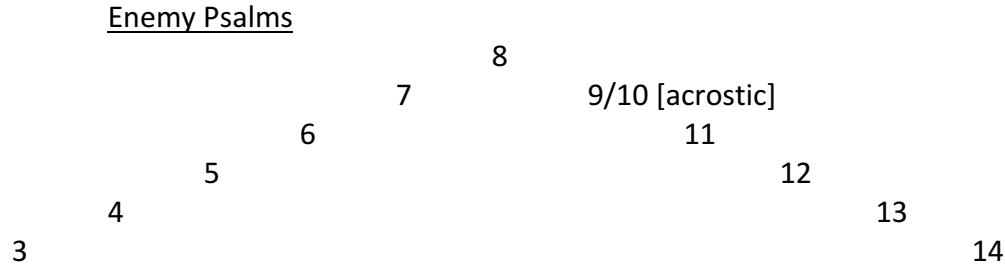


The Soundtrack of Salvation
(Working Draft)

Book 1 (Psalms 1–41)

Hill #1 – God has put his Son on the Throne



1. Psalm 8 is the centerpiece of this group, the only psalm of praise in a group of individual laments (Psalms 3–7, 9–14).
 - a. Most clearly, Psalm 8 speaks of God’s glory in creation.
 - b. In Book 1, it is the first of three summit psalms which focus on God’s glory in creation (cf. Pss 19, 29).
 - c. More conceptually, Psalm 8 harkens back to Adam in creation, who was created and placed on the Mountain of God. Interestingly, Psalm 19 reflects on the Law of Moses which was received on Mount Sinai, another mountain of God. Finally, Psalm 29, speaks of God’s voice in the world and the glory of God coming into the temple, a building organized by David and built by Solomon, on the mountain in Jerusalem where God put his name.
2. 8:5 – The centerpiece for the hill: God crowning man with glory and honor.
3. 8:1 and 8:9 – Oh LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.
4. 7:17 and 9:1–2 – Both call for thanksgiving and song.
5. 7:6 and Psalms 9:19 and 1-:12 – Calling God to “Rise up!”
6. 5:6 and 12:2 everyone speaks lies
 - a. 5:6 – the Psalmist must preach to himself
 - b. 12:2 – the Lord speaks and responds
7. 3:4 and and 14:7 – Both speak of God’s holy hill
8. Psalms 9–14 answer Psalms 3–7
 - a. Psalms 3–7 recount a multitude of problems with enemies
 - b. Psalms 9–14 answer with God’s presence and power

Hill #2 – God has given his Word to the man

| | | | | |
|----|----|----|-------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | <u>Kingdom Psalms</u> |
| | | 19 | | Pinnacle = Creation / Glory / Word |
| | 18 | | 20/21 | Royal Psalms |
| | 17 | | 22 | Suffering + Deliverance |
| 16 | | | 23 | Song of Trust |
| 15 | | | 24 | Zion Songs |

1. It has been argued that this is the high point of Book 1 (Jamie Grant, *The King as Exemplar*). I think it is better to see Hill #2 in union with Hill #3. The first hill elevates David. He becomes the king of glory, entering into the holy city after he has figuratively speaking died (Psalm 22) and been raised to new life (Psalm 22–23).
2. Psalm 15 and 24 – Two psalms focused on the hill of the Lord
3. Psalm 16 and 23 – Two psalms of trust that either speak of resurrection (16, cf. Acts 2) or travel through the valley of the shadow of death (23)
4. Psalm 17 and 22 – Two psalms of suffering and deliverance. Psalm 22 is a poetic expression of David’s suffering, one that foreshadows with incredible precision the sufferings of David’s greater son.
5. Psalm 18 and 20/21 – Two (or three) psalms which all have royal themes.
 - a. Psalm 20/21 can be read together – Both are royal psalms and Psalm 20:4’s petition is answered in Psalm 21:2
 - b. Together, they describe the salvation of the king (18) and the joy he experiences in receiving his throne (20-21)
6. Psalm 19 is the centerpiece, which unites law and kingdom again. Psalms 1 and 2 unite law and kingdom, and following Deuteronomy 17:15–20, they show how the king must obey the law in order to rule. In Book 2 we will discover what happens to David, when he breaks the law (cf. Psalm 51).

Hill #3 – The LORD is himself on the throne

| | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|---------------|--|------------------------------------|
| | | | | | |
| | | 29 | | | Pinnacle = Creation / Glory / Word |
| | 28 | | 30 | | The Lord is my Strength |
| | 27 | | 31 | | Hymn of Trust Amidst Enemies |
| 26 | | | 32/33 | | Hymns of Praise |
| 25 [acrostic] | | | 34 [acrostic] | | Wisdom Psalms |

1. Psalm 25 – David petitions God to forgive his sin (vv. 7, 11, 18)
2. Psalm 29–30 – The temple, a place of sacrifice, provides the solution to David’s dilemma
3. Psalm 32:1–5 – The result is forgiveness
4. Psalm 31:5 – One of Jesus’ words on the cross is found in Psalm 31, in between the focus on the temple (see the superscription of Psalm 30) and the announcement of forgiveness. Does this context in the Psalter inform how we should understand Jesus’ citation?

Valley #1

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----|----|----|----|--------------------------|
| Enemies Return | 35 | | | 41 | Foes Defeated |
| Spiritual Warfare Begins | | 36 | | 40 | God Deliverers David |
| \ | | | 37 | 39 | David Vows to Fight Sin |
| Sin is Reintroduced | | | 38 | | Sin is Confessed (v. 18) |

1. Psalms 35–41 describe the spiritual battle that arises when enemies attack a believing sinner
2. After describing victory in Psalm 34:22, the enemies return
3. These enemies press in on David
 - a. Psalm 35 petitions God for victory
 - b. Psalm 36 speaks of God's Goodness
 - c. Psalm 37 is a wisdom psalm explaining why he should not sin
 - d. But in Psalm 38 sin returns
4. Psalm 38 shows the way a believer sins and repents
 - a. These are not the words of hardened sinner, but a Romans 7 sinner, one who grieves over his sin
 - b. Psalm 38:18 shows the way of freedom, namely confession
5. Psalm 39 follows with a battle against sin
6. Psalm 40–41 display God coming to rescue David from the mire