**The Book of Psalms—Study Guide (Psalms 105-106)**

The Bible always takes precedence in our study of God’s Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21). This guide is just a “help” compiled from the Soncino commentary, Ambassador College notes, & personal study.

**Psalm 105:** Soncino titles this Psalm: “Thanksgiving to God for His past acts.” (The first 15 verses are found in 1 Chronicles 16:7-22; hence the author is King David). This Psalm is also a review of the history of Israel.

1-2: Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon (proclaim) His name. Make known His deeds among the peoples. Sing psalms to Him. Talk of His wondrous works. See Psalm 145:10-13. (This is also prophetic: Isaiah 12:4-6).

3-6: Glory in God’s holy name. Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the Lord (inquire a knowledge of). Seek His face (presence) forevermore. Remember His marvelous works (Deuteronomy 32:7-9); and the judgments of His mouth (Exodus 6:6-7), O seed of Abraham, His servant; you children of Jacob, His chosen ones.

7-8: He is the Lord our God. His judgments are in all the earth—past, present, and future. He remembers (is mindful of) His covenant (with Abraham) forever, the word which He commanded (confirmed) for a thousand generations (Deuteronomy 7:9).

9-10: The covenant God made was with Abraham (Genesis 17:2, 7-8), and His oath was to Isaac (Genesis 26:2-6), and He confirmed it to Jacob (Genesis 28:12-14) for a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant...

11-12: “To give the land of Canaan (Genesis 15:18) as the allotment of Israel’s inheritance.” It was when they were few in number, indeed very few, and strangers in it (as Jacob acknowledged—Genesis 34:30).

13-15: When they (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob) went from nation to nation, He allowed no one to do them wrong (Genesis 12:9-10, 17-20). He even rebuked kings for their sakes, saying, “Do not touch My anointed ones, and do My prophets no harm” (Genesis 20:3-7—God told Abimelech that Abraham was a prophet).

16-18: God caused a famine in the land, and destroyed the provision of bread. He had sent Joseph, who was sold as a slave (Genesis 37:28, 39:1). They hurt his feet with fetters, and he was in irons (Genesis 39:20; 40:3).

19-20: For many years Joseph was in prison until the time that his words came to pass (regarding the butler and baker: Genesis 37:6-11). The words were from the Lord (who revealed the meaning of those dreams and the dreams of Pharaoh), during which Joseph’s faith was tested. He was finally set free (Genesis 41:14, 25, 41-44).

21-22: Pharaoh made him lord in his house (Genesis 45:8), and ruler of all his possessions, to even bind his princes (the chiefs) at his pleasure and to teach his elders (the king’s councilors) wisdom.

23-25: Israel--Jacob came into Egypt, and he dwelt in the land of Ham (Genesis 46:5-7). God increased His people, and made them stronger than their enemies. Later the Egyptians’ hearts were turned against His people, and they dealt craftily with His servants (Exodus 1:7-10; 4:21).

26-28: God sent Moses His servant, and Aaron (Exodus 4:14). They performed His signs in the land of Ham (Psalm 78:51). He sent darkness (Exodus 10:21-22), and they (Moses/Aaron) did not rebel against His word.

29-30: God’s judgments (verse 7) included the plagues on Egypt. He turned their waters into blood, and killed their fish (Exodus 7:20-21). Their land abounded with frogs, even in the chambers of the king (Exodus 8:3-4).

31-33: Swarms of flies and lice came into their territory (Exodus 8:16-17, 24). He gave them hail for rain, and flaming fire in the land (Exodus 9:22-25). He struck their vines, and splintered their trees (Psalm 78:47-48).

34-36: Young locusts came without number and ate up all the vegetation of the land, and devoured the fruit of the ground (Exodus 10:13-15). He also destroyed all the firstborn in their land (Exodus 12:29-30), the first of all their strength (the firstborn was often described as such--Genesis 49:3, Deuteronomy 21:17).

37-39: God brought Israel out of Egypt with silver and gold, and none was feeble (lagging from weariness) among His tribes. Egypt was glad when they departed, for the fear of them had fallen upon them (Exodus 12:33, 35-36). God spread a cloud for a covering and fire to give light in the night (Exodus 13:21-22).

40-41: The people asked; God gave them quail, and satisfied them with manna, the bread of heaven (Exodus 16:12-15). He opened a rock, and water gushed out. It ran in the dry places like a river (Exodus 17:6).

42-43: He remembered (was mindful of) His holy promise, and Abraham His servant. He brought out His people with joy, His chosen ones with gladness (singing—with song—Exodus 15).

44-45: He gave them the land of the Gentiles (Canaan), and they inherited their labor (Deuteronomy 6:10-12); so that they might observe His statutes and keep His laws (Deuteronomy 4:1, 40). Praise the Lord (Hallelujah)!

**Psalm 106:** Soncino titles this Psalm: “National Infidelity.” It is a sequel to Psalm 105.

1: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, and His mercy endures forever (quoted in 1 Chronicles 16:34 which indicates that this Psalm was also written by King David—1 Chronicles 16:7).

2-3: Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord? (See Psalm 40:5). Blessed are those who keep justice and those who do righteousness at all times—which is pleasing to God (See Psalm 15:1-3). They are the ones who have the privilege of praising God. (See Psalm 33:1; 149:5-6).

4-5: Remember me, O Lord with the favor You have toward Your people--see Psalm 119:132. (David is asking this as a personal petition to God). Visit me with Your salvation, that I may see the benefit of Your chosen ones, and glory in Your inheritance (which David will see after his resurrection).

6-7: The focus changes to Israel admitting that they committed iniquity (see 1 Kings 8:46-47). Our fathers did not understand Your wonders (plagues) in Egypt (Deuteronomy 32:28-29), nor did they remember the multitude of Your mercies, but rebelled by the Red Sea (Exodus 14:11-12).

8-9: Nevertheless, God saved them for His name’s sake (Ezekiel 20:8-9), that He might make His power known. He rebuked the Red Sea and led them through the depths on dry ground (see Isaiah 63:12-13).

10-12: He redeemed them from the hand of the enemy. The waters covered their enemies (Exodus 14:28-31); not one of them was left (including Pharaoh). They believed His words and sang His praise (Exodus 15:1-5).

13-15: The focus changes to what Israel had done. They soon forgot His works and did not wait for His counsel, but lusted exceedingly in the wilderness (Numbers 11:4-6), and tested God in the desert (1 Corinthians 10:5-10). He gave them their request and sent leanness (sickness and death) into their soul.

16-18: When they envied Moses in the camp, and Aaron the saint of the Lord (Numbers 16:1-3), the earth swallowed up Dathan and covered the faction of Abiram (Deuteronomy 11:6). A fire was kindled in their company. The flame burned them up—for cause (See Numbers 16:34-35, 39-40).

19-23: They made and worshipped the calf in Horeb. They changed their glory (from God who did great things in Egypt) to an ox that eats grass (Exodus 32:4-5). God was going to destroy them (Exodus 32:10), had not Moses stood in the breach for their sakes (Exodus 32:11, 30-33). Also see Deuteronomy 9:7-8, 13-14, 25-26.

24-25: Then later Israel despised the Promised Land. They did not believe His word, but complained in their tents (Numbers 14:1-4, 31; Deuteronomy 1:26-28).

26-27: Therefore God raised His hand in an oath that they would die in the wilderness (Numbers 32:10-13). Their descendants would later be scattered into the lands (Ezekiel 20:23-24).

28-31: Israel joined themselves to Baal Peor and they provoked God to anger so that a plague broke out among them (Numbers 25:1-3, 9; Hosea 9:10). Then Phinehas stood up and intervened and the plague was stopped. It was accounted to him for righteousness to all generations to come (Numbers 25:7-8, 10-13).

32-33: They angered God at the waters of Meribah (strife), so that it went ill with Moses on account of them. They rebelled against His (God’s) Spirit (Isaiah 63:10), so that Moses spoke rashly (Numbers 20:7-13).

34-36: They did not destroy the peoples whom the Lord had commanded them to do so (Deuteronomy 7:1-3; Judges 1:21, 27-33; 2:1-3), but they mingled among them (intermarried) and learned about their works and served their idols (Exodus 23:32-33).

37-39: They even sacrificed their sons and daughters to demons (Deuteronomy 32:16-18). They were defiled by their works and played the harlot (became unfaithful) by their own deeds (Ezekiel 16:15, 20, 32; 20:30-33).

40-43: Therefore the wrath of the Lord was kindled against His people, so that he abhorred His own inheritance. And He gave them into the hand of the Gentiles and they were brought into subjection under their hand. Many times He delivered them, but they rebelled (Judges 2:13-17).

44-46: Nevertheless He regarded their affliction when He heard their cry, and for their sake He remembered (was mindful) of His covenant. He also made them to be pitied by all those who carried them away captive. See portions of Solomon’s prayer in 1 Kings 8:46-53.

47: This verse inserts a prayer of those in Israel asking God to save them and gather them out from among the Gentiles. They will give thanks to God’s holy name and triumph in His praise (notice the next verse):

48: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting! And let all the people say, “Amen!” Praise the Lord (Hallelujah)! This conclusion of Book Four is similar to the ending of Book One (Psalm 41:13).