

God, humanity and some of history's most vulnerable literature





#### **PSALM 150**

Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heaven! Praise him for his mighty works; praise his unequaled greatness! Praise him with a blast of the ram's horn; praise him with the lyre and harp! Praise him with the tambourine and dancing; praise him with strings and flutes! Praise him with a clash of cymbals; praise him with loud clanging cymbals. Let everything that breathes sing praises to the Lord! Praise the Lord!

# ENDINGS ARE IMPORTANT

# "LET EVERYTHING THAT BREATHES SING PRAISES TO THE LORD! PRAISE THE LORD!"





How long, O God, must I wait, the desires of my heart ache, from the depths of my being. Have you forgotten? Do you see my yearning and pain? When Lord, will you put a stop to my waiting and longing? Why is my spirit sad? Why is my mind so angry? You - the Creator of All things - have control. Why are You not putting a stop to the grief and loss that is following me? My mind feels numb from anger and frustration.

Yet I know in the depths of my being that you are Hope and Peace. God of the Israelites, who led your people out of horrific captivity, see me, hear me, answer me. You see the secret desires of every heart, you know the intricacies of our thoughts and you hold them in the palm of your hands.

Search me Lord, show me the things that are not of you. Spirit,

convict my soul of the thoughts that do not align with your Truth. Bring Freedom to the darkness. Bring Light to the pain. Bring Hope to the yearning. Bring Revelation to the dryness. For you are my Lord and Saviour, the One I will always trust in.

Faithful, faithful, faithful are you Lord Your faithfulness fills my mind with awe and wonder Your faithfulness fills my eyes with grateful tears Your faithfulness fills my mouth with sweet songs of praise Your faithfulness fills my heart with holy hope and inexpressible joy Faithful. Faithful. Faithful are you Lord

# THE PSALMS OF OUR COMMUNITY ARE FULL OF PRAISE, LAMENT, WISDOM, HOPE AND THANKSGIVING

# BEFORE WE WRAP-UP, ANY STORIES?

# THE PSALMS ARE CONTEXTUAL

Keep integrity to time, place and genre

# THE PSALMS ARE EXPRESSIVE

The full range of humanity on display

# THE PSALMS ARE HONEST

Total vulnerability with God, nothing hidden or filtered

# THE PSALMS ARE HOPEFUL

Grounded here, in the now and the not-yet

# N.T. WRIGHT

"The Psalms are not only poetry in themselves; they are to be the cause of poetry in those who sing them, together and individually. They are God's gifts to us so that we can be shaped as his gift to the world."

"Sing these songs, and they will renew you from head to toe, from heart to mind. Pray these poems, and they will sustain you on the long, hard but exhilarating road of Christian discipleship."



# THE CASE FOR THE



#### WHY THEY ARE ESSENTIAL

