

b. Books II and III.

- These books were collected in the 8th century BC by "the men of Hezekiah".
- Perowne concludes that Hezekiah's men, who compiled the additional proverbs of Solomon (of. Prov. 25:1), also compiled Books II and III as hymnbooks for the Levites to use in the ceremonies described in 2 Chron. 29:25-30.
- Perowne calls Books II and III "middle poetry".

c. Books IV and V.

- These books were collected in the 5th century BC in the times of Ezra and Nehemiah as most of these Psalms were written during or after the Babylonian captivity.
- Perowne calls Books IV and V "late poetry".

4. The principle followed in the arrangement of the chapters in the Books of the Book of Psalms.

- Psalms are placed together, sometimes because the instruction conveyed in both is the same, and sometimes because the same word or expression occurs in both.

- a. Psa. 50 <---> Psa. 51 Both stress heart attitude.
- b. Psa. 34:7 <---> Psa. 35:6 "The Angel of the Lord".
- c. Psa. 54:2 <---> Psa. 55:1 "Give ear".

- In this way one can account for earlier psalms appearing in later Books and vice versa.

5. An evaluation of Perowne's view.

- a. The view is based upon many assumptions. Examples:

- A new Book began with a new collection followed by supplemental Psalms.

- Repeated Psalms imply independent collections.

(This assumption can be contested: Psa. 115:4-8 parallels Psa. 135:15-18 yet they are both in the same Book).

- The use of Divine Names proves independent Books.

- Solomon, Men of Hezekiah, and people ~~in~~ after the exile were involved in the collecting the psalms.

- These are all assumptions; they are not provable.
- This does not mean they are necessarily wrong, but we cannot show they are right.