

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

People pass through this life by using sacred text as direction and guidance. Sacred text consists of life direction and guidance from God for Its followers. One of sacred texts is Bible. Bible is a kind of sacred text of Christians. Bible is a collection of sacred text of both Judaism and Christianity.

The writer is greatly interested in doing the analysis dealing with expressive utterances in one of chapters in Old Testament called Psalms because of the following reasons. The first, it is the longest chapter in both of Old and New Testament. Besides, it is the most expressive chapter of all because it describes people's deepest feeling about the needs to praise and worship God. Then, it feels so special among others because from 150 verses, it is divided into 5 groups based on the fact that it was originally not collected but for the first time of David's effort to collect them into a group. It is a topic that would be interesting to be analyzed because there are a lot of messages contained in Bible that is certainly becomes a guideline in the course of Christians' live in this world.

The writer found some utterances; some of them are expressive utterances. The following are the examples of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament:

- (1) For the music director; by the Lord's servant David, who sang to the Lord the words of this song when the Lord rescued him from the power of all his enemies, including Saul. He said: **"I love you, Lord, my source of strength!"** (Psalms, 18: 1)

The utterance "I love you, Lord, my source of strength!" is using expressive utterance. The utterance "I love you, Lord, my source of strength!" is the speaker's statement implies affection feeling that is uttered by the sentence

“I love you, Lord, my source of strength!” The intention of the utterance is to show the speaker’s affection feeling. Meanwhile, the addressee of the speaker’s statement is Lord, so the intention is to convey the speaker’s great affection to Lord or his praising to Lord. It can be recognized easily as praising speech act because the speaker uses utterance “I love you”.

- (2) A psalm of David, written when he fled from his son Absalom. Lord how numerous are my enemies! Many attack me. Many say about me, “God will not deliver him”. **But You, Lord, are a shield that protects me**; you are my glory and the one who restores me. (Psalms, 3: 3)

The statement above shows that the speaker is David. It portrays a description when David fled from his son Absalom. Through this verse, David states that Lord is the one who can save him. David describes Lord as a shield that protects him from any enemies because there are many people who want to attack him. The intention of the utterance is to praise the Lord because He has saved David’s life from a number of David’s enemies. So, it can be recognized as praising speech act because the speaker’s intention is to praise what his addressee has been done to him.

- (3) For the music director, according to the gittith style; a psalm of David. **O Lord, our Lord, how magnificent is your reputation throughout the earth!** You reveal your majesty in the heavens above! (Psalms, 8: 1)

The statement above is about the speaker’s admiration toward the addressee. From the previous statement, it can be concluded that the speaker is David and certainly the addressee is the Lord. David praises the Lord’s lofty reputation throughout the world. The Lord’s name is magnificent both in the world and in the heaven. So, the intention is praising the Lord because the Lord is lofty, magnificent and exalted.

From the simple example above, it can be concluded that there are a lot of meanings in Psalms of Old Testament that need to be understood by

Christians. Both Old and New Testament are guideline and instruction in congregational life and society.

There are many ways used by people to reveal their feeling, either in real action or utterance. People prefer using utterance to express their feeling to others. Communication clearly depends on not only recognizing the meaning of words in an utterance, but recognizing what speakers mean by their utterances. Utterance is very important in communication to present what the speaker's intention to the hearer and it is the physical production of linguistic behavior. An utterance is an act of speech or writing; it is a specific event, at a particular time and place. It involves at least one person, the one who produces the utterance, but usually more than one person.

Pragmatics focuses on the study of meaning as intended by the speaker's need. In studying pragmatics, people are familiar with speech act. Speech act is the action performed by a speaker with an utterance. We use the term speech act to describe actions such as requesting, commanding, questioning, or informing. Speech acts are divided into five classes: declarative, representative, expressive, commissive, and directive.

The speakers express their feeling by making their words fit with their internal psychological world which is generally known as expressive utterances. Expressive utterance belongs to adjective, which shows your feelings or thought. Thus, expressive utterance is a kind of speech acts based on psychological states and relate to the expression of feelings or emotions towards the hearer.

This research is different from the other researches in this topic. Dealing with this research, there are not found any researches related to analysis of expressive speech act in viewed from pragmatics perspective. The following are examples of several previous researches that have been done by the earlier researchers:

- (1) Raharjo (2015), a student of Sebelas Maret University, conducts a research entitled "An Analysis of Expressive Utterances Produced by the Characters in the Movie Entitled *Spongebob Squarepants: A Pragmatics Study*". The result of the research shows that there are four

types of sentence of expressive utterances that are employed in Spongebob Squarepants movie transcript, that is, ellipsis (19 utterances), declaratives (13 utterances), interrogatives (1 utterance), and imperatives (4 utterances); (2) there are six notions of expressive utterances found in the Spongebob Squarepants movie transcript, that is, surprise (2 utterances), happiness (14 utterances), anger (6 utterances), apologize (5 utterances), congratulate (1 utterance), and thanks (7 utterances).

- (2) Ratnasari (2012), a student of Sebelas Maret University, has been done a research entitled “The Analysis of Searle’s Expressive Speech Acts Operating in “Changeling” (Pragmatics Study in the Film)”. From the result of the data analysis, there are five types of expressive speech acts employed by the characters in the movie “Changeling”. They are apologizing, blaming, congratulating, praising, and thanking.

From those two examples, it seems that the earlier researchers dealing with expressive speech acts used movie transcript as the object and the source of data. As far as the writer explores, basically there have not found yet a research dealing with expressive speech act conducted in Bible especially Psalms of Old Testament. So, the writer hopes that this research is expected to fill the void of the previous researches.

B. Focus of the Study

The focus of the study is “Expressive Utterances in the Psalms Of Old Testament: A Pragmatics Perspective”. The focus is broken into two sub focuses as follows:

1. What is the syntactic form of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament?
2. What is the intention of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament?

C. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem focus of the study above, the writer intends to:

1. identify the syntactic form of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament.
2. find out the intention of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament.

D. Benefit of the Study

Every research should be useful for others; at least it will make a positive contribution for their surroundings. This research tries to contribute the following benefits:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The writer hopes that this research can give a clear understanding about speech act especially expressive utterances and enrich the linguistics studies. The findings of this research can give some contributions in development of pragmatics study. The writer also gets deep understanding of expressive utterances in the process of analyzing data.

2. Practical Benefit

a. English Teachers

The result of this research can be useful for additional information that can be applied by English teachers in teaching and practicing Pragmatics.

b. Christians and Bible Readers

This research can give more information about how to employ expressive utterances in certain context and situation.

c. Future Researchers

This research is expected to be one of the references for other researchers who are interested in conducting the research in the same area of study.