



## PART 4: ONE SONG

The history of David (and of Israel) is not simply a tale of power and conflict but concerns the enactment of Yahweh's sovereignty.

-- Walter Brueggemann, *First and Second Samuel*

The incorporation of human kingship into the structure of Israel's theocracy created the potential for the monarchy to eclipse Israel's continued recognition of Yahweh as her divine king.

-- J. Robert Vannoy, *1-2 Samuel*,  
*Cornerstone Biblical Commentary*

The original storyteller selects a psalm and sets it into the story at this summing-up moment in David's life, a valedictory psalm.

-- Eugene H. Peterson, *First and Second Samuel*

Although the Psalms contain many "messages" of a historical, theological, and practical nature, their primary message is that God is great and God is good.

-- Gerald H. Wilson, *1 and 2 Samuel*  
*The NIV Application Commentary*

I just do what I do. I like to make music.

-- Neil Young

This vivid, spontaneous poem sustains to the very end its feeling of exultation at all that the Lord has done.

-- Joyce G. Baldwin, *1 and 2 Samuel*  
*Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries*

The Psalmist in telling everyone to praise God are doing what all men do when they speak of what they care about.

-- C.S. Lewis, *Reflection on the Psalms*

The understanding that every human king who sat on the throne in Israel was not autonomous in his authority but acted in the role of a vice-regent of Yahweh was foundational to the way in which the monarchy was intended to function in Israel.

-- J. Robert Vannoy, *1-2 Samuel*  
*Cornerstone Biblical Commentary*

If the Psalms have been a source of spiritual instruction and consolation for many seekers, they have also filled others with discomfort and bewilderment. There is an untidiness, a turbulence, and undertow of mystery in these ancient prayers.

-- John S. Mogabgab – taken from *The Bible Jesus Read*

A song will outlive all sermons in the memory.

-- Henry Giles, Lecturer/Clergyman, 1800's

This is a most exuberant prayer. Nothing David prayed gathers more of his life together in one place than does this psalm.

-- Eugene H. Peterson, *First and Second Samuel*