

# Table of Contents

Preface .....	11
Chapter I: The Torah Question at the End of the Psalter .....	15
General Introduction.....	15
1. The Problem, Method, Organisation and Limitations of the Study .....	16
1.1 The Problem of Torah in the Fifth Book of the Psalter.....	16
1.1.1 Review of Relevant Literature .....	17
1.2 Methodology.....	22
1.2.1 Torah in the Individual Psalm.....	22
1.2.2 Torah, Psalms and the Context of the MT Psalter .....	27
1.3 The Organisation of the Study.....	31
1.4 Limitations to the Study .....	32
Chapter II: Psalms 111 and 147 and the Theme of Torah.....	33
Introduction .....	33
1. Part I: The Torah Theme in Ps 111 and in the Sequence	
Pss 111–112.....	33
1.1 Psalm 111: A Torah Psalm? .....	33
1.2 A Translation .....	34
1.3 The Structure of Ps 111 .....	35
1.3.1 Stanza I (vv. 1–3).....	36
1.3.2 Stanza II (vv. 4–6).....	37
1.3.3 Stanza III (vv. 7–9) .....	38
1.3.4 Stanza IV (v. 10).....	40
1.4 The Theme of Torah in Ps 111 .....	40
1.4.1 Stanza II (vv. 4–6): Torah and the Remembrance of YHWH's Gifts in History .....	41
1.4.2 Stanza III (vv. 7–9): YHWH's commands (פְּקִדָּה) .....	46
1.4.3 Summary of Thematic Movement in Strophes IIa – IIIb (vv. 4–9).....	51
1.4.4 The Sapiential Dimension to Torah in Ps 111.....	52

1.5	Psalm 111 in its Context in the Fifth Book of the Psalter.....	54
1.5.1	The “Twin-Psalms” 111–112 .....	55
1.5.2	The Torah Theme in Pss 111–112 .....	57
2.	Part II: The Torah Theme in Ps 147 and in the Sequence	
	Pss 146–150.....	58
2.1	Structure, Thematic Questions and Torah in Ps 147 .....	58
2.2	A Translation .....	60
2.3	The Structure of Psalm 147 .....	62
2.3.1	Stanza I (vv. 1–6).....	63
2.3.2	Stanza II (vv. 7–11).....	66
2.3.3	Stanza III (vv. 12–20) .....	68
2.4	The Torah Theme in Ps 147.....	71
2.4.1	The Sending of the Word into the Cosmos (vv. 15–18) .....	71
2.4.2	The Revelation of the Word to Israel (vv. 19–20) .....	79
2.5	Ps 147 in the Context of Pss 146–150 .....	85
2.5.1	Torah in the Context of the Final Hallel (Pss 146–150).....	91
	Conclusion .....	92
	Chapter III: Psalm 119 and the Theme of Torah .....	95
	Introduction.....	95
1.	Part I: The Thematic Coherence of Ps 119 .....	95
1.1	A Translation .....	95
1.2	Previous Studies on the Structure of Ps 119 .....	101
1.2.1	Acrostic Based Structure.....	102
1.2.2	Structure Based on Other Considerations.....	103
1.3	The Eight Torah Terms and the Question of Structural Unity in Ps 119.....	106
1.4	The Thematic Structure of Ps 119 .....	108
1.4.1	Stanza I (vv. 1–8): The Two Ways.....	108
1.4.2	Stanza II (vv. 9–16): The Dilemma of the Young Man’s Way .....	112

1.4.3	Summary: Stanzas I–II (vv. 1–16) as the Introduction to Psalm 119.....	117
1.4.4	Stanza III (vv. 17–24): YHWH’s Servant and his Adversaries .....	118
1.4.5	Stanza IV (vv. 25–32): The Choice of the Way of Torah .....	126
1.4.6	Stanza V (vv. 33–40): YHWH’s Instruction and the Psalmist’s Decision .....	130
1.4.7	Stanza VI (vv. 41–48): Covenant Faithfulness Despite Adversaries .....	136
1.4.8	Summary: The Coherence of Canto 2 (Stanzas III–VI) .....	142
1.4.9	Stanza VII (vv. 49–56): Remembrance of YHWH’s Faithfulness.....	145
1.4.10	Stanza VIII (vv. 57–64): The Return to YHWH’s Torah .....	154
1.4.11	Stanza IX (vv. 65–72): Confession of Error and Chastisement.....	162
1.4.12	Stanza X (vv. 73–80): YHWH’s Mercy and Justice.....	168
1.4.13	Stanza XI (vv. 81–88): Suffering and YHWH’s Faithfulness.....	175
1.4.14	Summary: The Coherence of Canto 3 (Stanzas VII–XI).....	181
1.4.15	Stanza XII (vv. 89–96): The Stability of YHWH’s Torah.....	189
1.4.16	Stanza XIII (vv. 97–104): Primacy and Desirability of Torah.....	197
1.4.17	Stanza XIV (vv. 105–112): The Oath and the Verbal Sacrifice.....	202
1.4.18	Stanza XV (vv. 113–120): Rejection of Evil and Evildoers .....	210
1.4.19	Stanza XVI (vv. 121–128): Re-establishing Faithfulness to YHWH’s Covenant .....	215
1.4.20	Summary: The Coherence of Canto 4 (Stanzas XII–XVI) .....	220
1.4.21	The Relationship between Stanzas IX (vv. 65–72) and XIV (vv. 105–112).....	227

1.4.22	Stanza XVII (vv. 129–136): Torah and YHWH's Covenant Wonders.....	232
1.4.23	Stanza XVIII (vv. 137–144): YHWH's Righteousness and his Just Torah .....	237
1.4.24	Stanza XIX (vv. 145–152): Cry for YHWH's Deliverance .....	241
1.4.25	Stanza XX (vv. 153–160): The Quintessence of Torah .....	247
1.4.26	Summary: The Coherence of Canto 5 (Stanzas XVII–XX) .....	251
1.4.27	Thematic Correspondences between Cantos 2 and 5.....	257
1.4.28	Stanza XXI (vv. 161–168): Peace and Praise for Torah Lovers.....	258
1.4.29	Stanza XXII (vv. 169–176): Praise of YHWH and the Straying of his Servant.....	265
1.4.30	Summary: The Coherence of Canto 6 (Stanzas XXI–XXII).....	269
1.4.31	Thematic Correspondences between Cantos 1 and 6.....	272
1.4.32	A Résumé of the Thematic Movement in Ps 119 .....	274
1.5	General Conclusory Observations on Ps 119.....	276
1.5.1	Wisdom in Psalm 119?.....	276
1.5.2	The Identity of the “Praying I” in Ps 119 .....	279
1.5.3	The Psalmist as פָּתִי in Ps 119 .....	281
1.5.4	The Adversaries in Ps 119 .....	282
1.5.5	The Absence of the Term בְּרִית in Ps 119.....	284
2.	Part II: Ps 119 in the Context of the Fifth Book of the Psalter.....	285
2.1	Ps 119 and the Structure of the Fifth Book .....	285
2.1.1	Ps 119 and the Frame of the Fifth Book .....	287
2.1.2	Ps 119 and the Davidic Frame (Pss 108–110; 138–145).....	292
2.1.3	Ps 119 and the two “Psalm pairs” (Pss 111–112; 135–136).....	293
2.1.4	The Collocation of Ps 137.....	294
2.1.5	Ps 119 and the “Liturgical Psalms” (Pss 113–118; 120–134).....	295
	Conclusion.....	302

Chapter IV: Returning to YHWH's Torah.....	303
General Conclusion.....	303
1. Synthesis of Findings.....	303
1.1 Pss 111 and 147 in the Context of the Fifth Book .....	303
1.2 The Thematic Coherence of Ps 119 and its Place in the Fifth Book .....	305
1.2.1 The Thematic Coherence of Ps 119 .....	306
1.2.2 Ps 119 in the Fifth Book.....	307
1.3 “Converti pedes meos ad testimonia tua” (Ps 119,59).....	308
 Symbols and Abbreviations.....	 309
 Bibliography.....	 317
 Index of Authors .....	 343
 Subject Index .....	 351
 Index of Selected Biblical References .....	 359