

The Numerical Structure of the Psalms

by F.W. Grant

F.W. Grant's sermon explores the numerical structure of the Psalms, revealing Christ's central role as the source of blessing and mediator of God's holiness.

Scripture: Psalm 8:4

Topics: "Psalms Structure", "Christology"

Description

F. W. Grant preaches on the structure of the Psalms, highlighting the overarching themes of Christ as the source of blessing, the remnant's relation to enemies, the manifestation of God's holiness, the failed first man replaced by the Second, and the moral conclusion of God and man coming together. The Psalms are divided into five books, each focusing on different aspects of Christ's role and the divine ways in relation to humanity.

Transcript

The Structure

Book I (1 - 41) Christ in the counsel of God the source of all blessing for His people (Israel).

Book II (42 - 72) Their ruin, but redemption in the latter days.

Book III (73 - 89) The holiness of God in His dealings with them.

Book IV (90 - 106) The failed first man replaced by the Second, and the world established under His hand.

Book V (107 - 150) The moral conclusion as to the divine ways, in which God and man are found at last together.

Acrostic Psalms: 9, 10, 25, 34, 37, 111, 112, 119, 145

Book I (1 - 41) Christ in the counsel of God the source of all blessing for His people (Israel).

1 (1 - 8) Christ ordained King in Zion, and, after rejection by His people, to wider rule as Son of Man.

1. (1 - 2) The destined King, and the blessedness of obedience and trust in Him.

2. (3 - 7) The education of faith in a day of rejection and conflict.

3. PSALM 8 The Son of man in possession of His inheritance glorifies Jehovah in all the earth.

2 (Ps 9 - 15) The remnant in relation to the enemy and the transgressors in Israel.

1. (Ps 9 - 10) The theme: The Supreme, and the Lawless one. 2. (11 - 15) In view of the evil and the enemy.

3 (Ps 16 - 41) "In Him all the fullness was pleased to dwell, and by Him to reconcile."

1. (Ps 16 - 24) Christ the Source of Blessing.

Series 1 (Ps 16 - 18) Christ identifying Himself with the people, and identified with them by God.

Series 2 (Ps 19 - 21) Faith embracing the testimony of God, and laying hold upon Christ's salvation.

Series 3 (Ps 22 - 24) Atonement and its results.

2. (Ps 25 - 39) The Testimony of Faith in this Salvation.

Series 1 (Ps 25 - 29) The grounds of confidence.

Series 2 (Ps 30 - 34) The detailed salvation.

Series 3 (Ps 35 - 39) The holiness of God, whether in judgment or in grace.

3. (Ps 40 - 41) The manifestation of the heart of Christ, and the hearts of men.

Book II (42 - 72) Their ruin, but redemption in the latter days.

1 (42 - 51) The King in Zion.

1. (42 - 49) Redemption by power.

2. (50 - 51) The testimony of God and the confession of man.

2 (52 - 60) Steps on to Deliverance.

1. (52 - 55) The identification of the man of sin.

2. (56 - 60) Confirmation of faith.

3 (61 - 72) Christ the Restorer.

1. (61 - 68) The Head of Blessing.

2. (69 - 72) Christ's service of salvation.

Book III (73 - 89) The holiness of God in His dealings with them.

1 (73 - 83) Holiness in Grace.

1. (73 - 77) The general principles.

2. (78 - 83) The principles applied to Israel's history.

2 (84 - 89) The holiness of God manifested by Christ as Mediator.

1. (84 - 85) Christ uniting the divine attributes in the salvation of His people.

2. (86 - 87) The Servant and the servants.

3. (88 - 89) Realization: "the holiness of truth."

Book IV (90 - 106) The failed first man replaced by the Second, and the world established under His hand.

1 (90 - 93) Christ the uniting-bond of Creator and creation.

2 (94 - 100) The Judgment - salvation of the Earth.

3 (101 - 106) Salvation in its innermost realization.

Book V (107 - 150) The moral conclusion as to the divine ways, in which God and man are found at last together.

1 (Ps 107 - 113) Principles.

1. (107 - 108) Efficient Grace.

2. (109 - 110) Christ in humiliation and rejection.

3. (111 - 113) Hallelujah!

2 (114 - 119) The attaching of the soul to the God of salvation.

1. (114 - 117) One Jehovah: The Old Testament Lesson.

2. (118 - 119) Christ and the New Covenant.

3 (120 - 136) The full blessing realized.

1. (120 - 134) Faithful to promise.

1. (120 - 122) Faithful to promise.

2. (123 - 125) Deliverance from enemies.

3. (126 - 128) Jehovah displaying Himself for His people.

4. (129 - 131) The lessons of experience.

5. (132 - 134) Immanuel.

2. (135 - 136) The testimony of history confirmed.

4 (137 - 145) The testing of man and things, which makes Jehovah all.

1. (137 - 139) "Truth in the inward parts."

2. (140 - 142) The setting aside of human help.

3. (143 - 145) Raised up out of the depth.

5 (146 - 150) A summary of Praise.

The Subjects Book I (Ps 1 - 41) Christ in the counsel of God the source of all blessing for His people (Israel). 1 (Ps 1 - 8) Christ ordained King in Zion, and, after rejection by His people, to wider rule as Son of Man. 1. (Ps 1 - 2) The destined King, and the blessedness of obedience and trust in Him. PSALM 1 The Blessedness of Obedience. PSALM 2 Christ rejected by the banded nations. 2. (Ps 3 - 7) The education of faith in a day of rejection and conflict. PSALM 3 The sufficiency of the unchanging God.

PSALM 4 Confidence in Jehovah's distinguishing care. PSALM 5 The holiness of God's presence. PSALM 6 The trial at its deepest felt as divine displeasure against sin, and the need realized of mercy. PSALM 7 A pleading for righteous judgment upon the persecutors of the innocent. 3. PSALM 8 The Son of man in possession of His inheritance glorifies Jehovah in all the earth. 2 (Ps 9 - 15) The remnant in relation to the enemy and the transgressors in Israel. 1. (Ps 9 - 10) The theme: The Supreme, and the Lawless one.

PSALM 9 The throne of righteousness. PSALM 10 The wicked one, and the deliverance. 2. (Ps 11 - 15) In view of the evil and the enemy. PSALM 11 Jehovah on the throne, and ordering all for blessing. PSALM 12 Man's lying words contrasted with Jehovah's pure ones. PSALM 13 Brought up from the gates of death. PSALM 14 The universality of evil and its folly: God's experience of man. PSALM 15 The character of those who dwell with God. 3 (Ps 16 - 41) Christ in the midst of the people, manifesting God for them, and sanctifying them to God. 1. (Ps 16 - 24) Christ the Source of Blessing.

Series I (Ps 16 - 18) Christ identifying Himself with the people, and identified with them by God. PSALM 16 The all-Obedient One PSALM 17 An appeal against the enemy: on the ground of perfection of Christ, the Intercessor for the people. PSALM 18 God manifesting Himself for His Anointed. Series II (Ps 19 - 21) Faith embracing the testimony of God, and laying hold upon Christ's salvation. PSALM 19 The power of creation and of the law. PSALM 20 Christ and His salvation. PSALM 21 Christ appearing in His glory.

Series III (Ps 22 - 24) Atonement and its Results. PSALM 22 The concord of divine righteousness and grace through the work of a Unique Sufferer. PSALM 23 Salvation in progress. PSALM 24 The Dwellers in Jehovah's house, and Jehovah entering it. 2. (Ps 25 - 39) The Testimony of Faith in this Salvation. Series I (Ps 25 - 29) The grounds of confidence. PSALM 25 Righteousness in grace. PSALM 26 Separation from sinners. PSALM 27 The heart's desire after Jehovah's house and face. PSALM 28 The test of experience.

PSALM 29 The judgment-storm with which God comes into the world, to give it the "expected end." Series II (Ps 30 - 34) The detailed Salvation. PSALM 30 Whatever the changes, an unchanging God. PSALM 31 Deliverance from the enemy. PSALM 32 The soul cleansed and God its sanctuary. PSALM 33 This God the God of the whole earth. PSALM 34 Jehovah with us, and its consequences in divine government. Series III (Ps 35 - 39) The holiness of God, whether in judgment or in grace. PSALM 35 The appeal of the righteous for righteous judgment upon the persecutor.

PSALM 36 The alienation of the wicked from God contrasted with Him in whom the sons of men take refuge. PSALM 37 The manifestation of God for the righteous in their possession of the earth. PSALM 38 The trial of the righteous which is the result of sin in them. PSALM 39 Man's frailty seen in the light of divine government. 3. (Ps 40 - 41) The manifestation of the heart of Christ, and the hearts of men. PSALM 40 The one obedience by which many are made righteous. PSALM 41 The cross as seen by faith and by unbelief.

Book II (42 - 72) Their ruin, but redemption in the latter days.

1 (17 - 51) The King in Zion.

1. (42 - 49) Redemption by power.

1 (42,43) The cry of the solitary.

a PSALM 42 God the one need of the soul.

b PSALM 43 Deliverance sought from Antichrist and his adherents.

2 PSALM 44 Faith building on the testimony of past deliverances, and sustained, though in contrasted circumstances.

3 PSALM 45 The glory of the Messiah, united to His people.

4 PSALM 46 The test of experience,-the God of Jacob.

5 PSALM 47 "The peoples of the God of Abraham."

6 PSALM 48 The victory over the last confederacy.

7 PSALM 49 completed histories.

2. (50 - 51) The testimony of God and the confession of man.

PSALM 50 A righteous God requiring righteousness.

PSALM 51 The confession of blood-guiltiness (nationally of the blood of Christ, under which they yet find salvation)

2 (52 - 60) Steps on to Deliverance.

1. (52 - 55) The identification of the man of sin.

PSALM 52 The strong man who made not God his strength.

PSALM 53 The progress of evil and the throwing off of God.

PSALM 54 God realized as manifesting Himself according to His Name.

PSALM 55 The apostate.

2. (56 - 60) Confirmation of faith.

PSALM 56 God's faithfulness His people's strength.

PSALM 57 Faith's present shelter and final deliverance.

PSALM 58 God manifested in judgment.

PSALM 59 The visitation of the Gentile world.

PSALM 60 The presence of God with His people after disciplinary dealings.

3 (61 - 72) Christ the Restorer.

1. (61 - 68) The Head of Blessing.

PSALM 61 The King's vows.

PSALM 62 God his dependence for deliverance from men, his enemies.

PSALM 63 Breathing after the Sanctuary.

PSALM 64 The vanity of evil-doers.

PSALM 65 ImmanuEl.

PSALM 66 The discipline of God.

PSALM 67 Complete blessing and rest.

PSALM 68 Under the new Head.

2. (69 - 72) Christ's service of salvation.

PSALM 69 The source of salvation.

PSALM 70 Contrasted Consequences.

PSALM 71 The Revival of Israel.

PSALM 72 Salvation for the Earth.

Book III (73 - 89) The holiness of God in His dealings with them.

1 (73 - 83) Holiness in Grace.

1. (73 - 77) The general principles.

PSALM 73 Consistency of divine holiness with the sufferings of the righteous.

PSALM 74 The enemy being God's enemy a plea for deliverance.

PSALM 75 Christ the Interpreter of God in the day of manifestation.

PSALM 76 The prostration of the creature.

PSALM 77 God' way in the sea and in the sanctuary.

2. (78 - 83) The principles applied to Israel's history.

PSALM 78 The consistency of God's ways, in which His grace is sovereign.

PSALM 79 The plea against the invasion of the enemy.

PSALM 80 Revival sought and restoration of the glory of God through the Revived Branch, the Man of His right hand.

PSALM 81 The new ways that go with the new experience.

PSALM 82 God judging among the judges.

PSALM 83 Victory over the last assault of evil.

2 (84 - 89) The holiness of God manifested by Christ as Mediator.

1. (84 - 85) Christ uniting the divine attributes in the salvation of His people.

PSALM 84 Jehovah supreme and sufficient for the soul; and Christ the foundation.

PSALM 85 "Things that accompany salvation."

2. (86 - 87) The Servant and the servants.

PSALM 86 Adonai.

PSALM 87 His testimony to His servants.

3. (88 - 89) Realization: "the holiness of truth."

PSALM 88 The outcome as to man, in righteousness.

PSALM 89 Help in Another.

Book IV (90 - 106) The failed first man replaced by the Second, and the world established under His hand.

1 (90 - 93) Christ the uniting-bond of Creator and creation.

PSALM 90 The first man.

PSALM 91 The Second man.

PSALM 92 Sanctuary - praise.

PSALM 93 The creature in the creature place.

2 (94 - 100) The Judgment-salvation of the Earth.

PSALM 94 The appeal of righteousness to power.

PSALM 95 The two-fold testimony of judgment and salvation.

PSALM 96 Jehovah manifested.

PSALM 97 The earth subject.

PSALM 98 God with man.

PSALM 99 Victory over evil.

PSALM 100 The Final Praise.

3 (101 - 106) Salvation in its innermost realization.

PSALM 101 The King of righteousness.

PSALM 102 Christ in His humiliation, uniting God and men.

PSALM 103 The praise of the restored people.

PSALM 104 Nature's tribute to Jehovah.

PSALM 105 The story of His ways as with His people.

PSALM 106 God's discipline of the people for their evil.

Book V (107 - 150) The moral conclusion as to the divine ways, in which God and man are found at last together.

1 (Ps 107 - 113) Principles.

1. (107 - 108) Efficient Grace.

PSALM 107 Constant and harmonious.

PSALM 108 The incoming Salvation.

2. (109 - 110) Christ in humiliation and rejection.

PSALM 109 Enmity self-caused.

PSALM 110 The confirmation of the King-Priest.

3. (111 - 113) Hallelujah!

PSALM 111 Jehovah!

PSALM 112 Praise for the security of those that fear Him.

PSALM 113 The glory of Jehovah's Name.

2 (114 - 119) The attaching of the soul to the God of salvation.

1. (114 - 117) One Jehovah: The Old Testament Lesson.

PSALM 114 The power of Jacob's God.

PSALM 115 In contrast with the idols of men.

PSALM 116 The God of resurrection, and the recall of Israel's heart to Him.

PSALM 117 The whole earth summoned.

2. (118 - 119) Christ and the New Covenant.

PSALM 118 The Head of the Corner.

PSALM 119 Faith's testimony to the Word, in love and service.

3 (120 - 136) The full blessing realized.

1. (120 - 134) Faithful to promise.

1. (120 - 122) Faithful to promise.

PSALM 120 Solitary!

PSALM 121 The Preserver.

PSALM 122 The restored House and the City!

2. (123 - 125) Deliverance from enemies.

PSALM 123 God only sufficient.

PSALM 124 The deliverance.

PSALM 125 Compassed round.

3. (126 - 128) Jehovah displaying Himself for His people.

PSALM 126 The grace and faithfulness of His ways.

PSALM 127 The necessary dependence of all upon Jehovah.

PSALM 128 The portion of the man that fears Jehovah.

4. (129 - 131) The lessons of experience.

PSALM 129 An over-ruling Hand.

PSALM 130 Redemption from sin.

PSALM 131 The moral result.

5. (132 - 134) Immanu-el.

PSALM 132 Zion and the King.

PSALM 133 The Priestly Mediator' service.

PSALM 134 In the Sanctuary.

2. (135 - 136) The testimony of history confirmed.

PSALM 135 The summons to render it.

PSALM 136 The confirmation.

4 (137 - 145) The testing of man and things, which makes Jehovah all.

1. (137 - 139) "Truth in the inward parts."

PSALM 137 Zion the one controlling object for the solitary (as cut off from Jehovah's presence.)

PSALM 138 The deliverance of the lowly, magnifying the the word of God.

PSALM 139 Manifest in the presence of God, with the moral result of this.

2. (140 - 142) The setting aside of human help.

PSALM 140 Jehovah the sole sufficiency.

PSALM 141 Separation from the workers of iniquity.

PSALM 142 Jehovah the refuge and portion.

3. (143 - 145) Raised up out of the depth.

PSALM 143 The plea of righteousness where Jehovah alone is righteous.

PSALM 144 The Helper of Israel.

PSALM 145 Messiah's praises.

5 (146 - 150) A summary of Praise.

PSALM 146 The Mighty One of Jacob.

PSALM 147 In relation to His people.

PSALM 148 The full praise of heaven and earth.

PSALM 149 The yielding of the nations.

PSALM 150 Praise according to full capacity.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/fw-grant/the-numerical-structure-of-the-psalms/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net