An Example of Biblical Theology: Psalm 42

I. Understanding Psalm 42.

A. The central focus of these verses is thirsting for God—what does that mean?

i. A desire to be in God's presence, not in general, but in the _____.

II. Making Biblical Theological Connections

A. First, we can consider the _____—who is this about, and when?

i. The title says it was written by the Sons of Korah, who were appointed by _____

ii. So, this was most likely written during the time of _____, and likely about him.

B. Second, we can look back in _____, to see how this applies to us.

i. When God created mankind, he placed Adam in a _____ as a _____.

ii. The inside of the temple and tabernacle was covered in _____ imagery.

iii. The entrance to the most holy place was guarded by _____, just like Eden.

iv. God placed Adam in the garden to minister & guard it, like the Levitical _____.

v. Other passages describe Eden as God's mountain-temple (a true Olympus).

C. Now, back to Ps 42: what does thirsting for God's presence have to do with Eden?

i. When Adam & Eve sinned, they were _____ from Eden.

ii. So, after the fall, all humans are separated from God's glorious presence.

iii. And God placed a _____ with a flaming sword to guard the entrance.

iv. How then can we drink from the living waters of God's presence?

D. To answer that question, we need to look forward in redemptive history.

i. Ezekiel 47:1–12: a _____flows out of the temple of God.

E. Now, turning to Revelation 22, which picks up on Ezekiel's vision.

i. Ezekiel used _____ imagery to communicate New Covenant realities.

ii. But again, life-giving water flows out of _____ in the heavenly city.

iii. Our thirst won't be fully quenched until we're restored in the New Creation.

iv. But how can we enter into the New Creation to quench our thirst?

III. Connecting Psalm 42 to Jesus's Work of Redemption

A. The goal of Biblical Theology is to connect a passage to Christ.

i. First, in John 4 Jesus speaks to a Samaritan woman at a well about living water.

ii. Jesus reveals that he is the one who _____

B. Second, Jesus clarifies what he means in John 7, during the Feast of Boothes.

i. During this 7-day feast, the Jews would sleep in _____ and perform water rituals.

1. This was to commemorate God's provision for Israel in the wilderness.

2. And it was a prayer for good rain during the harvest.

ii. With that in mind, let's read John 7:37–39.

1. We drink from Jesus's living water by _____ in him!

2. The living water that he gives to quench our thirst is the _____!

C. This makes sense of Psalm 42: our souls are thirsty for God's presence in the temple.

i. The _____ will quench your thirst for God's presence because he is God, and it was his glorious presence that filled the temple.

D. But this doesn't mean that we will never have seasons of _____.

i. Even as believers, we should still pray and sing Ps 42 as our own, seek God's face continually, and hope for the river of the water of life in the New Creation.