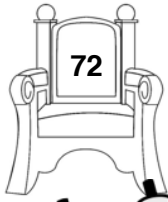


# Book 3: Psalms 73–89

From Exaltation to Exile: The Fall of David's Throne



**Author(s):** Asaph (73–83), Jeduthun (77), Sons of Korah (84–85, 87–88), David (86), Heman (88), Ethan (89)  
**Overview:** This book of the Psalms begins with Solomon crowned and enthroned (72), and concludes with David's throne cast down to the dust (89). It moves from the glory of Solomon to darkness as the house of David falls.



*The righteous question Psalm 1's promise; the answer comes when Asaph enters the temple.*

74

**Temple Desecrated**

~ Rehoboam

75 **God's Judgment**

76

**Word of Repentance**

~ Asa

77 **Cry for Help**

79

**Temple Desecrated**

~ Joash

80 **Cry for Help**

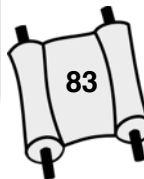
~ A Messianic Psalm

81 **Word of Repentance**

82

**God's Judgment**

~ Ahaz



*The righteous pray for Psalm 1 justice; The answer comes in Psalm 84 and a return to the temple.*

**Rehoboam**  
2 Chr 10–12

- Rehoboam did evil in the eyes of the Lord (12:14)
- [Egypt] took away the treasures of the God's house and the king's house (12:9)
- **Ps 74** captures this plundering

**Asa**  
2 Chr 14

- Asa cried out to God (v.11), so YHWH defeated the Ethiopians
- Great "spoils" of war became sacrifices to God (14:13; 15:11)
- **Ps 76** speaks of spoil and God's mercy to Asa

**Jehoshaphat**  
2 Chr 17–20

- Jehosh. initiated temple reforms, he sent Levites to teach the Law throughout Judah (ch. 17)
- **Ps 78** retells the history of Israel from the Law of Moses to the reign of David

**Joash - Ahaz**  
2 Chr 23, 24, 28

- Joash restored the temple, then desecrated it later in his life
- **Ps 79** speaks of a defiled temple
- Ahaz brought idols into Judah and fought with Assyria, Edom, Philistine
- **Ps 83** refers to these nations

**Hezekiah**  
2 Chr 29–32

- Hezekiah made priestly, temple reforms
- When death visited Hez., he cried to God, God prolonged his reign
- **Pss 84–87** recalls a final glorious season for Judah

## Book 3 Order

- 73 Confusion based on Ps 1
- 74–77 Cycle 1
- 78 Cycle Explained
- 79–82 Cycle 2
- 83 Petition based on Ps 1
- 84–87 David's Final Stand
- 88–89 End of David's Covenant

## A Failure of Faith\*\*

- "Trust" = 2x
- "Hope" = 0x
- "Fear of the LORD" = 4x
- Refuge = 0x
- "Not believe" = 4x (Psalm 78:8, 22, 32, 37)

\*\* Robertson, *The Flow of the Psalms*, pp. 143–45.



**Psalm 78**  
The Psalm to Explain Book 3

... Israel Forgets God  
 God Responds in Wrath  
 Israel Cries for Salvation  
 God Responds in Mercy  
 Yet They Sin . . .

**Shepherd of Israel**  
Psalm 80:1

withflow

