Summer in the Psalms

Introduction to the Psalms

I. Book 1 (Pss. 1–41)
   A. Yahwistic psalms of David (3–41)

II. Book 2 (Pss. 42–72)
   A. Psalms of the sons of Korah (42–49)
   B. Elohist psalms of David (51–72)

III. Book 3 (Pss. 73–89)
   A. Psalms of Asaph (73–83)
   B. Psalms of the sons of Korah (84–88)

IV. Book 4 (Pss. 90–106)
   A. Psalms of God’s kingship (93–99)

V. Book 5 (Pss. 107–150)
   A. Hallelujah thanksgiving psalms (111–118)
   B. Songs of Ascent (120–134)

Influences: Psalms played a role in Jewish worship of the Second Temple period (sixth century BCE to first century CE) and beyond. The Thanksgiving Hymns scroll (1QH), discovered among the cache of Dead Sea Scrolls at Qumran, is a unique collection of psalm-type compositions that draw upon the form and language of the biblical psalms and biblical prophetic literature; presumably they were used in worship at Qumran. The Hallel praise psalms (Pss. 113–118) continue to be used in Jewish daily prayers and on all Jewish pilgrim festivals (Passover, Weeks, Tabernacles), and they were recited by Jesus and his disciples at the conclusion of the Passover (see Mark 14:26). The dominant genres of lament, thanksgiving, and hymnic praise are the foundation of prayers and songs in formal community worship and in private devotion.
Text: Psalm 1:1-6

Main Idea: Psalm 1 describes the blessed man who leads an untarnished and prosperous life in accord with the Word of the Lord, and is in contrasts with the ungodly who does not and therefore will perish.

I. The Blessed Man (vv. 1-3)

A. He does not:
   1. ______ in the counsel of the wicked: His ______________ is different
   2. _______ in the way of sinners: His ______________ is different
   3. ______ in the seat of scoffers: His ________ is different

B. He does:
   1. ______ in the law of the Lord: The source of his ____________ attitude and conduct
   2. ___________ on the law day and night: The source of the ___________ of the heart

C. He becomes:
   1. Fruitful
      a. A Tree planted by streams of water: Establishes his _____________
      b. A Tree that yields its fruit in its season: Understands his _____________
      c. A Tree whose leaf does not wither: Maintains his _____________
   2. Successful: As viewed from the _______ and _____________ of God

II. The Wicked Man (vv. 4-5)

A. He is not like: The activities, attitudes, and actions of the _____________ man

B. He is like: ____________ that the wind drives away

C. He will therefore:
   1. Not stand in the judgment: He will _______ under God’s condemnation
   2. Not stand in the congregation of the righteous: He will __________ from God’s presence

III. The Sovereign LORD (v. 6)

A. The LORD knows the way of the righteous: God ___________ the way of the righteous causing them to prosper

B. The LORD condemns the way of the wicked: God _____________ the way of the wicked causing them to perish