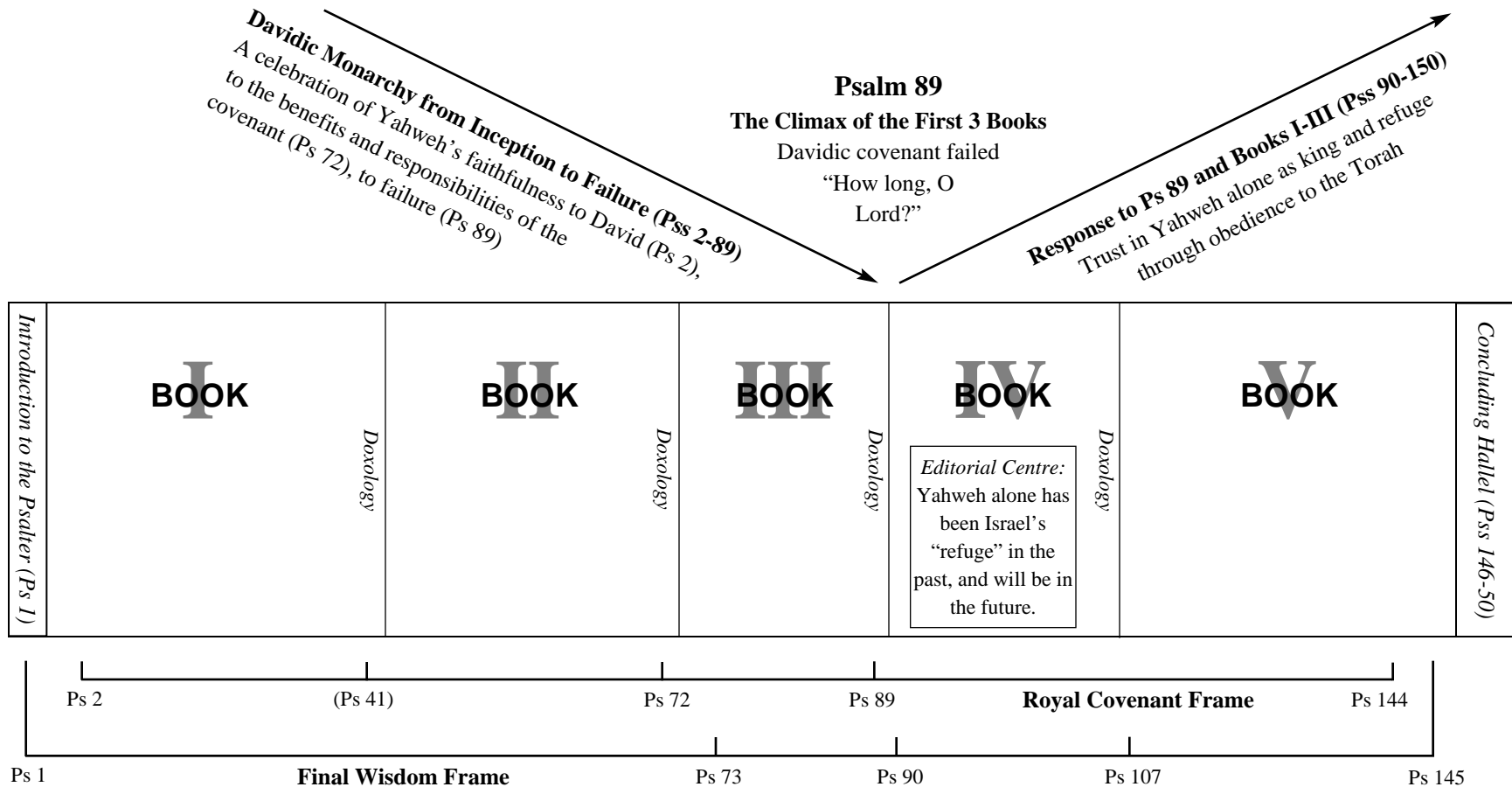


# The Shape of the Book of Psalms†



## First Editorial Stage (Pss 2-89)

- Made up of primarily titled psalms
- Organized primarily by authorship & genre designations
- Royal psalms placed at the seams of the collections
- Qumran evidence: relatively stable before 1st century BCE

## Second Editorial Stage (Pss 1, 90-150)

- Made up of primarily untitled psalms
- Organized by sequences of *hllwhy* conclusions and *hwdw* introductions
- Qumran evidence: fluid until the 1st century CE
- Editing precipitated by the first Jewish war (66-70) and Yavneh

† Prepared by Tyler F. Williams (1999). Sources: Gerald H. Wilson, "Shaping the Psalter: A Consideration of Editorial Linkage in the Book of Psalms," *The Shape and Shaping of the Psalter* (JSOTSup 159; Ed. J. C. McCann; Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1993) 72-82; "The Shape of the Book of Psalms," *Int* 46.2 (1992) 129-42; "A First Century C.E. Date for the Closing of the Hebrew Psalter?," *Haim M. I. Gevarjahu Memorial Volume* (Ed. J. J. Adler; Jerusalem: World Jewish Bible Center, 1990) 2.136-43; "The Use of Royal Psalms at the 'Seams' of the Hebrew Psalter," *JSOT* 35 (1986) 85-94; *The Editing of the Hebrew Psalter* (SBLDS 76 Chico, California: Scholars Press, 1985); and "Editorial Divisions in the Hebrew Psalter," *VT* 34 (1984) 337-52.