

Psalm 1 - The Gateway to the Psalms
James Muldoon - Carey Baptist Church – 12 April 2015

Introduction

- Why, do you think, do so many Christians seem to enjoy the Lord so little?
- Is it right to focus on what we have been saved from?
- What have we been saved to enjoy?
- What is the Book of Psalms about?
- What do different psalms help us to express to the Lord?
- What are psalms?
- What does that mean about the way we approach them?
- What does Psalm 1 revolve around?
- What does it presuppose?

i The choice to be made (v1-2)

- What does the word “blessed” mean in v1?
- What does Psalm 1 tell us about blessedness?
- What sort of peer pressure must we reject?
- What three areas of ungodliness must we choose to say no to?
 - (i)
 - (ii)
 - (iii)
- Why don't bald prohibitions typically help us not to go wrong?
- What does the Psalmist mean by the term “law” in v2?
- What does it mean to meditate on God's word?

- Do you do that?
- What will happen to your heart when you do that?
- What must Christians do?
- Do you do that?

ii The consequences to be enjoyed (v3)

- What is the picture in v3?
- What does God promise to do for us?
- Does that mean that we can expect the Christian life to be easy?
- Does it matter what you go through if God is resourcing you through it?
- How are God's people prosperous, even if they have nothing?
- How should this psalm help you if you are suffering right now?

iii The condemnation to be avoided (v4-6)

- What are the three contrasts between the righteous and the wicked in v4-6?
 - (i)
 - (ii)
 - (iii)
- What contrast is there between the first word of the psalm and the last word of the psalm?
- Who is the only perfectly righteous person to have lived?
- How did he take our wickedness and give us righteousness?
- What does he require of us?