

Psalm [8]
God's Glory and Man's Honor
To the Chief Musician Upon Gittith
A Psalm of David.

Reference: **[Sheminith]:** Directions for performance -suggest melodic pattern, perhaps an octave lower than Alamoth and, therefore, tenor or even bass. The **(NKJV)** translates, “On an eight-stringed harp.” Neginoth (**Psalm 6**) is translated “string instruments” **(NKJV)**, but in reference to most psalms it probably means simply “a song.”

Division of Books

Book I (1-41) Book II (42-72) Book III (73-89) Book IV (90-106) Book V (107-150)
Book I (41:13) Book II (72:19) Book III (89:52) Book IV (106:48) Book V (150:1-6)

Note: Quick about the above outline/divisions. **(1)** from ancient times, the 150 psalms were organized into these five **(5)** books, with each book having its own benediction (indicated in above parentheses). Psalm 150 is not only the last Psalm and a benediction for Book 5, but also a doxology for the entire Psalter.

Purpose: The psalms, as Spirit-inspired prayers and praises, were written, generally speaking, to express the deep inner emotions of the human heart in relation to God. **(1)** Many were written as prayers to God, expressing **(a)** trust, love, adoration, thanksgiving, praise and longing for close fellowship; **(b)** discouragement, deep distress, fear, anxiety, humiliation, and a cry for deliverance, healing or vindication.

(2) Others were written as songs expressing praise, thanksgiving and adoration for who God is and for the great things He has done. **(3)** Some psalms contain important Messianic sections that were fulfilled in their fullest meaning in Jesus Christ.

[8:1-2]

{Psalm 97:9}

“For thou, Lord are High above all the earth: Thou are exalted far above all gods.”

[Exodus 18:9-12]: read in class

Note: Now I know that the Lord is greater: the word “know” frequently occurs in the book of Exodus. Moses and the Israelites needed to know who God was and to understand His great power. These manifestations of God’s power and deliverance became a witness to Jethro so he could say, “Now I know,” and could then join in worshiping the Lord. These things are recorded so that we too may come to know and worship the One True God.

[8:3-6]

Note: [8:4-6]: The Son of Man: The N.T. quotes these verses from the Septuagint (the Greek translation of the Hebrew O.T.) and applies them to Jesus (**Hebrews 2:6-8; Ephesians 1:19-22**). It is only in Him that these truths are perfectly realized. He is the one who, as a representative of the human race, will be given full dominion over all creation (**vs. 6-8; Philippians 2:10**).

[8:7-9]

{Deeper Study}

[Hebrews 2:5-9]

Final Thought: *The Lord is High above all nations, and His glory above the heavens.* [Psalm 113:4]