

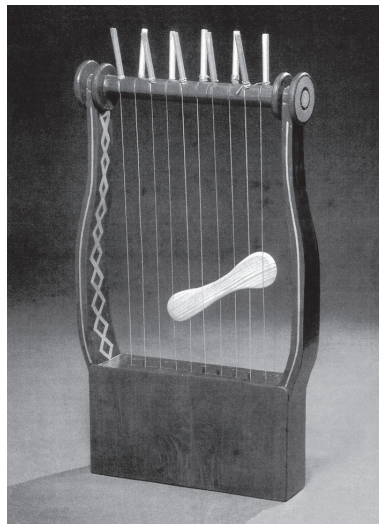
1 Chronicles 15-16 & 25
Various Psalms

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good. His mercy endures forever. Psalm 136:1

Readings for this week:

S 1 Chronicles 15
M 1 Chronicles 16
T 1 Chronicles 25
W 2 Samuel 23:1-7
Th Psalm 96
F Psalm 150
S Colossians 3:1-17

Look in 1 Chronicles 15:16-24 and 16:4-6. Which instruments were used to accompany the Psalms?



A psalteron (harp), made of wood with ten strings, 90cm high. Reconstructed according to mosaics found in Gaza from around 600 BC. Photo by Advanced Photo and Graphic Service courtesy of the Haifa Museum.

A Hebrew Hymn Book

The Psalms were written at different times during the history of Israel. They were set to music, to help people to remember the words.

Can you find...?

Look through the book of the Psalms. Can you find:

- The longest Psalm
- The shortest Psalm
- Five different authors
- The songs of ascents (or degrees)
- A Psalm in which every verse ends with the same words
- Five Psalms in a row that begin and end with "Praise the Lord"



Jewish Lyres. Ancient Jewish coins bearing representations of stringed instruments

A book of prayers

Psalms were written for many purposes. Many of them are written a bit like prayers, where the author is talking to God and telling him how they feel.

What sort of prayers are being expressed in these Psalms?

104:1

75:1

51:1

72:1

102:1

Praise

Sorry

Thanks

Please

Please

Digging Deeper

Poetry books

The Psalms are in a part of the Bible that we often call the poetry books. After all the history books comes **Job**. This book is very old – perhaps not long after Abraham. So it's probably not in the correct place chronologically, but it is poetic – so that is probably why it is where it is.

Next is **Psalms**. Look at the next three books. Who wrote them? (Look at the first verses of each.)

Look through **Proverbs** to see the sort of proverbs Solomon wrote. 16:18 may sound familiar.

Ecclesiastes. What did Solomon think about his life? Ecclesiastes 1:16-18 What conclusions does he come to? 12:1 and 12:13-14

Song of Solomon (sometimes called the Song of Songs) Look at these verses and say what sort of song it is? Song of Solomon 4:8-11.

But there is a deeper meaning to it. Ephesians 5:24-25 and Revelation 19:6-8 might give you a clue to this meaning.

Learn the names of these books in order

Job

Psalms

Proverbs

Ecclesiastes

Song of Solomon

Thank God that he helps us in learning how to pray by giving us the prayers of faithful men in the Psalms.