

In Psa. 51:1-12, David prays, asking the LORD for inward cleansing and forgiveness of sin.

Psa. 51:18-19 is a petition which David is making for his people, that they will not be harmed as a result of his sin.

-David had started to build the walls around Jerusalem; for the sake of his people he asks that Jerusalem not be left unprotected with its walls unfinished.

-References to wall-building in David's reign:

2 Sam. 5:9 "So David lived in the stronghold, and called it the city of David. And David built all around from Millo and inward."

1 Kings 3:1 "And Solomon . . . had finished building his own house and the house of the LORD and the wall around Jerusalem."

-Perowne's view allows him to find fault with the text rather than seek reasonable harmonizations.

d. Perowne's view presents a POSSIBLE explanation for the formation of the Book of Psalms IF [and only if] the objectionable items mentioned above are eliminated.

-Remember that, even in the cleaned up model, a truck-load of assumptions remain.

-Authorship of Psalm 1. The reasons given "fit" but do not prove that Solomon wrote it.

-The doxologies which end Books I, II, III, and IV may have been in the ending Psalms as originally written and the compilers put Psalms 41, 72, 89 and 106 last in their Books as they came with nice doxologies.

-The idea of 5 books does go back to the 3rd century AD.

Hippolytus (3rd cent AD) [Greek] holds to the 5-fold division, noting it parallels the Pentateuch. Midrash (Jewish expositions of Scripture) mentions the 5-fold division.

Hilary (4th cent AD) [Latin] denies the 5-fold division. Jerome (4th-5th cent) denies the 5-fold division in his preface to the Psalter.

Augustine (4th-5th cent) also denies the 5-fold division.

-The fact that Hilary, Jerome, Augustine deny this division implies that they were aware of its existence.