

Introduction to the Psalms

A. Writers of the Psalms

1. There are times when the titles of the psalms indicate authorship. There is some evidence that these titles were added later, but if that is true, it does not sabotage the doctrine of the [Inspiration of Scriptures](#).
2. The following is a quotation from [Thomas Constable](#):
 - a. Not all the titles contain information about authorship. Students of the psalms sometimes refer to those without writer information in their titles as anonymous or "orphan" psalms. The ones that do contain this information refer to the following writers. Moses wrote Psalm 90. David composed at least 73 psalms, mostly in the first two books of the Psalter (i.e., Pss. 1—72). Asaph wrote 12 (Pss. 50, 73—83). Korah's descendants were responsible for 10 (Pss. 42, 44—49, 84, 87—88). Solomon wrote one or two (127 and perhaps 72). Heman the Ezrahite wrote one (Ps. 88), and Ethan the Ezrahite composed one (Ps. 89)

B. Numbering of the Psalms

1. The following is a quotation from [Constable](#):
 - a. There is some difference in the numbering of the psalms among versions. This is because some translations, such as the Protestant English versions, come from the Masoretic (Hebrew) text. Others, such as the Roman Catholic English versions, followed the Latin Vulgate translation, which was based on the Septuagint (Greek) text.

b. The following explanatory chart is borrowed from [Constable](#):

Hebrew Numbering	Greek Numbering
1-8	1-8
9-10	9
11-113	10-112
114-115	113
116:1-9	114
116:10-19	115
117-146	116-145
147:1-11	146
147:12-20	147
148-150	148-150

c.