

## Psalms thru Song of Solomon

Ps.1:1-3

- Our study will take us on a brief journey through each of the books of the Bible.
- Our aim: To impart perspective and the key to each book.
- Our construction: Key word; key verse; Key to Christ.

### Psalms

- A. Means: Originally unnamed. The LXX uses the term *Psalmoi* meaning poems to be sung.
- a. Many authors with 73 attributed to David, 50 anonymous the rest shared between Moses and Korah.
  - b. Time period 1400BC Moses thru to Ezra and Nehemiah 430 BC.
  - c. They cover historical events, worship of the Jew and prophesy God's righteousness revealed in Christ.
  - d. Psalms cover five books in one. Some are imprecatory, some are lament (Ps.51), some are thanksgiving and some being praise songs with "praise the Lord!" being the centre of attention.
- B. Keys to Psalms:
- a. Key word: Worship the Lord for He is worthy to be praised.
  - b. Key Verses: Psalm 19:14 "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and redeemer."
  - c. Key Chapter: Psalm 100 where worship and praise are perfectly wed.
  - d. Key to Christ: Messianic Psalms such as 2:7 decalring Jesus as God's Son thus fulfilled in Matt.3:17 to 110.4 declaring Him Priest and King fulfilled in Heb.5:6 highlight the encouraging nature of these beautiful words.

### Proverbs

- A. Means: for words.
- a. Author is most probably Solomon cf Prov.1:1.
  - b. The theme is pithy words of wisdom to aid in living a godly life.
  - c. The writer has produced about 800 of his 3000 collected proverbs [Eccl.12:9 "he pondered and sought out and set in order many proverbs".
  - d. He deals with "words of the wise" (Proverbs 24:34) by 931 BC. King Hezekiah [715-686 BC] collected 25-29 some 250 years later.
- B. Keys to Ezra:
- a. Key word: Wisdom is the clear purpose of the words collected.
  - b. Key verses: 1:5 "A wise man will hear and increase learning and a man of understanding will attain wise counsel"
  - c. Key chapter: Chapter 31 the view of a good woman, wife, mother and neighbour whose conduct is in stark contrast to the woman of chapter 7 "with the attire of a harlot and a crafty heart" being "loud and rebellious".
  - d. Key to Christ: Christ is wisdom personified "in Whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" Col.2:3).

### Ecclesiastes

- A. Means: To address the assembly (from the word *qahal* ).
- a. The author is clearly Solomon 1:1; 12 "son of David, king in Jerusalem".
  - b. The theme is when looking at things from an "under the Sun" perspective all is vanity. In other words, take God out of the picture and everything is to no avail (take note atheists/agnostics).
  - c. The time is most probably late in Solomon's life suggesting 935 BC. Certainly his judgement in found in 12:13 suggests regret and repentance as the end nears.
- B. Keys to Nehemiah:
- a. Key word: Vanity, the futility of living life without God.
  - b. Key verses: Eccl.2:24 "There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God"; 12:13-14 "The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil."
  - c. Key chapter: 12 where the conclusion is that all is vain without God therefore fear Him and keep His commandments and it will go well for thee.
  - d. Key to Christ: Essentially man shall not live off bread alone but what proceeds from the mouth of God (Matt.4:4) and if you love Him then keep His commands (Jn.14:15).

### Song of Solomon

- A. Means: What it says and taken from 1:1
- a. I believe it is one of the 1005 songs Solomon wrote (I Kg.4:32,33) and reject the critics who claim it is merely about Solomon.

- b. The theme is set during his reign about 925 BC
  - c. The song is a love song abounding in metaphors extolling a relationship the King has with a Shulamite woman who is one of at least 140 in his harem. The metaphors are said to extend a picture of God (King) and His bride (Israel and even the church). "As human life finds its highest fulfilment in the love of man and woman, so spiritual life finds its highest fulfilment in the love of God for His people and Christ for His church" (The Open Bible). The beginning of love 1:1-5:1; the widening of that love 5:2-8:14.
- B. Keys to Song of Solomon:
- a. Key word: Love in Marriage both as a fictional drama and allegory of God's love for His people.
  - b. Key verses: 7:10 "I am my beloved's, and his desire is for me." 8:7 "Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it. If a man offered for love all the wealth of his house, he would be utterly despised."
  - c. Key chapter: It is really all one chapter depicting the love of a married couple.
  - d. Key to Christ: Israel is the bride of God - The church is the bride of Christ (Eph.5:23-25) the first illustrates the anticipated second.