

# **A Study of the Wisdom Literature**

## **(OT Survey Lesson 219—Psalms 33-34)**

**Introduction:** Psalm 33 seems to have been prompted by the Lord's help of the nation of Israel in their battles against their enemies. The psalmist reminds us of the blessedness of the nation whose God is the Lord. Psalm 34 expresses a similar idea from the standpoint of the individual. David affirms that God provides the need of those who are righteous.

**Lesson aim:** To show the blessedness of all who serve the true and living God

### **A psalm of exhortation to praise God as the Creator and the protector of His people—Psalm 33:1-22**

1. What does the psalmist urge his readers to do? (v. 1-3) How are these things to be offered to him? Why are these things to be offered to him? (v. 4)
2. How did the Psalmist affirm that the heavens and their host were made? (v. 6) What evidence of God's great power can we see on the earth? (v. 7)
3. How should the people of earth respond to God's creative power? (v. 8-9) Why?
4. How else is God's power and greatness seen? (v. 10) What does the psalmist say about the Lord's counsels or plans? (v. 11) What is the state of those who make the Lord their God? (v. 12)
5. God's power is also seen in his relationship with the individuals in his creation. What truth about God is set forth in v. 13-14? In v. 15?
6. Upon what kind of things does man often depend for security? (v. 16-17) What does the psalmist affirm about these?
7. To whom does the Lord bring deliverance and blessing? (v. 18-19)
8. The Psalmist then joins with others in affirming that they will do what? (v. 20) Why?

9. What final request is made of God in view of this? (v. 22)

**A psalm of praise to God who provides the needs of the righteous—Ps. 34:1-22**

1. David's encounter with the Philistine king Abimelech (1 Sam. 21:10-15) serves as the backdrop of this wonderful psalm. Briefly relate what happened on this occasion.
2. What does David do in v. 1-3?
3. What did David affirm that God had done for him and for others? (v. 4-7)
4. What does David urge his readers to do? (v. 8) Who does he say is truly blessed?
5. What are the saints urged to do? (v. 9) Why? (v. 10)
6. What does David propose to teach in this psalm? (v. 11) What does David say one should do who would "love life and see good days"? (v. 12-14) What NT writer quotes and applies this verse to his Christian readers?
7. What is the Lord's attitude toward the righteous? (v. 15) The wicked? (v. 16)
8. What does the Lord do for the righteous why cry to him? (v. 17) What does He do for the broken-hearted? (v. 18)
9. What does God do for the righteous in their "many afflictions"? (v. 19-20). In contrast, how does He treat the righteous?
10. What does David say the Lord does for the righteous? (v. 22)