




MAPPING THE PSALMS


LESSON THREE: THE STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK

Look for the answers to these questions:

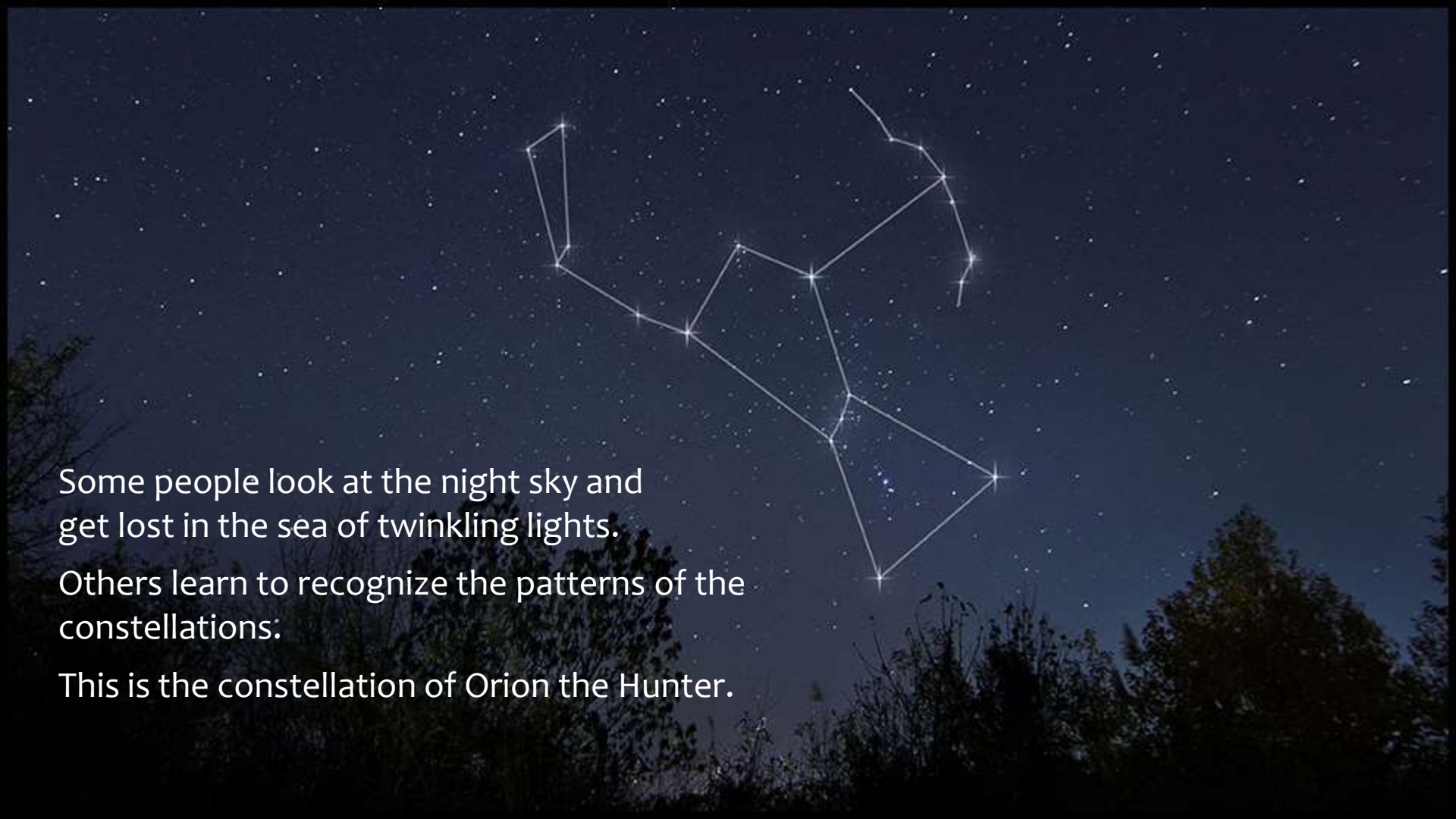
1. What are the five divisions or “Books” in the Psalms?
(Give the scripture references)
2. What is the special purpose of the FIRST psalm in every division?
3. What is the special purpose of the SECOND psalm in every division.



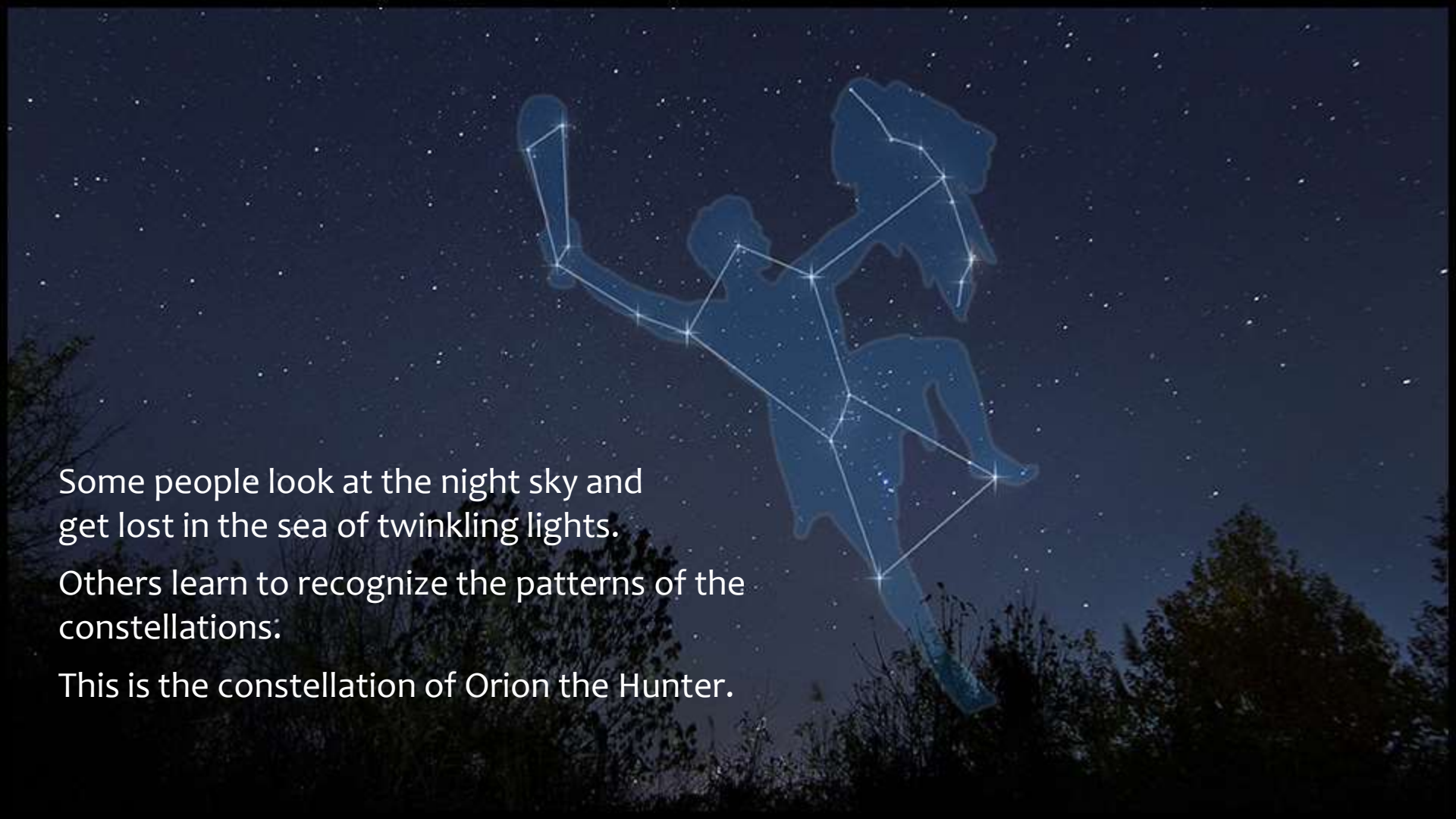
Some people look at the night sky and
get lost in the sea of twinkling lights.



Some people look at the night sky and
get lost in the sea of twinkling lights.
Others learn to recognize the patterns of the
constellations:

A night sky filled with stars, with the constellation Orion the Hunter highlighted by white lines connecting its stars. The constellation is a large, irregular shape with several prominent stars. The background is a dark blue night sky with many smaller stars visible. The bottom of the image shows the dark silhouettes of trees.

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This is the constellation of Orion the Hunter.



Some people look at the night sky and
get lost in the sea of twinkling lights.
Others learn to recognize the patterns of the
constellations:
This is the constellation of Orion the Hunter.

The three stars of his belt
make him easy to locate.



Orion's right shoulder is the star *Betelgeuse*. It is about 700 times the size of the Sun!




The constellations help us draw
a map of the stars.





God has also given us ways to map the Holy Scriptures.



In the Bible, the Psalms are divided into five books.

A night sky filled with stars, with the constellation Orion visible in the center. The stars are bright and have a four-pointed diffraction pattern. The background is a deep blue-black. At the bottom, the dark silhouettes of trees are visible against the sky. A golden scroll with wooden handles is positioned horizontally across the top of the image.


Book 1

Ps 1 to 41



Book 1

Ps 1 to 41



Book 2

Ps 42 to 72



Book 1

Ps 1 to 41

Book 2

Ps 42 to 72

Book 3

Ps 73 to 89



Book 1

Ps 1 to 41



Book 2

Ps 42 to 72



Book 3

Ps 73 to 89




Book 4

Ps 90 to 106




Book 1

Ps 1 to 41



Book 2

Ps 42 to 72



Book 3

Ps 73 to 89



Book 4

Ps 90 to 106



Book 5

Ps 107 to 145



Book 1

Ps 1 to 41



Book 2

Ps 42 to 72



Book 3

Ps 73 to 89



Book 4

Ps 90 to 106



Book 5

Ps 107 to 145

Each “book” of Psalms shares a theme with one the first 5 books of the Bible.

A horizontal scroll with a light yellowish-gold surface and dark brown wooden handles is positioned at the top of the frame. The background is a dark blue night sky filled with numerous stars of varying brightness. The bottom edge of the image shows the dark silhouettes of trees and bushes.

Book 1

Ps 1 to 41

The **GENESIS** Book
(Man and Creation)



Book 1

Ps 1 to 41



Book 2

Ps 42 to 72

The EXODUS Book
(Deliverance and Redemption)



Book 1

Ps 1 to 41



Book 2

Ps 42 to 72



Book 3

Ps 73 to 89

The **LEVITICUS** Book
(Worship and Sanctuary)




Book 1

Ps 1 to 41



Book 2

Ps 42 to 72



Book 3

Ps 73 to 89



Book 4

Ps 90 to 106

The NUMBERS Book
(Wilderness and Wandering)



Book 1

Ps 1 to 41



Book 2

Ps 42 to 72



Book 3

Ps 73 to 89



Book 4

Ps 90 to 106



Book 5

Ps 107 to 145

The **DEUTERONOMY** Book
(Scripture and Praise)

Book 1 Ps 1 to 41

41:13

Book 2 Ps 42 to 72

72:18-19

Book 3 Ps 73 to 89

89:52

Book 4 Ps 90 to 106

106:48

Book 5 Ps 107 to 145

145:21

Each “book” ends with a special form of praise called a DOXOLOGY.
(We will learn more about this later).

Book 1 Ps 1 to 41

Book 2 Ps 42 to 72

Book 3 Ps 73 to 89

Book 4 Ps 90 to 106

Book 5 Ps 107 to 145

Five Hallelujah Psalms
Ps 146-150

The Book of Psalms concludes with five “Hallelujah” psalms. Each one begins and ends with “Praise ye the Lord.”




Book 1 Ps 1 to 41



Book 2 Ps 42 to 72



Book 3 Ps 73 to 89



Book 4 Ps 90 to 106



Book 5 Ps 107 to 145

The FIRST and SECOND psalm of each book have a special purpose.

Book 1 Ps 1 to 41

Psalm 1

Book 2 Ps 42 to 72

Psalm 42

Book 3 Ps 73 to 89

Psalm 73

Book 4 Ps 90 to 106

Psalm 90

Book 5 Ps 107 to 145

Psalm 107

The FIRST and SECOND psalm of each book have a special purpose.

The FIRST psalm establishes the THEME of that book.

Book 1 Ps 1 to 41

Psalm 2

Book 2 Ps 42 to 72

Psalm 43

Book 3 Ps 73 to 89

Psalm 74

Book 4 Ps 90 to 106

Psalm 91

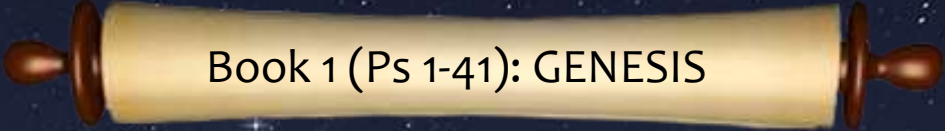
Book 5 Ps 107 to 145

Psalm 108

The FIRST and SECOND psalm of each book have a special purpose.

The FIRST psalm establishes the THEME of that book.

The SECOND psalm focuses on the enemy of righteousness.



Book 1 (Ps 1-41): GENESIS

In the next lesson, we will begin our study of Book One.

Questions to test your understanding:

1. What are the five divisions or “Books” in the Psalms?
(Give the scripture references)
2. What is the special purpose of the FIRST psalm in every division?
3. What is the special purpose of the SECOND psalm in every division.

(Question 1 is worth 50 points. Questions 2 and 3 are 25 points each)

- Look inside your own Bible. Do you see the words “Book One” before Psalm 1? If not, use a pencil and write it in. Do the same for Books 2, 3, 4, and 5.
- Also using a pencil (so you can erase it later if you want to) put a little star next to the “doxology” that ends each book. Use the chart on Slide 23 to help you find them.
- Go to the last five psalms (146 to 150) and underline the phrase “Praise ye the Lord” (or “Praise the Lord” in some versions) that begins and ends each one.

Do NOT share your answers with other students.



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