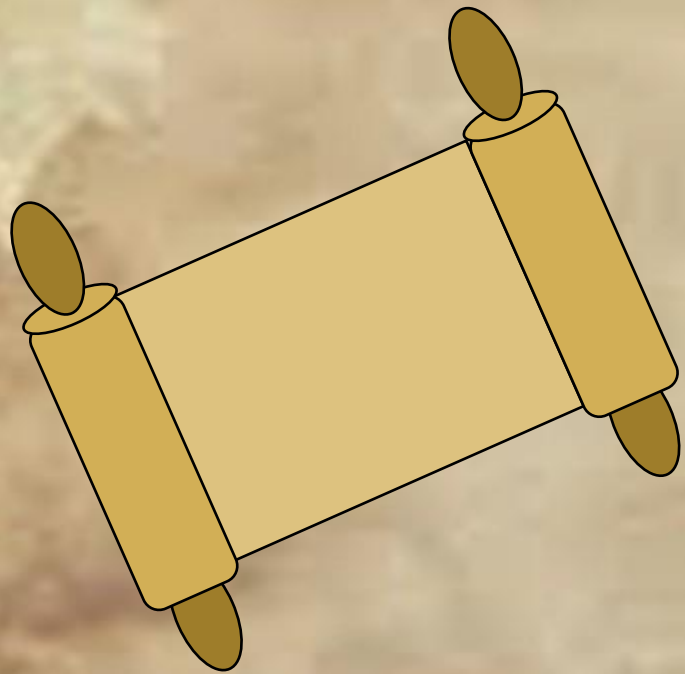
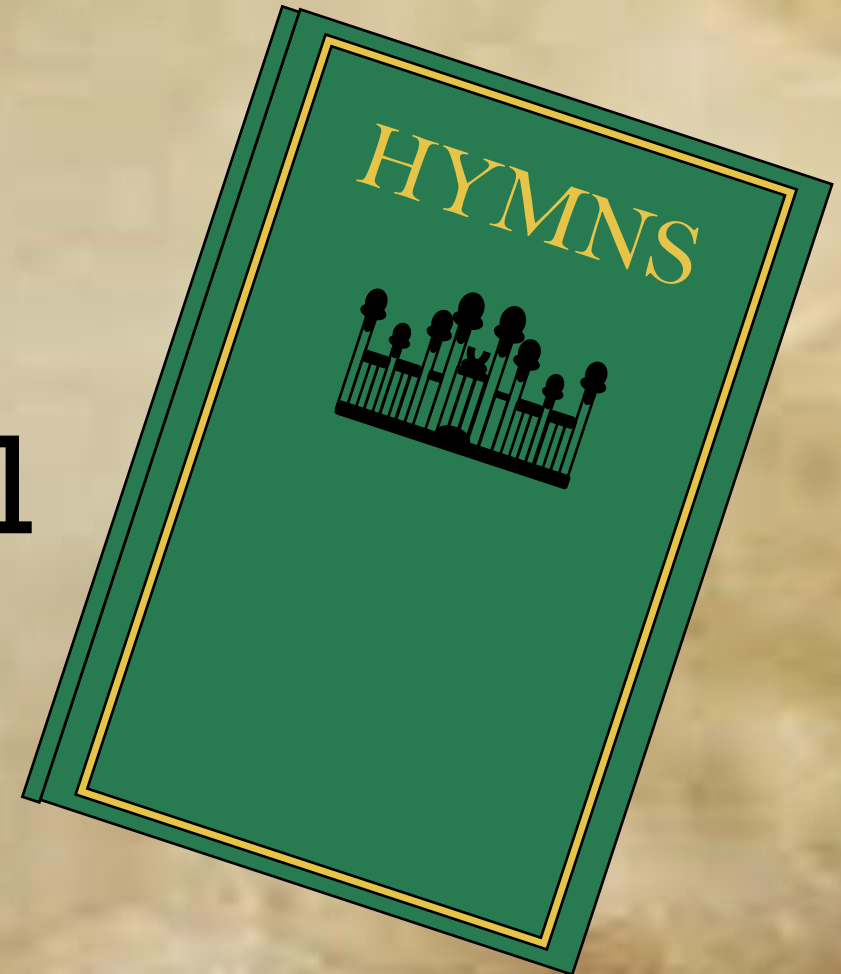


Sacred Songs, Poems, and Prayers



Psalms Part 1

Psalms 9, 23, 24, 33



Introduction

It is a collection of ancient Israel's poetic hymns, petitions, and praises

Psalms has been a source of inspiration for worship since ancient times and continues to be cherished for worship and study by both Jews and Christians



The book of Psalms attributes at least 73 (or about half) of the psalms to David.

Attributes of other psalms:

Asaph (Psalms 50; 73–83)

Heman (Psalm 88).

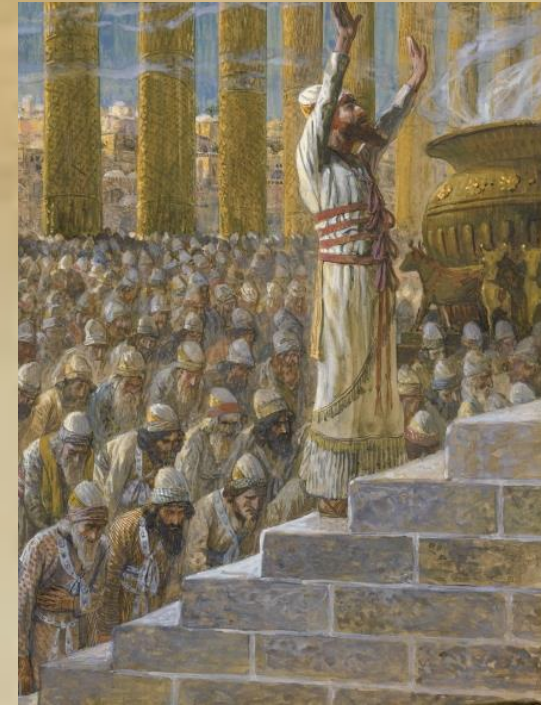
These attributions, however, appear in titles that “are added to some of the psalms, but it is open to question whether these are as old as the words to which they are attached” (1)

Compiled

The multiple authors who wrote the psalms lived at different times, most of them between about 1000 and 500 B.C.

It is not certain when the book of Psalms was compiled in its current form, but events mentioned in Psalm 137 indicate this process was not completed until after the Jewish exile in Babylon:

“By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion. ... For there they ... carried us away captive” (Psalm 137:1, 3).



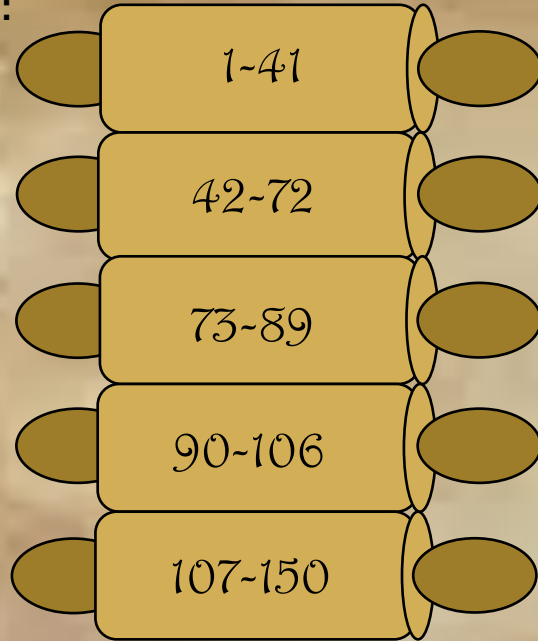
Psalms is the Old Testament book most quoted in the New Testament, for “no book of the Old Testament is more Christian in its inner sense or more fully attested as such by the use made of it than the Psalms.” (1)

Many of the psalms contain prophetic references to the Savior and allude to events that would take place during the Savior’s life.

Hymns, Prayers, and Praises

The book of Psalms is divided into five main sections:

Psalms:



Each of which ends with an expression of praise

Psalms is a collection of sacred songs, poems, and prayers to God. In ancient times, the Israelites would sing or recite the psalms as part of their worship of the Lord.



These hymns were used for prayer, praises, and meditation, and some of the texts show similarities to Hebrew poetry.

Some titles are “probably names of tunes, well known at the time, to which the psalms were appointed to be sung. (1)

Singing Hymns


The First Presidency has counseled members of the Church to sing the hymns of Zion.

Following that counsel will help us learn and teach the gospel through our sacred hymns and “bring out the spirit of music in the heart and soul of every boy, every girl, every man, and every woman.”


In doing so we will find greater love for the Lord’s doctrine, increased strength to withstand temptation, and a deepened testimony of the Savior and His love for each of us. (2)



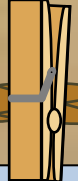
Jesus Christ in Psalms




I will
praise *thee*, O
LORD, with my
whole heart;
I will shew
forth all
thy marvellous
works




I will be glad
and rejoice
in thee: I will
sing praise to
thy name, O
thou most
High.




The LORD also
will be
a refuge for
the oppressed,
a refuge in
times of
trouble.



And they that
know
thy name will put
their trust in
thee: for
thou, LORD, hast
not forsaken
them that seek
thee.



That I may shew
forth all thy
praise in the
gates of the
daughter of Zion:
I will rejoice in
thy salvation.



Have mercy
upon me,
O LORD;
consider my
trouble *which I*
suffer of them
that hate me,
thou that liftest
me up from the
gates of death:



“Jesus Himself quoted the book of Psalms more than any other Old Testament text. Beyond the Savior’s own use of these writings, the authors of the four Gospels [Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John] drew heavily on the psalms as they strove to document His life and ministry, particularly those excruciating hours of His arrest, trial, and Crucifixion.” (3)

Prophecies of Jesus Christ

And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you...

...that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and *in* the prophets, and *in* the psalms, concerning me.

...Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

...And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

Prophecies of Jesus Christ's suffering and death were given long before He was born on earth. The prophecies of Jesus Christ's suffering and death were fulfilled

David and Psalms

Seventy-three of the psalms are ascribed to David

Through all of the psalms one theme is constant and dominant: the reliance of man upon God.

This was one lesson David learned early upon the hills of Bethlehem.

The Lord was his Shepherd, and having served part of his own life in the capacity of herdsman, David knew well the full implications of those words of the now famous Twenty-third Psalm. (4)



Psalm 23



Death

Confusion

Anger

Heartache

Fear

Sickness

Loneliness

The Lord can help us when we experience difficulties.

This psalm is widely regarded as one of the most beloved scripture passages in the Bible.



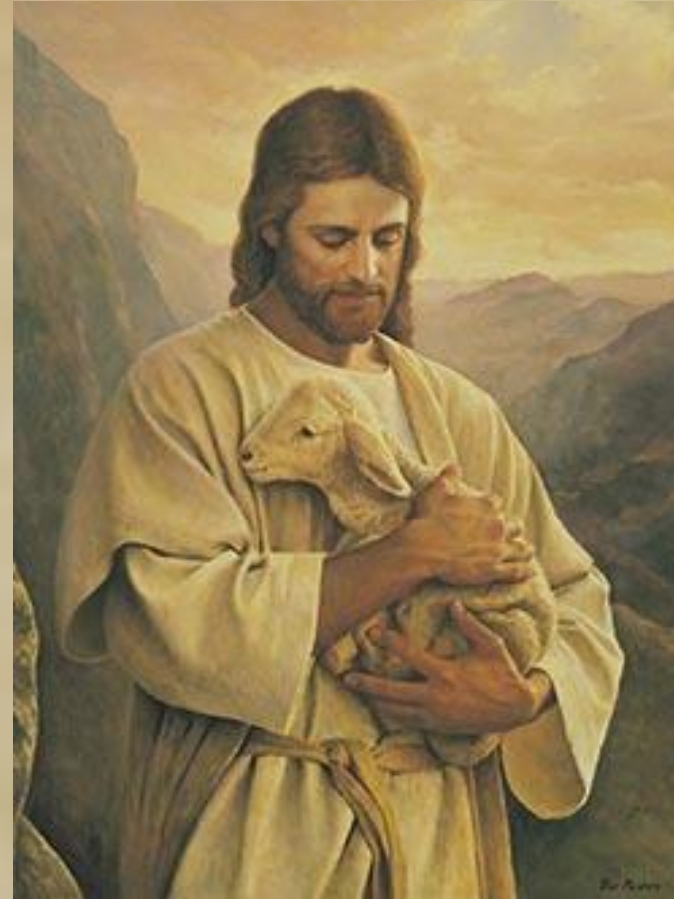


Psalm 23

“We need a shepherd because in innocence or ignorance—but on occasion willfully and against counsel—we turn ‘every one to his own way’ and as a result ‘have gone astray’ [Isaiah 53:6].

We wander here and scamper there, inspect this and nibble at that, until at some point we look up and realize we are either lost or about to be destroyed.

We realize that we, or others who affect us, have done either something stupid or something wrong—which are so very often the same thing.

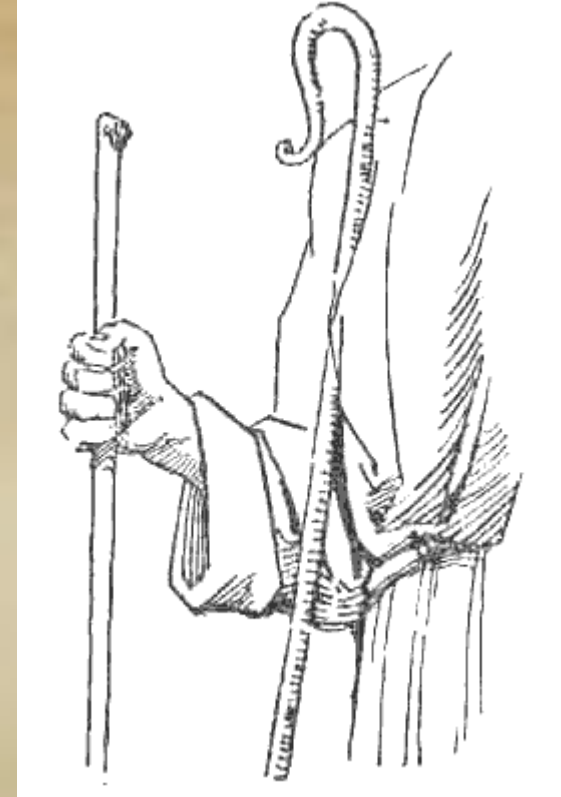


We realize we desperately need help; we are in trouble and frantically look about for our shepherd, our defender, our savior.”



The Shepherd's Rod and Staff

“In ancient days the only instruments a shepherd carried were a rod and a staff. The rod was a short, stout, club-like weapon used to defend oneself or the flock from an intruder. It was meant to be—and to convey—strength and power in the hand of a strong shepherd who knew how to use it. ...



“The staff was a longer, lighter piece, usually with a hook (or crook) on the end used for rescuing a stranded sheep. It, more than the rod, is associated in both art and myth with the shepherd and his vigilant watchcare. ...

Everything about the staff speaks of safety and care. It is the great scriptural instrument of rescue and redemption.



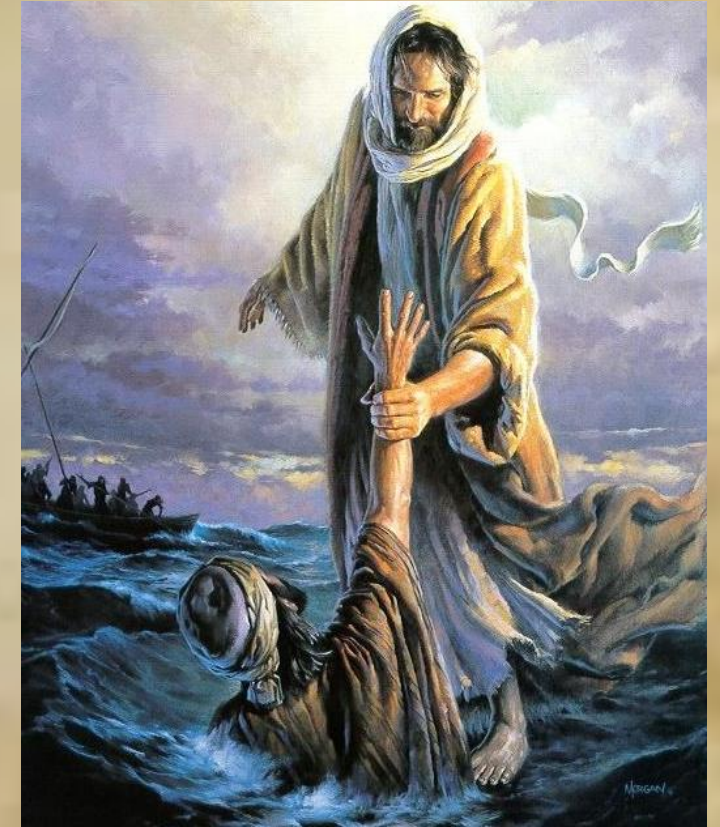
Blessed and Protected



In life we need defending and we need rescue. One way or the other, we are vulnerable.

Whether it be in threatening confrontations or routine wandering, we are blessed and protected by God's vigilant care.

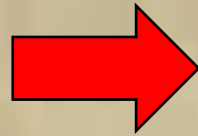
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."



Doctrinal Mastery

Psalms

24:3-4



Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord?
or who shall stand in his holy place?

He that hath clean hands, and
a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his
soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

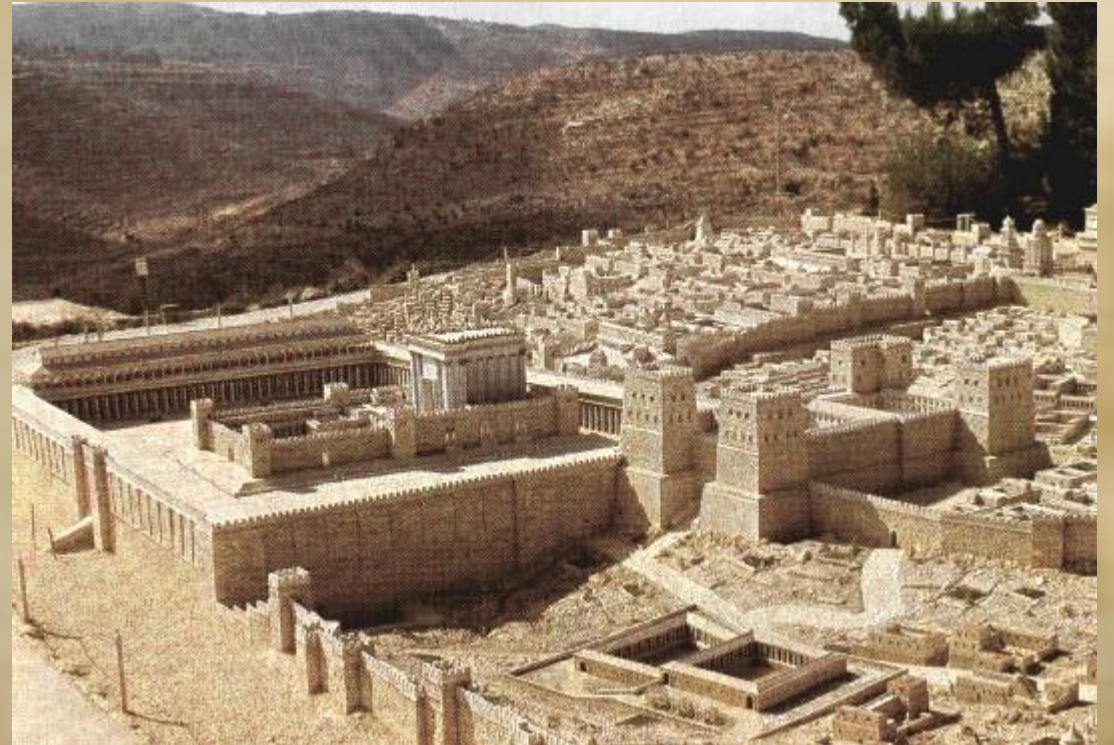
Hill of the Lord/ His Holy Place

The temple or the Lord's presence.



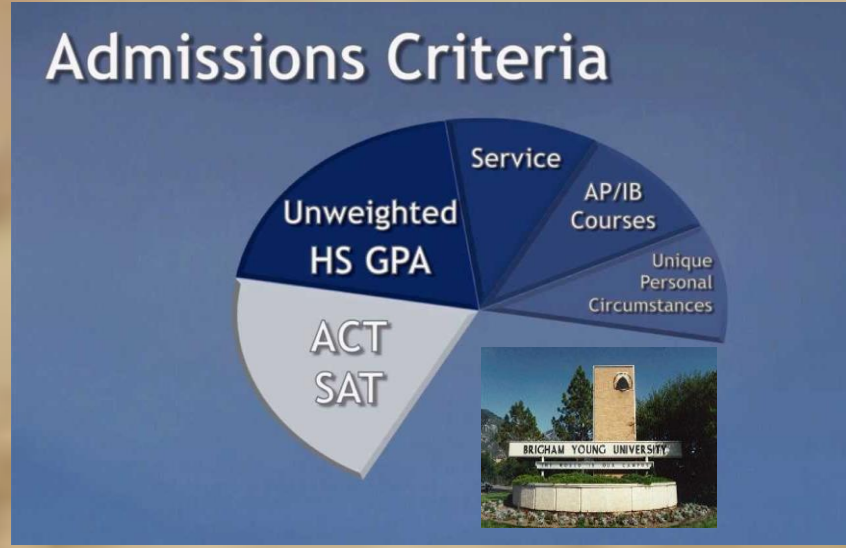
Bountiful Temple

The temple in Jerusalem was built on top of a hill.

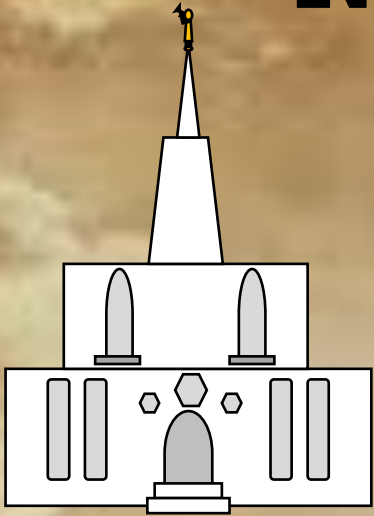


To Gain Entrance

Why are there requirements for entering these or other places?



Requirements To Enter The Temple



One must be baptized and confirmed by the authority of the priesthood

One must have a testimony of the truthfulness of the gospel

One must be morally clean and have no unresolved sins or issues in keeping the commandments

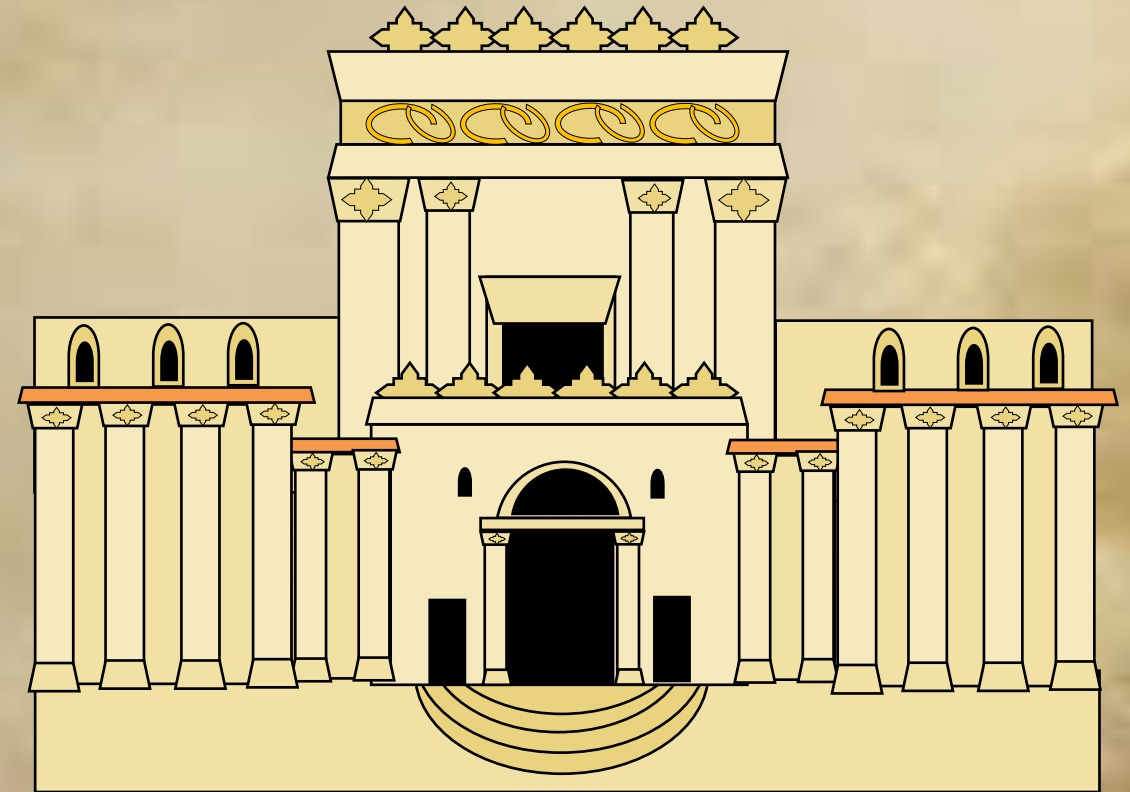
One must keep the Word of Wisdom

One must keep the Law of Tithing

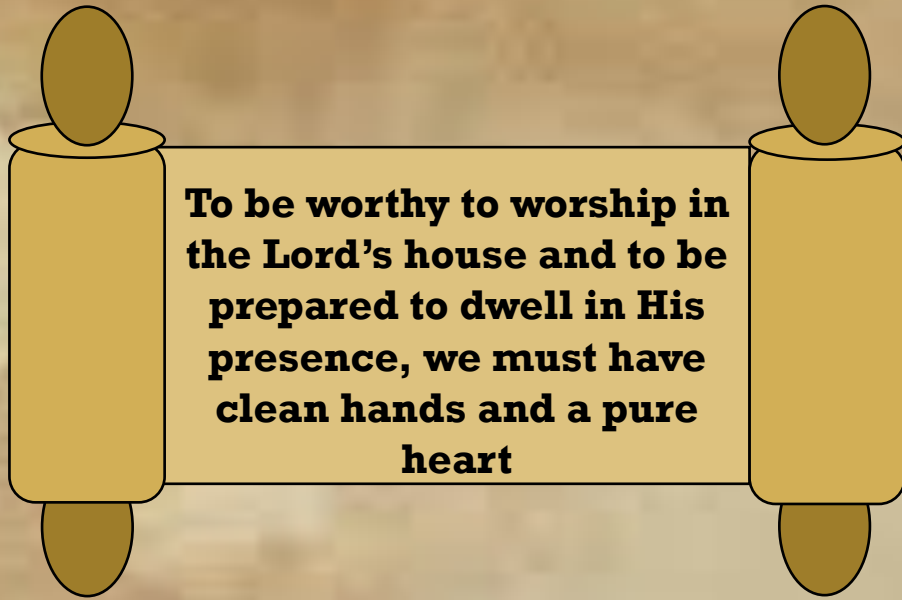
One must be honest in everything

One must not have any sympathetic feelings toward apostate groups

One must strive to keep the rules, laws, and commandments and attend sacrament meetings (2)



Clean And Pure



To be worthy to worship in the Lord's house and to be prepared to dwell in His presence, we must have clean hands and a pure heart



Although it may be difficult for us to keep our hands clean and our hearts pure because of the evil influences that often surround us, it is possible to do so because of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

“Let me suggest that hands are made clean through the process of putting off the natural man and by overcoming sin and the evil influences in our lives through the Savior’s Atonement.

Hearts are purified as we receive His strengthening power to do good and become better.

All of our worthy desires and good works, as necessary as they are, can never produce clean hands and a pure heart.

It is the Atonement of Jesus Christ that provides both a *cleansing and redeeming power* that helps us to overcome sin and a *sanctifying and strengthening power* that helps us to become better than we ever could by relying only upon our own strength.” (5)



Song of Praise

Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? =
or who shall stand in his holy place?

He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart;
who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity,
nor sworn deceitfully.

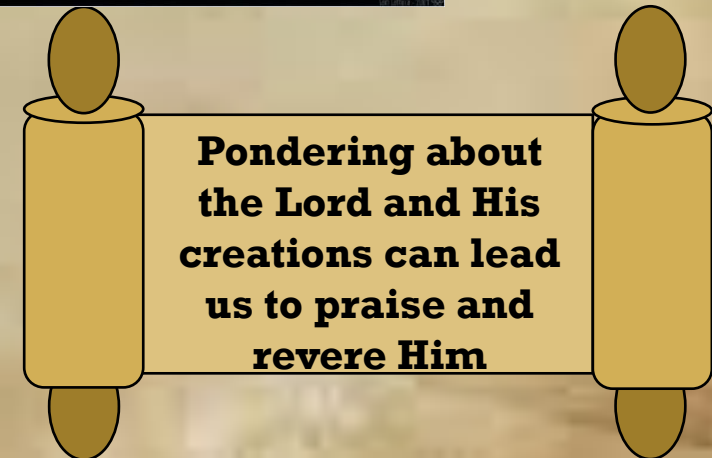


A New Song--Do not wear out the old forms: fresh
mercies call for new songs of praise and gratitude.



“fear the Lord” = respect or reverence Him and His power.

To “stand in awe of him” = we should praise and admire
Him and His creations



Sources:

Suggested Hymn: #108 *The Lord is My Shepherd*

Videos: The Singing of Hymns (0:57)

Good Shepherd (3:04)

“My Kingdom Is Not of This World” (5:23)



1. Bible Dictionary, “Psalms”
2. W. Herbert Klopfer *Worship the Lord by Singing Hymns* January 2012 Ensign
3. Elder Jeffrey R. Holland (*For Times of Trouble* [2012], 7–8, 204, 217-218).
4. Arthur R. Bassett *The King Called David* Oct. 1973 Ensign
5. David A. Bednar, “Clean Hands and a Pure Heart,” *Ensign* or *Liahona*, Nov. 2007, 82

Color Chart

Jesus Christ, The King (portrayed in Matthew)
Jesus Christ, The Servant (portrayed in Mark)
Jesus Christ, the Son of God (portrayed by Luke)
Jesus Christ, the Son of God (portrayed by John)

Psalms	Prophecy	Fulfillment
2:7	God will declare Him to be His Son	Matthew 3:17
8:6	All things will be put under His feet	Hebrews 2:8
16:10	He will be resurrected from the dead	Mark 16:6-7
22:1	God will forsake Him in His hour of need	Matthew 27:46
22:7-8	He will be scorned and mocked	Luke 23:35
22:16	His hands and feet will be pierced	John 20:25,27
22:18	Others will gamble for His clothes	Matthew 27:35-36
34:20	Not one of His bones will be broken	John 19:32-33, 36
35:11	He will be accused by false witnesses	Mark 14-57
35:19	He will be hated without a cause	John 15:25
40:7-8	He will come to do God's will	Hebrews 10:7
41:9	He will be betrayed by a friend	Luke 22:47
45:6	His throne will be forever	Hebrews 8:1
68:18	He will ascend to God's right hand	Mark 16:19
69:9	Zeal for God's house will consume Him	John 2:17
69:21	He will be given vinegar and gall to drink	Matthew 27:34
109:4	He will pray for His enemies	Luke 23:34
109:8	His betrayer's office will be fulfilled by another	Acts 1:20
110:1	His enemies will be made subject to Him	Matthew 22:44
110:4	He will be a priest like Melchizedek	Hebrews 5:6
118:22	He will be the chief cornerstone	Matthew 21:42
118:26	He will come in the name of the LORD	Matthew 21:9

Jesus Prophesied in Psalms

Psalm 1-41

1. Two ways of Life	2. Coronation of the Lord's Anointed	3. Victory in the Face of Defeat	4. Evening Prayer for Deliverance	5. Morning Prayer for Guidance	6. Prayer for God's Mercy
7. Wickedness Justly Rewarded	8. God's Glory and Man's Dominion	9. Praise for Victory over Enemies	10. Petition for God's Judgment	11. God Tests the Sons of Men	12. The Pure Words of the LORD
13. The Prayer for God's Answer—Now	14. The Characteristics of the Godless	15. The Characteristics of the Godly	16. Eternal Life for One Who Trusts	17. "Hide Me Under the Shadow of Your Wings"	18. Thanksgiving for Deliverance by God
19. The Works and Word of God	20. Trust Not in Chariots and Horses but in God	21. Triumph of the King	22. Psalm of the Cross, "The LORD is my Shepherd"	23. Psalm of the Divine Shepherd	24. Psalm of the King of Glory
25. Prayer for Instruction	26. "Examine Me, O Lord, and Prove Me?"	27. Trust in the Lord and Be Not Afraid	28. Rejoice Because of Answered Prayer	29. The Powerful Voice of God	30. Praise for Dramatic Deliverance
31. "Be of Good Courage"	32. The Blessedness of Forgiveness	33. God Considers All Man's Works	34. Seek the Lord	35. Petition for God's Intervention	36. The Loving Kindness of God
37. "Rest in the Lord"	38. The Heavy Burden of Sin	39. Know the Measure of Man's Day	40. Delight to Do God's Will	41. The Blessedness of Helping the Poor	

The book of Psalms begins with a contrast between the godly and the ungodly.

Some of these psalms put great emphasis on trusting God rather than earthly objects or people and remind us that we need not fear because God is with us.

Another psalm reminds us that God will judge our hearts and that we should seek after God's mercy.

Psalm 42-72

42. Seek After the Lord	43. "Hope in God"	44. Prayer for Deliverance by God	45. The Psalm of the Great King	46. "God is Our Refuge and Strength"	47. The LORD Shall Subdue All Nations
48. Praise of Mount Zion	49. Riches Cannot Redeem	50. The Lord Shall Judge All people	51. Confession and Forgiveness of Sin	52. The LORD Shall Judge the Deceitful	53. A Portrait of the Godless
54. The LORD Is Our Helper	55. "Cast Your Burden Upon the LORD"	56. Fears in the Midst of Trials	57. Prayers in the Midst of Perils	58. Wicked Judges Will Be Judged	59. Petition for Deliverance from Violent Men
60. Prayer for Deliverance of the Nation	61. Prayer When Overwhelmed	62. Wait for God	63. Thirst for God	64. Prayer for God's Protection	65. God's Provision through Nature
66. Remember What God Has Done	67. God Shall Govern the Earth	68. God is the Father of the Fatherless	69. Petition for God to Draw Near	70. Prayer for the Poor and Needy	71. Prayer for the Aged
72. The Reign of the Messiah	Psalm 42-72				

These psalms could be summarized with the phrase "God is our refuge and strength" (Psalm 46:1).

One psalm reminds us to cast our burdens upon the Lord in every challenge or trial.

Another encourages us to wait patiently upon God in all things.

Psalms 73-89

73. Perspective of Eternity	74. Request for God to Remember His Covenant	75. "God Is the Judge"	76. The Glorious Might of God	77. When Overwhelmed, Remember God's Greatness	78. God's Continued Guidance in Spite of Unbelief
79. Avenge the Defilement of Jerusalem	80. Israel's Plea for God's Mercy	81. God's Plea for Israel's Obedience	82. Rebuke of Israel's Urgent Judges	83. Plea for God to Destroy Israel's Enemies	84. The Joy of Dwelling with God
85. Prayer for Revival	86. "Teach Me Your Way, O LORD"	87. Glorious Zion, City of God	88. Crying from Deepest Affliction	89. Claiming God's Promises in Affliction	

These psalms encompass several themes and frequently describe God as a judge who can rebuke wicked earthly judges and destroy Israel's enemies.

In Psalm 86, King David records a plea that God teach us His way so we can walk in truth

Psalms 90-106

90. "Teach Us to Number Our Days"	91. Abiding in "The Shadow of the Almighty"	92. It is Good to Praise the LORD	93. The Majesty of God	94. Vengeance Belongs only to God	95. Call to Worship the LORD
96. Declare the Glory of God	97. Rejoice! The LORD Reigns!	98. Sing a New Song to the LORD	99. "Exalt the LORD Our God"	100. "Serve the LORD with Gladness"	101. Commitment of a Holy Life
102. Prayer of an Overwhelmed Saint	103. Bless the LORD, All you People!	104. Psalm Rehearsing Creation	105. Remember, God Keeps His Promises	106. "We Have Sinned"	

Many of these psalms encourage us to praise the Lord, remember that vengeance belongs to Him, declare His glory, and serve Him with gladness

Psalm 107-150

107. God Satisfies the Longing Soul	108. Awake Early and Praise the LORD	109. Song of the Slandered	110. The Coming of the Priest-King-Judge	111. Praise for God's Tender Care	112. The Blessings of Those Who Fear God
113. The Condescending Grace of God	114. In Praise for the Exodus	115. To God Alone Be the Glory	116. Love the LORD for What He Has Done	117. Praise of All	118. Better to Trust God Than Man
119. Praise of the Scriptures	120. A Cry in Distress	121. God is Our Keeper	122. Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem"	123. Plea for the Mercy of God	124. God is on Our Side
125. Trust in the LORD and Abide Forever	126. "Sow in Tears, Reap in Joy"	127. Children are God's Heritage	128. Blessing on the House of the God-fearing	129. Plea of the Persecuted	130. "My Soul Waits for the Lord"
131. A Childlike Faith	132. Trust in the God of David	133. Beauty of the Unity of the Brethren	134. Praise the LORD in the Evening	135. God Has Done Great Things!	136. God's Mercy Endure Forever
137. Tears in Exile	138. God Answered My Prayer	139. "Search Me, O God"	140. Preserve Me from Violence	141. Set a Guard, O LORD, over My Mouth	142. "No One Cares for My Soul"
143. "Teach Me to Do Your Will"	144. "What Is Man?"	145. Testify to God's Great Acts	146. "Do Not Put Your Trust in Prince"	147. God Heals the Brokenhearted	148. All Creation Praises the LORD
149. "The Lord Take Pleasure in His People"	150. "Praise the LORD"				

These psalms recognize that "children are an heritage of the Lord" (Psalm 127:3) and that they are an eternal blessing for righteous parents. One psalm near the end of the book offers a heartfelt plea that the Lord will deliver us and keep us from the evil and violent practices of wicked men.

Praising the Lord:

“I think the Lord’s people should rejoice in him and shout praises to his holy name. Cries of hosannah should ascend from our lips continually. When I think of the revealed knowledge we have about him whom it is life eternal to know, and of the great plan of salvation which he ordained for us; when I think about his Beloved Son, who bought us with his blood, and who brought life and immortality to light through his atoning sacrifice; when I think of the life and ministry of the Prophet Joseph Smith, who has done more save Jesus only for the salvation of men in this world, than any other man who ever lived in it, and who crowned his mortal ministry with a martyr’s death—my soul wells up with eternal gratitude and I desire to raise my voice with the choirs above in ceaseless praise to him who dwells on high.

“When I think that the Lord has a living oracle guiding his earthly kingdom, and that there are apostles and prophets who walk the earth again; when I think that the Lord has given us the gift and power of the Holy Ghost so that we have the revelations of heaven and the power to sanctify our souls; when I think of the unnumbered blessings—the gifts, the miracles, the promise that the family unit shall go on everlastingly, all the blessings that are poured out upon us, and offered freely to all men everywhere—my desire to praise the Lord and proclaim his goodness and grace knows no bounds. And so in this spirit of praise and thanksgiving ... I shall conclude with these words of my own psalm:.

“Praise ye the Lord:

Praise him for his goodness;

Praise him for his grace;

Exalt his name and seek his face—

O praise ye the Lord.

“Blessed is the Lord:

Bless him for his mercy;

Bless him for his love;

Exalt his name and seek his face—

O blessed is the Lord.

“Praise ye the Lord:

Praise him who all things did create;

Praise him who all things did redeem;

Exalt his name and seek his face—

O praise ye the Lord.

“Seek ye the Lord:

Seek him who rules on high;

Seek him whose will we know;

Exalt his name and seek his face—

O seek ye the Lord”

Elder Bruce R. McConkie (“Think on These Things,” *Ensign*, Jan. 1974, 48).

Betrayal, Trial, and Crucifixion

Ps. 41:9: "Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me."	John 13:18: "I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me."
Ps. 55:12-14: "For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him: "But it was thou, a man ... mine acquaintance. "We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company."	John 13:21, 26: "When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. ... "Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon."
Ps. 22:16: "For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet."	Matt. 27:26: "And when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified."
Ps. 22:18: "They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture."	John 19:23-24: "Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part; and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout. "They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be."
Ps. 22:7-8: "All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, "He trusted on the Lord that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him."	Matt. 27:39-43: "And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads, "And saying, Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest it in three days, save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross. "Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said, "He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. "He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him: for he said, I am the Son of God."
Ps. 69:21: "They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink."	Matt. 27:34, 48: "They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted thereof, he would not drink. ... "And straightway one of them ran, and took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink."
Ps. 22:1: "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?"	Matt. 27:46: "And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"
Ps. 31:5: "Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth."	Luke 23:46: "And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost."
Ps. 34:20: "He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken."	John 19:32-33: "Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. "But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs."

Psalm 22:1 "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?":

The first line of a hymn identifies the hymn. The first line of a psalm identifies the psalm. When Christ is on the cross, he utters this famous passage. It was an expression of his innermost feelings. It was an honest plea for understanding. But it was also a teaching moment. Those who had derided him saying, "If he be the King of Israel let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him," (Matt. 27:42) were the chief priests and scribes. They *should have* known the scriptures better than anyone else. They *should have* known that the passage, "my God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me" was the first line of the 22nd Psalm. They *should have* recognized that Jesus was referencing the whole psalm when quoting this line. They *should have* thought about the content of this psalm. They *should have* recognized that the Messiah was at that moment on the cross and suffering just as the 22nd psalm had prophesied. They *should have* then felt remorse and guilt. They *should have* then understood that their mocking had been prophesied by David a millennia previous. Gospel Doctrine.com

Psalm 23:4 "though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death"

If anyone had reason to worry for his own safety, it was David in the years that Saul persistently sought his life. Walking through the "valley of the shadow of death" was not poetry for David-it was reality. "David abode in the wilderness in strong holds, and remained in a mountain in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every Day, but God delivered him not into his hand" (1 Sam. 23:14) What to us may be figurative, was all too real to David.

"David... knew loneliness and estrangement; he knew what it meant to be homeless, without friends; he knew what it meant to be betrayed by those closest to him; he knew what it meant to have his friends suffer. His psalms reflect this. He also was a man of sorrow and acquainted with grief. He, like Jesus after him, knew to an amazing degree the fulness of the dimensions of life. But through all this, David knew best that God knew best-and that the safest course in life is to throw oneself to a great degree upon the wisdom of God. This theme is dominant throughout the psalms. He knew as well as anyone what Christ meant when he told his own disciples ten centuries later, "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." (John 15:5.) This knowledge underlies all of David's poetry-and all of his greatness." (Arthur R. Bassett, "The King Called David," *Ensign*, Oct. 1973, 69)

Some excerpts from Psalms

<p>Psalm 4:5</p>	<p>Offer the sacrifices of righteousness</p>	<p>Opportunities to lose oneself for the good of others present themselves daily: the mother who serves her children's needs; the father who gives his time for their instruction; parents who give up worldly pleasure for quality home life; children who care for their aged parents; home teaching service; visiting teaching; time for compassionate service; giving comfort to those who need strength; serving with diligence in Church callings; community and public service in the interest of preserving our freedoms; financial donations for tithes, fast offerings, support of missionaries, welfare, building and temple projects. Truly, the day of sacrifice is not past. Ezra Taft Benson (<i>Conference Report</i>, April 1979, 34)</p>
<p>Psalm 5:3</p>	<p>In the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up</p>	<p>Perhaps what this world needs, as much as anything, is to "look up" as the Psalmist said-to look up in our joys as well as our afflictions, in our abundance as well as in our need. We must continually look up and acknowledge God as the giver of every good thing and the source of our salvation. President Howard W. Hunter <i>Ensign</i> Nov. 1977</p>
<p>Psalm 6:1-2</p>	<p>O Lord, rebuke me not in thine anger... Have mercy upon me, O Lord; for I am weak</p>	<p>The Lord is justified in punishing us for our sins. If he rebuked us and chastened us immediately after every sin, we would learn our lesson quickly. But do we really want that? Isn't this probationary state a chance for us to learn how to be obedient for reasons other than fear?</p>
<p>Psalm 7:8</p>	<p>Judge me, O Lord, according to my righteousness, and according to mine integrity</p>	<p>To me the principle of integrity is one of the greatest blessings we can possibly possess. He who proves true to himself or his brethren, to his friends and his God, will have the evidence within him that he is accepted; he will have the confidence of his God and of his friends. <i>The Discourses of Wilford Woodruff</i>, edited by G. Homer Durham [Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1969], 260)</p>
<p>Psalm 8:4</p>	<p>What is man that thou art mindful of him?</p>	<p>I first read the following words 67 years ago in a college English class: "What a piece of work is man! how noble in reason! how infinite in faculty! in form and moving how express and admirable! in action how like an angel! in apprehension how like a god! the beauty of the world! the paragon of animals!" (Hamlet, act 2, scene 2, lines 303-7). Gordon B. Hinckley ("The Quest for Excellence," <i>Ensign</i>, Sept. 1999, 2, 5)</p>
<p>Psalm 9:7</p>	<p>the Lord... hath prepared his throne for judgment</p>	<p>The ninth psalm may not be the most famous of psalms, but within its few verses is the prophecy of Millennial Judgment-the assurance that the both the wicked and the righteous will receive their due. This judgment will be administered from the millennial throne of Christ. He will share this responsibility with righteous priesthood holders (1 Cor. 6:22; Rev. 20:4).</p>

Some excerpts from Psalms

Psalm 10:1	<p>Why standest thou afar off, O Lord?</p> <p>Why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble?</p>	<p>At times when the wicked prosper and the righteous suffer, we wonder why God doesn't step in and do something (Alma 14:8-11). Can you think of another prophet who wondered why God seemed so distant? How about the Prophet Joseph in Liberty Jail?</p>
Psalm 14:1	<p>The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God</p>	<p>What, then, is the meaning of life? What are its central purposes? Can they ever be identified and understood by mortals? These are questions which in one form or another have occupied the time and attention of thoughtful men and women throughout the ages. Alexander B. Morrison ("Life-The Gift Each Is Given," <i>Ensign</i>, Dec. 1998, 15)</p>
Psalm 16:10	<p>thou wilt not leave my soul in hell</p>	<p>The only souls who are left in hell are the sons of perdition. After their suffering in spirit prison, "all the rest shall be brought forth by the resurrection from the dead through the triumph and glory of the Lamb" to inherit one of three kingdoms of glory (D&C 76:39). David fell from his exaltation, but he was not a son of perdition</p>
Psalm 18:18-20, 24, 96	<p>Read at the dedication of the Kirtland temple by Sidney Rigdon</p>	<p>At nine o'clock a. m. [March 27, 1836] President Sidney Rigdon commenced the services of the day by reading the 96th and 24th Psalms... President Rigdon then read the 18th, 19th and 20th verses of the 18th chapter of Matthew, and preached more particularly from the 20th verse</p>
Psalm 19:2	<p>The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork</p>	<p>(Astronaut Don Lind) "To look down on the earth from space is absolutely incredible. I knew ahead of time just exactly what I was going to see. I was intellectually prepared, but I was not prepared emotionally for what I saw. The world is very large. I knew that. But to see this huge, magnificent sphere slowly rotating beneath me was overwhelming. ("The Heavens Declare the Glory of God," <i>Ensign</i>, Nov. 1985, 38-39)</p>
Psalm 35	<p>Read at the First Continental Congress</p>	<p>Reverend Duché opened the second session on September 7th, 1774 with prayer. It was not a perfunctory prayer, but one that was a time of profound prayer. Opening the session he read the 35th Psalm, and then broke into extemporaneous prayer.</p>