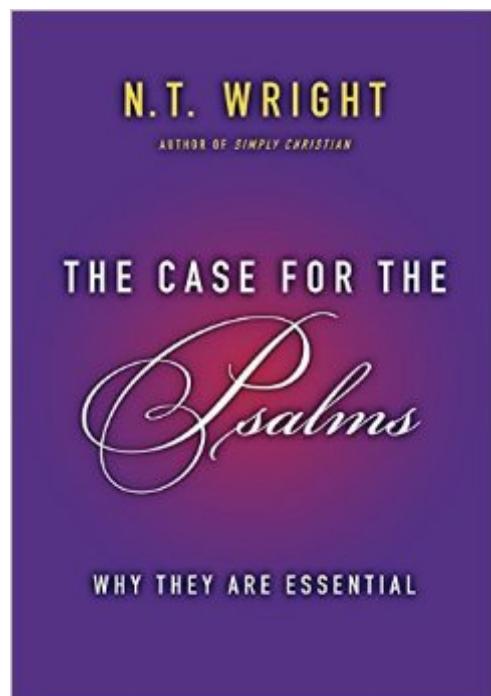


The book was found

The Case For The Psalms: Why They Are Essential



Synopsis

Widely regarded as the modern C. S. Lewis, N. T. Wright, one of the world's most trusted and popular Bible scholars and the bestselling author of *Simply Christian* and *Surprised by Hope*, presents a manifesto urging Christians to live and pray the Bible's Psalms in *The Case for the Psalms*. Wright seeks to reclaim the power of the Psalms, which were once at the core of prayer life. He argues that, by praying and living the Psalms, we enter into a worldview, a way of communing with God and knowing him more intimately, and receive a map by which we understand the contours and direction of our lives. For this reason, all Christians need to read, pray, sing, and live the Psalms. By providing the historical, literary, and spiritual contexts for reading these hymns from ancient Israel's songbook, *The Case for the Psalms* provides the tools for incorporating these divine poems into our sacred practices and into our spirituality itself.

Book Information

Hardcover: 208 pages

Publisher: HarperOne (September 3, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0062230506

ISBN-13: 978-0062230508

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.8 x 7.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (101 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #347,589 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #113 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Wisdom Literature #1023 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Bible Study > Old Testament #1585 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Old Testament

Customer Reviews

Five years ago, if you had asked me what my least favorite part of the bible is, I would have probably said the Psalms. I might have said the lists genealogies or Numbers, but most likely I would have said Psalms. But *The Case for the Psalms* is the third book on the Psalms I have read this year and I have moving toward a greater appreciation of the role of the Psalms, not only as illustrations of the range of biblical expression but as important centers for Christian worship and theology. I grew up low church, I remain low church, but I appreciate more all the time the liturgical parts of the Christian church and the role of the Book of Common Prayer and various other

expressions of historic worship. Not because I have an emotional attachment to them, but because I see how the role of liturgy shapes the life of the Christian. I have not completely bought into Jamie Smith's liturgical project, but I continue to struggle with how to think about transforming the overtly evangelistic worship of my megachurch to include more historic elements of Christian liturgical worship. (Not that I am a decision maker or in anyway involved in worship planning at my church.) And this where NT Wright comes in again. As a consistent voice calling for the church to maintain the importance of scripture, Wright has helped me see that a church that is not shaped by scripture is not doing the work of the church. No Evangelical churches are rejecting scripture, but there are many that while verbally upholding the importance of scripture, do not actually spend much time reading it publicly or using it as part of worship. I am all for modern worship music. I fully admit that modern worship music does not have the full theological richness of some historic hymns.

In his new, much anticipated book, *The Case for the Psalms: Why They are Essential*, Bishop N.T. Wright seeks to restore the Church's original hymnbook back to its rightful place in the life and worship of the local church. While Wright is arguing for the Psalms to have a major place in the worship of the church, he is not saying that they are the only worship songs we should have. He says, "By all means write new songs. Each generation must do that. But to neglect the church's original hymnbook is, to put it bluntly, crazy." (5). In one of my favorite quotes of the book, Wright goes on to say: "The Psalms offer us a way of joining in a chorus of praise and prayer that has been going on for millennia and across all cultures. Not to try to inhabit them, while continuing to invent non-psalmic "worship" based on our own feelings of the moment, risks being like a spoiled child who, taken to the summit of Table Mountain with the city and the ocean spread out before him, refuses to gaze at the view because he is playing with his Game Boy." (6). Wright's overarching thesis in this book is that the Psalms have, by and large, been neglected both in the private devotion of the Christian and in the corporate gathering of the church. This book, he says, is his personal plea to attempt to reverse those trends. After introducing his thesis, Wright lays out the remaining chapters by showing what exactly the Psalms accomplish and why we should care about them. He says, "The Psalms invite their singers, as they always have, to live at the crossroads of time, space, and matter. This book explores what happens at this crossing point " or rather, these crossing points." (20).

NT Wright has a unique ability to write on many levels. Wright is able to write to the academic and the lay person alike. Wright's specialty is within the New Testament, so I was curious as to how

he would approach a subject like the Psalms. Even though the book has six chapters, I believe it can be divided into three parts: a case for the use of the Psalms in the church and in oneâ™s daily life, the purpose of the psalms, and Wrightâ™s personal experience with the Psalms. Wright begins and ends the book in similar fashion explaining how if one were to ask him to think about how the Psalms or which Psalm has most deeply impacted his life is like asking him about a time when he was breathing. A person cannot recall a particular time he was breathing, but he is certain that he is always doing so. Wright then explains how he can recall particular Psalms which played an important role in his life. The most significant thing which I took away from the book was Wrightâ™s explanation of how the Psalms bring the church into Godâ™s space and Godâ™s time. I am going to spend the rest of my review explaining this crucial concept and what exactly it means. To understand this idea, it is helpful to begin by looking at Moses at Mount Sinai. When Moses went up to the mountain, God spoke the Law to him. At this event we see Godâ™s space invading manâ™s space. One may think of Mount Sinai as Godâ™s universe or Godâ™s kingdom invading our kingdom. For a brief period of time the two universes intersect. This may seem more like a Fringe event, than what a person is used to when reading scripture, but Wright makes a good case for such a reading. When we pray âœthy kingdom come on earth as it is in heavenâ• this is the very thing in which we are praying for.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

From Zero to Sixty on Hedge Funds and Private Equity 3.0: What They Do, How They Do It, and Why They Do The Mysterious Things They Do The Case for the Psalms: Why They Are Essential Working: People Talk About What They Do All Day and How They Feel About What They Do Inspire: Psalms: Coloring & Creative Journaling through the Psalms Scooby-Doo Set of 8 Mystery Chapter Books (Haunted Castle ~ Snow Monster ~ Fairground Phantom ~ Spooky Strikeout ~ Case of the Haunted Hound ~ Case of the Living Doll ~ Case of the Spinning Spider ~ The Creepy Camp) Creature Features: Twenty-Five Animals Explain Why They Look the Way They Do Understanding Jehovah's Witnesses: Why They Read the Bible the Way They Do Food and the City: New York's Professional Chefs, Restaurateurs, Line Cooks, Street Vendors, and Purveyors Talk About What They Do and Why They Do It The Tree: A Natural History of What Trees Are, How They Live, and Why They Matter The Economist Guide to Financial Markets (6th Ed): Why they exist and how they work (Economist Books) Angels: Who They Are, What They Do, and Why It Matters Gods Generals: Why They Succeeded And Why Some Fail The Brain Audit: Why Customers Buy (And Why They Don't) The Faith: What Christians Believe, Why They Believe It, and Why It Matters The Case for Bitcoin: Why JPMorgan CEO Jamie Dimon Is Dead Wrong - And Why Bitcoin Is the Greatest 'Store

of Value' Ever Invented in Human History! How to Think Like A Horse: The Essential Handbook for Understanding Why Horses Do What They Do Essential Case Studies In Public Health: Putting Public Health into Practice (Essential Public Health) Soccernomics: Why England Loses, Why Spain, Germany, and Brazil Win, and Why the U.S., Japan, Australia—and Even Iraq—Are Destined to Become the Kings of the World’s Most Popular Sport Soccernomics: Why England Loses, Why Spain, Germany, and Brazil Win, and Why the U.S., Japan, Australia—and Even Iraq—Are Destined to Become the Kings of the World's Most Popular Sport Where Are They Buried?: How Did They Die? Fitting Ends and Final Resting Places of the Famous, Infamous, and Noteworthy

[Dmca](#)