

Psalms (OT226)

Australian College of Theology name: *The Psalter (English Text)*

Unit Description

Psalms are biblical hymns and can be full of praise, or lament, or questions. Explore some of the Psalms in more detail as you learn to exegete the genre of poetry. Learn to apply and share the rich meanings of these poems in your ministry to others.

Exclusions: OT208 if the Psalms option has been taken.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will:

A. *Know and understand:*

1. The contents and structure of the Psalter
2. The themes and theological teaching of the Psalter
3. The use of the Psalms in the life and worship of ancient Israel
4. The nature and methods of Old Testament exegesis
5. Selected Psalms (eg. 2, 8, 16, 19, 22, 24, 46, 51, 73, 74, 96, 99, 103, 110, 116, 132, 137)

B. *Be able to:*

1. Use sources such as biblical and theological dictionaries, commentaries and on-line resources
2. Recognise literary form and structure
3. Identify matters relating to authorship, date and purpose
4. Describe the historical, religious and socio-cultural background
5. Relate the text to the literary and canonical contexts
6. Comment on the meaning of significant words and phrases
7. Outline the contents and theology
8. Exegete a selection of Psalms

C. *Be in a position to:*

1. Exegete the text of the Psalms for personal understanding and for use in ministry contexts

Content

An exegetical and thematic survey of Psalms from across the five divisions of the Psalter and

including examples from the major psalm genres.

With specific attention to Psalms 2, 8, 16, 19, 22, 24, 46, 51, 73, 74, 96, 99, 103, 110, 116, 132, 137 or a comparable selection.