

- c. The Messianic psalms are usually divided into two classes. The first class deals with the Messianic king, his kingdom, throne, rule, etc., and these psalms are often called "royal" psalms. The second class deals with the personal work of the Messiah and His embodiment of the human ideal. These are more often called "Messianic" although the term may be applied to both groups. So you might call the first "royal Messianic" and the second "personal Messianic."

In both classifications we watch carefully for the use of terms such as "son", "king" "anointed", etc., and we allow the New Testament considerable authority in our designations.

- d. The identification is complicated by the somewhat extensive use of typology and symbolism. A presentation of a king may be a type, or it may not!
- e. In my mind the two classes are represented thus:

Royal: 2, 18, 20, 21, 45, 61, 72, 89, 110, 132, 144

Personal: 8*, 16, 22, 35**, 40*, 41, 55**, 102, 69**, 109**.

A single asterisk indicates a psalms also classified as pastoral..a double asterisk is a psalm classified as imprecatory.

- f. A number of questions arise with these psalms:
- (1) If a Messianic notation is given does it mean the whole psalm is Messianic?
 - (2) How far may general similarities in ideals be pressed (as between the king of the Nation and the King of the divine kingdom)?
 - (3) Does the New Testament provide a sufficient pattern for distinguishing these?