

Praying ALL the Psalms – Righteousness 28.4.27

Session 1: Righteousness in the Psalms

Can we really pray ALL the psalms?

‘Boasting’ psalms? Ps 7:8-9; Ps 26:1-3, 11

‘Cursing’ psalms? Ps 83:13-17

Loving what God loves, hating what God hates

What is ‘righteousness’ in the Psalms?

*Psalms 1 and 2: God’s guidebook to Psalms

	The Righteous	The Wicked
Behaviour (what they do or don’t do)		
Delight (what they love)		
Refuge (who they trust)		
Enemy (who they hate)		
Destiny (where they’re headed)		
Attitude to God/God’s king		

* **‘Righteous’ Group:** Fill in everything you find out about the righteous. If you have time, look at Psalm 15 for more about the righteous.

What’s the basic, foundational difference between them and the wicked?

* **‘Wicked’ Group:** Fill in everything you find out about the wicked (the ‘nations’ in Psalm 2). If you have time, look at Psalm 14 for more about the wicked.

What’s the basic, foundational difference between them and the righteous?

***What makes people righteous?**

- Allegiance: turning to God in trust
- Allegiance (right standing with God) drives behaviour (right actions, obedience to God)
 - Ps 37:3 'Trust in the Lord and do good'
- NOT sinless

*** The world of Psalms: covenant righteousness**

Covenant

Sacrificial system

Prophets

Kings

***Psalm 51: What happens when the righteous sin?**

How has David sinned? (see heading before v. 1)

Who's the perfectly righteous one in this psalm? (see v. 1, 4, 14)

What does David do about his sin? What does he ask of God? (v. 1-12)

How does David's behaviour change now? (see v. 12-15, 17)

What benefits flow to God's people from David's restoration? (see v.18-19)

What righteousness means in the Psalms:

Psalm 130:2-4, 'Lord, hear my cry for mercy! If you Lord, kept a record of sins, who could *stand*? But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverent fear, *serve* you'.

The roots: Right standing with God

The fruit: Right behaviour

Christian righteousness: 'in Christ'

Jesus, the ultimate (perfect) righteous person (Psalm 1)

United to Christ

Jesus, the ultimate (perfect) King (Psalm 2)

We never pray alone

Session 2: Psalms of Righteousness

Useless?

Psalms of covenant allegiance:

1. Celebrate our faithfulness (Ps 18:20-27)
2. Plead for justice (Ps 17:1-9)
3. Express godly intentions (Ps 119:20, 44, 58)
4. Declaring our allegiance (Ps 15:1-5)

Praying psalms in Jesus' name, united to Christ