

# Immanuel Weekend Away 2023

---

*Ashburnham Place*

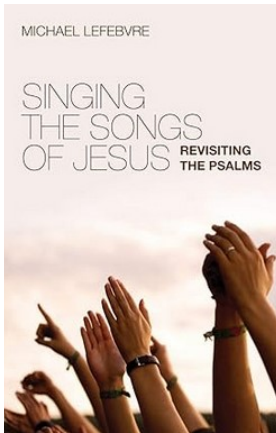
# Psalms

*with Christopher Ash*

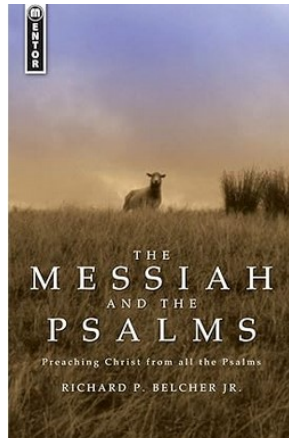
*“Your testimonies are righteous for ever;  
give me understanding that I may live.”*

(Psalm 119:144)

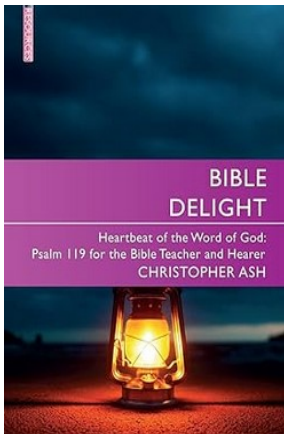
## Recommended books



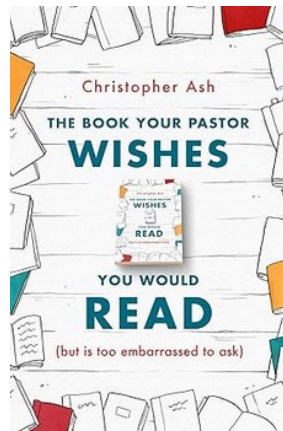
*Singing The Songs Of Jesus*  
Michael Lefebvre



*The Messiah And The Psalms*  
Richard P. Belcher Jr.



*Bible Delight—Psalm 119*  
Christopher Ash



*The Book Your Pastor Wishes  
You Would Read (But Is Too  
Embarrassed To Ask)*  
Christopher Ash

## **Intro: Why bother with the Psalms?**

## Psalm 6

To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments; according to The Sheminith.<sup>a</sup> A Psalm of David.

- <sup>1</sup> O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger,  
nor discipline me in your wrath.
- <sup>2</sup> Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing;  
heal me, O LORD, for my bones are troubled.
- <sup>3</sup> My soul also is greatly troubled.  
But you, O LORD—how long?
- <sup>4</sup> Turn, O LORD, deliver my life;  
save me for the sake of your steadfast love.
- <sup>5</sup> For in death there is no remembrance of you;  
in Sheol who will give you praise?
- <sup>6</sup> I am weary with my moaning;  
every night I flood my bed with tears;  
I drench my couch with my weeping.
- <sup>7</sup> My eye wastes away because of grief;  
it grows weak because of all my foes.
- <sup>8</sup> Depart from me, all you workers of evil,  
for the LORD has heard the sound of my weeping.
- <sup>9</sup> The LORD has heard my plea;  
the LORD accepts my prayer.
- <sup>10</sup> All my enemies shall be ashamed and greatly troubled;  
they shall turn back and be put to shame in a moment.

### Footnotes

a. Probably a musical or liturgical term

Why Psalms? Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16 (psalms and hymns and spiritual songs)

John 12:27 “My soul is greatly troubled” echoes Psalm 6:3 “My soul also is greatly troubled” and other psalms.

Matthew 7:23 “depart from me, you workers of lawlessness” and Luke 13:27 “Depart from me, all you workers of evil” echo Psalm 6:8 “Depart from me, all you workers of evil.”

How can we encourage one another to learn real sorrow and tears for our sins?

## Psalm 84

To the choirmaster: according to The Gittith.<sup>[a]</sup> A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

<sup>1</sup> How lovely is your dwelling place,  
O LORD of hosts!

<sup>2</sup> My soul longs, yes, faints  
for the courts of the LORD;  
my heart and flesh sing for joy  
to the living God.

<sup>3</sup> Even the sparrow finds a home,  
and the swallow a nest for herself,  
where she may lay her young,  
at your altars, O LORD of hosts,  
my King and my God.

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who dwell in your house,  
ever singing your praise! *Selah*

<sup>5</sup> Blessed are those whose strength is in you,  
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>6</sup> As they go through the Valley of Baca  
they make it a place of springs;  
the early rain also covers it with pools.

<sup>7</sup> They go from strength to strength;  
each one appears before God in Zion.

<sup>8</sup> O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;  
give ear, O God of Jacob! *Selah*

<sup>9</sup> Behold our shield, O God;  
look on the face of your anointed!

<sup>10</sup> For a day in your courts is better  
than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

<sup>11</sup> For the LORD God is a sun and shield;  
the LORD bestows favour and honour.

No good thing does he withhold  
from those who walk uprightly.

<sup>12</sup> O LORD of hosts,  
blessed is the one who trusts in you!

### Footnotes

a. Probably a musical or liturgical term

b. Hebrew lacks *to Zion*

*Almighty God, you alone can order the unruly wills and passions of sinful men: grant that your people may love what you command and desire what you promise so that among the many and varied changes of this world our hearts may be firmly fixed where true joys are to be found, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

(Collect for Fourth Sunday after Easter)

How will this psalm change what we talk about, especially with our fellow Christians, and how we face sickness and death?

# Psalm 106

1-5 Introduction

6 Headline for the history

7-12 Egypt (see Exodus 14:11-12; also 5:20-21; 6:9)

13-33 Wilderness

13-15 Cravings at Kibroth-hattaavah (see Numbers 11:4-35)

16-18 Korah's rebellion (see Numbers 16)

19-23 The Golden Calf (see Exodus 32-33 and Deuteronomy 9:8-21)

24-27 The Spies (see Numbers 13:25-14:38 and Deuteronomy 1:19-40)

28-31 The Baal of Peor (see Numbers 25:1-18)

32-33 Meribah (see Numbers 20:2-13)

34-46 in the Promised Land (from the book of Judges all the way to the Exile)

47-48 Prayer and Conclusion



Can you think of any ways in which your own failures match up with how the people of Israel failed? How does the patience of God encourage you when face to face with your failures?

## Psalm 149

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!  
Sing to the LORD a new song,  
his praise in the assembly of the godly!

<sup>2</sup> Let Israel be glad in his Maker;  
let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

<sup>3</sup> Let them praise his name with dancing,  
making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!

<sup>4</sup> For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;  
he adorns the humble with salvation.

<sup>5</sup> Let the godly exult in glory;  
let them sing for joy on their beds.

<sup>6</sup> Let the high praises of God be in their throats  
and two-edged swords in their hands,

<sup>7</sup> to execute vengeance on the nations  
and punishments on the peoples,

<sup>8</sup> to bind their kings with chains  
and their nobles with fetters of iron,

<sup>9</sup> to execute on them the judgement written!  
This is honour for all his godly ones.

Praise the LORD!

See also 2 Corinthians 10:1-6

How can we help one another live lives of genuine praise of God, especially when things are painful and difficult?

# PROGRAMME

## Friday

- 4.30pm onwards Arrival and check in  
5.30-6.30 Informal get together in The Great Hall (come when you can)  
6.30 Dinner  
8.00 Welcome & introduction to Christopher Ash in The Great Hall, with a brief intro on 'Why Bother with the Psalms?'  
Rest of evening free. Bar will be open until 10pm

## Saturday

- 8.00-8.20am Prayer meeting  
8.30 Breakfast  
9.35 Make your way to groups / drop off children  
9.45 Session 1 Psalm 6 / Children's teaching  
11.00 Morning coffee / tea / collect children  
11.35 Make your way to groups / drop off children  
11.45 Session 2 Psalm 84 / Children's teaching  
12.45pm Collect children  
12.50 Group photograph  
1.00 Lunch  
2.00 Leisure Time including lake swim, organised games sessions, ramble or just DIY chilling out  
4.00 Tea, coffee & cake  
5.30 Early dinner for children & parents (if requested)  
6.30 Dinner  
7.45 Evening entertainment / activity  
Rest of evening free. Bar will be open 6-10pm

## Sunday

- 8.00-8.20am Prayer meeting  
8.30 Breakfast  
9.15-9.30 Clear & vacate bedrooms  
9.35 Make your way to groups / drop off children  
9.45 Session 3 Psalm 106 / Children's teaching  
11.00 Morning coffee / tea / collect children  
11.35 Make your way to groups / drop off children  
11.45 Session 4 Psalm 149 / Children's teaching  
12.45pm Collect children  
1.00 Lunch  
2-2.30 Free time  
4.00 Afternoon tea, coffee, cake  
4.30 Leave for home