

# A Study of the Wisdom Literature

## (OT Survey Lesson 253—Psalms 102)

**Introduction:** The Hebrew writer's use of this psalm suggests that it is **Messianic**. Hence **Kidner** divides the psalm into three sections: **1) the Messiah's sufferings (v. 1-11); 2) His anticipation of the kingdom (v. 12-22); 3) God's announcement that the Messiah and his children will exist even after the world itself has passed away.**

**Lesson aim:** To understand the Messianic meaning of this psalm.

### **A psalm of a suffering servant of God—Psalm 102:1-28**

*(It is possible that this psalm was written during the period of the captivity when Jerusalem lay in ruins. The suffering psalmist places all his hope on a God who lives forever and whose rule will not be prevented. His words find their complete fulfillment in Jesus Christ.)*

1. With what pleas does the psalmist open this psalm? (v. 1-2)
2. How does the psalmist describe his condition? (v. 3-7)
3. What is the source of the psalmist's afflictions? (v. 8) What do they do to him?
4. The psalmist attributes his affliction also to whom? (v. 10)
5. What fact does the psalmist affirm about God? (v. 12) What does he hope God will do? (v. 13)
6. What did the psalmist believe God's deliverance would cause the nations to do? (v. 15) Why? (v. 16-17)
7. For whose sake would God's deliverance be written? (v. 18) What did the psalmist say God had done? (v. 19-20) Why? (v. 21-22)
8. How else does the psalmist describe his condition? (v. 23-24)
9. In contrast, what affirmation does the psalmist make about the earth? (v. 25-26) About God? (v. 27) Of whom does the Hebrew writer affirm that the psalmist (or God) is speaking? (Heb. 1:10-12)
10. Consequently, what would be true of the children of God's servants? (v. 28-29)