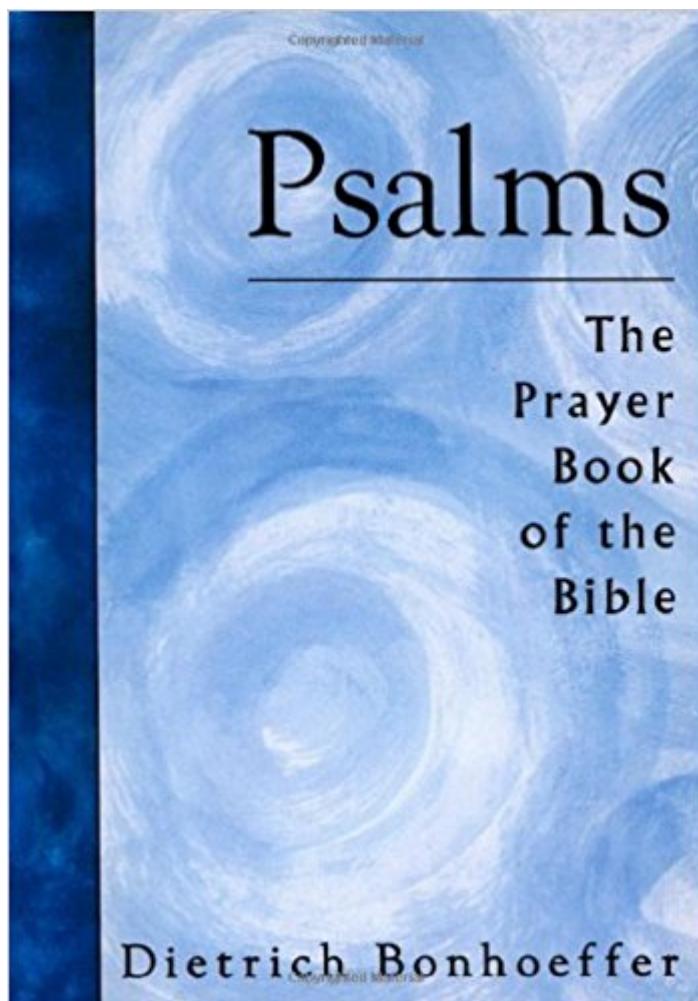


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Psalms: The Prayer Book Of The Bible



Synopsis

An illuminating study of prayer using the Psalms as a guidebook.

Book Information

Paperback: 88 pages

Publisher: Augsberg Fortress - eBooks Account (January 1, 1974)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0806614390

ISBN-13: 978-0806614397

Product Dimensions: 4.2 x 0.2 x 5.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 148 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #17,674 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #32 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Bible Study > Old Testament #41 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Old Testament #45 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Worship & Devotion > Meditations

Customer Reviews

I found this very short book useful for 2 reasons: 1. It provided a good overview of how to classify Psalms under particular topics. So those psalms that are about guilt, suffering, the church, the Law, etc. This is particularly useful when understanding how to use them when praying. 2. It had a brief 20 page biographical sketch of Bonhoeffer's life that I appreciated. Reading more extensive bios on him has always been on my list but I haven't been able to get to it, so having this abridged version gave me some insights into the man. I've been using the Psalms in my daily prayer life for a little while now and this is a very useful accompaniment to better understanding how to use particular Psalms when praying.

This work is one of Bonhoeffer's great but oft overlooked contributions to Christian devotional literature. Many works have been written on prayer and call readers to greater prayer lives, but few succeed in offering a true methodology for doing so that is not mundane, legalistic, or self-centered. Bonhoeffer, ever the man of prayer, offers a unique method of approaching the throne of grace that empowers fresh, grace-filled, and God-centered prayers. Bonhoeffer's solution is not complex or mysterious. The writer offers the reader one of the simplest concepts this reviewer has ever seen - pray the Psalms! Relying on Luther's proclamation that the Psalms are really a book of prayers,

Dietrich lays out some extremely practical methods of approaching each major type of Psalm and praying them. If one wishes to get an interesting little perspective on the Psalter or the topic of prayer, this little book written by one of the great saints of modern Christendom is worth every penny; however, if the reader is looking for a scholarly tome on the Psalms, then it is certainly not the book for this need. The book is short, insightful, devotional, inspiring, and convicting.

I actually read this as part of a book club with people from my church. We had a great time unpacking all the good stuff in this book, and it provoked a lot of awesome discussion. For me, it provided a whole new way to read and pray through the Psalms. Highly recommend!

It would be hard to imagine a better introduction to the use of the Psalms in prayer. Bonhoeffer, a martyr under Hitler, lived in a time of intense suffering and anxious care. For him, the Psalms are a gift for shaping prayer. Perhaps you think you need no help in praying, that the idea of structure and order in praying kills your free expression. Let Bonhoeffer argue otherwise, for better praying by Psalms praying. Perhaps you are puzzled by the anger of the Psalms or the strong language used of enemies? Or you find it troubling that the Psalms deal so candidly with sin, with inner anguish? I could go on. Bonhoeffer addresses all the questions, in a way that helps you use the Psalms. But best of all, he shows you how Jesus prayed the Psalms and how he prays them with us when we pray the Psalms. The book is brief, with short chapters. It is worthy of reading again and again. It will make the Psalms an even richer means of praying to God.

Mr. Bonhoeffer gave new meaning to the Psalms and helps one focus on various Psalms for prayerful purposes. This is a slim book written by a victim of the Nazis in WWII. He offers explanations of the Psalms and how to use them in your daily life.

not an easy read like the biography of Bonhoeffer. A little disappointed because of syntax. Must be because of the translation from german

Psalms: The Prayer Book of the Bible by Dietrich Bonhoeffer is short and helpful; true to Bonhoeffer's style, it is emphatic, devotional, Christologically focused, and scholarly. Reading this book will help most people feel more comfortable within the Psalms, as well as enrich their devotional life. Instead of being a study guide for each line and phrase of the Psalms, it sets the larger contours of the Psalter in place and inspires one to use the Psalms as a launching point into

praise, prayer, and life. The second canon of the second Council of Nicea (787 AD) states, "Candidates for a bishop's orders must know the Psalter by heart and must have read thoroughly, not cursorily, all the sacred Scriptures"; that this discipline was also a regular practice of pastors and lay people of that day should be enough to give most people pause on the value of the Psalms in a person's life.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was imprisoned and later hanged by Hitler. Bonhoeffer was a Christian man of God, who realized that there is a prayer book nestled in the Old Testament--a prayer book filled with poetry, passion and purpose. "Psalms: The Prayer Book of the Bible" is a little book (it's just 88 pages) with big meaning: It will help you better understand and appreciate the power of the psalms, including how they can be used as powerful prayers.

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