

A GUIDE FOR EXEGETING THE PSALMS

- I. Make a literal translation of the Psalm.
- II. Identify the author of the Psalm, and present the evidence to prove his identity.
- III. Indicate how the Psalm should be classified, and why it should be thus classified.
- IV. Indicate the central teaching of the Psalm, and formulate a detailed outline showing how the various details of the Psalm relate to that central teaching.
- V. Give a detailed description of the background material of the Psalm, and the references where this material is found.
- VI. Exegete the Psalm, including the following in your exegesis:
 - A. A full description of each figure of speech, and the idea conveyed by it.
 - B. An identification of each parallelism, and the reason for the identification.
 - C. The precise meaning of each significant word, phrase, and verse (explain figurative language).
 - D. The relationship of the words, phrases, and verses to each other.
 - E. The use of each Hebrew form where it has a bearing upon the meaning.
 - F. A comparison of the Psalm with the background material, and an explanation of how the various parts of the Psalm arose from that material.
 - G. A list and explanation of all references and allusions to other parts of the Bible.
 - H. An identification of the speaker or speakers in the Psalm, and the reason for the identification.
- VII. Indicate any main textual problem which may appear in the Psalm, and attempt to present a solution to it.
- VIII. Indicate the doctrines which are touched on in the Psalm.
- IX. Indicate the applications which can be drawn from the Psalm for our lives.
- X. Give a complete Bibliography of the works used in exegeting the Psalm.

NOTE: All papers for the O.T. Poets course must be typewritten with all Hebrew or Greek forms written in ink.