

# **A Study of the Wisdom Literature**

## **(OT Survey Lesson 237—Psalms 69-70 )**

**Introduction:** These psalms of David are no doubt placed together because they deal with times of affliction in David's life. As in psalm 22, so also here we see that David describes his own sufferings with language beyond literal reality. In so doing, he pictures in prophetic form the sufferings of the spiritual "David" to come, Jesus Christ. It is interesting to examine the many references to this psalm in the NT.

**Lesson aim:** To show how David's own sufferings and description of them prefigured the sufferings of his descendant, Jesus Christ.

### **A prayer for deliverance from affliction and judgment upon the wicked—Psalm 69:1-36**

*Some commentators feel that the language of this psalm is more suitable to the sufferings of Jeremiah; but it seems unnecessary to ignore the text note that seems to be generally reliable in suggesting authorship. Perhaps David wrote this psalm during the period of Saul's persecutions. It is very similar to Psalms 22.*

1. With what plea did David begin the psalm? (v. 1) To what did he liken the destructive forces working against him? (v. 1-2)
2. How had these threats made David feel? (v. 3)
3. Had David done anything worthy of the enmity directed toward him? (v. 4) How did Jesus use this verse in describing himself? (Jn. 15:25)
4. David confessed that God knows what about him? (v. 5) What did David not want to happen? (v. 6)
5. David's sufferings were for whose sake? (v. 7) How had it affected his relationship with others? (v. 8)
6. David's persecutions and reproaches were the result of zeal for what? (v. 9) What use is made of this verse in the NT? (Jn. 2:17; Rom. 15:3)
7. Though David manifest many signs of repentance, how did those around him respond? (v. 10-12)

8. For what then did David plead? (v. 13-15) To what characteristics of God did he appeal? (v. 16-19)
9. How did David describe his sufferings? (v. 20-21) Did Jesus suffer similar things? What correspondence do you see between this psalm and Jesus' suffering?
10. *At this point David asks God to administer the justice due those who are evil. It is not motivated by a spirit of personal vengeance; but rather a sense of holy indignation toward those who defy God's will.* What does he ask God to do? (v. 22-25) How are these verses used in the NT? (Ac. 1:20; Rom. 11:9-10) Why did David consider them worthy of this judgment? (v. 26) What did David ask the Lord to do? (v. 27-28)
11. *In the last two paragraphs David speaks in anticipation of God's deliverance.* What did he purpose to do upon being delivered? (v. 30-31) What affect would this have on the righteous? (v. 32-33)
12. David saw in his own experience the hope for all his people. What then did David urge all to do? (v. 34) Why? (35-36)
13. Now that you have read and studied the whole psalm, would you say that it applies to David only? To Jesus only? Or to both David and Jesus? Give reasons for your answers.

### **Another prayer for deliverance—Psalm 70:1-5**

1. For what does David pray in this short psalm? (v. 1-3)
2. What did he hope all who sought the Lord would do? (v. 4)
3. What was David's condition? (v. 5) What does he plead with God to do?