialism
2. Individualism
3. Hedonism

# Proverbs 21:17

“Are you addicted to thrills? What an empty life!  
The pursuit of pleasure is never satisfied.”



Pleasure for pleasure's sake will leave you empty. Pleasure must be only a means but never an end in itself.



# Worldviews

1. Materialism
2. Individualism
3. Hedonism
4. Humanism

# Proverbs 14:12

“There is a way that seems right to a man,  
but in the end it leads to death.”

# Worldviews

1. Materialism
2. Individualism
3. Hedonism
4. Humanism
5. Atheism



# Romans 1:20

“From the beginning of creation, God has shown what he is like by all he has made. That’s why those people don’t have any excuse. They know about God, but they don’t honour him or even thank him.”

# Worldviews

1. Materialism
2. Individualism
3. Hedonism
4. Humanism
5. Atheism

God will come to commune with us.



If worship does not change us, it has not been worship. To stand before the Holy One of eternity is to change. Worship begins in holy expectancy; it ends in holy obedience.

—Richard J. Foster



# Psalms 87:4-5

Among those who know me I mention Rahab and Babylon; behold, Philistia and Tyre, with Cush—‘This one was born there,’ they say. And of Zion it shall be said, ‘This one and that one were born in her.’”

# Psalms 86:9

All nations whom You have made shall come and  
worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify  
your name.

# 2 Corinthians 6:16

I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.

# Genesis 22:2

Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you **love**—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”



# Genesis 22:5

And Abraham said unto his young men, stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will **worship** and then will come back to you.



Songs  
FROM THE  
Heart

1. Do you have a right understanding of God's nature?
2. Do you value and love God above everything and everyone else?
3. Do you express your worship of God through your lips and actions?

## Prayer:

Gracious God,  
you are the source of all goodness, rich in mercy and abounding in love. You are worthy of our worship and adoration. May your name be magnified as all the nations of the earth glorify your greatness. We welcome your presence into our lives and community.

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