

# PSALMS OF *THANKSGIVING*<sup>1</sup>

(with a few brief notes & observations by Dr. Charles Ryrie)<sup>2</sup>

## **Psalm 30**

“In this individual thanksgiving psalm, David acknowledges God’s deliverance, **calling on the congregation to join in praise (vv. 1-5); he remembers his past sin (vv. 6-10), and renews his praise to God (vv. 11-12).**”

In verses 6-7 “David reflects on his past distress caused by his self-sufficiency and by God’s chastening. Some hold that this refers to the plague God sent on Israel because of David’s census (2 Sam. 24; I Chron. 21). If so, 70,000 died because of his sin.” (p. 823)

## **Psalm 32**

“This psalm of forgiveness is probably the sequel to Psalm 51, in which David confesses his sin with Bathsheba. Here he describes **the blessing of forgiveness which followed chastening and confession (vv. 1-5), then encourages others to seek the Lord’s deliverance rather than stubbornly refusing to follow Him (vv. 6-10), and finally exhorts them to rejoice in the Lord (v. 11).**”

Regarding verses 3-4, “While David kept silent (did not immediately confess his sin), God chastened him physically and emotionally.” (p. 825)

## **Psalm 48** (esp. vv. 9-ff)

## **Psalm 65**

“In this thanksgiving hymn, David praises God for His favor (vv. 1-4), for His greatness (vv. 5-8), and for His harvest (vv. 9-13). **Thus God is magnified as Redeemer, Creator, and Provider.**”

Regarding verse 9, “The first part of this verse is a summary statement, illustrated in the many examples given (through v. 13). God’s presence provides the harvest of field and flock.” (p. 856)

## **Psalm 100**

“This brief but beloved psalm calls on all men to praise and worship the LORD (Yahweh) **because He is God (vv. 1-3) and because He is good (vv. 4-5)**... The goodness of God is seen in His steadfast lovingkindness and faithfulness.” (p. 892)

## **Psalm 118**

## **Psalm 124**

## **Psalm 136**

“Punctuated by the refrain exalting the Lord’s steadfast love (Heb., *hesed*), this hymn opens with **a call to praise (vv. 1-3) because of God’s great deeds in nature (vv. 4-9), His gracious actions in the history of Israel (vv. 10-22), and His mercy toward all (vv. 23-25), and closes with another call to praise (v. 26).** This psalm was probably used antiphonally in Temple worship. In Jewish liturgy it is called ‘the Great Hallel,’ recited at the Passover meal after the ‘Lesser Hallel.’” (p. 925)

## **Psalm 138**

“In this thanksgiving psalm, the psalmist **praises God for answered prayer (vv. 1-3), for His plan for the world (vv. 4-6), and for His purposes for himself (vv. 7-8).**” (p. 927)

## **Psalm 147** (esp. vv. 1-11)

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<sup>1</sup> Compiled by Mike Edwards, November, 2012, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, West Indies.

<sup>2</sup> All quotes taken from Charles C. Ryrie, “*The Ryrie Study Bible*” (New American Standard Version), Moody Press: Chicago, IL, 1978.