

Nehemiah 10:28 includes singers with other Temple personnel.

-Thus David, at the command of the Lord, established psalmody in Israel. It continued throughout the OT period, or at least was restored when revivals took place. Music was a vital part of worship in Israel.

-This model fits with the Psalm titles (as part of the text), which are notes to the director indicating:  
The type of Psalm (hymn, anthem, etc.),  
Which tune is to be used,  
Who is to sing it (Psa. 45 is sung by virgins).  
*- occasion of writing -*  
*- author*

3. Principles deduced from Psalmody in Israel which are applicable to church music today:

- a. Music is rendered by the Lord's people, who are to be holy.
- b. Women do have a part in the music, although men should be predominant.
- c. Instruments are used, but are intended to glorify God, not to bring attention to themselves as soloists.
- d. Only proficient, trained musicians can perform.
- e. Musicians should be supported by the Lord's people so they have the time to prepare the best material [Singers were Levites].
- f. Music is highly organized in an order of service (everyone knows where to stand, when to sing).
- g. The purpose of the music is to praise and thank God, or to commemorate a past event; it is not intended as entertainment.

C. The Title of the (Entire) Book of Psalms.

1. The Hebrew Title.

The Hebrew title is  $\text{שִׁירֵי דָוִד}$  which means "praises" or "songs of praise." It comes from the Hebrew word  $\text{שִׁיר}$  which means "praise" or "song of praise."

- Because of this and the fact that many psalms are didactic or sorrowful, some think it is not a good title for the book.
- But even these psalms show how great God is and that He is worthy of praise.