

Psalm 104; 45; 102; 110

New American Standard Bible (NASB)

Psalm 104

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

O LORD my God, You are very great;

You are clothed with splendor and majesty,

² Covering Yourself with light as with a cloak,
Stretching out heaven like a *tent* curtain.³ He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters;
He makes the clouds His chariot;
He walks upon the wings of the wind;⁴ **He makes the winds His messengers,
Flaming fire His ministers.**⁵ He established the earth upon its foundations,
So that it will not totter forever and ever.⁶ You covered it with the deep as with a garment;
The waters were standing above the mountains.⁷ At Your rebuke they fled,
At the sound of Your thunder they hurried away.**Psalm 45**

My heart overflows with a good theme;

I address my verses to the King;
My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.² You are fairer than the sons of men;
Grace is poured upon Your lips;
Therefore God has blessed You forever.³ Gird Your sword on *Your* thigh, O Mighty One,
In Your splendor and Your majesty!⁴ And in Your majesty ride on victoriously,
For the cause of truth and meekness

and righteousness;

Let Your right hand teach You awesome things.

⁵ Your arrows are sharp;
The peoples fall under You;
Your arrows are in the heart of the King's enemies.⁶ **Your throne, O God, is forever and ever;****A scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your kingdom.**⁷ **You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;****Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You****With the oil of joy above Your fellows.**⁸ All Your garments are *fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia*;
Out of ivory palaces strung instruments have made You glad.⁹ Kings' daughters are among Your noble ladies;
At Your right hand stands the queen in gold from Ophir.**Psalm 102**¹⁸ This will be written for the generation to come,
That a people yet to be created may praise the LORD.¹⁹ For He looked down from His holy height;
From heaven the LORD gazed upon the earth,²⁰ To hear the groaning of the prisoner,
To set free those who were doomed to death,²¹ That *men* may tell of the name of the LORD in Zion
And His praise in Jerusalem,²² When the peoples are gathered together,
And the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.²³ He has weakened my strength in the way;

He has shortened my days.

²⁴ I say, "O my God, do not take me away in the midst of my days,
Your years are throughout all generations.²⁵ **"Of old You founded the earth,
And the heavens are the work of Your hands.**²⁶ **"Even they will perish, but You endure;
And all of them will wear out like a garment;****Like clothing You will change them and they will be changed.**²⁷ **"But You are the same,
And Your years will not come to an end.**²⁸ "The children of Your servants will continue,
And their descendants will be established before You."**Psalm 110**

The LORD says to my Lord:

**"Sit at My right hand
Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet."**² The LORD will stretch forth Your strong scepter from Zion, *saying*,
"Rule in the midst of Your enemies."³ Your people will volunteer freely in the day of Your power;
In holy array, from the womb of the dawn,Your youth are to You *as* the dew.⁴ The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind,**"You are a priest forever
According to the order of Melchizedek."**⁵ The LORD is at Your right hand;
He will shatter kings in the day of His wrath.

For additional thought and discussion:

For more suggested methods of study: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/methodical-bible-study/>

For examples of inductive studies: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/inductive-bible-study-examples-2/>

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation (What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer's thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose ("in order that...")?
- Are there conclusions ("Therefore...")?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good "headline" for the passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application (What does it mean for me?)

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

**Read nothing into the Scriptures,
but draw everything from them,
and suffer nothing to remain
hidden that is really in them.
J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)**

For a much more detailed description of the methodology, see

Robert A. Traina, *Methodical Bible Study*. Wilmore, Kentucky: Asbury Theological Seminary, 1952.