

A Study of the Wisdom Literature **(OT Survey Lesson 206—Psalms 6-8)**

Introduction: Psalm six is the first of what are sometimes called David's "penitential psalms" since in them he acknowledges his guilt of sin before God. In contrast, in seventh psalm David appeals to God on another occasion to deliver him because he is innocent of wrong doing. In the eighth psalm David celebrates the greatness of God and marvels that such a great God could bestow upon man such dominion and honor in the creation.

Lesson aim: To consider God's greatness as Creator and man's dignity as the creation of God

A psalm of petition for mercy in the judgments of God—Psalm 6:1-10

1. With what plea does David begin this psalm to the Lord? (v. 1) Would this suggest that David saw his afflictions as a judgment of God for his sin?
2. What two things does David ask the Lord to do for him? (v. 2) How does David describe his condition?
3. David's afflictions seem to be dangers from his enemies which he sees as punishment for sins he has committed. What does David ask God to do? (v. 4) For what reason?
4. How does David further describe his condition? (v. 6-7)
5. At last, David turns his attention toward the wicked who have sought to harm him. What does he urge them to do? (v. 8) Why? (v. 9)
6. What confidence then does David express? (v. 10)

A psalm of petition for the Lord's help against the wicked—Ps. 7:1-17

1. What does it mean to “take refuge” in the Lord? (v. 1-2) What does David ask God to do?
2. David affirmed his righteousness before God by denying that he done what three things?
3. David in this psalm asks God to vindicate him according to what? (v. 8) What features of God motivated David to pray for this deliverance? (v. 9-10)
4. What did David say the Lord would do if a man does not repent? (v. 12-13). What examples of this did David give? (v. 14-16)
5. David's assurance of God's blessings is manifest in what statement? (v. 17-18).

The majesty of the Lord's name—Psalm 8:1-9

1. What sentence expresses the key thought of this psalm? (v. 1,9)
2. Where had God displayed his splendor? (v. 1) From whom had God established strength? (v. 2) What use did God make of it? (v. 2)
3. What fact about God caused David to marvel? (v. 3-4) What position has the Creator given to man? (v. 5-8)
4. Portions of this psalm are quote in the NT. Jesus used the words of v. 2 to teach what lesson? (See context of Mt. 21:16)
5. Did the Hebrew writer believe that man has fully possessed the dominion described in Psalm 2? Who did the Hebrew writer say truly fulfills this psalm's declaration of the dominion of man over all the creation (Heb. 2:5-10)