

# Treasure Hunt

- How do Psalms 49-52 relate to the Messianic king of 45-48?
- How do Psalms 49 and 50 differ in their audience?
- What is the riddle in Psalm 49?
- How do the two statements of the riddle differ?
- What is the answer to the riddle?
- Who was Asaph, the author of Psalm 50?
- Why does God call the heaven and earth in 50:4?
- What error do some people make about sacrifice?
- What is the right purpose of sacrifice?
- What error do some people make about God's covenant?

# Book 2, Communication (Robertson)

Book 2, 42-72: Communication	
42-44, Introduction: National Defeat	} 42-49, Korah
45-48, Kingship Established 45, Messiah's Dynasty Founded 46-48, Elohim's Support Promised	
49-52, Judicial Exchange 49-50, Summons 51-52, Response	
53-60 Specific Enemies	} 51-71, David
61-68, Dialog of the Kings 61-64, Cry of the King 65-68, Elohim's Response	
69-71, Committing Judgment to God	
72, Messiah's Victorious Rule	} 72, Solomon

# Structure of Psalm 49

Psalm 49, A Riddle about the Meaning of Life

1-4, Summons to Hear a Riddle

5-12, First Statement of the Riddle

5, Wherefore should I **fear**?

6-11, Futility of **Wealth**

12, **Refrain**: The Riddle: Death

13-15, Answer to the Riddle

13, The Fate of the Wicked

14-15, The Benefit of the Righteous

16-20, Second Statement of the Riddle

16, Be not thou **afraid**

17-19, Futility of **Wealth**

20, **Refrain**: The Riddle: Understanding

“Dark saying” = הידה  
Strong 2420 “riddle”

Jdg 14:14 Out of the eater came forth meat, and out of the strong came forth sweetness.

2Pe 2:9 The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: ... 12 But these, **as natural brute beasts**, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things **that they understand not** (v. 20); and shall **utterly perish** (v. 12) in their own corruption;

# Parallelism in 49:14-15

	The doom of the godless	The blessing of the righteous
First Cycle	14a Like sheep they are laid in the grave; <b>death shall feed on them;</b>	14b and the <b>upright</b> shall have dominion over them <b>in the morning;</b>
Second Cycle	14c and their beauty shall <b>consume in the grave</b> from their dwelling [contrast v. 11].	15 But God will <b>redeem my soul from the power of the grave:</b> for he shall receive me [contrast vv. 7-8].

**Riddle:** Why is man, for all his wealth, no better than the beasts, in longevity or understanding?

**Answer:** He is better, if he trusts in God rather than his wealth to redeem him.

# Structure of Psalm 50, “A Psalm of Asaph”

Psalm 50, God Judges his People

1-6, Declaration of the Lawsuit  
5, **Covenant** and **Sacrifice**

7-14, To the faithful: worship is ...  
7-13, ... not **sacrifice** ...  
14-15, ... but thanksgiving and praise

16-23, To the wicked: need to obey  
16-21, Presuming on the **covenant**  
22-23, Offer praise and obey

1Ch 15:16 And David spake to the chief of the Levites to appoint their brethren to be the singers ... 19 So the singers, Heman, **Asaph**, and Ethan, were appointed to sound with cymbals of brass;

2Ch 29:30 Moreover Hezekiah the king and the princes commanded the Levites to sing praise unto the LORD with the words of David, and of **Asaph the seer.**

# References for 50:1-6

2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath **shined**.

Deu 33:2 And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; **he shined forth** from mount Paran, and he came with ten thousands of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them.

3 Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a **fire** shall devour before him, and it shall be very **tempestuous** round about him.

Ps 18:12 At the brightness that was before him his **thick clouds** passed, hail stones and **coals of fire**. 13 The LORD also **thundered** in the heavens, and the Highest gave his voice; hail stones and **coals of fire**. 14 Yea, he sent out his arrows, and scattered them; and he shot out **lightnings**, and discomfited them.

4 He shall call to the heavens ~~from~~ above, and to the earth, that he may **judge his people**.

1Pe 4:17 For the time is come that **judgment must begin at the house of God**: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

**6 And the heavens shall declare his righteousness:**

Eph 3:10 To the intent that now **unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places** might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,

# Two Charges in Psalm 50

	7-15	16-23
5 A <b>covenant</b> by <b>sacrifice</b>	8 <b>sacrifices</b> , burnt offerings	16 my <b>covenant</b>
Reproof?	8 I <b>will not reprove</b> thee	21 I <b>will reprove</b> thee
Relation to decalogue	Commandments 1-4 (Love God)	Commandments 5-10 (Love Neighbor)

**22 Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver.**

Mat 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.