



## David and the Psalms

*Michael J. Ruszala, Wyatt North*

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People are fascinated by the concept of royalty. The notion stirs up sentiments of love, admiration, and hatred. We see ourselves in them, and yet we criticize them at times with indignation. While most monarchies today have been put aside or at least limited in their power, the concept of royalty cannot be erased from human consciousness. In the words of Jesus, Christians pray, “Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” The ultimate and most perfect monarchy is that of God himself, the sovereign of all creation.

Through David and the story of the kingship, God taught us about his governance of the world and of his people. David was only human and at times the worthy subject of both praise and severe criticism. But in his relationship with God, we find a model for the people both then and today: suppleness to God’s will; wholehearted pursuit of righteousness; sincere repentance from sin; mercy for others; and true worship of God, who alone is worthy.

## **David and the Psalms Details**

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## From Reader Review David and the Psalms for online ebook

### **Joyce A.Roy says**

#### **Wonderful read.**

This book is easy to understand, very well written. Excellent book for those who want to learn more about King David, the Psalms and how music was brought into our religion.

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### **Joy Wilson says**

For someone unfamiliar or new to the Old Testament this book is a great survey of the life and psalms of David. For myself having been a Bible student my whole life, there was not much in terms of new material or information. This is not to say the book was poor in any way, it just wasn't deep enough for where I am in my study. The last few chapters on the psalms were the most interesting to me as it gave me a bit better understanding of Hebrew praise and its forms. For a less experienced reader of the bible, this could be a quick informative read about the most famous King of Israel.

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### **Sandra says**

Good book about King David and the writing of the psalms. Helped me to look at parts of the Old Testament in a new way. Quick read, finished in just a few days.

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### **Robert Federline says**

This is an excellent encapsulation of the life and history of the Old Testament Shepherd King, David. The first half of the book is a reminder of his history and how he developed and grew under God's protection, love and guidance. It also powerfully reminds us of his sins and, more importantly, his reaction to those sins when he realized how his actions grieved God.

The second half of the book is a reminder of David as musician and poet by taking us through the Book of Psalms. This is one of the most important books of the Bible and is a powerful reminder of how one should pray and the many ways our lives are affected by God and our relationship with him.

The book is highly readable and helps to get one into the original source work - the Bible - for additional follow-up and a refresher of what we thought we knew.

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### **Eileen Carter says**

#### **Excellent**

I really enjoyed this book. It went along wonderfully with my Disciple class I have been taking. It explains the Psalms in a layman way that is easy to understand. David is such an interesting character of the Bible that I love learning more about him.

This is definitely a book worth reading if you want to learn about David and the Psalms.

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### **Lillie says**

This is a general overview of David and the Psalms. I would have liked something much deeper. I learned much more from reading a chronological Bible, where the story of David is interspersed with the psalms he wrote at that time in his life. People who have not studied David and the Psalms would find this a helpful introduction.

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### **Sarah - All The Book Blog Names Are Taken says**

Easy to read discussion of David, along with analysis of the Psalms throughout, and separately. Full review to come.

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Rating: 4 Stars

I read this one in a matter of just a couple days (Thank you BookBub for the great deal!) and I am so glad I did. I must make a confession that there was a period in my life in college and grad school (roughly 2001-2011), that religion took a backseat. I toyed with agnosticism and even atheism. But they never felt right to me, even when I was rebelling against faith. I was not brought up in a strict religious home, but we did attend church every Sunday, I participated in Sunday School, then Confirmation classes on Wednesdays in high school - but even then I was not reading the Bible closely, and as I got older I was not reading it at all.

Then I had a baby and wow, did that quickly bring the big picture into focus.

I feel so behind in where I should be in my knowledge of God, Jesus, and the Bible. So, I am forever grateful for books like this that help dumbdumbs like me play catch-up. While different branches of Christianity hold very different beliefs (the author is Catholic; I am baptized Lutheran, confirmed Methodist, now a member of a Covenant church), there is still much that can be learned from one another, especially when delving into material such as the Bible, which we all use.

My knowledge of the New Testament is much better than the Old Testament, so when I found this one, I knew I had to read it. I am personally quite fond of the King James Version, which lyrically is beautiful, even if not entirely accurate compared with other versions of the text. The problem then, is that sometimes

takes me a few readings to understand the Early Modern English (sorry kids, it's not Old English).

This book is a very easy to read discussion of the life of David. In fact, the first 70% or so is dedicated to his story before even getting into the Psalms. I feel like I have a much better knowledge of David now, aside from the basics that everyone seems to know - son of Solomon, Bathsheba, etc. And perhaps because of my supreme lack of knowledge, the rest of his story seems enlightening to me, and that is kind of embarrassing. But I have to start somewhere, and this is a good place. I feel like those who have a better grasp of David and his life might already know a lot of what is contained here, but it is a good read for this with less knowledge of him, like myself.

Following the analysis of David's life, the author moves into the Psalms themselves that have been attributed to him. The Psalms are analyzed as well, and then there is discussion of what a Psalm actually is.

This was highly informative and an easy read. That is something I consider important for those like me who are new to really studying the Bible in-depth. It is easy to get overwhelmed, and thus give up, in Bible studies. When books to guide are easily accessible, it makes the journey a lot less intimidating. Definitely recommended.

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### **Sally Andrews says**

Decent book. Nothing fabulous, but I liked it. Good thoughts about David and the Psalms. It's always a good day to get your Bible on!

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### **Joe says**

This book was not on my list until it showed up in an email from BookBub. I added it to my kindle (it was free) the next day.

I rated it a 4 because I found it helpful in the way the author connected the events of David's life to the various Psalms that he wrote. I didn't realize that using music and instruments in worship was something that David brought to his kingdom. Also, learned more of how the words of the psalms ultimately foretold of Jesus birth, death and resurrection.

It's a short book and well worth the time.

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### **Sandra says**

I liked this book; however because I have read through the Old Testament so many times, there was very little in this book which I didn't already know. I expected to learn about the historical background which surrounded David as a shepherd boy and more about the world around him as he reigned as king, descriptions of cities, cultures, clothing, other reigning kings, etc. This book was mainly just a summary of the life of David as it appears in the Bible, along with a number of quotes from the Psalms, many of which I have already memorized myself. For those wanting to learn about the Biblical life of David, it is very

accurately written with Biblical references.

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### **Donna Peake says**

I want to read several books this year on King David, he is the one person in the Bible I have a hard time excepting as being good. After all he killed his friend because she was caring his child. Guess I am too judgmental.

After reading this book it seems David did always trust in God no matter if he had done something wrong. He turned to God many times in his life.

On to the next book on David.

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### **Deborah says**

#### **A bit disappointed**

I have been wanting to find a good book about David and the Psalms for a while and had high hopes when I saw the title of this book. Unfortunately, for me, this felt like a very superficial and introductory look at, what I believe, deserves a much deeper inspection into this subject. Maybe this topic is better served in books about David and books about the Psalms.

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### **Theresa Alexander says**

#### **Great read**

I understand the creating of the psalms much better. It was easy to read and understand. I know David as a person just like myself!

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### **Bennie says**

I enjoyed this book even though it was not as in depth as I hoped it would be. It is a good basic read on one of the major men of the Bible. I will do more research on David and look for more info on David and refer back to this for the basic info.

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### **Marion Kangara says**

#### **Very insightful read**

The book explained the life of David and connection with the Psalms in a very creative way. Both inspiring

and spiritually motivating.

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