



BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

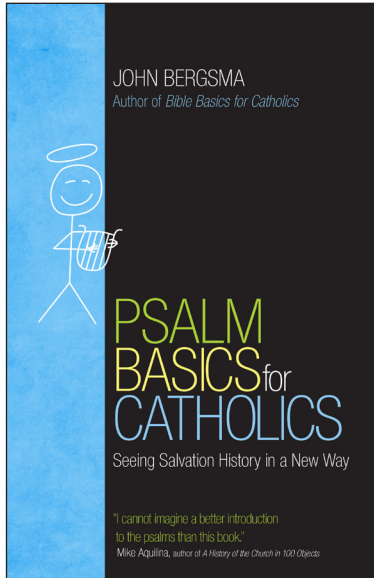
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Psalm Basics for Catholics
*Seeing Salvation History
in a New Way*

By John Bergsma

ISBN: 978-1-59471-793-2

160 pages • \$15.95

Also available as an eBook.



BERGSMAS LOOKS AT HOW THE PSALMS FIT INTO THE STORY OF SALVATION

NOTRE DAME, Ind.—In his third back-to-basics look at the Bible, popular theology professor and bestselling Catholic author and speaker John Bergsma highlights the presence of Jesus in the psalms and helps us understand their meaning in light of the story of salvation.

Bergsma employs the same conversational style and simple illustrations found in *Bible Basics for Catholics* and *New Testament Basics for Catholics* to help bridge the gap between the world of contemporary Catholics and the ancient world of the Bible.

In *Psalm Basics for Catholics*, John Bergsma introduces us to King David, the story of Israel, and the salvation of the Jewish people through the coming of Jesus.

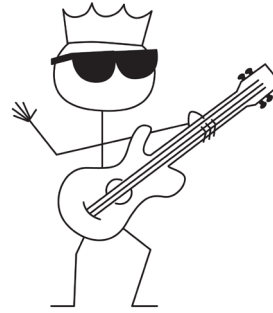
For more than two thousand years, Christians have sung, chanted, and prayed the psalms, a practice of worship inherited from our Jewish ancestors in faith. Whether prayed during Mass, the Liturgy of the Hours, or in personal reflection, these ancient hymns continue to be a guiding light for Catholics. Yet rarely do we step back and look at how the psalms fit into the story of salvation revealed in the Bible the way Bergsma does here.

Bergsma also addresses common questions about the psalms, including

- Do the psalms really predict Jesus?
- What do we make of the so-called curse psalms?
- Why do we pray the psalms in the Liturgy of the Hours?
- How do I read and pray the psalms?

Bergsma's insightful, practical examination of the psalms helps Catholics see how their promise is fulfilled in Christ.

Bible Basics for Catholics and *New Testament Basics for Catholics* have sold more than 80,000 copies combined.



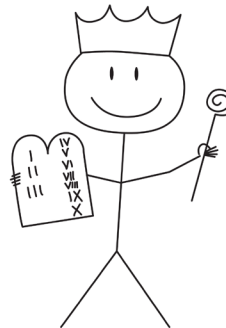
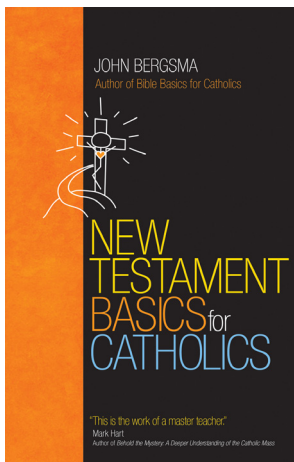
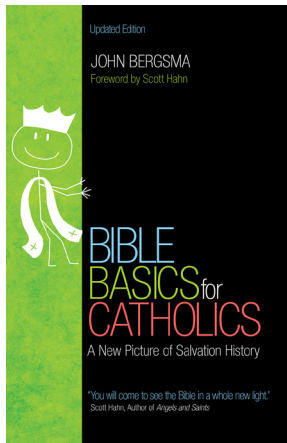
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John Bergsma is a theology professor at the Franciscan University of Steubenville. He served as a Protestant pastor for four years before entering the Catholic Church in 2001 while pursuing a doctorate specializing in the Old Testament and the Dead Sea Scrolls from the University of Notre Dame.



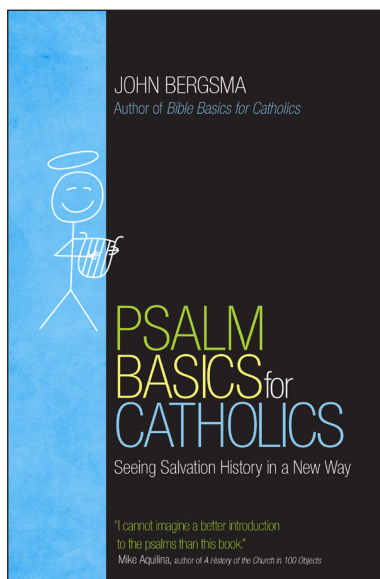
In addition to teaching scripture at Franciscan, Bergsma is a frequent guest on Relevant Radio's *Drew Mariani Show* and Sacred Heart Radio's *Son Rise Morning Show*. He speaks regularly at conferences and parishes nationwide. Bergsma has written for numerous academic and popular publications, including *Bible Basics for Catholics*, *New Testament Basics for Catholics*, and *A Catholic Introduction to the Bible: Old Testament*.

He and his wife, Dawn, live with their children in Steubenville, Ohio.



“The whole collection of 150 psalms is far and away the most popular poetry collection ever published in world history. It has been translated into almost every human language. The Catholic Church and other Christian churches use these poems daily in worship and prayer. Psalms is, in fact, the only book of the Bible usually read at almost every Mass. So this book is a little introduction to the greatest book of poetry, ever.”

Excerpt from *Psalm Basics for Catholics*



PRAISE FOR *PSALM BASICS FOR CATHOLICS*

"I cannot imagine a better introduction to the psalms than this book. Dr. Bergsma does for the Bible's most beloved book what he has done elsewhere for the Bible as a whole. He has made the psalms more understandable, more singable, and even more lovable than before."

Mike Aquilina

Author of *A History of the Church in 100 Objects*

"In this easy-to-read but extremely informative introduction to the psalms, John Bergsma takes you on a guided tour of the book that the *Catechism* calls 'the masterwork of prayer.' If you really want to learn how to pray with the heart and mind of Christ, then *Psalm Basics for Catholics* is for you."

Brant Pitre

Professor of Sacred Scripture at Notre Dame Seminary
Author of *The Case for Jesus*

Psalm Basics for Catholics
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in a New Way

By **John Bergsma**

ISBN: 978-1-59471-793-2

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"The faithful have both embraced and wrestled with the psalms for centuries. There is something comforting about them, yet when read together as a whole, the Psalter can seem overwhelming and confusing. Bergsma makes this daunting book imminently accessible. From background to authorship to content, *Psalm Basics for Catholics* provides the tools that everyday Catholics need to grasp these ancient texts."

Scott Powell

Director of the Aquinas Institute for Catholic Thought

"Just as the psalms are said to be the Old Testament's 'masterwork of prayer,' Dr. Bergsma offers us a masterwork of the psalms."

Sonja Corbitt

Author of *Unleashed*

SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS:

1. Why take on the Psalms as the next book in the Bible Basics series?
2. Why do are the Psalms read at almost every Mass? What makes them so important?
3. What is the most important thing you want readers to walk away with from *Psalm Basics for Catholics*?
4. Is there a right or wrong way to study the Psalms?