

Ethan — Ethan was the Ezrahite spoken of in 1 Kings 4:31. He was renowned for his wisdom in Solomon's time, and is the author of Psalm 89. This Psalm prophetically speaks of the unchanging covenant that God made with His servant David, establishing his throne forever.

Heman — The son of Joel and grandson of Samuel, Heman was the first of three Levites to conduct the vocal and instrumental music in the tabernacle during David's time. Referred to as "David's seer", Heman also wrote Psalm 88, one of the most melancholy of all Psalms.

Moses — Moses is known as the great deliver of Israel, the man chosen by God to lead the Jews out of Egypt to the Promised Land. Moses wrote the book of Exodus and the giving of the Law, but Moses was also a Psalmist. He was the composer of Psalm 90.

The anonymous Psalms — There are 50 Psalms that do not list the author; however, it is highly likely that David wrote some of these. Psalm 2 is quoted in Acts 4:25 and said to be written by David. Psalm 1 is thought to be by the same author, and it is interesting to compare 1 Chronicles 16:7-22 with Psalm 105 and 1 Chronicles 16:23-36 with Psalm 96.

Crucifixion — Psalm 22 is known as a Messianic Psalm. It begins with the words "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" These same words were spoken by Jesus from the cross hundreds of years later. Long before crucifixion was practiced as a legitimate form of execution, God had prophesied the way in which His Son would die hundreds of years later.

Longest and Shortest — The book of Psalms contains both the longest and the shortest chapters in the entire Bible. Psalm 117 is the shortest chapter, with only two verses, and Psalm 119 is the longest chapter, comprised of 176 verses. The book of Psalms is itself the longest book in the canon.

Tolaath — Tolaath is the Hebrew word for worm that is mentioned in Psalm 22:6. This word is translated scarlet 34 times, worm 8 times, and crimson once. The insides of the worm, when crushed, were used to produce scarlet dye for clothing and materials. This worm before its death would climb a tree and suspend itself from one of the branches. It was there that it would give birth to its young, exploding from the inside and leaving a scarlet stain upon the tree. Within days, that scarlet stain would turn white and flake away. It is a reminder to us of Isaiah 1:18, "Come now, and let us reason together," says the Lord, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool."

Psalms — The meaning of the word Psalms comes from a Greek word meaning, "a song that is sung to the accompaniment of a plucked instrument." The Psalms are the inspired responses of various individuals to God's revelation of Himself in the Old Testament era.

QUOTATIONS:

Of the 283 direct quotations from the Old Testament found in the New Testament, 116 are from the Psalms.

Psalm 118 — This is the middle chapter of the entire Bible. There are 594 chapters before and after Psalm 118. The sum of these is 1188. Psalm 118:8 is the middle verse of the entire Bible: "It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man."