

Short Sketches -- Psalms #1

John L. Kachelman, Jr.

Freed-Hardeman University Lectureship 1994

Preaching from Psalms is a most rewarding sermon series. Here are "sketches" for sermon development on every Psalm. The majority of these are the author's original work and with your personal development the sermon will provide an original lesson that benefits those who listen. For other possible themes from Psalms see the author's printed lecture in the 1994 FHU Lectureship book.

"A CROWNING CONTRAST" (Ps 1)

1. The Righteous Man - negatively/positively portrayed.
2. The Wicked Man - tragedy from bad to worse.
3. The Certain Fate - "the Lord knoweth" (1:6).

"A SONG OF A KING & A KINGDOM" (Ps 2)

1. The worldling's response - "rage."
2. The Sovereign's response to the worldling - "laugh."
3. The King's reign - "installed."
4. The invitation to other kings - "do homage."

"THE TRUSTING FAITH" (Ps 3)

1. In the midst of trial it cries to God (1-4).
2. In the throes of sorrow it finds rest (5-6).
3. In the face of despair it expresses confidence (7-8).

"GREAT SALVATION!" (Ps 3)

Salvation is "great" because it frees us from ...

1. Trouble (1)
2. Persecution (1b-2a)
3. False Accusers (2)
4. Fear of men (6)
5. Woe of condemnation to blessing (7-8)

"MAKE ME GOODER & GOODER" (Ps 4)

A small boy said, "I just want God to make me gooder & gooder & gooder until there is no bad left!" Such is the sentiment of Psalm 4. How can we become "gooder & gooder"?

1. Trust in God (1).
2. Live honorably (2).
3. Live consecrated (3).
4. Flee sin (4).
5. Seek spiritual contentment (7-8).

"MORNING PRAYER PETITION" (Ps 5)

As each day begins we should focus our first thought upon:

1. Entreating God's favor (1-3).
2. Realizing God's holiness demands our holiness (4-7).
3. Dedication to righteousness (8-10).
4. Absolute trust in our Sovereign's will (11-12).

"UNDERSTANDING GOD'S MARVELOUS MERCY" (Ps 6)

1. God's mercy is present (1-3).
2. God's mercy holds hope in trouble (4-7).
3. God's mercy will comfort His saints (8-10).

"THE LORD IS OUR HELP" (Ps 7)

1. God helps us when violence threatens (1-2).
2. God helps us when we are unjustly accused (3-5).
3. God helps us when others wrong us (6-9).
4. God helps us because He is just (10-17).

"THE MAJESTY OF MAN" (Ps 8)

1. It originates from God (1-2).
2. It is central in God's thoughts (4).
3. It elevates him above animals (6-8).
4. It reflects the majesty of God (9).

"JUSTICE DISPLAYED" (Ps 9)

1. In the world's affairs (3-6).
2. In vindicating inequities (7-10).
3. In the midst of worship (11-16).
4. In the final judgment (17-20).

"PUZZLING PROVIDENCE" (Ps 10)

1. Mortal minds often question providence (1-11).
2. Mortal minds often see the weak neglected by God (12-14).
3. Mortal minds often seek immediate justice (15).
4. Mortal minds often must trust that justice will come (16-18).

"THE REFUGE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS" (Ps 11)

1. Righteousness provides an unassailable refuge (1-2).
2. Righteousness provides the only refuge with sure "foundations" (3).
3. Righteousness provides refuge with the Omnipotent Sovereign (4)
4. Righteousness provides refuge from divine wrath (5-7).

"WARNING SIGNALS" (Ps 12)

1. Warning against backsliding (1a).
2. Warning against unfaithfulness (1b).
3. Warning against talkativeness (2-4).
4. Warning against pride (4b).

"THOUGHTS WHEN BESET BY TROUBLES" (Ps 13)

1. "How long" - God is too slow; far away (1-2).
2. "Answer me" - faith seems vain (3-4).
3. "Trust" - there is hope in hopelessness (4-6).

"AN ABSOLUTE FOOL" (Ps 14)

1. His heart is ignorant, soul is corrupt, and life abominable (1).
2. His perspective is singular - SELF (3).
3. His intellect is vain - "not know" (4).
4. His future is short-sighted - "do not call" (5-7).

"A LIFESTYLE APPROVED BY GOD" (Ps 15)

"This is a pungent, pointed, and practical hymn of practical holiness."

1. A most practical query (1).
2. A most practical answer (2-5). Discuss the 12 traits.

"A STUDY OF FAITH" (Ps 16)

1. The BEGINNING of faith (2, 8a).
2. The GROWTH of faith (5-6).
3. The END of faith (9-11).

"SATISFACTION GAINED" (Ps 17)

1. By sincere prayer (1).
2. By wholehearted confidence (2-3).
3. By holy purpose (4-5).
4. By high hope (6-15).

"DELIVERANCE!" (Ps 18)

1. The certainty of (1-3)
2. The process of (4-24); the call (4-6); the answer (7-15); the provision (16-19); the basis (20-24).
3. The standard of (25-29).
4. The blessings of (30-45).
5. The joy of (46-50).

"THE EXISTENCE OF GOD" (Ps 19)

1. Verified by nature (1-6).
2. Validated by Scripture (7-13).
3. Vindicated by saints (14).

"VICTORY!" (Ps 20)

In the midst of troubles, the Psalmist discovers victory because of God's provisions. 5 points highlights this.

1. JOY - "we will rejoice".
2. VICTORY - "we will set up our banners".
3. CONFIDENCE - "now know I that the Lord saveth".
4. STRENGTH - "we will remember the Lord".
5. SALVATION - "save Lord!"

"THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S ANSWER" (Ps 21)

1. Prayer requests are answered with needs (1-6).
2. Trust is answered with security (7-12).
3. Thanksgiving is answered with provisions (13).

"THE WONDERS OF INSPIRATION" (Ps 22)

1. Discuss predictive prophecy as evidence of inspiration.
2. Discuss the specific predictions of Ps 22 regarding Christ's crucifixion.

"THE SHEPHERD'S PROVISION" (Ps 23)

God is able to offer all that we need.

1. For the physical - "I shall not want."
2. For the spiritual - "restoreth my soul."
3. For the present - "all the days of my life."
4. For the future - "I shall dwell."
5. For the emergencies - "I will not fear."

"3 PSALMS DEPICTING CHRIST"

1. Psalm 22 - The Suffering Saviour
2. Psalm 23 - The Shepherding Saviour
3. Psalm 24 - The Sovereign Saviour

"APPROACHING THE SOVEREIGN LORD" (Ps 24)

1. The Lord is majestic (1-2).
2. The Lord's majesty prevents some from approaching (3-6).
3. The Lord's majesty compels all to obey (7-10).

"THE RICHES OF OUR INHERITANCE" (Ps 25)

All who are in Christ enjoy riches (Ep 1:3-7). This psalm delineates some of these:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Prayer (1) | 6. Obedience (10b) |
| 2. Trust (2) | 7. Preservation (15) |
| 3. Instruction (4, 12) | 8. Forgiveness (16-18) |
| 4. Guidance (5) | 9. Security (20-22) |
| 5. Communion (5b) | |

"REMEMBER INTEGRITY IS THE WORD" (Ps 26)

1. Integrity will vindicate (1).
2. Integrity will govern our "walk" (2-7).
3. Integrity will possess holiness above all else (8-12).

"FEARLESS TRUST MUST EXIST" (Ps 27)

This psalm speaks to all who are tempted to forgo trust in God when trials arise. We must trust God when --

1. "Fear" overwhelms us (1).
2. Enemies seek to harm us (2-3).
3. Days of trouble arise (5).
4. When sin tempts us to spiritual apathy (6-8).
5. Loved ones oppose our commitment to God (10).
6. Gossipers seek to ruin our reputation (12).
7. Despair arises and depression comes (13).
8. Weakness is magnified (14).

"A PATTERN FOR PRAYERS" (Ps 28)

1. Make sure your life regards God's will (1-5).
2. Pray confidently in God's response (6-9).

"WORSHIP" (Ps 29)

1. The call to worship (1-2).
2. The justification for worship (3-9).
3. The fruits of worship (10-11).

"SING PRAISES TO GOD" (Ps 30)

1. Because of His help (1-4).
2. Because He brings true joy (5).
3. Because one cannot keep quiet about His works (12).

"I'M NOT ASHAMED!" (Ps 31)

The psalm boasts of a boldness toward God. Why?

1. Because God offers a refuge that protects all (1-3).
2. Because boldness is a fruit of commitment (5).
3. Because true knowledge of God cannot tolerate error (6).
4. Because God will not be as fickle man (9-10).
5. Because great reward awaits all who are not ashamed (19-24).

"I'M HAPPY TODAY!" (Ps 32)

Holiness is genuine happiness. This psalm begins and ends with happiness because it describes holy living.

1. Transgressions are forgiven (1).
2. Sin is covered (1).
3. Iniquity is cleansed (2)
4. Preserved from trouble (7).
5. Divine guidance (8).

"REASONS TO PRAISE GOD" (Ps 33)

1. It is "becoming" (1).
2. It is fitting to One so great (4-11).
3. It is critical to existence (12).
4. It is viewed from heaven (13-22).

"THE SECRET OF A LONG LIFE" (Ps 34)

1. Keep thy tongue from evil (1, 13).
2. Keep thy lips from speaking guile (13).
3. Depart from evil (14).
4. Do good (14).
5. Seek and pursue peace (14b).

"THE AWESOME JUSTICE OF JEHOVAH" (Ps 35)

1. It will vindicate the oppressed (1-3).
2. It will humble the arrogant (4-8).
3. It will bring rejoicing (9-21).
4. It will not be silent forever (22-28).

"ONLY TWO CHOICES IN LIFE" (Ps 36)

1. Choose the miserable state of the wicked (1-4).
2. Choose the grandeur and glory of God (5-9).
3. One will "continue," the other will be "thrust down" (10-12)

Short Sketches -- Psalms #2

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"THE FORMULA FOR SECURITY" (Ps 37)

1. Fret not (1, 7).
2. Trust in the Lord (3, 23-26).
3. Commit to God (5).
4. Rest in the Lord (7).
5. Cease from anger (8).
6. Depart from evil (27).
7. Wait for the Lord (34-40).

"THE HOPE OF THE PENITENT" (Ps 38)

1. The burden of sin -- wrath (1); physical ills (3); emotional ills (4); admitted folly (5); despair (8); rejection (11); antagonist (12).
2. The road to recovery -- hope (15); repentance (17-18); commitment to God (20b-21); action (22).

"LIFE'S PROMISES" (Ps 39)

1. Promises that can never be kept -- flesh is "transient" (1-4); earthly life is brief (5-6).
2. Promises that can be kept -- hope in God delivers peace (7-8); obedience to God provides deliverance (9-11); commitment to God brings happiness (12-13).

"YOUR LIFE, A GREAT SERMON!" (Ps 40)

As others observe you they should "see and fear and will trust in the Lord" (3b). Why?

1. You wait patiently for God (1-2).
2. You trust absolutely for God (4-5).
3. You delight in the will of God (6-8).
4. You proclaim joyfully God's works (9-17).

"INTEGRITY - THE KEY TO GOD'S PRESENCE" (Ps 41)

1. Integrity established by holiness (1).
2. Integrity rewarded by divine provisions (2-11).
3. Integrity blesses with rich rewards (12-13).

"THE CURE FOR ANXIOUS CARES" (Ps 42)

1. The anxious cares which often disarms our faith -- events that make us think God is far away (1-4, 9); people who weaken our trust in God (3b, 10); emotional turmoil (11).
2. The cure for anxious cares -- spiritual desire (1); hope (5b, 11); knowledge of God's care in the past (6b); confidence of God's care in the future (8).

"HOW TO FIND UNFAILING ASSURANCE" (Ps 43)

1. Commit to God's justice (1).
2. Pray to God's mercy (2).
3. Trust in God's strength (2).
4. Seek the light of God's Truth (3).
5. Praise the God of blessings (4).
6. Hope in the God of heaven (5).

"THE PAST IS PRESENT" (Ps 44)

1. God's past dealings are absolute facts - He gave protection, favor, victory, and deliverance (1-8); He punished sin (9-16).
2. Knowledge of the past impacts our present - we must resolve never to forget God (17-19); we must realize the awesome knowledge of God (20-25); we must hope in God (26).

"THE HEAVENLY MARRIAGE" (Ps 45)

1. The Groom - Christ the King (1-9)--holy (2); mighty (3); triumphant (4-5); ruler (6); glory (7).
2. The Bride - the Church (10-14)--given honor (9); glorious (9-11); praised (12); purity (13-14); joy in greeting the Groom (14).
3. The Feast - eternity in heaven (15-17)--constant rejoicing (15); great assembly of those of great dignity (16); perpetual thanksgiving (17).

"CONFIDENCE OF GOD" (Ps 46)

1. The blessings of confidence (1-3).
2. The promise of confidence (4-7).
3. The invitation to share confidence (8-11).

"THE ALMIGHTY GOD" (Ps 47)

1. Discusses universal acceptance (1-2).
2. Performs marvelous wonders (3-4).
3. Occasions devoted worship (5-7).
4. Provides divine protection (8-9).

"WHAT LOTTERY WINNERS FORGET" (Ps 49)

1. Money has limitations (5-9).
2. Money cannot give life (10-12).
3. Money often makes one foolish (13-14).
4. Money cannot buy respect (16-20).

"ALL YOU NEED - DIVINE JUSTICE" (Ps 50)

1. It is perfect (2).
2. It will not keep silent (3).
3. It judges by covenant.

"THE MARVELS OF MT. ZION" (Ps 48; cf Hb 12:22)

1. Only there has God made Himself known - one Church! (1-3).
2. Only there is "forever" found - security of those who are member. (8).
3. Only there is "loving kindness" - provision for His grace/mercy is in the Church (9-10).
4. Only there is gladness in salvation - in no other group is that possible (10; 1 Co 8:5).
5. Only there is the urgency to tell - we must spread the good news of Zion's presence (13-14).

"EVIL ANALYZED" (Ps 52)

1. The pride of evil (1).
2. The practice of evil (2-4).
3. The end of evil (5-7).
4. The alternative to evil (8-9).

"SIN - THE GREATEST DETECTIVE!" (Ps 51)

When one realizes the depth of despair which sin brings, God's invitation will be accepted. The penitent will return ...

1. Asking God to show mercy (1); forgive fully (2); renew (10); rest (12).
2. Committing to pursue Truth (6); teach faithfully (13); praise gladly (16); demonstrate devotion (17).
3. Confident in restoration because of divine favor (18-19).

"THE INVENTORY OF POLLY" (Ps 53)

1. Its beginning - rejecting God (1).
2. Its practice - hurtful to all (1b).
3. Its visibility - God sees all (2).
4. Its influence - "everyone" (3).
5. Its end - shame (4-6).

"THE BEST DEFENSE" (Ps 54)

1. Trust upon God's justice (1-3).
2. Rest upon your faithfulness for practice (4-5).
3. Continue in thanksgiving for God's goodness (6-7).

"TRUST - THE ANCHOR OF PEACE" (Ps 56)

1. The threat to trust - "foes" (1-2).
2. The foundation of trust - "in Thee" (3, 11).
3. The source of trust - "word" (4, 10).
4. The blessings of trust - "walk before God" (13).
5. The practice of trust - "vows" (12).

"WHEN DEVASTATION COMES" (Ps 55)

1. The agony accompanying devastating troubles (1-11).
2. The cause for the most painful troubles (12-15).
3. The response required when one is painfully wronged (16-21).
4. The blessings that come when devastating troubles are properly treated (22-23).

"A THREEFOLD PRAYER" (Ps 57)

1. Be gracious for I am obeying (1-3).
2. Be exalted for Thy glory is supreme (5).
3. Be steadfast for Thy loving kindness is Great (7-11).

"JUSTICE JUDGED" (Ps 58)

1. The folly of wicked men (1-5).
2. The fierce strength of God (6-9).
3. The full security of the righteous (10-11).

"THE DIVINE DEFENDER" (Ps 59)

1. From whom do we need defending? (1-8).
2. Of what will our defense consist? (9-15).
3. From where will our defense come? (16, 17).

"DELIVERANCE IN VAIN" (Ps 60)

1. The pitiful plea for deliverance (1-5).
2. The heavenly hope for deliverance (6-8).
3. The divine demonstration of deliverance (9-12).

"THE SECRET OF STRENGTH" (Ps 61)

1. Mortal strength yields weakness (1-2).
2. Mortal weakness brings strength (3-4).
3. Mortal strength endures through submission (5-8).

"ABSOLUTE RESOLVE" (Ps 62)

There is a progression of two contrasting lines.

1. A progression of degeneration into sin (3, 4, 9).
2. A progression of absolute resolve to trust God (5-8).
3. Only one lifestyle brings "strongholds" (1, 6).

"DIGNIFIED DELIGHT" (Ps 63)

To possess and demonstrate delight for God is dignified action. How is it to be shown?

1. Outwardly - "seek earnestly."
2. Inwardly - "soul thirst."
3. Verbally - "my lips will praise."
4. Joyfully - "will rejoice in God."

"A TARGET AROUND MY NECK" (Ps 64)

1. The saints often feel targeted (1-2).
2. The saints often face cruel attacks (3-6).
3. The saints often fail to remember God's protection (7-10).

"CONFESSED CONFIDENCE" (Ps 65)

1. Confidence in God's mercy (2-3).
2. Confidence in God's righteousness (5).
3. Confidence in God's power (6).
4. Confidence in God's goodness (11).

"GOD IS GREAT!" (Ps 66)

1. Terrible are His works (1-3).
2. Powerful is His rule (4-7).
3. Preserving is His presence (8-12).
4. Attentive is His response (13-20).

"THE SECRET OF SUCCESS" (Ps 67)

1. Acknowledge God's sovereignty (1).
2. Proclaim God's judgement (2-6).
3. Appreciate God's blessings (7).

"THE PROCESSION OF GOD" (Ps 68)

1. Such protects (8).
2. Such benefits (19).
3. Such provides the Saviour (18, 20ff).
4. Such scatters all who oppose (1, 21, etc.).

"WHERE CAN RELIEF BE FOUND?" (Ps 69)

1. Grief can be "great" (1-12).
2. Grief can be answered (13-19).
3. Grief can be enhanced (20-28).
4. Grief can be fully answered only via Christ (29-36).

"BALM FOR BELIEVERS" (Ps 70)

1. Knowledge of God's concerns (1-2a).
2. Vindication by God's justice (2b-3).
3. Rejoicing in God's help (4, 5).

"A HYMN OF HOPE" (Ps 71)

1. Trust will not embarrass (1).
2. Refuge is always available (3).
3. Rescue is always extended (4).
4. Help is a prayer away (7-12).
5. Comfort is a constant blessing (17-24).

"THE KING AND HIS KINGDOM" (Ps 72)

1. He judges righteously (1-4).
2. He brings fear and faith (5-7).
3. He rules all the earth (8-11).
4. He shows compassion and mercy (12-15).
5. He blesses and blesses again (16-17).
6. He culminates God's redemption (18-20).

"PROPER PERSPECTIVES" (Ps 73)

1. Perspective distorted (1-16).
2. Perspective corrected (17-20).
3. Perspective enduring (21-28).

"DESOLATION AND DISTRESS" (Ps 74)

1. Desolations from without (3-8).
2. Distress from within (1, 10, 11).
3. The answer - "yet God" (12-23).

"WHAT ABOUT YOUR HORNS?" (Ps 75)

1. The horns of the wicked will be cut off (4-8).
2. The horns of the just will be exalted (1, 9).
3. The One who decides - "O God" (2, 7, 8).

Short Sketches -- Psalms #3

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"THE GOD OF JACOB" (Ps 76)

1. His reputation (1-3).
2. His majesty (4-7).
3. His power (8-10).
4. His worship (11-12).

"COMPLAINTS, CRYING, AND DOUBTS" (Ps 77)

1. Gloom (1-10).
2. Gladness (11-15).
3. One changes gloom to gladness by faith (16-20).

"GOD'S CONSTANCY" (Ps 78)

1. It is a matter of education (1-4).
2. It is evident even when rejected (5-71).
3. It is regulated by integrity (72).

"DREADFUL DISOBEDIENCE" (Ps 79)

1. It defeats God (1-4).
2. It brings God's anger (5-7).
3. its answer is found in repentance (8-13).

"HOW CAN GOD RESTORE WAYWARD MAN?" (Ps 80)

1. By exercising His power (1-3).
2. By accepting penitent requests (4-7).
3. By reviving that which was dead (8-13).
4. By the ministry of the Son (14-19).

"GLADNESS AND GRIEF" (Ps 81)

1. Gladness in God's goodness (1-10).
2. Grief in man's sin (11-16).

"HAVE JUSTICE O GOD!" (Ps 82)

1. God's justice is supreme (1).
2. God's justice contrasts man's justice (2-5).
3. God's justice is eternal (6-8).

"THE SILENCE OF GOD" (Ps 83)

1. God's silence is often misunderstood (2-13).
2. God's silence will not remain (14-18).

"BLESSINGS FROM THE WORSHIP ASSEMBLY" (Ps 84)

1. A positive and happy outlook (1-4).
2. A source of strength (5-7).
3. An affirmation of devotion (8-10).
4. A reminder of protection (11-12).

"COMMANDING CONFIDENCE" (Ps 85)

1. Confidence in God's abilities (1-3).
2. Confidence in God's salvation (4-7).
3. Confidence in God's Word (8-11).
4. Confidence in God's provisions (12-13).

"A PATTERN FOR PRAYING" (Ps 86)

1. Entreaty (1).
2. Petitions (2-4, 16, 17).
3. Praise (5-10, 15).
4. Promise (11-13).

"HEAVEN'S CITIZENS" (Ps 87)

1. Objects of God's affection (1-3).
2. More prominent than the renown (4-5).
3. Registered by God (6).
4. Blessings by birth (6-7).

"SACRED TEARS" (Ps 88)

"The language of the eye is more telling than that of the lips."

1. Tears from affliction reveal misery (1-9).
2. Tears will be blotted by loving kindness (10-12).
3. Tears reveal our extent of trust in God (13-18).

"CHRIST OUR KING" (Ps 89)

1. The MERCY of Christ our King (1).
2. The FAITHFULNESS of Christ our King (49).
3. The HOLINESS of Christ our King. (35).

"ONE PSALM WITH FOUR TRUTHS" (Ps 90)

1. The feebleness of man (3-6).
2. The brevity of life (7-10).
3. The certainty of death (4).
4. The great need for God (17).

"BLESSED ASSURANCE" (Ps 91)

1. Arises because of God's provisions (1-4).
2. Arises because of God's protection (5-10).
3. Arises because of God's authority (11-13).
4. Arises because of God's love (14-16).

"THANK GOD!" (Ps 92)

1. For His loving kindness (2).
2. For His faithfulness (2).
3. For His greatness (5).
4. For His holiness (15).

"3 SUBLIME TRUTHS!" (Ps 93)

1. The Lord reigns (1-2).
2. The Lord's Word is sure (5a).
3. Holiness is fitting (5b).

"FORGOTTEN FACTS BY SINNERS" (Ps 94)

1. Forget that God pays head to our deeds (1-7).
2. Forget that God knows the thoughts of man (8-11).
3. Forget that they stand against righteousness (12-16).
4. Forget that God will judge and destroy (17-23).

"DIVINE WORSHIP" (Ps 95)

1. Singing sacred songs (1).
2. Joyous attitudes (1, 2).
3. Humble submission (6).
4. Devoted commitment (8-11).

"HEARTS LIFTED IN SONG" (Ps 96)

1. Songs ought to proclaim (1-6).
2. Songs ought to praise (7-10).
3. Songs ought to rejoice (11-13).

"CONSEQUENCES OF CHRIST'S REIGN" (Ps 97)

1. Rejoicing (1-6).
2. Hate evil (7-10).
3. Give thanks (11-12).

"A MARVELOUS VICTORY SONG" (Ps 98)

1. Sing of the marvelous things Christ has done (1).
2. Sing of the mighty power He has (1b).
3. Sing of His salvation (2).
4. Sing of divine judgement (9).

"FOUNDATIONS OF TRUST IN CHRIST" (Ps 99)

1. His holiness (1, 3, 9).
2. His exaltation (2, 5).
3. His justice (4, 6).
4. His forgiveness (8).

"HOW TO WORSHIP GOD" (Ps 100)

1. Attitudes (1).
2. Singing (2).
3. Knowledge (3).
4. Thanksgiving (4).
5. Reverence (5).

"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY" (Ps 101)

1. Holiness in heart (2).
2. Holiness in life (2).
3. Holiness in the home (2).
4. Holiness threatened (4-8).

"WHEN I CALL, GOD WILL ANSWER" (Ps 102)

1. Because He will not ignore my trials (1-11).
2. Because His character is pure (12-17).
3. Because He never changes (18-28).

"REASONS TO PRAISE JEHOVAH" (Ps 103)

1. For forgiveness (1-4).
2. For providence (5).
3. For divine character (6-12).
4. For fatherly care (13-16).
5. For Sovereign fidelity (17-22).

"THE GLORY OF THE LORD" (Ps 104)

1. Evident in all of creation (2-13).
2. Evident in divine provisions (14-23).
3. Evident in His wisdom (24-30).
4. Evident in His enduring presence (31-32).
5. Evident in His praise from all (1, 33-35).

"MOTIVATIONS FOR SUBMISSION" (Ps 105)

1. All the deeds He has done (1-3).
2. His strength (4).
3. His promise to Abraham (6-7).
4. His steadfast faithfulness (8-45).

"MEMORIES" (Ps 106)

1. Some are called to remember (1-3).
2. Some call to be remembered (4-5).
3. Some should remember (6-43).
4. Some are blessed by another remembering (44-48).

"GOD IS GOOD" (Ps 107)

1. We should praise Him (1, 2, 8, 15, 21, 31).
2. We should show thanksgiving (9, 21, 22, 31, 32).
3. We should honor Him (42-43).

"THE HYMNS OF THE FIXED HEART" (Ps 108)

1. Our hearts must be fixed upon God (1).
2. A heart fixed upon God will acknowledge divine help (2); be thankful (3); sing praises (3).
3. A fixed heart finds salvation (6-13).

"THE SAVIOUR PORTRAYED" (Ps 109)

1. His treacherous enemies (1-5).
2. His judgement upon all who reject Him (6-20).
3. His sorrow (21-29).
4. His triumph (30-31).

"THE ENTHRONEMENT" (Ps 110)

1. Acknowledged by God (1).
2. Validated by power (2).
3. Recognized by followers (3).
4. Confirmed by oath (4).
5. Active in practice (5-7).

"TWO GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT GOD" (Ps 111)

1. The glory of God in creation (1-6).
2. The goodness of God in redemption (7-10).

"THE SANCTIFIED LIFE" (Ps 112)

1. Feels God (1).
2. Delights in God's ways (1).
3. Is gracious and compassionate (4).
4. Endures (3, 10).
5. Trusts absolutely (6, 8).
6. Is liberal (9).

"THANKSGIVING IS THOUGHT-GIVING" (Ps 113)

- To be thoughtful is to be thankful.
1. Thoughts of the Lord's name (1-3).
 2. Thoughts of the Lord's glory (4-6).
 3. Thoughts of the Lord's goodness (7-9).

Short Sketches -- Psalms #4

John L. Kachelman, Jr.

Freed-Hardeman University Lectureship 1994

Preaching from Psalms is a most rewarding sermon series. Here are "sketches" for sermon development on every Psalm. The majority of these are the author's original work and with your personal development the sermon will provide an original lesson that benefits those who listen. For other possible themes from Psalms see the author's printed lecture in the 1994 FHU Lectureship book.

"SALVATION" (Ps 114)

1. A deliverance from slavery (1).
2. A redemption to become God's possession (2).
3. A display of God's power (3-6).
4. A fearful consequence in rejection (7-8).

"THE MAGNIFICENCE OF GOD" (Ps 115)

1. He displays loving kindness???? (1).
2. He is active (2-8).
3. He rewards trust (9-15).
4. He deserves commitment (16-18).

"THE LORD'S BENEFITS" (Ps 116)

1. Come from praying (1-4).
2. Overshadow earthly woes (5-11).
3. Require a response (12-19).

"PRAISE THE LORD!" (Ps 117)

1. Expected from all men (1).
2. Rendered because of blessings to all (2).
3. Based upon Truth! (2).

"FOR HE IS GOOD" (Ps 118)

1. Goodness is everlasting (1-4).
2. Goodness rescues (5-18).
3. Goodness brings praise (19-29).

"A SHORT ANSWER TO A TOUGH QUESTION" (Ps 119)

From David Roper, Truth For Today

1. The query - "How can I cope when life is so hard?"
2. The answer - "I can cope through God's Word."

"LOOSE LIPS!" (Ps 120)

1. Causes burdened hearts (1).
2. Engenders earnest prayers (2).
3. Leaves deep scars (3-5).
4. Prevents peace (6-7).

"THE KEEPER OF MY HEART" (Ps 121)

1. The only help is from heaven (1-2).
2. Heaven's Helper is effective (3-8).
3. Heaven's Helper is constant (8b).

"ANXIOUS ANTICIPATION" (Ps 122)

1. Anticipation of worship (1).
2. Anticipation of fellowship (2-4a).
3. Anticipation of thanksgiving (4b-5).
4. Anticipation of harmony (6-8).
5. Anticipation of commitment (9).

"MERCY" (Ps 123)

1. Comes from the Almighty (1).
2. Is bestowed upon servants (2).
3. Consoles those ridiculed (3-4).

"THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN VICTORY AND DEFEAT" (Ps 124)

1. Saints are constantly in warfare that ????? disaster (1-5).
2. The "Lord" is the difference in the outcome (1).
3. Rejoicing should overwhelm the victors (6-8).

"THE MOST IMPORTANT THING" (Ps 125)

1. What are man's priorities?
2. Trust in God is the most important (1-3).
3. Choosing priorities has eternal consequences (4-5).

"WHEN CAPTIVES ARE RESTORED" (Ps 126)

1. It is by God's power (1).
2. It is a day of gladness (2-6).

"VANITY OF VANITIES!" (Ps 127)

1. It is vain to trust in mortality (1-2).
2. It is vain to ignore God's blessings (3-5a).
3. Vanity only brings shame (5b).

"BLESSINGS FROM FEAR" (Ps 128)

1. Walking in the Way (1).
2. Happiness in life (2-4).
3. Prosperity (5-6).

"THE VICTIM VICTORIOUS!" (Ps 129)

1. The persecutions endured (1-3).
2. The victory confirmed (4).
3. The persecutors?? end (5-8).

"WHISPERING HOPE" (Ps 130)

1. Hope's foundation - "His Word" (5).
2. Hope's practice - "wait" (5, 6).
3. Hope's anchor - "the Lord" (7-8).

"RESPONDING TO ACCUSATIONS" (Ps 131)

How can we react to wrongs and wickedness?

1. Display holiness (1).
2. Demonstrate happiness (2).
3. Depend upon hope (3).

"RESOLUTIONS TO KEEP" (Ps 132)

1. God will have top priority (1-5).
2. I will be clothed with righteousness (9).
3. Saints will demonstrate joy (16).
4. The Church (Zion) will be a blessing (13-18).

"THE EXCELLENCY OF UNITY" (Ps 133)

1. Unity is possible - "behold."
2. Unity is commendable - "pleasant."
3. Unity is regulated by sanctification - "brothers."
4. Unity is a delight - "precious oil."
5. Unity is spreading - "coming down."
6. Unity is eternal - "life forever."

"WILLFUL WORSHIP" (Ps 134)

1. Respond to the call - "Behold."
2. Participate in the act - "lift up."
3. Enjoy the blessings - "the Lord bless you."

"PRAYER AND PRAISE" (Ps 135)

Acceptable prayer always follows praise of God's greatness

1. Of what should our praise consist? (1-18).
The Lord's name, goodness, greatness, acts
2. How should our prayers be made? (19-21).
With blessing, reverence, recognition

"MERCY EXTENDED" (Ps 136)

- 26 times mercy is found
1. Extended "forever" by the Sovereign (3).
 2. Extended by the Creator (4-9).
 3. Extended by the Redeemer (10-11).
 4. Extended by the Protector (12-22).
 5. Extended by the Presence??? (23-26).

"SIN'S SLAVERY" (Ps 137)

1. Weeping follows wickedness (1).
2. Tormenting follows temptation (3).
3. Memories compound misery (4-6).
4. Destruction results from deviation (7-9).

"CONFESSED CONFIDENCE" (Ps 138)

1. In God's Word (1-3).
2. In God's Sovereignty (4-6).
3. In God's Promise (7-8).

"YOU CAN RUN, BUT YOU CANNOT HIDE!" (Ps 139)

1. God knows all! (1-6).
2. God is in all places! (7-12).
3. God is all powerful! (13-22).
4. God demands submission from all (23-24).

"THE LORD WILL DELIVER" (Ps 140)

1. From evil men (1-5).
2. From evil plans (6-8).
3. From evil destiny (9-13).

"SANCTIFICATION" (Ps 141)

1. Focused upon God (1).
2. Displayed in action (2-7).
3. Constant in resolve (8-10).

"A PRAYER SUITED TO ALL" (Ps 142)

1. His sorrow (1-4).
2. His supplication (5-6).
3. His strength (7).

"A PLEA FOR AID" (Ps 143)

1. The Cause - trials (1-6).
2. The Plea - "answer me quickly" (7-10).
3. The Desire - "revive me" (11-12).

"THE GREATNESS OF GOD" (Ps 144)

1. Stronger than man (1-4).
2. Purer than man (5-11).
3. More capable than man (12-15).

"THE EXALTATION OF CHRIST" (Ps 145)

1. He is great (3, 6).
2. He is good (7, 9).
3. He is glorious (11-20).
4. He is to be proclaimed (21).

"EVERYDAY, A THANKSGIVING DAY!" (Ps 146)

1. Thanksgiving in praise (1-2).
2. Thanksgiving for protection (3-7).
3. Thanksgiving for benefits (8-9).
4. Thanksgiving for reign (10).

"EVERLASTING GRATITUDE TO GOD" (Ps 147)

1. For His goodness (1-11).
2. For His greatness (12-20).

"CROWN HIM LORD OF ALL" (Ps 148)

1. Praise Him for His Sovereign rule (1-6).
2. Praise Him for His Sovereign power (7-12).
3. Praise Him for His Sovereign promise (13-14).

"THE FRUITS OF PRAISE" (Ps 149)

1. Gladness and rejoicing (1-4).
2. Exaltation in judgement (5-9a).
3. Divine honor bestowed (9b).

"A PAEAN OF PRAISE" (Ps 150)

1. Wherever you are - praise God (1).
2. Whatever He does - praise God (2).
3. Whoever you are - praise God (6).