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Psalms

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PSALMS



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PSALMS

BOOK I (Psalms 1–41)

Psalm 1

- ¹The truly happy person
doesn't follow wicked advice,
doesn't stand on the road of sinners,
and doesn't sit with the disrespectful.
- ²Instead of doing those things,
these persons
love the LORD's Instruction,
and they recite God's Instruction
day and night!
- ³They are like a tree
replanted by streams of water,
which bears fruit at just the right time
and whose leaves don't fade.
Whatever they do succeeds.
- ⁴That's not true for the wicked!
They are like dust
that the wind blows away.
- ⁵And that's why the wicked
will have no standing
in the court of justice—
neither will sinners
in the assembly of the righteous.
- ⁶The LORD is intimately acquainted
with the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked is destroyed.

Psalm 2

- ¹Why do the nations rant?
Why do the peoples rave uselessly?
- ²The earth's rulers take their stand;
the leaders scheme together
against the LORD and
against his anointed one.
- ³"Come!" they say.
"We will tear off their ropes
and throw off their chains!"
- ⁴The one who rules in heaven laughs;
my Lord makes fun of them.
- ⁵But then God speaks to them angrily;
then he terrifies them with his fury:

⁶"I hereby appoint my king on Zion,
my holy mountain!"

- ⁷I will announce the LORD's decision:
He said to me, "You are my son,
today I have become your father.
- ⁸Just ask me,
and I will make the nations
your possession;
the far corners of the earth
will be your property.
- ⁹You will smash them with an iron rod;
you will shatter them like a pottery jar."
- ¹⁰So kings, wise up!
Be warned, you rulers of the earth!
- ¹¹Serve the LORD reverently—
trembling, ¹²kiss his feet^a
or else he will become angry,
and your way will be destroyed
because his anger ignites in an instant.

But all who take refuge in the LORD
are truly happy!

Psalm 3

*A psalm of David,
when he fled from his son Absalom.*

- ¹LORD, I have so many enemies!
So many are standing against me.
- ²So many are talking about me:
"Even God won't help him." *Selah*^b
- ³But you, LORD, are my shield!
You are my glory!
You are the one who restores me.
- ⁴I cry out loud to the LORD,
and he answers me
from his holy mountain. *Selah*
- ⁵I lie down, sleep, and wake up
because the LORD helps me.
- ⁶I won't be afraid of thousands of people
surrounding me on all sides.
- ⁷Stand up, LORD!
Save me, my God!

^aCorrection; Heb uncertain; MT *rejoice with trembling, kiss the son* (but with *son* in Aram, not Heb) ^bHeb uncertain; probably a musical term

In fact, hit all my enemies on the jaw;
shatter the teeth of the wicked!
⁸Rescue comes from the LORD!
May your blessing be on your people!
Selah

Psalm 4

For the music leader. With stringed instruments. A psalm of David.

¹Answer me when I cry out,
my righteous God!
Set me free from my troubles!
Have mercy on me!
Listen to my prayer!

²How long, you people,
will my reputation be insulted?
How long will you continue
to love what is worthless
and go after lies? *Selah*

³Know this: the LORD takes
personal care of the faithful.
The LORD will hear me
when I cry out to him.

⁴So be afraid, and don't sin!
Think hard about it in your bed
and weep over it! *Selah*

⁵Bring righteous offerings,
and trust the LORD!

⁶Many people say,
"We can't find goodness anywhere.
The light of your face has left us, LORD!"^c

⁷But you have filled my heart with more joy
than when their wheat and wine are
everywhere!

⁸I will lie down and fall asleep in peace
because you alone, LORD,
let me live in safety.

Psalm 5

For the music leader. For the flutes. A psalm of David.

¹Hear my words, LORD!
Consider my groans!
²Pay attention to the sound of my cries,
my king and my God,

because I am praying to you!
³LORD, in the morning you hear my voice.
In the morning I lay it all out before you.
Then I wait expectantly.

⁴Because you aren't a God
who enjoys wickedness;
evil doesn't live with you.

⁵Arrogant people won't last long
in your sight;
you hate all evildoers;

⁶you destroy liars.
The LORD despises people
who are violent and dishonest.

⁷But me? I will enter your house
because of your abundant, faithful love;
I will bow down at your holy temple,
honoring you.

⁸LORD, because my enemies are many,
please lead me in your righteousness.
Make your way clear,
right in front of me.

⁹Because there's no truth
in my enemies' mouths,
all they have inside them is destruction.
Their throats are open graves;
their tongues slick with talk.

¹⁰Condemn them, God!
Let them fail by their own plans.
Throw them out for their many sins
because they've rebelled against you.

¹¹But let all who take refuge in you celebrate.
Let them sing out loud forever!
Protect them
so that all who love your name
can rejoice in you.

¹²Because you, LORD, bless the righteous.
You cover them with favor like a shield.

Psalm 6

For the music leader. On stringed instruments. According to the eighth.^d A psalm of David.

¹Please, LORD,
don't punish me when you are angry;
don't discipline me when you are furious.

⋮
⋮
⋮^cCorrection; MT *Shine the light of your face on us, LORD!* ^dPerhaps a reference to an eight-string instrument;
○ also in Ps 12

- ² Have mercy on me, LORD,
because I'm frail.
Heal me, LORD,
because my bones are shaking in terror!
- ³ My whole body^e is completely terrified!
But you, LORD! How long will this last?
- ⁴ Come back to me, LORD! Deliver me!
Save me for the sake of your faithful love!
- ⁵ No one is going to praise you
when they are dead.
Who gives you thanks
from the grave?^f
- ⁶ I'm worn out from groaning.
Every night, I drench my bed
with tears;
I soak my couch all the way through.
- ⁷ My vision fails because of my grief.
It's all dried up
because of all my enemies.
- ⁸ Get away from me, all you evildoers,
because the LORD has heard me crying!
- ⁹ The LORD has listened to my request.
The LORD accepts my prayer.
- ¹⁰ All my enemies will be ashamed
and completely terrified;
they will be defeated
and ashamed instantly.
- ⁶ Get up, LORD; get angry!
Stand up against the fury of my foes!
Wake up, my God;^h
you command that justice be done!
- ⁷ Let the assembled peoples surround you.
Rule them from on high!ⁱ
- ⁸ The LORD will judge the peoples.
Establish justice for me, LORD,
according to my righteousness
and according to my integrity.
- ⁹ Please let the evil of the wicked be over,
but set the righteous firmly in place
because you, the righteous God,
are the one who examines
hearts and minds.
- ¹⁰ God is my shield;
he saves those whose heart is right.
- ¹¹ God is a righteous judge,
a God who is angry at evil!^j
every single day.
- ¹² If someone doesn't change their ways,
God will sharpen his sword,
will bend his bow,
will string an arrow.
- ¹³ God has deadly weapons in store
for those who won't change;
he gets his flaming arrows ready!
- ¹⁴ But look how the wicked hatch evil,
conceive trouble, give birth to lies!
- ¹⁵ They make a pit, dig it all out,
and then fall right into the hole
that they've made!
- ¹⁶ The trouble they cause
will come back on their own heads;
the violence they commit
will come down on their own skulls.
- ¹⁷ But I will thank the LORD
for his righteousness;
I will sing praises
to the name of the LORD Most High.

Psalms 7

A shiggayon^g of David, which he sang to the LORD about Cush, a Benjaminite.

- ¹ I take refuge in you, LORD, my God.
Save me from all who chase me!
Rescue me!
- ² Otherwise, they will rip me apart,
dragging me off
with no chance of rescue.
- ³ LORD, my God, if I have done this—
if my hands have done
anything wrong,
⁴ if I have repaid a friend with evil
or oppressed a foe for no reason—
⁵ then let my enemy
not only chase but catch me,
trampling my life into the ground,
laying my reputation in the dirt. *Selah*

Psalms 8

For the music leader. According to the Gittite.^k A psalm of David.

- ¹ LORD, our Lord, how majestic
is your name throughout the earth!

^e Or soul; also in 6:4 ^f Heb Sheol ^g Perhaps lament ^h Or for my sake ⁱ Correction; MT Come back to be exalted over
them. ^j Heb lacks at evil. ^k Perhaps the name of an instrument (Tg) or melody. LXX About the winepresses; or
About the Gittite; also in Pss 81 and 84

You made your glory
higher than heaven!¹
²From the mouths of nursing babies
you have laid a strong foundation
because of your foes,
in order to stop vengeful enemies.
³When I look up at your skies,
at what your fingers made—
the moon and the stars
that you set firmly in place—
⁴what are human beings
that you think about them;
what are human beings
that you pay attention to them?
⁵You've made them only slightly
less than divine,
crowning them with glory and grandeur.
⁶You've let them rule
over your handiwork,
putting everything under their feet—
⁷all sheep and all cattle,
the wild animals too,
⁸the birds in the sky,
the fish of the ocean,
everything that travels
the pathways of the sea.
⁹LORD, our Lord, how majestic
is your name throughout the earth!

Psalm 9^m

*For the music leader. According to
Muth-labben.ⁿ A psalm of David.*

⸠ ALEF

¹I will thank you, LORD, with all my heart;
I will talk about all your wonderful acts.
²I will celebrate and rejoice in you;
I will sing praises to your name,
Most High.

⸡ BET

³When my enemies turn and retreat,
they fall down and die
right in front of you
⁴because you have established justice
for me and my claim,

because you rule from the throne,
establishing justice rightly.

⸢ GIMEL

⁵You've denounced the nations,
destroyed the wicked.
You've erased their names for all time.

⸣ DALET

⁶Every enemy is wiped out,
like something ruined forever.
You've torn down their cities—
even the memory of them is dead.

⸤ WAW

⁷But the LORD rules forever!
He assumes his throne
for the sake of justice.
⁸He will establish justice
in the world rightly;
he will judge all people fairly.
⁹The LORD is a safe place
for the oppressed—
a safe place in difficult times.
¹⁰Those who know your name trust you
because you have not abandoned
any who seek you, LORD.

⸥ ZAYIN

¹¹Sing praises to the LORD,
who lives in Zion!
Proclaim his mighty acts
among all people!
¹²Because the one who avenges bloodshed
remembers those who suffer;
the LORD hasn't forgotten
their cries for help.

⸦ KHET

¹³Have mercy on me, LORD!
Just look how I suffer
because of those who hate me.
But you are the one who brings me back
from the very gates of death
¹⁴so I can declare all your praises,
so I can rejoice in your salvation
in the gates of Daughter Zion.

¹Correction; Heb uncertain ^mPs 9 is an alphabetic acrostic poem (cf Ps 119) in Heb, with successive letters
⋮ of the alphabet beginning every few lines, with only a few exceptions. Only ten letters are found in Ps 9; the
⋮ sequence may be continued in Ps 10, suggesting that Pss 9–10 are a single poem. ⁿOr *Almuth labben*; Heb
⊙ uncertain, perhaps a reference to the melody; cf Pss 46:1; 48:14

¹⁷LORD, you listen to the desires
of the suffering.
You steady their hearts;
you listen closely to them,
¹⁸to establish justice
for the orphan and the oppressed,
so that people of the land
will never again be terrified.

Psalm 11

For the music leader. Of David.

¹I have taken refuge in the LORD.
So how can you say to me,^t
“Flee to the hills like a bird
²because the wicked
have already bent their bows;
they’ve already strung their arrows;
they are ready to secretly shoot
those whose heart is right?”
³When the very bottom of things falls out,
what can a righteous person
possibly accomplish?
⁴But the LORD is in his holy temple.
The LORD! His throne is in heaven.
His eyes see—
his vision examines all of humanity.
⁵The LORD examines
both the righteous and the wicked;
his very being^u hates
anyone who loves violence.
⁶God will rain fiery coals and sulfur
on the wicked;
their cups will be filled
with nothing but a scorching hot wind
⁷because the LORD is righteous!
He loves righteous deeds.
Those whose heart is right
will see God’s face.^v

Psalm 12

*For the music leader. According to the
Sheminith.^w A psalm of David.*

¹Help, LORD, because the godly are all gone;
the faithful have completely disappeared
from the human race!

²Everyone tells lies to everyone else;
they talk with slick lips
and divided hearts.
³Let the LORD cut off all slick-talking lips
and every tongue that brags and brags,
⁴that says, “We’re unbeatable
with our tongues!
Who could get the best of us
with lips like ours?”

⁵But the LORD says,
“Because the poor are oppressed,
because of the groans of the needy,
I’m now standing up.
I will provide the help
they are gasping for.”^x
⁶The LORD’s promises are pure,
like silver that’s been refined in an oven,
purified seven times over!
⁷You, LORD, will keep us,^y
protecting us
from this generation forever.
⁸The wicked roam all over the place,
while depravity is praised
by human beings.

Psalm 13

For the music leader. A song of David.

¹How long will you forget me, LORD?
Forever?
How long will you hide your face
from me?
²How long will I be left to my own wits,
agony filling my heart? Daily?
How long will my enemy keep
defeating me?
³Look at me!
Answer me, LORD my God!
Restore sight to my eyes!
Otherwise, I’ll sleep the sleep of death,
“and my enemy will say, “I won!”
My foes will rejoice over my downfall.
⁵But I have trusted in your faithful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.

^tOr *my soul* ^uOr *soul* ^vHeb lacks *heart*, but see 11:2 and Pss 7:10; 32:11; 36:10. ^wPerhaps a reference to an
eight-string instrument; also in Ps 6 ^xHeb uncertain ^yLXX; MT *keep them*

⁶Yes, I will sing to the LORD
because he has been good to me.

Psalm 14

For the music leader. Of David.

¹Fools say in their hearts,
There is no God.
They are corrupt and do evil things;
not one of them does anything good.

²The LORD looks down
from heaven on humans
to see if anyone is wise,
to see if anyone seeks God,
³but all of them have turned bad.
Everyone is corrupt.
No one does good—
not even one person!

⁴Are they dumb, all these evildoers,
devouring my people
like they are eating bread
but never calling on the LORD?

⁵Count on it:² they will be in utter panic
because God is with
the righteous generation.

⁶You evildoers may humiliate
the plans of those who suffer,
but the LORD is their refuge.

⁷Let Israel's salvation come out of Zion!
When the LORD changes
his people's circumstances
for the better,
Jacob will rejoice;
Israel will celebrate!

Psalm 15

A psalm of David.

¹Who can live in your tent, LORD?
Who can dwell on your holy mountain?

²The person who
lives with integrity,
does what is right,
and speaks the truth sincerely;

³who does no damage with their talk,
does no harm to a friend,
doesn't insult a neighbor;
⁴someone who despises
those who act wickedly,
but who honors those
who honor the LORD;
someone who keeps their promise even
when it hurts;
⁵someone who doesn't lend money with
interest,
who won't accept a bribe against any
innocent person.
Whoever does these things
will never stumble.

Psalm 16

A miktam^a of David.

¹Protect me, God,
because I take refuge in you.
²I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord.
Apart from you, I have nothing good."
³Now as for the "holy ones" in the land,
the "magnificent ones"
that I was so happy about;
⁴let their suffering increase because
they hurried after a different god.^b
I won't participate in their blood offerings;
I won't even mention their names
with my lips.
⁵You, LORD, are my possession, my cup;
you control my destiny.
⁶The property lines have fallen
beautifully for me;
yes, I have a lovely home.
⁷I will bless the LORD who advises me;
even at night I am instructed
deep down in my mind.
⁸I always put the LORD right in front of me;
I will not stumble
because he is at my right hand.
⁹That's why my heart celebrates
and my insides rejoice;
yes, my whole body will rest in safety
¹⁰because you won't leave my life^c
to the grave;^d

²Or *There they will be*; cf 53:5 ^aPerhaps inscription ^bHeb uncertain in 16:3–4; Heb lacks *because* and *god* in 16:4.
^cOr *my soul* ^dHeb *Sheol*

- death's traps held me tight.
- ⁶In my distress I cried out to the LORD;
I called to my God for help.
God heard my voice from his temple;
I called to him for help,
and my call reached his ears.
- ⁷The earth rocked and shook;
the bases of the mountains
trembled and reeled
because of God's anger.
- ⁸Smoke went up from God's nostrils;
out of his mouth came a devouring fire;
flaming coals blazed out in front of him!
- ⁹God parted the skies and came down;
thick darkness was beneath his feet.
- ¹⁰God mounted the heavenly creatures
and flew;
he soared on the wings of the wind.
- ¹¹God made darkness cloak him;
his covering was dark water
and dense cloud.
- ¹²God's clouds went ahead
of the brightness before him;
hail and coals of fire went too.
- ¹³The LORD thundered in heaven;
the Most High made his voice heard
with hail and coals of fire.
- ¹⁴God shot his arrows, scattering the enemy;
he sent the lightning and threw them
into confusion.
- ¹⁵The seabeds were exposed;
the earth's foundations were laid bare
at your rebuke, LORD,
at the angry blast of air coming
from your nostrils.
- ¹⁶From on high God reached down
and grabbed me;
he took me out of all that water.
- ¹⁷God saved me from my powerful enemy,
saved me from my foes,
who were too much for me.
- ¹⁸They came at me on the very day
of my distress,
but the LORD was my support.
- ¹⁹He brought me out to wide-open spaces;
he pulled me out safe
because he is pleased with me.
- ²⁰The LORD rewarded me
for my righteousness;
- he restored me
because my hands are clean,
²¹because I have kept the LORD's ways.
I haven't acted wickedly against my God.
- ²²All his rules are right in front of me;
I haven't turned away from
any of his laws.
- ²³I have lived with integrity before him;
I've kept myself from wrongdoing.
- ²⁴And so the LORD restored me
for my righteousness
because my hands are clean in his sight.
- ²⁵You deal faithfully with the faithful;
you show integrity
toward the one who has integrity.
- ²⁶You are pure toward the pure,
but toward the crooked, you are tricky.
- ²⁷You are the one who saves
people who suffer
and brings down those with proud eyes.
- ²⁸You are the one who lights my lamp—
the LORD my God
illuminates my darkness.
- ²⁹With you I can charge into battle;
with my God I can leap over a wall.
- ³⁰God! His way is perfect;
the LORD's word is tried and true.
He is a shield
for all who take refuge in him.
- ³¹Now really, who is divine except the LORD?
And who is a rock but our God?
- ³²Only God! The God
who equips me with strength
and makes my way perfect,
- ³³who makes my step as sure as the deer's,
who lets me stand securely
on the heights,
- ³⁴who trains my hands for war
so my arms can bend a bronze bow.
- ³⁵You've given me the shield
of your salvation;
your right hand has supported me;
your help has made me great.
- ³⁶You've let me walk fast and safe,
without even twisting an ankle.
- ³⁷I chased my enemies and caught them!
I didn't come home
until I finished them off.
- ³⁸I struck them down;

they couldn't get up again;
 they fell under my feet.
³⁹You equipped me with strength for war;
 you brought my adversaries down
 underneath me.
⁴⁰You made my enemies turn tail from me;
 I destroyed my foes.
⁴¹They cried for help,
 but there was no one to save them.
 They cried for help to the LORD,
 but he wouldn't answer them.
⁴²I crushed them
 like dust blown away by the wind;
 I threw them out
 like mud dumped in the streets.
⁴³You delivered me from struggles
 with many peoples;
 you appointed me the leader
 of many nations.
 Strangers come to serve me.
⁴⁴After hearing about me, they obey me;
 foreigners grovel before me.
⁴⁵Foreigners lose their nerve;
 they come trembling
 out of their fortresses.^j
⁴⁶The LORD lives! Bless God, my rock!
 Let the God of my salvation be lifted high!
⁴⁷This is the God who avenges on my behalf,
 who subdues people before me,
⁴⁸who delivers me from my enemies.
 Yes, you lifted me high
 above my adversaries;
 you delivered me from violent people.
⁴⁹That's why I thank you, LORD,
 in the presence of the nations.
 That's why I sing praises to your name.
⁵⁰You are the one who gives great victories
 to your king,
 who shows faithful love
 to your anointed one—
 to David and to his descendants forever.

Psalm 19

For the music leader. A psalm of David.

¹Heaven is declaring God's glory;
 the sky is proclaiming his handiwork.
²One day gushes the news to the next,

and one night informs another
 what needs to be known.
³Of course, there's no speech, no words—
 their voices can't be heard—
⁴but their sound^k extends
 throughout the world;
 their words reach the ends of the earth.

God has made a tent in heaven
 for the sun.
⁵The sun is like a groom
 coming out of his honeymoon suite;
 like a warrior,
 it thrills at running its course.
⁶It rises in one end of the sky;
 its circuit is complete at the other.
 Nothing escapes its heat.

⁷The LORD's Instruction is perfect,
 reviving one's very being.¹
 The LORD's laws are faithful,
 making naive people wise.
⁸The LORD's regulations are right,
 gladdening the heart.
 The LORD's commands are pure,
 giving light to the eyes.
⁹Honoring the LORD is correct,
 lasting forever.
 The LORD's judgments are true.
 All of these are righteous!
¹⁰They are more desirable than gold—
 than tons of pure gold!—
 and they are sweeter than honey—
 even dripping off the honeycomb!
¹¹No doubt about it:
 your servant is enlightened by them;
 there is great reward in keeping them.
¹²But can anyone know
 what they've accidentally done wrong?
 Clear me of any unknown sin
¹³and save your servant from willful sins.
 Don't let them rule me.
 Then I'll be completely blameless;
 I'll be innocent of great wrongdoing.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth
 and the meditations of my heart
 be pleasing to you,
 LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

^jOr prisons ^kLXX, Vulg, Sym; Heb line or string ¹Or soul

Psalm 20

For the music leader. A psalm of David.

- ¹I pray that the LORD answers you
whenever you are in trouble.
Let the name of Jacob's God protect you.
- ²Let God send help to you
from the sanctuary
and support you from Zion.
- ³Let God recall your many grain offerings;
let him savor your
entirely burned offerings. *Selah*
- ⁴Let God grant what is in your heart
and fulfill all your plans.
- ⁵Then we will rejoice
that you've been helped.
We will fly our flags
in the name of our God.
Let the LORD fulfill all your requests!
- ⁶Now I know that the LORD saves
his anointed one;
God answers his anointed one
from his heavenly sanctuary,
answering with mighty acts of salvation
achieved by his right hand.
- ⁷Some people trust in chariots,
others in horses;
but we praise the LORD's name.
- ⁸They will collapse and fall,
but we will stand up straight and strong.
- ⁹LORD, save the king!
Let him answer us when we cry out!

Psalm 21

For the music leader. A psalm of David.

- ¹The king celebrates your strength, LORD;
look how happy he is
about your saving help!
- ²You've given him what his heart desires;
you haven't denied
what his lips requested. *Selah*
- ³You bring rich blessings right to him;
you put a crown of pure gold
on his head.
- ⁴He asked you for life,
and you gave it to him allright—
long days, forever and always!

- ⁵The king's reputation is great
because of your saving help;
you've conferred on him
glory and grandeur.
- ⁶You grant him blessings forever;
you make him happy
with the joy of your presence.
- ⁷Because the king trusts the LORD,
and because of the Most High's
faithful love,
he will not stumble.
- ⁸Your hand will catch all your enemies;
your right hand will catch
all who hate you.
- ⁹When you appear, LORD,
you will light them up
like an oven on fire.
God will eat them whole in his anger;
fire will devour them.
- ¹⁰You will destroy their offspring
from the land;
destroy their descendants
from the human race.
- ¹¹Because they sought to do you harm,
they devised a wicked plan—
but they will fail!
- ¹²Because you will make them turn and run
when you aim your bow
straight at their faces!
- ¹³Be exalted, LORD, in your strength!
We will sing and praise your power!

Psalm 22

*For the music leader. According to the
"Doe of Dawn." A psalm of David.*

- ¹My God! My God,
why have you left me all alone?
Why are you so far from saving me—
so far from my anguished groans?
- ²My God, I cry out during the day,
but you don't answer;
even at nighttime I don't stop.
- ³You are the holy one, enthroned.
You are Israel's praise.
- ⁴Our ancestors trusted you—
they trusted you and you rescued them;

- ⁵ they cried out to you and they were saved;
they trusted you
and they weren't ashamed.
- ⁶ But I'm just a worm, less than human;
insulted by one person,
despised by another.
- ⁷ All who see me make fun of me—
they gape, shaking their heads:
- ⁸ "He committed himself to the LORD,
so let God rescue him;
let God deliver him
because God likes him so much."
- ⁹ But you are the one who pulled me
from the womb,
placing me safely at my mother's breasts.
- ¹⁰ I was thrown on you from birth;
you've been my God
since I was in my mother's womb.
- ¹¹ Please don't be far from me
because trouble is near
and there's no one to help.
- ¹² Many bulls surround me;
mighty bulls from Bashan encircle me.
- ¹³ They open their mouths at me
like a lion ripping and roaring!
- ¹⁴ I'm poured out like water.
All my bones have fallen apart.
My heart is like wax;
it melts inside me.
- ¹⁵ My strength is dried up
like a piece of broken pottery.
My tongue sticks
to the roof of my mouth;
you've set me down in the dirt of death.
- ¹⁶ Dogs surround me;
a pack of evil people circle me like a lion—
oh, my poor hands and feet!
- ¹⁷ I can count all my bones!
Meanwhile, they just stare at me,
watching me.
- ¹⁸ They divvy up my garments
among themselves;
they cast lots for my clothes.
- ¹⁹ But you, LORD! Don't be far away!
You are my strength!
Come quick and help me!
- ²⁰ Deliver me^m from the sword.
Deliver my life from the power of the dog.
- ²¹ Save me from the mouth of the lion.
From the horns of the wild oxen
you have answered me!
- ²² I will declare your name
to my brothers and sisters;
I will praise you in the very center
of the congregation!
- ²³ All of you who revere the LORD—
praise him!
All of you who are Jacob's descendants—
honor him!
All of you who are all Israel's offspring—
stand in awe of him!
- ²⁴ Because he didn't despise or detest
the suffering of the one who suffered—
he didn't hide his face from me.
No, he listened when I cried out to him
for help.
- ²⁵ I offer praise in the great congregation
because of you;
I will fulfill my promises
in the presence of those who honor God.
- ²⁶ Let all those who are suffering
eat and be full!
Let all who seek the LORD praise him!
I pray your hearts live forever!
- ²⁷ All the ends of the earth
will remember and come back to the LORD;
every family among all the nations
will worship you.
- ²⁸ Because the right to rule
belongs to the LORD;
he rules all nations.
- ²⁹ Indeed, all the earth's powerful
will worship him;ⁿ
all who are descending to the dust
will kneel before him;
my being also lives for him.^o
- ³⁰ Future descendants will serve him;
generations to come will be told
about my Lord.
- ³¹ They will proclaim God's righteousness
to those not yet born,
telling them what God has done.

^mOr my soul; also in 22:29 ⁿCorrection; MT *All the earth's powerful have eaten and will worship.* ^oCorrection, with LXX; Heb uncertain

Psalm 23*A psalm of David.*

- ¹The LORD is my shepherd.
I lack nothing.
- ²He lets me rest in grassy meadows;
he leads me to restful waters;
³he keeps me ^P alive.
He guides me in proper paths
for the sake of his good name.
- ⁴Even when I walk
through the darkest valley,
I fear no danger
because you are with me.
Your rod and your staff—
they protect me.
- ⁵You set a table for me
right in front of my enemies.
You bathe my head in oil;
my cup is so full it spills over!
- ⁶Yes, goodness and faithful love
will pursue me all the days of my life,
and I will live⁹ in the LORD's house
as long as I remain alive.

Psalm 24*A psalm of David.*

- ¹The earth is the LORD's
and everything in it,
the world and its inhabitants too.
- ²Because God is the one
who established it on the seas;
God set it firmly on the waters.
- ³Who can ascend the LORD's mountain?
Who can stand in his holy sanctuary?
- ⁴Only the one with clean hands
and a pure heart;
the one who hasn't made false promises,
the one who hasn't sworn dishonestly.
- ⁵That kind of person receives blessings
from the LORD
and righteousness
from the God who saves.
- ⁶And that's how things are

with the generation that seeks him—
that seeks the face of Jacob's God.^f

Selah

- ⁷Mighty gates: lift up your heads!
Ancient doors: rise up high!
So the glorious king can enter!
- ⁸Who is this glorious king?
The LORD—strong and powerful!
The LORD—powerful in battle!
- ⁹Mighty gates: lift up your heads!
Ancient doors: rise up high!
So the glorious king can enter!
- ¹⁰Who is this glorious king?
The LORD of heavenly forces—
he is the glorious king!

*Selah***Psalm 25^s***Of David.*

- ¹I offer my life^t to you, LORD.
- ²My God, I trust you.
Please don't let me be put to shame!
Don't let my enemies rejoice
over me!
- ³For that matter,
don't let anyone who hopes in you
be put to shame;
instead, let those who are treacherous
without excuse be put to shame.
- ⁴Make your ways known to me,
LORD;
teach me your paths.
- ⁵Lead me in your truth—
teach it to me—
because you are the God
who saves me.
I put my hope in you all day long.
- ⁶LORD, remember your compassion
and faithful love—
they are forever!
- ⁷But don't remember the sins of my
youth or my wrongdoing.
Remember me only
according to your faithful love
for the sake of your goodness, LORD.

¹Or my soul ²LXX; MT I will return ³LXX, Syr; MT seek your face, Jacob ⁴Ps 25 is an alphabetic acrostic poem;
see the note at Pss 9–10. ⁵Or soul; also in 25:13, 20

⁸The LORD is good and does the right thing;
he teaches sinners which way
they should go.

⁹God guides the weak to justice,
teaching them his way.

¹⁰All the LORD's paths
are loving and faithful
for those who keep his covenant
and laws.

¹¹Please, for the sake of your good name,
LORD, forgive my sins,
which are many!

¹²Where are the ones who honor the LORD?
God will teach them which path to take.

¹³They will live a good life,
and their descendants
will possess the land.

¹⁴The LORD counsels those who honor him;
he makes his covenant known to them.

¹⁵My eyes are always looking to the LORD
because he will free my feet from the net.

¹⁶Turn to me, God, and have mercy on me
because I'm alone and suffering.

¹⁷My heart's troubles
keep getting bigger—
set me free from my distress!

¹⁸Look at my suffering and trouble—
forgive all my sins!

¹⁹Look at how many enemies I have
and how violently they hate me!

²⁰Please protect my life! Deliver me!
Don't let me be put to shame
because I take refuge in you.

²¹Let integrity and virtue guard me
because I hope in you.

²²Please, God, save Israel
from all its troubles!

Psalm 26

Of David.

¹Establish justice for me, LORD,
because I have walked with integrity.
I've trusted the LORD without wavering.

²Examine me, LORD; put me to the test!
Purify^u my mind^v and my heart.

³Because your faithful love
is right in front of me—
I walk in your truth!

⁴I don't spend time with people
up to no good;
I don't keep company with liars.

⁵I detest the company of evildoers,
and I don't sit with wicked people.

⁶I wash my hands—they are innocent!
I walk all around your altar, LORD,
⁷proclaiming out loud my thanks,
declaring all your wonderful deeds!

⁸I love the beauty^w of your house, LORD;
I love the place where your glory resides.

⁹Don't gather me^x up with the sinners,
taking my life along with violent people
¹⁰in whose hands are evil schemes,
whose right hands are full of bribes.

¹¹But me? I walk with integrity.
Save me! Have mercy on me!

¹²My feet now stand on level ground.
I will bless the LORD
in the great congregation.

Psalm 27

Of David.

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation.
Should I fear anyone?
The LORD is a fortress
protecting my life.
Should I be frightened of anything?

²When evildoers come at me
trying to eat me up—
it's they, my foes and my enemies,
who stumble and fall!

³If an army camps against me,
my heart won't be afraid.
If war comes up against me,
I will continue to trust in this:

⁴I have asked one thing
from the LORD—
it's all I seek—
to live in the LORD's house
all the days of my life,
seeing the LORD's beauty
and constantly adoring his temple.

⁵Because he will shelter me
in his own dwelling
during troubling times;
he will hide me in a secret place
in his own tent;
he will set me up high, safe on a rock.

⁶Now my head is higher
than the enemies surrounding me,
and I will offer sacrifices in God's tent—
sacrifices with shouts of joy!
I will sing and praise the LORD.

⁷LORD, listen to my voice when I cry out—
have mercy on me and answer me!

⁸Come, my heart says, seek God's face.^y
LORD, I do seek your face!

⁹Please don't hide it from me!
Don't push your servant aside angrily—
you have been my help!
God who saves me,
don't neglect me!
Don't leave me all alone!

¹⁰Even if my father and mother
left me all alone,
the LORD would take me in.

¹¹LORD, teach me your way;
because of my opponents,
lead me on a good path.

¹²Don't give me over
to the desires of my enemies,
because false witnesses
and violent accusers
have taken their stand against me.

¹³But I have sure faith
that I will experience
the LORD's goodness
in the land of the living!

¹⁴Hope in the LORD!
Be strong! Let your heart take courage!
Hope in the LORD!

Psalm 28

Of David.

¹I cry out to you, LORD.
You are my rock; don't refuse to hear me.
If you won't talk to me,

I'll be just like those
going down to the pit.

²Listen to my request for mercy
when I cry out to you,
when I lift up my hands
to your holy inner sanctuary.

³Don't drag me off with the wicked
and those who do evil;
the type who talk nice to their friends
while evil thoughts are in their hearts!

⁴Pay them back for what they've done!
Pay them back for their evil deeds!
Pay them back for their handiwork!
Give back to them
exactly what they deserve!

⁵Because they have no regard
for what the LORD has done,
no regard for his handiwork,
God will tear them down
and never rebuild!

⁶Bless the LORD
because he has listened
to my request for mercy!

⁷The LORD is my strength and my shield.
My heart trusts him.

I was helped, my heart rejoiced,
and I thank him with my song.

⁸The LORD is his people's strength;
he is a fortress of protection
for his anointed one.

⁹Save your people, God!
Bless your possession!
Shepherd them
and carry them for all time!

Psalm 29

A psalm of David.

¹You, divine beings! Give to the LORD—
give to the LORD glory and power!

²Give to the LORD the glory due his name!
Bow down to the LORD
in holy splendor!

³The LORD's voice is over the waters;
the glorious God thunders;
the LORD is over the mighty waters.

⁴The LORD's voice is strong;

^yCorrection; MT *My heart says to/of you . . . see my face!*

- the LORD's voice is majestic.
⁵The LORD's voice breaks cedar trees—
 yes, the LORD shatters
 the cedars of Lebanon.
⁶He makes Lebanon jump around
 like a young bull,
 makes Sirion jump around
 like a young wild ox.
⁷The LORD's voice unleashes fiery flames;
⁸the LORD's voice shakes the wilderness—
 yes, the LORD shakes
 the wilderness of Kadesh.
⁹The LORD's voice convulses the oaks,
 strips the forests bare,
 but in his temple everyone shouts,
 "Glory!"
¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned
 over the floodwaters;
 the LORD sits enthroned—king forever!
¹¹Let the LORD give strength to his people!
 Let the LORD bless his people
 with peace!

Psalm 30

*A psalm. A song for the temple dedication.
 Of David.*

- ¹I exalt you, LORD,
 because you pulled me up;
 you didn't let my enemies
 celebrate over me.
²LORD, my God, I cried out to you for help,
 and you healed me.
³LORD, you brought me² up
 from the grave,^a
 brought me back to life from among
 those going down to the pit.
⁴You who are faithful to the LORD,
 sing praises to him;
 give thanks to his holy name!
⁵His anger lasts for only a second,
 but his favor lasts a lifetime.
 Weeping may stay all night,
 but by morning, joy!
⁶When I was comfortable, I said,
 "I will never stumble."

- ⁷Because it pleased you, LORD,
 you made me a strong mountain.
 But then you hid your presence.
 I was terrified.
⁸I cried out to you, LORD.
 I begged my Lord for mercy:
⁹"What is to be gained by my spilled blood,
 by my going down into the pit?
 Does dust thank you?
 Does it proclaim your faithfulness?"
¹⁰LORD, listen and have mercy on me!
 LORD, be my helper!"
¹¹You changed my mourning
 into dancing.
 You took off my funeral clothes
 and dressed me up in joy
¹²so that my whole being
 might sing praises to you
 and never stop.
 LORD, my God,
 I will give thanks to you forever.

Psalm 31

For the music leader. A psalm of David.

- ¹I take refuge in you, LORD.
 Please never let me be put to shame.
 Rescue me by your righteousness!
²Listen closely to me!
 Deliver me quickly;
 be a rock that protects me;
 be a strong fortress that saves me!
³You are definitely my rock
 and my fortress.
 Guide me and lead me
 for the sake of your good name!
⁴Get me out of this net
 that's been set for me
 because you are my protective fortress.
⁵I entrust my spirit into your hands;
 you, LORD, God of faithfulness—
 you have saved me.
⁶I hate those who embrace
 what is completely worthless.
 I myself trust the LORD.
⁷I rejoice and celebrate
 in your faithful love
 because you saw my suffering—

you were intimately acquainted
with my deep distress.
⁸You didn't hand me over to the enemy,
but set my feet in wide-open spaces.
⁹Have mercy on me, LORD,
because I'm depressed.
My vision fails because of my grief,
as do my spirit and my body.
¹⁰My life is consumed with sadness;
my years are consumed with groaning.
Strength fails me
because of my suffering;^b
my bones dry up.
¹¹I'm a joke to all my enemies,
still worse to my neighbors.
I scare my friends,
and whoever sees me in the street,
runs away!
¹²I am forgotten, like I'm dead,
completely out of mind;
I am like a piece of pottery, destroyed.
¹³Yes, I've heard all the gossiping,
terror all around;
so many gang up together against me,
they plan to take my life!

¹⁴But me? I trust you, LORD!
I affirm, "You are my God."
¹⁵My future is in your hands.
Don't hand me over to my enemies,
to all who are out to get me!
¹⁶Shine your face on your servant;
save me by your faithful love!
¹⁷LORD, don't let me be put to shame
because I have cried out to you.
Let the wicked be put to shame;
let them be silenced in death's domain!^c
¹⁸Let their lying lips be shut up
whenever they speak arrogantly
against the righteous
with pride and contempt!
¹⁹How great is the goodness
that you've reserved
for those who honor you,
that you do
for those who take refuge in you—
doing it in the sight of everyone!

²⁰You hide them
in the shelter of your wings,^d
safe from human scheming.
You conceal them in a shelter,
safe from accusing tongues.
²¹Bless the LORD
because he has wondrously revealed
his faithful love to me
when I was like a city under siege!
²²When I was panicked, I said,
"I'm cut off from your eyes!"
But you heard my request for mercy
when I cried out to you for help.
²³All you who are faithful, love the LORD!
The LORD protects those who are loyal,
but he pays the proud back
to the fullest degree.
²⁴All you who wait for the LORD,
be strong and let your heart take courage.

Psalm 32

A maskil^e of David.

¹The one whose wrongdoing is forgiven,
whose sin is covered over,
is truly happy!
²The one the LORD
doesn't consider guilty—
in whose spirit there is no dishonesty—
that one is truly happy!
³When I kept quiet, my bones wore out;
I was groaning all day long—
every day, every night!—
⁴because your hand was heavy upon me.
My energy was sapped as if in a
summer drought. *Selah*
⁵So I admitted my sin to you;
I didn't cover up my guilt.
"I'll confess my sins to the LORD,"
is what I said.
Then you removed the guilt of my sin. *Selah*
⁶That's why all the faithful should pray to
you during troubled times,^f

^bLXX, Syr; MT *my sin* ^cHeb *Sheol* ^dCorrection; see Ps 61:5; MT *in the hiding place of your face* ^ePerhaps
instruction; it also appears in Pss 42, 44–45, 52–55, 74, 78, 88–89, 142; cf. 47:7; the root is used in Ps 32:8.
^fCorrection; MT *at a time of finding only*

so that a great flood of water
won't reach them.

⁷You are my secret hideout!
You protect me from trouble.
You surround me with songs of rescue!

Selah

⁸I will instruct you and teach you
about the direction you should go.
I'll advise you and keep my eye on you.

⁹Don't be like some senseless
horse or mule,
whose movement must be controlled
with a bit and a bridle.^g

Don't be anything like that!^h

¹⁰The pain of the wicked is severe,
but faithful love surrounds
the one who trusts the LORD.

¹¹You who are righteous,
rejoice in the LORD and be glad!
All you whose hearts are right,
sing out in joy!

Psalm 33

¹All you who are righteous,
shout joyfully to the LORD!
It's right for those who do right
to praise God.

²Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre!
Sing praises to him
with the ten-stringed harp!

³Sing to him a new song!
Play your best with joyful shouts!

⁴Because the LORD's word is right,
his every act is done in good faith.

⁵He loves righteousness and justice;
the LORD's faithful love
fills the whole earth.

⁶The skies were made by the LORD's word,
all their starry multitude
by the breath of his mouth.

⁷He gathered the ocean waters into a heap;
he put the deep seas into storerooms.

⁸All the earth honors the LORD;
all the earth's inhabitants
stand in awe of him.

⁹Because when he spoke, it happened!
When he commanded, there it was!

¹⁰The LORD overrules
what the nations plan;
he frustrates
what the peoples intend to do.

¹¹But the LORD's plan stands forever;
what he intends to do lasts
from one generation to the next.

¹²The nation whose God is the LORD,
the people that God has chosen
as his possession,
is truly happy!

¹³The LORD looks down from heaven;
he sees every human being.

¹⁴From his dwelling place God observes
all who live on earth.

¹⁵God is the one who made
all their hearts,
he is the one who knows
all their deeds.

¹⁶Kings aren't saved by the strength
of their armies;
warriors aren't delivered
by how much power they have.

¹⁷A warhorse is a bad bet for victory;
it can't rescue despite
its great strength.

¹⁸But look here: the LORD's eyes watch
all who honor him,
all who wait for his faithful love,

¹⁹to deliver their livesⁱ from death
and keep them alive during a famine.

²⁰We put our hope in the LORD.
He is our help and our shield.

²¹Our heart rejoices in God
because we trust his holy name.

²²LORD, let your faithful love be with us,
because we wait for you.

Psalm 34^j

*Of David, when he pretended
to be crazy before Abimelech,
who banished him so that he left.*

¹I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise will always be in my mouth.

⋮
⋮ ^gHeb uncertain ^hHeb uncertain ⁱOr souls; also in 33:20 ^jPs 34 is an alphabetic acrostic poem; see the note at
○ Pss 9–10 or Ps 111.

- ²^k praise the LORD—
let the suffering listen and rejoice.
- ³ Magnify the LORD with me!
Together let us lift his name up high!
- ⁴ I sought the LORD and he answered me.
He delivered me from all my fears.
- ⁵ Those who look to God will shine;
their faces are never ashamed.
- ⁶ This suffering person cried out:
the LORD listened and saved him from
every trouble.
- ⁷ On every side, the LORD's messenger
protects those who honor God;
and he delivers them.
- ⁸ Taste and see how good the LORD is!
The one who takes refuge in him
is truly happy!
- ⁹ You who are the LORD's holy ones,
honor him
because those who honor him
don't lack a thing.
- ¹⁰ Even strong young lions go without
and get hungry,
but those who seek the LORD
lack no good thing.
- ¹¹ Come, children, listen to me.
Let me teach you
how to honor the LORD:
- ¹² Do you love life;
do you relish the chance
to enjoy good things?
- ¹³ Then you must keep your tongue
from evil
and keep your lips
from speaking lies!
- ¹⁴ Turn away from evil! Do good!
Seek peace and go after it!
- ¹⁵ The LORD's eyes watch the righteous,
his ears listen to their cries for help.
- ¹⁶ But the LORD's face is set against
those who do evil,
to eliminate even the memory of them
from the earth.
- ¹⁷ When the righteous cry out,
the LORD listens;
he delivers them from all their troubles.

- ¹⁸ The LORD is close to the brokenhearted;
he saves those whose spirits
are crushed.
- ¹⁹ The righteous have many problems,
but the LORD delivers them
from every one.
- ²⁰ He protects all their bones;
not even one will be broken.
- ²¹ But just one problem will kill the wicked,
and those who hate the righteous
will be held responsible.
- ²² The LORD saves his servants' lives;
all those who take refuge in him
won't be held responsible for anything.

Psalm 35

Of David.

- ¹ LORD, argue with
those who argue with me,
fight with those who fight against me!
- ² Grab a shield and armor;
stand up and help me!
- ³ Use your spear and ax^l
against those who are out to get me!
Say to me:^m "I'm your salvation!"
- ⁴ Let those who want me dead
be humiliated and put to shame.
Let those who intend to hurt me
be thoroughly frustrated and disgraced.
- ⁵ Let them be like dust on the wind—
and let the LORD's messenger
be the one who does the blowing!
- ⁶ Let their path be dark and slippery—
and let the LORD's messenger
be the one who does the chasing!
- ⁷ Because they hid their net for me
for no reason,
they dug a pit for me for no reason.
- ⁸ Let disaster come to them
when they don't suspect it.
Let the net they hid
catch them instead!
Let them fall into it—
to their disaster!
- ⁹ But I will rejoice in the LORD;
I will celebrate his salvation.

^kOr *my soul*; also in 34:22 ^lCorrection ^mOr *my soul*; also in 35:4, 7, 9, 12, 13, 17, 24

¹⁰All my bones will say,
 “LORD, who could compare to you?
 You rescue the weak
 from those who overpower them;
 you rescue the weak and the needy
 from those who plunder them.”

¹¹Violent witnesses stand up.
 They question me about things
 I know nothing about.

¹²They pay me back evil for good,
 leaving me stricken with grief.

¹³But when they were sick,
 I wore clothes for grieving,
 and I kept a strict fast.
 When my prayer came back unanswered,ⁿ

¹⁴I would wander around
 like I was grieving a friend or a brother.
 I was weighed down, sad,
 like I was a mother in mourning.

¹⁵But when I stumbled,
 they celebrated and gathered together—
 they gathered together against me!
 Strangers^o I didn’t know tore me
 to pieces and wouldn’t quit.

¹⁶They ridiculed me over and over again,
 like godless people would do,
 grinding their teeth at me.

¹⁷How long, my Lord,
 will you watch this happen?
 Rescue me from their attacks;
 rescue my precious life
 from these predatory lions!

¹⁸Then I will thank you in the great assembly;
 I will praise you
 in a huge crowd of people.

¹⁹Don’t let those who are my enemies
 without cause celebrate over me;
 don’t let those who hate me
 for no reason
 wink at my demise.

²⁰They don’t speak the truth;
 instead, they plot false accusations
 against innocent people in the land.

²¹They open up their mouths against me,
 saying, “Yes! Oh, yes! We’ve seen it
 with our own eyes!”

²²But you’ve seen it too, LORD.
 Don’t keep quiet about it.
 Please don’t be far from me, my Lord.

²³Wake up! Get up and do justice for me;
 argue my case, my Lord and my God!

²⁴Establish justice for me
 according to your righteousness,
 LORD, my God.
 Don’t let them celebrate over me.

²⁵Don’t let them say to themselves,
 Yes! Exactly what we wanted!
 Don’t let them say, “We ate him up!”

²⁶Let all those who celebrate my
 misfortune be disgraced
 and put to shame!
 Let those who exalt themselves over me
 be dressed up in shame and dishonor!

²⁷But let those who want things
 to be set right for me
 shout for joy and celebrate!
 Let them constantly say,
 “The LORD is great—
 God wants his servant to be at peace.”

²⁸Then my tongue will talk
 all about your righteousness;
 it will talk
 about your praise all day long.

Psalm 36

For the music leader.

Of the LORD’s servant David.

¹I know the sinful utterance
 of the wicked:^p
 There is no fear of God
 before their own eyes,

²because in their eyes
 they are slick with talk
 about their guilt ever being found out
 and despised.^q

³The words of their mouths
 are evil and dishonest.
 They have stopped being wise
 and stopped doing good.

⁴They plot evil even while
 resting in bed!
 They commit themselves
 to a path that is no good.
 They don’t reject what is evil.

- ⁵But your loyal love, LORD,
extends to the skies;
your faithfulness reaches the clouds.
- ⁶Your righteousness is
like the strongest mountains;
your justice is like the great deep.
LORD, you save both humans
and animals.
- ⁷Your faithful love is priceless, God!
Humanity finds refuge
in the shadow of your wings.
- ⁸They feast on the bounty of your house;
you let them drink
from your river of pure joy.
- ⁹The source of life is with you.
In your light, we see light.
- ¹⁰Extend your faithful love
to those who know you;
extend your righteousness
to those whose heart is right.
- ¹¹Don't let the feet of arrogant people
walk all over me;
don't let the hands of the wicked
drive me off.
- ¹²Look—right there is where
the evildoers have fallen,
pushed down, unable to get up!

Psalm 37^r

Of David.

- ¹Don't get upset over evildoers;
don't be jealous of those who do wrong,
²because they will fade fast, like grass;
they will wither
like green vegetables.
- ³Trust the LORD and do good;
live in the land, and farm faithfulness.
- ⁴Enjoy the LORD,
and he will give what your heart asks.
- ⁵Commit your way to the LORD!
Trust him! He will act
⁶and will make your righteousness
shine like the dawn,
your justice like high noon.
- ⁷Be still before the LORD,
and wait^s for him.

Don't get upset when
someone gets ahead—
someone who works evil schemes.

- ⁸Let go of anger and leave rage behind!
Don't get upset—it will only lead to evil.
- ⁹Because evildoers will be eliminated,
but those who hope in the LORD—
they will possess the land.
- ¹⁰In just a little while
the wicked won't exist!
If you go looking around their place,
they won't be there.
- ¹¹But the weak will inherit the land;
they will enjoy a surplus of peace.
- ¹²The wicked plot against the righteous,
grinding their teeth at them.
- ¹³But my Lord just laughs at them
because he knows
that their day is coming.
- ¹⁴The wicked draw their swords
and bend their bows
to bring down the weak and the needy,
to slaughter those whose way is right.
- ¹⁵But the sword of the wicked
will enter their own hearts!
Their bows will be broken!
- ¹⁶Better is the little
that the righteous have
than the overabundant wealth
of the wicked.^t
- ¹⁷The arms of the wicked will be broken,
but the LORD supports the righteous.
- ¹⁸The LORD is intimately acquainted
with the lives of the blameless;
their heritage will last forever.
- ¹⁹They won't be ashamed
in troubling times,
and in a period of famine
they will eat their fill.
- ²⁰But the wicked will die,
the LORD's enemies will disappear—
disappear like the beauty
of a meadow—in smoke.
- ²¹The wicked borrow and don't pay it back,
but the righteous are generous
and giving.

^rPs 37 is an alphabetic acrostic poem; see the note at Pss 9–10 or Ps 111. ^sCorrection with LXX, Vulg ^tLXX,
Vulg, Syr; MT *abundant wealth of many wicked*

²²Those blessed by God
will possess the land,
but those cursed by God will be cut off.

²³A person's steps are made secure
by the LORD
when they delight in his way.

²⁴Though they trip up,
they won't be thrown down,
because the LORD holds their hand.

²⁵I was young and now I'm old,
but I have never seen
the righteous left all alone,
have never seen their children
begging for bread.

²⁶They are always gracious and generous.
Their children are a blessing.

²⁷Turn away from evil! Do good!
Then you will live in the land forever.

²⁸The LORD loves justice.
He will never leave his faithful all alone.
They are guarded forever,
but the children of the wicked
are eliminated.

²⁹The righteous will possess the land;
they will live on it forever.

³⁰The mouths of the righteous
recite wisdom;
their tongues discuss justice.

³¹The Instruction of their God
is in their hearts;
they don't miss a step.

³²The wicked, on the other hand,
target the righteous,
seeking to kill them.

³³But the LORD won't leave the righteous
to the power of the wicked,
and won't let the righteous
be found guilty when they are judged.

³⁴Hope in the LORD and keep his way!
He will lift you up
so you can possess the land.
When the wicked are eliminated,
you will see it for yourself!

³⁵I myself have seen
wicked powerful people,

exalting themselves like a stately cedar.^u
³⁶But when I^v came back, they were gone!
I looked all over for them,
but they couldn't be found!

³⁷Observe those who have integrity
and watch those whose heart is right
because the future belongs
to persons of peace.

³⁸But wrongdoers will be destroyed
all together;
the future of the wicked
will be cut short.

³⁹The salvation of the righteous
comes from the LORD;
he is their refuge in times of trouble.

⁴⁰The LORD will help them
and rescue them—
rescue them from the wicked—
and he will save them
because they have taken refuge in him.

Psalm 38

A psalm of David.

For the memorial offering.

¹Please, LORD, don't punish me,
when you are mad;
don't discipline me
when you are furious.

²Your arrows have pierced me;
your fist has come down hard on me.

³There's nothing in my body
that isn't broken
because of your rage;
there's no health in my bones
because of my sin.

⁴My wrongdoings are taller than I am;
they are like a weight
that's way too heavy for me.

⁵My wounds reek; they are all infected
because of my stupidity.

⁶I am hunched over, completely down;
I wander around all day long, sad.

⁷My insides are burning up;
there's nothing in my body
that isn't broken.

⁸I'm worn out, completely crushed;
I groan because of my anguished heart.

- ⁹Everything I long for
is laid out before you, my Lord;
my sighs aren't hidden from you.
- ¹⁰My heart pounds;
my strength abandons me.
Even the light of my eyes is gone.
- ¹¹My loved ones and friends
keep their distance
from me in my sickness;
those who were near me
now stay far away.
- ¹²Those who want me dead lay traps;
those who want me harmed utter threats,
muttering lies all day long.
- ¹³But I'm like someone who is deaf,
who can't hear;
like someone who can't speak,
whose mouth won't open.
- ¹⁴I've become like a person
who doesn't hear what is being said,
whose mouth has no good comeback.
- ¹⁵But I wait for you, LORD!
You will answer, my Lord, my God!
- ¹⁶Because I prayed:
"Don't let them celebrate over me
or exalt themselves over me
when my foot slips,"
- ¹⁷because I'm very close to falling,
and my pain is always with me.
- ¹⁸Yes, I confess my wrongdoing;
I'm worried about my sin.
- ¹⁹But my mortal enemies are so strong;
those who hate me for no reason
seem countless.
- ²⁰Those who give, repay good with evil;
they oppose me for pursuing good.
- ²¹Don't leave me all alone, LORD!
Please, my God, don't be far from me!
- ²²Come quickly and help me,
my Lord, my salvation!

Psalm 39

*For the music leader. To Jeduthun.
A psalm of David.*

- ¹I promised I would watch my steps
so as not to sin with my tongue;
promised to keep my mouth shut
as long as the wicked were
in my presence.

- ²So I was completely quiet, silent.
I kept my peace, but it did no good.
My pain got worse.
- ³My heart got hot inside me;
while stewing over it, the fire burned.
Then I spoke out with my tongue:
- ⁴"Let me know my end, LORD.
How many days do I have left?
I want to know how brief my time is."
- ⁵You've made my days so short;
my lifetime is like nothing in your eyes.
Yes, a human life
is nothing but a puff of air! *Selah*
- ⁶Yes, people wander around like shadows;
yes, they hustle and bustle,
but pointlessly;
they don't even know who will get
the wealth they've amassed.
- ⁷So now, Lord, what should I be waiting for?
My hope is set on you.
- ⁸Deliver me from all my sins;
don't make me
some foolish person's joke.
- ⁹I am completely silent;
I won't open my mouth
because you have acted.
- ¹⁰Get this plague of yours off me!
I'm being destroyed by the blows
from your fist.
- ¹¹You discipline people for their sin,
punishing them;
like a moth, you ruin what they treasure.
Yes, a human life is just a puff of air!
Selah
- ¹²Hear my prayer, LORD!
Listen closely to my cry for help!
Please don't ignore my tears!
I'm just a foreigner—
an immigrant staying with you,
just like all my ancestors were.
- ¹³Look away from me
so I can be happy again
before I pass away and am gone.

Psalm 40

For the music leader. Of David. A psalm.

- ¹I put all my hope in the LORD.
He leaned down to me;

he listened to my cry for help.
²He lifted me out of the pit of death,
 out of the mud and filth,
 and set my feet on solid rock.
 He steadied my legs.
³He put a new song in my mouth,
 a song of praise for our God.
 Many people will learn of this
 and be amazed;
 they will trust the LORD.
⁴Those who put their trust in the LORD,
 who pay no attention to the proud
 or to those who follow lies,
 are truly happy!

⁵You, LORD my God!
 You've done so many things—
 your wonderful deeds
 and your plans for us—
 no one can compare with you!
 If I were to proclaim
 and talk about all of them,
 they would be too numerous
 to count!

⁶You don't relish sacrifices
 or offerings;
 you don't require entirely burned
 offerings or guilt offerings—
 but you have given me ears!

⁷So I said, "Here I come!
 I'm inscribed in the written scroll.
⁸I want to do your will, my God.
 Your Instruction is deep within me."
⁹I've told the good news
 of your righteousness
 in the great assembly.
 I didn't hold anything back—
 as you well know, LORD!

¹⁰I didn't keep your righteousness
 only to myself.
 I declared your faithfulness
 and your salvation.
 I didn't hide your loyal love
 and trustworthiness
 from the great assembly.

¹¹So now you, LORD—
 don't hold back
 any of your compassion from me.

Let your loyal love and faithfulness
 always protect me
¹²because countless evils surround me.
 My wrongdoings have caught up
 with me—
 I can't see a thing!
 There's more of them than hairs on
 my head—
 my courage leaves me.
¹³Favor me, LORD, and deliver me!
 LORD, come quickly and help me!

¹⁴Let those who seek my life,
 who want me dead,
 be disgraced and put to shame
 all together.
 Let those who want to do me harm
 be thoroughly frustrated
 and humiliated.

¹⁵Let those who say to me, "Yes!
 Oh, yes!"^w
 be destroyed by their shame.

¹⁶But let all who seek you
 celebrate and rejoice in you.
 Let those who love your salvation
 always say,
 "The LORD is great!"

¹⁷But me? I'm weak and needy.
 Let my Lord think of me.
 You are my help and my rescuer.
 My God, don't wait any longer!

Psalm 41

*For the music leader.
 A psalm of David.*

¹Those who pay close attention to the
 poor are truly happy!
 The LORD rescues them
 during troubling times.

²The LORD protects them
 and keeps them alive;
 they are widely regarded throughout
 the land as happy people.
 You^x won't hand them over to the will
 of their enemies.

³The LORD will strengthen them when
 they are lying in bed, sick.
 You will completely transform the place
 where they lie ill.

^wSee Ps 35:21, 25. ^xLXX, Syr; Vulg *God won't*

⁴But me? I said, "LORD, have mercy on me!
Heal me because I have sinned
against you."

⁵My enemies speak maliciously about me:
"When will he die
and his name disappear?"

⁶Whenever they come to visit,
they say nothing of value.
Their hearts collect evil gossip;
once they leave, they tell it to everybody.

⁷All of those who hate me talk about me,
whispering to each other,
plotting evil against me:

⁸"Some horrible thing
has been poured into him;
the next time he lies down,
he won't get up."

⁹Even my good friend,
the one I trusted,
who shared my food,
has exalted himself against me—
a betrayer!

¹⁰But you, LORD, please have mercy on me
and lift me up
so I can pay them back!

¹¹Then I'll know you are pleased with me
because my enemy won't be shouting
in triumph over me.

¹²You support me in my integrity;
you put me in your presence forever.

¹³Bless the LORD, the God of Israel,
from forever to forever!
Amen and amen!

BOOK II (Psalms 42–72)

Psalms 42^y

*For the music leader.
A maskil^e of the Korahites.*

¹Just like a deer that craves
streams of water,
my whole being^a craves you, God.

²My whole being thirsts for God,
for the living God.
When will I come and see God's face?^b

³My tears have been my food
both day and night,

as people constantly questioned me,
"Where's your God now?"

⁴But I remember these things
as I bare my soul:
how I made my way
to the mighty one's abode,^c
to God's own house,
with joyous shouts
and thanksgiving songs—
a huge crowd celebrating the festival!

⁵Why, I ask myself, are you so depressed?
Why are you so upset inside?
Hope in God!
Because I will again give him thanks,
my saving presence and ⁶my God.

My whole being is depressed.
That's why I remember you
from the land of Jordan and Hermon,
from Mount Mizar.

⁷Deep called to deep
at the noise of your waterfalls;
all your massive waves surged over me.

⁸By day the LORD commands
his faithful love;
by night his song is with me—
a prayer to the God of my life.

⁹I will say to God, my solid rock,
"Why have you forgotten me?
Why do I have to walk around,
sad, oppressed by enemies?"

¹⁰With my bones crushed,
my foes make fun of me,
constantly questioning me:
"Where's your God now?"

¹¹Why, I ask myself, are you so depressed?
Why are you so upset inside?
Hope in God!
Because I will again give him thanks,
my saving presence and my God.

Psalms 43

¹Establish justice for me, God!
Argue my case against ungodly people!

^yPss 42–43 comprise one single poem; cf the note at Pss 9–10. ^zPerhaps instruction ^aOr soul; also in 42:2, 4, 5, 6, 11; 43:5 ^bSyr, Tg; MT and appear before God? ^cHeb uncertain

Rescue me from the dishonest
and unjust!

²Because you are my God,
my protective fortress!
Why have you rejected me?
Why do I have to walk around,
sad, oppressed by enemies?

³Send your light and truth—
those will guide me!
Let them bring me
to your holy mountain,
to your dwelling place.

⁴Let me come to God's altar—
let me come to God, my joy, my delight—
then I will give you thanks with the lyre,
God, my God!

⁵Why, I ask myself, are you so depressed?
Why are you so upset inside?
Hope in God!
Because I will again give him thanks,
my saving presence and my God.

Psalm 44

For the music leader.

A maskil^d of the Korahites.

¹We have heard it, God, with our own ears;
our ancestors told us about it:
about the deeds you did in their days,
in days long past.

²You, by your own hand,
removed all the nations,
but you planted our ancestors.
You crushed all the peoples,
but you set our ancestors free.

³No, not by their own swords
did they take possession of the land—
their own arms didn't save them—
no, it was your right hand, your arm,
and the light of your face
because you were pleased with them.

⁴It's you, God! You who are my king,
the one who orders salvation for Jacob.

⁵We've pushed our foes away by your help;
we've trampled our enemies
by your name.

⁶No, I won't trust in my bow;
my sword won't save me

⁷because it's you who saved us
from our foes,
you who put those who hate us
to shame.

⁸So we glory in God at all times
and give thanks to your name forever.
Selah

⁹But now you've rejected and humiliated us.
You no longer accompany our armies.

¹⁰You make us retreat from the enemy;
our adversaries plunder us.

¹¹You've handed us over
like sheep for butchering;
you've scattered us among the nations.

¹²You've sold your people for nothing,
not even bothering to set a decent price.

¹³You've made us a joke to all our neighbors;
we're mocked and ridiculed
by everyone around us.

¹⁴You've made us a bad joke to the nations,
something to be laughed at
by all peoples.

¹⁵All day long my disgrace confronts me,
and shame covers my face

¹⁶because of the voices of those
who make fun of me and bad-mouth me,
because of the enemy who is out
for revenge.

¹⁷All this has come upon us,
but we haven't forgotten you
or broken your covenant.

¹⁸Our hearts haven't turned away,
neither have our steps
strayed from your way.

¹⁹But you've crushed us in the place
where jackals^e live,
covering us with deepest darkness.

²⁰If we had forgotten the name of our God
or spread out our hands
to some strange deity,

²¹wouldn't God have discovered it?
After all, God knows every secret
of the heart.

²²No, God, it's because of you
that we are getting killed every day—
it's because of you that we are
considered sheep ready for slaughter.

^dPerhaps instruction ^eOr the sea monster(s)

- ²³Wake up! Why are you sleeping, Lord?
Get up! Don't reject us forever!
- ²⁴Why are you hiding your face,
forgetting our suffering
and oppression?
- ²⁵Look: we're going down to the dust;
our stomachs are flat on the ground!
- ²⁶Stand up! Help us!
Save us for the sake
of your faithful love.

Psalm 45

*For the music leader: According to "The Lilies." Of the Korahites.
A maskil.^f A love song.*

- ¹A marvelous word has stirred my heart
as I repeat my works to the king.
My tongue is the pen
of a skillful scribe.
- ²You are the most handsome of men;
grace has been poured out on your lips.
No wonder God has blessed
you forever!
- ³Strap on your sword, great warrior,
with your glory and grandeur.
- ⁴Go and succeed in your grandeur!
Ride out on behalf of truth,
humility, and righteousness!
Let your right hand perform
awesome deeds.^g
- ⁵Let the peoples fall beneath you.
May your sharp arrows pierce the
hearts of the king's enemies.
- ⁶Your divine throne
is eternal and everlasting.
Your royal scepter
is a scepter of justice.
- ⁷You love righteousness
and hate wickedness.
No wonder God, your God,
has anointed you
with the oil of joy
more than all your companions!
- ⁸All your clothes have the pleasing scent
of myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.
The music of stringed instruments

- coming from ivory palaces
entertains you.
- ⁹The royal princess is standing
in your jewels;^h
the queen stands at your right,
dressed in the gold of Ophir.
- ¹⁰Listen, daughter; pay attention,
and listen closely!
Forget your people
and your father's house.
- ¹¹Let the king desire your beauty.
Because he is your master,
bow down to him now.
- ¹²The city of Tyre, the wealthiest of all,
will seek your favor with gifts,
¹³with riches of every sort
for the royal princess, dressed in pearls,ⁱ
her robe embroidered with gold.
- ¹⁴In robes of many colors,
she is led to the king.
Her attendants,
the young women servants following her,
are presented to you as well.
- ¹⁵As they enter the king's palace,
they are led in with celebration and joy.
- ¹⁶Your sons, great king,
will succeed your fathers;^j
you will appoint them as princes
throughout the land.
- ¹⁷I will perpetuate your name
from one generation to the next
so the peoples will praise you
forever and always.

Psalm 46

*For the music leader: Of the Korahites.
According to Alamothe.^k A song.*

- ¹God is our refuge and strength,
a help always near
in times of great trouble.
- ²That's why we won't be afraid
when the world falls apart,
when the mountains crumble into the
center of the sea,
³when its waters roar and rage,

^fPerhaps instruction ^gHeb uncertain ^hSyr; MT *Royal princess is among your precious ones.* ⁱCorrection; Heb lacks for; Heb uncertain in 45:12-13 ^jHeb lacks *great king.* ^kHeb uncertain; see note at Pss 9-10 or Ps 111.

- ¹²Walk around Zion;
go all the way around it;
count its towers.
- ¹³Examine its defenses closely;
tour its fortifications
so that you may tell future generations:
- ¹⁴“This is God,
our God, forever and always!
He is the one who will lead us
even to the very end.”^m

Psalm 49

*For the music leader.
A psalm of the Korahites.*

- ¹Listen to this, all you people!
Listen closely,
all you citizens of the world—
- ²people of every kind,
rich and poor alike!
- ³My mouth speaks wisdom;
my heart’s meditation is full of insight.
- ⁴I will pay close attention to a proverb;
I will explain my riddle on the lyre.
- ⁵Why should I be afraid in times of trouble,
when the wrongdoing of my bullies
engulfs me—
- ⁶those people who trust in their fortunes
and boast of their fantastic wealth?
- ⁷Wealth? It can’t save a single person!
It can’t pay a life’s ransom-price to God.
- ⁸The price to save someone’s life
is too high—
wealth will never be enough—
- ⁹no one can live forever
without experiencing the pit.
- ¹⁰Everyone knows that the wise die too,
just like foolish and stupid people do,
all of them leaving their fortunes
to others.
- ¹¹Their gravesⁿ are their eternal homes,
the place they live for all generations,
even if they had counties
named after them!
- ¹²People won’t live any longer
because of wealth;
- they’re just like the animals
that pass away.
- ¹³That’s how it goes
for those who are foolish,
as well as for those who follow their
lead, pleased with their talk. *Selah*
- ¹⁴Like sheep, they’re headed
straight for the grave.^o
Death will be their shepherd—
but those who do right in their hearts
will rule over them come morning!—
their forms wasting away in the grave
rather than having some noble residence.^p
- ¹⁵But God will save my life
from the power of the grave,
because he will take me. *Selah*
- ¹⁶Don’t be overly impressed
when someone becomes rich,
their house swelling
to fantastic proportions,
¹⁷because when they die,
they won’t take any of it with them.
Their fantastic things
won’t accompany them down under.
- ¹⁸Though they consider themselves
blessed during their lives,
even thank you
when you deal well with them,^q
- ¹⁹they too will join the ancestors
who’ve gone ahead;
they too will never see the light again.
- ²⁰Wealthy people?
They just don’t understand;
they’re just like the animals
that pass away.

Psalm 50

A psalm of Asaph.

- ¹From the rising of the sun to its setting,
God, the LORD God, speaks,
calling out to the earth.
- ²From Zion, perfect in beauty,
God shines brightly.
- ³Our God is coming;
he won’t keep quiet.

^mLXX; Heb uncertain. Heb *al muth* (unto death or against death), but see the notes at Pss 9–10, 46—the words might belong in the heading of Ps 49. ⁿCorrection with LXX ^oHeb *Sheol*; also again in 49:7, 15 ^pHeb uncertain in 49:13–14 ^qLXX, Syr

A devouring fire is before him;
 a storm rages all around him.
⁴God calls out to the skies above
 and to the earth
 in order to judge his people:
⁵“Bring my faithful to me,
 those who made a covenant with me
 by sacrifice.”
⁶The skies proclaim his righteousness
 because God himself is the judge. *Selah*
⁷“Listen, my people, I will now speak;
 Israel, I will now testify against you.
 I am God—your God!
⁸I’m not punishing you
 for your sacrifices
 or for your entirely burned offerings,
 which are always before me.
⁹I won’t accept bulls from your house
 or goats from your corrals
¹⁰because every forest animal
 already belongs to me,
 as do the cattle on a thousand hills.
¹¹I know every mountain bird;
 even the insects in the fields
 are mine.
¹²Even if I were hungry, I wouldn’t tell you
 because the whole world and
 everything in it already belong to me.
¹³Do I eat bulls’ meat?
 Do I drink goats’ blood?
¹⁴Offer God a sacrifice of thanksgiving!
 Fulfill the promises
 you made to the Most High!
¹⁵Cry out to me
 whenever you are in trouble;
 I will deliver you,
 then you will honor me.”
¹⁶But to the wicked God says,
 “Why do you talk about my laws?
 Why do you even mention
 my covenant?
¹⁷You hate discipline, and
 you toss my words behind your back.
¹⁸You make friends with thieves whenever
 you see one;
 you spend your time with adulterers.
¹⁹You set your mouth free to do evil,

then harness your tongue to tell lies.
²⁰You sit around,
 talking about your own siblings;
 you find fault with the children
 of your very own mother.
²¹You’ve done these things
 and I’ve kept quiet.
 You thought I was just like you!
 But now I’m punishing you;
 I’m laying it all out, right in front of
 your face.
²²So consider this carefully,
 all you who forget God,
 or I’ll rip you to pieces
 with no one to deliver you:
²³The one who offers
 a sacrifice of thanksgiving
 is the one who honors me.
 And it is to the one who charts
 the correct path that I will show
 divine salvation.”

Psalm 51

*For the music leader. A psalm of David,
 when the prophet Nathan came to him
 just after he had been
 with Bathsheba.*

¹Have mercy on me, God,
 according to your faithful love!
 Wipe away my wrongdoings
 according to your great compassion!
²Wash me completely clean of my guilt;
 purify me from my sin!
³Because I know my wrongdoings,
 my sin is always right in front of me.
⁴I’ve sinned against you—you alone.
 I’ve committed evil in your sight.
 That’s why you are justified
 when you render your verdict,
 completely correct
 when you issue your judgment.
⁵Yes, I was born in guilt, in sin,
 from the moment my mother
 conceived me.
⁶And yes, you want truth
 in the most hidden places;
 you teach me wisdom
 in the most secret place.^f

^fHeb uncertain

- ⁷Purify me with hyssop and I will be clean;
wash me and I will be whiter than snow.
- ⁸Let me hear joy and celebration again;
let the bones you crushed
rejoice once more.
- ⁹Hide your face from my sins;
wipe away all my guilty deeds!
- ¹⁰Create a clean heart for me, God;
put a new, faithful spirit deep inside me!
- ¹¹Please don't throw me
out of your presence;
please don't take your holy spirit
away from me.
- ¹²Return the joy of your salvation to me
and sustain me with a willing spirit.
- ¹³Then I will teach wrongdoers your ways,
and sinners will come back to you.
- ¹⁴Deliver me from violence, God,
God of my salvation,
so that my tongue can sing
of your righteousness.
- ¹⁵Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will proclaim your praise.
- ¹⁶You don't want sacrifices.
If I gave an entirely burned offering,
you wouldn't be pleased.
- ¹⁷A broken spirit is my sacrifice, God.^s
You won't despise a heart, God,
that is broken and crushed.
- ¹⁸Do good things for Zion by your favor.
Rebuild Jerusalem's walls.
- ¹⁹Then you will again want
sacrifices of righteousness—
entirely burned offerings
and complete offerings.
Then bulls will again be sacrificed
on your altar.
- ²Your tongue devises destruction:
it's like a sharpened razor,
causing deception.
- ³You love evil more than good;
you love lying more than speaking
what is right. *Selah*
- ⁴You love all destructive words;
you love the deceiving tongue.
- ⁵But God will take you down permanently;
he will snatch you up,
tear you out of your tent,
and uproot you from the land
of the living! *Selah*
- ⁶The righteous will see and be in awe;
they will laugh at those people:
- ⁷"Look at them! They didn't make God
their refuge.
Instead they trusted in
their own great wealth.
They sought refuge in it—
to their own destruction!"
- ⁸But I am like a green olive tree
in God's house;
I trust in God's faithful love
forever and always.
- ⁹I will give thanks to you, God, forever,
because you have acted.
In the presence of your faithful people,
I will hope in your name
because it's so good.

Psalm 53

*For the music leader, according to the
mahalath. A maskil^u of David.*

Psalm 52

*For the music leader. A maskil^t of David,
when Doeg the Edomite came
and told Saul, "David has gone
to Ahimelech's house."*

- ¹Hey, powerful person!
Why do you brag about evil?
God's faithful love lasts all day long.
- ²God looks down from heaven on humans
to see if anyone is wise,
to see if anyone seeks God.
- ³But all have turned away.
Everyone is corrupt.
No one does good—
not even one person!

^sCorrection ^tPerhaps instruction; it also appears in Pss 42, 44–45, 52–55, 74, 78, 88–89, 142; cf. 47:7; the root ^u is used in Ps 32:8. ^uPerhaps instruction

⁴Are they dumb—these evildoers—
devouring my people
like they are eating bread
but never calling on God?

⁵There, where there was nothing to fear,
they will be in utter panic
because God will scatter the bones
of those who attacked you.
You will put them to shame
because God has rejected them.

⁶Let Israel's salvation come out of Zion!
When God changes
his people's circumstances
for the better,
Jacob will rejoice;
Israel will celebrate!

Psalm 54

For the music leader. With stringed instruments. A maskil^w of David, when the Ziphites came and said to Saul, "Isn't David hiding among us?"

¹God! Save me by your name;
defend me by your might!

²God! Hear my prayer;
listen to the words of my mouth!

³The proud have come up against me;
violent people want me dead.
They pay no attention to God. *Selah*

⁴But look here: God is my helper;
my Lord sustains my life.

⁵He will bring disaster
on my opponents.
By your faithfulness, God,
destroy them!

⁶I will sacrifice to you freely;
I will give thanks to your name, LORD,
because it's so good,

⁷and because God has delivered me
from every distress.
My eyes have seen
my enemies' defeat.^w

Psalm 55

For the music leader. With stringed instruments. A maskil^w of David.

¹God, listen to my prayer;
don't avoid my request!

²Pay attention! Answer me!
I can't sit still while complaining.
I'm beside myself

³over the enemy's noise,
at the wicked person's racket,
because they bring disaster on me
and harass me furiously.

⁴My heart pounds in my chest
because death's terrors
have reached me.

⁵Fear and trembling
have come upon me;
I'm shaking all over.

⁶I say to myself,
I wish I had wings like a dove!
I'd fly away and rest.

⁷I'd run so far away!
I'd live in the desert. *Selah*

⁸I'd hurry to my hideout,
far from the rushing wind and storm.

⁹Baffle them, my Lord!
Confuse their language
because I see violence and conflict
in the city.

¹⁰Day and night they make their rounds
on its walls,
and evil and misery live inside it.

¹¹Disaster lives inside it;
oppression and fraud
never leave the town square.

¹²It's not an enemy that is insulting me—
I could handle that.
It's not someone who hates me
who is exalted over me—
I could hide from them.

¹³No. It's you, my equal,
my close companion, my good friend!

¹⁴It was so pleasant when
together we entered God's house
with the crowd.

⋮
⋮
⋮ ^vPerhaps instruction; it also appears in Pss 42, 44-45, 52-55, 74, 78, 88-89, 142; cf. 47:7; the root is used in Ps
○ 32:8. ^wHeb lacks defeat. ^xPerhaps instruction

- ¹⁵Let death devastate my enemies;
let them go to the underworld^y alive
because evil lives with them—
even inside them!
- ¹⁶But I call out to God,
and the LORD will rescue me.
- ¹⁷At evening, morning, and midday
I complain and moan
so that God will hear my voice.
- ¹⁸He saves me,^z unharmed,
from my struggle,
though there are many
who are out to get me.
- ¹⁹God, who is enthroned
from ancient days,
will hear and humble them *Selah*
because they don't change
and they don't worship God.
- ²⁰My friend attacked his allies,
breaking his covenant.
- ²¹Though his talk is smoother than butter,
war is in his heart;
though his words are more
silky than oil,
they are really drawn swords:
- ²²"Cast your burden on the LORD—
he will support you!
God will never let the righteous
be shaken!"
- ²³But you, God, bring the wicked
down to the deepest pit.
Let bloodthirsty
and treacherous people
not live out even half their days.
But me? I trust in you!

Psalm 56

*For the music leader. According to
"The Silent Dove of Distant Places."
A miktam^a of David, when the Philistines
seized him in Gath.*

- ¹God, have mercy on me
because I'm being trampled.
All day long the enemy oppresses me.
- ²My attackers trample me all day long
because I have so many enemies.

Exalted one,³ whenever I'm afraid,
I put my trust in you—
⁴in God, whose word I praise.
I trust in God; I won't be afraid.
What can mere flesh do to me?

- ⁵All day long they frustrate my pursuits;
all their thoughts are evil against me.
- ⁶They get together and set an ambush—
they are watching my steps,
hoping for my death.
- ⁷Don't rescue them for any reason!
In wrath bring down the people, God!
- ⁸You yourself have kept track of my misery.
Put my tears into your bottle—
aren't they on your scroll already?
- ⁹Then my enemies will retreat
when I cry out.
I know this because God is mine.
- ¹⁰God: whose word I praise.
The LORD: whose word I praise.
- ¹¹I trust in God; I won't be afraid.
What can anyone do to me?
- ¹²I will fulfill my promises to you, God.
I will present thanksgiving offerings
to you
- ¹³because you have saved my life
from death,
saved my feet from stumbling
so that I can walk before God
in the light of life.

Psalm 57

*For the music leader. Do not destroy.
A miktam^b of David, when he fled
from Saul into the cave.*

- ¹Have mercy on me, God;
have mercy on me
because I^c have taken refuge in you.
I take refuge
in the shadow of your wings
until destruction passes by.
- ²I call out to God Most High—
to God, who comes through for me.
- ³He sends orders from heaven
and saves me,

^yHeb Sheol ^zOr my life or soul ^aPerhaps inscription ^bPerhaps inscription ^cOr my soul

rebukes the one who tramples me. *Selah*
 God sends his loyal love
 and faithfulness.

⁴My life is in the middle of a pack of lions.
 I lie down
 among those who devour humans.
 Their teeth are spears and arrows;
 their tongues are sharpened swords.

⁵Exalt yourself, God, higher than heaven!
 Let your glory be over all the earth!

⁶They laid a net for my feet
 to bring me down;
 they dug a pit for me,
 but they fell into it instead! *Selah*

⁷My heart is unwavering, God—
 my heart is unwavering.
 I will sing and make music.

⁸Wake up, my glory!
 Wake up, harp and lyre!
 I will wake the dawn itself!

⁹I will give thanks to you, my Lord,
 among all the peoples;
 I will make music to you
 among the nations

¹⁰because your faithful love
 is as high as heaven;
 your faithfulness reaches the clouds.

¹¹Exalt yourself, God, higher than heaven!
 Let your glory be over all the earth!

Psalm 58

*For the music leader. Do not destroy.
 A psalm of David, a miktam.^d*

¹Do you really speak what is right, you gods?
 Do you really judge humans fairly?

²No: in your hearts you plan injustice;
 your hands do violence on the earth.

³The wicked backslide from the womb;
 liars go astray from birth.

⁴Their venom is like a snake's venom—
 like a deaf cobra's—
 one that shuts its ears

⁵so it can't hear
 the snake charmer's voice
 or the spells of a skillful enchanter.

⁶God, break their teeth out of their mouths!
 Tear out the lions' jawbones, LORD!

⁷Let them dissolve like water flowing away.
 When they bend the bow,
 let their arrows be like headless shafts.^e

⁸Like the snail that dissolves into slime,
 like a woman's stillborn child,
 let them never see the sun.

⁹Before your pots feel the thorns,
 whether green or burned up,
 God will sweep them away!^f

¹⁰But the righteous will rejoice
 when they see vengeance done,
 when they wash their feet
 in the blood of the wicked.

¹¹Then it will be said:
 "Yes, there is a reward for the righteous!
 Yes, there is a God who judges people
 on the earth."

Psalm 59

*For the music leader. Do not destroy.
 A miktam^g of David, when Saul sent men
 to watch the house in order to kill him.*

¹Oh, my God, deliver me from my enemies;
 put me out of reach from those
 who rise up against me.

²Deliver me from evildoers;
 save me from the bloodthirsty.

³Look at how they lie in ambush for my life!
 Powerful people are attacking me,
 LORD—
 but not because of any error
 or sin of mine.

⁴They run and take their stand—
 but not because of any fault of mine.

Get up when I cry out to you!
 Look at what's happening!

⁵You are the LORD God of heavenly forces,
 the God of Israel!
 Wake up and punish all the nations!
 Grant no mercy to any wicked traitor!
Selah

⁶They come back every evening,
 growling like dogs,
 prowling around the city.

^dPerhaps inscription ^eHeb uncertain ^fHeb uncertain ^gPerhaps inscription

- ⁷See what they belch out with their mouths:
swords are between their lips!
Who can listen to them?^h
- ⁸But you, LORD, laugh at them.
You mock all the nations.
- ⁹I keep looking for you, my strength,
because God is my stronghold.
- ¹⁰My loving God will come to meet me.
God will allow me to look down
on my enemies.
- ¹¹Don't kill them,
or my people might forget;
instead, by your power
shake them up and bring them down,
you who are our shield and my Lord.
- ¹²For the sin of their mouths,
the words that they speak,
let them be captured in their pride.
For the curses and lies they repeat,
¹³finish them off in anger;
finish them off until they are gone!
Then let it be known
to the ends of the earth
that God rules over Jacob. *Selah*
- ¹⁴They come back every evening,
growling like dogs,
prowling around the city.
- ¹⁵They roam about for food,
and if they don't get their fill,
they stay all night.
- ¹⁶But me? I will sing of your strength!
In the morning I will shout out loud
about your faithful love
because you have been my stronghold,
my shelter when I was distraught.
- ¹⁷I will sing praises to you, my strength,
because God is my stronghold,
my loving God.
- You've been so angry.
Now restore us!
- ²You've made the ground quake,
splitting it open.
Now repair its cracks
because it's shaking apart!
- ³You've made your people suffer hardship;
you've given us wine and we stagger.
- ⁴Give a flag to those who honor you,
so they can rally around it,
safe from attack.^j *Selah*
- ⁵Save us by your power and answer us
so that the people you love might be
rescued.
- ⁶God has spoken in his sanctuary:
"I will celebrate as I divide up Shechem
and portion out the Succoth Valley.
- ⁷Gilead is mine;
Manasseh is mine;
Ephraim is my helmet;
Judah is my scepter.
- ⁸But Moab is my washbowl;
I'll throw my shoe at Edom.
I shout in triumph over Philistia!^k
- ⁹I wish someone would bring me
to a fortified city!
I wish someone would lead me
to Edom!"
- ¹⁰But you have rejected us, God,
haven't you?
God, you no longer accompany
our armies.
- ¹¹Give us help against the enemy;
human help is worthless.
- ¹²With God we will triumph;
he's the one who will trample
our adversaries.

Psalm 60

*For the music leader. According to "Lily."
A testimony. A miktamⁱ of David.*

*For instruction, when he went to war with
Aram-naharaim and Aram-sobah, and
when Joab returned and defeated Edom,
killing twelve thousand in the Salt Valley.*

¹God, you have rejected us—
shattered us.

Psalm 61

*For the music leader,
with stringed instruments. Of David.*

¹God, listen to my cry;
pay attention to my prayer!

²When my heart is weak,
I cry out to you
from the very ends of the earth.

^hHeb uncertain ⁱPerhaps inscription ^jOr the bow; Heb uncertain ^kSyr, Ps 108:9; MT *Celebrate over me, Philistia!*

Lead me to the rock
that is higher than I am
³because you have been my refuge,
a tower of strength
in the face of the enemy.
⁴Please let me live in your tent forever!
Please let me take refuge
in the shelter of your wings! *Selah*
⁵Because you, God,
have heard my promises;
you've given me¹ the same possession
as those who honor your name.
⁶Add days to the king's life!
Let his years extend
for many generations!
⁷Let him be enthroned forever
before God!
Make it so love and faithfulness
watch over him!
⁸Then I will sing praises
to your name forever,
and I will do what I promised
every single day.

Psalm 62

*For the music leader. According to
Jeduthun. A psalm of David.*

¹Only in God do I^m find rest;
my salvation comes from him.
²Only God is my rock and my salvation—
my stronghold!—
I won't be shaken anymore.
³How long will all of you attack others;
how long will you tear them downⁿ
as if they were leaning walls
or broken-down fences?
⁴The only desire of this people
is to bring others down low;
they delight in deception.
With their mouths they bless,
but inside they are cursing. *Selah*
⁵Oh, I^o must find rest in God only
because my hope comes from him!
⁶Only God is my rock and my salvation—
my stronghold!—I will not be shaken.

⁷My deliverance and glory depend on God.
God is my strong rock.
My refuge is in God.
⁸All you people: Trust in him at all times!
Pour out your hearts before him!
God is our refuge! *Selah*
⁹Human beings are nothing but a breath.
Human beings are nothing but lies.
They don't even register on a scale;
taken all together
they are lighter than a breath!
¹⁰Don't trust in violence;
don't set false hopes in robbery.
When wealth bears fruit,
don't set your heart on it.
¹¹God has spoken one thing—
make it two things—
that I myself have heard:
that strength belongs to God,
¹²and faithful love comes from you,
my Lord—
and that you will repay
everyone according to their deeds.

Psalm 63

*A psalm of David,
when he was in the Judean desert.*

¹God! My God! It's you—
I search for you!
My whole being^p thirsts for you!
My body desires you
in a dry and tired land,
no water anywhere.
²Yes, I've seen you in the sanctuary;
I've seen your power and glory.
³My lips praise you
because your faithful love
is better than life itself!
⁴So I will bless you as long as I'm alive;
I will lift up my hands in your name.
⁵I'm fully satisfied—
as with a rich dinner.
My mouth speaks praise
with joy on my lips—
⁶whenever I ponder you on my bed,
whenever I meditate on you

¹Heb lacks *me*. ^mOr *my soul* ⁿCorrection; Heb *kill them* ^oOr *my soul* ^pOr *my soul*; also in 63:5, 8

- in the middle of the night—
⁷because you've been a help to me
 and I shout for joy in the protection
 of your wings.
⁸My whole being clings to you;
 your right hand upholds me.
- ⁹But what about those people
 who want to destroy me?
 Let them go into the bowels
 of the earth!
¹⁰Let their blood flow by the sword!
 Let them be food for wild jackals!
¹¹But the king should rejoice in God;
 everyone who swears by God
 should give praise
 when the mouths of liars
 are shut for good.

Psalm 64

For the music leader. A psalm of David.

- ¹Listen to me when I complain, God!
 Protect my life
 from the enemy's terror!
²Hide me from the secret plots
 of wicked people;
 hide me from the schemes of evildoers
³who sharpen their tongues
 like swords.
 They aim their arrow—a cruel word—
⁴from their hiding places
 so as to shoot an innocent person.
 They shoot without warning
 and without fear.
⁵They encourage themselves
 with evil words.
 They plan on laying traps in secret.
 "Who will be able to see them?"
 they ask.
⁶"Let someone try
 to expose our crimes!
 We've devised a perfect plot!
 It's deep within
 the human mind and heart."⁹
- ⁷But God will shoot them with an arrow!
 Without warning,
 they will be wounded!

- ⁸The LORD will make them trip
 over their own tongues;
 everyone who sees them
 will just shake their heads.
⁹Then all people will honor God,
 will announce the act of God,
 will understand it was God's work.
¹⁰Let the righteous rejoice in the LORD;
 let them take refuge in him;
 let everyone whose heart is
 in the right place give praise!

Psalm 65

For the music leader. A psalm of David.

A song.

- ¹God of Zion,
 to you even silence is praise.
 Promises made to you are kept—
²you listen to prayer—
 and all living things come to you.
³When wrongdoings become
 too much for me,
 you forgive our sins.
⁴How happy is the one you choose
 to bring close,
 the one who lives in your courtyards!
 We are filled full
 by the goodness of your house,
 by the holiness of your temple.
- ⁵In righteousness you answer us,
 by your awesome deeds,
 God of our salvation—
 you, who are the security
 of all the far edges of the earth,
 even the distant seas;
⁶you establish the mountains
 by your strength;
 you are dressed in raw power;
⁷you calm the roaring seas;
 calm the roaring waves,
 calm the noise of the nations.
⁸Those who dwell on the far edges
 stand in awe of your acts.
 You make the roadways
 of morning and evening sing for joy.
⁹You visit the earth
 and make it abundant,

ⓘ⁹Heb uncertain

enriching it greatly
by God's stream, full of water.
You provide people with grain
because that is what you've established.
¹⁰Drenching the earth's furrows,
leveling its ridges,
you soften it with rain showers;
you bless its growth.
¹¹You crown the year with your goodness;
your paths drip with rich food.
¹²Even the desert pastures drip with it,
and the hills are dressed in pure joy.
¹³The meadowlands are covered
with flocks,
the valleys decked out in grain—
they shout for joy;
they break out in song!

Psalms 66

For the music leader. A song. A psalm.

¹Shout joyfully to God, all the earth!
²Sing praises to the glory of God's name!
Make glorious his praise!
³Say to God:
"How awesome are your works!
Because of your great strength,
your enemies cringe before you."
⁴All the earth worships you,
sings praises to you,
sings praises to your name!" *Selah*
⁵Come and see God's deeds;
his works for human beings
are awesome:
⁶He turned the sea into dry land
so they could cross the river on foot.
Right there we rejoiced in him!
⁷God rules with power forever;
keeps a good eye on the nations.
So don't let the rebellious
exalt themselves. *Selah*
⁸All you nations, bless our God!
Let the sound of his praise be heard!
⁹God set us among the living;
he didn't let our feet slip a bit.
¹⁰But you, God, have tested us—
you've refined us like silver,
¹¹trapped us in a net,

laid burdens on our backs,
¹²let other people run
right over our heads—
we've been through fire and water.

But you brought us out to freedom!
¹³So I'll enter your house
with entirely burned offerings.
I'll keep the promises I made to you,
¹⁴the ones my lips uttered,
the ones my mouth spoke
when I was in deep trouble.
¹⁵I will offer the best burned offerings
to you
along with the smoke of sacrificed rams.
I will offer both bulls and goats. *Selah*
¹⁶Come close and listen up,
all you who honor God;
I will tell you
what God has done for me:
¹⁷My mouth cried out to him
with praise on my tongue.
¹⁸If I had cherished evil in my heart,
my Lord would not have listened.
¹⁹But God definitely listened.
God heard the sound of my prayer.
²⁰Bless God!
He didn't reject my prayer;
he didn't keep his faithful love from me.

Psalms 67

For the music leader, with stringed instruments. A psalm. A song.

¹Let God grant us grace and bless us;
let God make his face shine on us, *Selah*
²so that your way becomes known
on earth,
so that your salvation becomes known
among all the nations.
³Let the people thank you, God!
Let all the people thank you!
⁴Let the people celebrate
and shout with joy
because you judge the nations fairly
and guide all nations on the earth. *Selah*

⁵Let the people thank you, God!
Let all the people thank you!

⁶The earth has yielded its harvest.
God blesses us—our God blesses us!
⁷Let God continue to bless us;
let the far ends of the earth honor him.

Psalm 68

For the music leader. Of David.

A psalm. A song.

¹Let God rise up;
let his enemies scatter;
let those who hate him
run scared before him!
²Like smoke is driven away,
drive them away!
Like wax melting before fire,
let the wicked perish before God!
³But let the righteous be glad
and celebrate before God.
Let them rejoice with gladness!
⁴Sing to God! Sing praises to his name!
Exalt the one who rides the clouds!
The LORD is his name.
Celebrate before him!

⁵Father of orphans
and defender of widows
is God in his holy habitation.
⁶God settles the lonely in their homes;
he sets prisoners free in happiness,^f
but the rebellious dwell
in a parched land.

⁷When you went forth
before your people, God,
when you marched
through the wasteland, *Selah*
⁸the earth shook!
Yes, heaven poured down
before God, the one from Sinai—
before God, the God of Israel!
⁹You showered down abundant rain, God;
when your inheritance grew weary,
you restored it yourself,
¹⁰and your creatures settled in it.

In your goodness, God,
you provided for the poor.

¹¹My Lord gives the command—
many are the messengers
bringing good news:
¹²“The kings of armies are on the run!
The women back home divide the spoil.
¹³Even if you lie down
among the sheepfolds,
there are wings of a dove
covered with silver;
its pinions covered in precious gold.”^s
¹⁴When the Almighty^t
scattered the kings there,
snow fell on Mount Zalmon.
¹⁵Mighty mountain, Mount Bashan;
many-peaked mountain, Mount Bashan!
¹⁶You many-peaked mountain:
Why do you look with envy
at the mountain
God desired for his dwelling,
the mountain
where the LORD dwells forever?

¹⁷God’s chariots are twice ten thousand—
countless thousands!
My Lord came from Sinai^u
into the sanctuary.
¹⁸You ascended the heights,
leading away your captives,
receiving tribute from people,
even from those who rebel
against the LORD God’s dwelling there.
¹⁹Bless the Lord!
The God of our salvation
supports us day after day! *Selah*
²⁰Our God is the God of salvation,
and escape from certain death
belongs to God my LORD.

²¹Yes, God will shatter
the heads of his enemies—
the very skull of those who walk in guilt.
²²My Lord has spoken:
“From Bashan I will bring
those people back.

^fOr skillfully; LXX, Vulg with strength; Heb uncertain ^sHeb uncertain ^tHeb Shaddai ^uCorrection; MT My Lord
was among them, the one from Sinai, in holiness.

I will bring them back
 from the ocean's depths
²³so that you can wash your feet
 in their blood,
 so that your dogs' tongues
 can lap up their share
 of your enemies."

²⁴They saw your procession, God—
 the procession of my God,
 my king, into the sanctuary.

²⁵First came the singers,
 then the musicians;
 between them the young women
 were playing hand drums:

²⁶"Bless God in the great congregation;
 bless the LORD from Israel's fountain!"

²⁷There's Benjamin leading them,
 though he's little;
 then the princes of Judah,
 their speaker;
 then the princes of Zebulun
 and the princes of Naphtali.

²⁸Summon your strength, God!
 Show how strong you are, God,
 just as you've done for us before,
²⁹from your temple above Jerusalem,
 where kings bring you gifts.

³⁰Rebuke the wild animals
 of the marshland,
 the herd of bulls
 among the calves of the peoples.
 Trample those who delight in money;
 scatter the peoples
 who take pleasure in battles.

³¹Let ambassadors come from Egypt;
 let Cush stretch out its hands to God.

³²Sing to God, all kingdoms of the earth!
 Sing praises to my Lord. *Selah*

³³Sing to the one
 who rides through heaven,
 the most ancient heaven.
 Look! God sends forth his voice,
 his mighty voice.

³⁴Recognize how strong God is!
 His majesty extends over Israel;
 his strength is in the clouds.

³⁵You are awesome, God,
 in your sanctuaries—

the God of Israel who gives strength
 and power to his people!

Bless God!

Psalm 69

*For the music leader. According to
 "The Lilies." Of David.*

¹Save me, God,
 because the waters
 have reached my neck!
²I have sunk into deep mud.
 My feet can't touch the bottom!
 I have entered deep water;
 the flood has swept me up.

³I am tired of crying.
 My throat is hoarse.
 My eyes are done
 with waiting for my God.

⁴More numerous than the hairs
 on my head
 are those who hate me for no reason.
 My treacherous enemies,
 those who would destroy me,
 are countless.
 Must I now give back
 what I didn't steal in the first place?

⁵God, you know my foolishness;
 my wrongdoings aren't hidden
 from you.

⁶LORD God of heavenly forces!—
 don't let those who hope in you
 be put to shame because of me.
 God of Israel!—
 don't let those who seek you
 be disgraced because of me.

⁷I am insulted because of you.
 Shame covers my face.

⁸I have become a stranger
 to my own brothers,
 an immigrant to my mother's children.

⁹Because passion for your house
 has consumed me,
 the insults of those who insult you
 have fallen on me!

¹⁰I wept while I fasted—
 even for that I was insulted.

¹¹When I wore funeral clothes,

- people made fun of me.
- ¹²Those who sit at the city gate
muttered things about me;
drunkards made up rude songs.
- ¹³But me? My prayer comes to you, LORD,
at just the right time.
God, in your great and faithful love,
answer me with your certain salvation!
- ¹⁴Save me from the mud!
Don't let me drown!
Let me be saved from those who hate me
and from these watery depths!
- ¹⁵Don't let me be swept away
by the floodwaters!
Don't let the abyss swallow me up!
Don't let the pit close its mouth
over me!
- ¹⁶Answer me, LORD,
for your faithful love is good!
Turn to me in your great compassion!
- ¹⁷Don't hide your face from me,
your servant,
because I'm in deep trouble.
Answer me quickly!
- ¹⁸Come close to me!
Redeem me!
Save me because of my enemies!
- ¹⁹You know full well the insults
I've received;
you know my shame and my disgrace.
All my adversaries are right there
in front of you.
- ²⁰Insults have broken my heart.
I'm sick about it.
I hoped for sympathy,
but there wasn't any;
I hoped for comforters,
but couldn't find any.
- ²¹They gave me poison for food.
To quench my thirst
they gave me vinegar to drink.
- ²²Let the table before them become a trap,
their offerings a snare.
- ²³Let their eyes grow too dim to see;
make their insides tremble constantly.
- ²⁴Pour out your anger on them—
let your burning fury catch them.
- ²⁵Let their camp be devastated;
let no one dwell in their tents.
- ²⁶Because they go after those
you've already struck;
they talk about the pain
of those you've already pierced.
- ²⁷Pile guilt on top of their guilt!
Don't let them come
into your righteousness!
- ²⁸Let them be wiped out
of the scroll of life!
Let them not be recorded
along with the righteous!
- ²⁹And me? I'm afflicted.
I'm full of pain.
Let your salvation keep me safe, God!
- ³⁰I will praise God's name with song;
I will magnify him with thanks
- ³¹because that is more pleasing to the
LORD than an ox,
more pleasing than a young bull
with full horns and hooves.
- ³²Let the afflicted see it and be glad!
You who seek God—
let your hearts beat strong again
- ³³because the LORD listens to the needy
and doesn't despise his captives.
- ³⁴Let heaven and earth praise God,
the oceans too, and all that moves
within them!
- ³⁵God will most certainly save Zion
and will rebuild Judah's cities
so that God's servants can live there
and possess it.
- ³⁶The offspring of God's servants
will inherit Zion,
and those who love God's name
will dwell there.

Psalm 70

For the music leader. Of David.

For the memorial offering.

- ¹Hurry, God, to deliver me;
hurry, LORD, to help me!
- ²Let those who seek my life
be ashamed and humiliated!
Let them fall back and be disgraced—
those people who delight
in my downfall!

³Let those who say, “Aha! Aha!”
stop because of their shameful
behavior.
⁴But let all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you,
and let those who love your saving help
say again and again:
“God is great!”
⁵But me? I’m poor and needy.
Hurry to me, God!
You are my helper and my deliverer.
Oh, LORD, don’t delay!

Psalm 71

¹I’ve taken refuge in you, LORD.
Don’t let me ever be put to shame!
²Deliver me and rescue me
by your righteousness!
Bend your ear toward me and save me!
³Be my rock of refuge
where I can always escape.
You commanded that my life be saved
because you are my rock
and my fortress.
⁴My God, rescue me
from the power of the wicked;
rescue me from the grip of the
wrongdoer and the oppressor
⁵because you are my hope, Lord.
You, LORD, are the one I’ve trusted
since childhood.
⁶I’ve depended on you from birth—
you cut the cord when I came
from my mother’s womb.
My praise is always yours.
⁷I’ve become an example to many people
because you are my strong refuge.
⁸My mouth is filled with your praise,
with your glory all day long.
⁹Don’t cast me off in old age.
Don’t abandon me when my strength
is used up!
¹⁰Yes, my enemies have been
talking about me;
those who stalk me plot together:
¹¹“God has abandoned him!

Pursue him!
Grab him
because no one will deliver him!”
¹²Don’t be far from me, God!
My God, hurry to help me!
¹³Let my accusers be put to shame,
completely finished off!
Let those who seek my downfall
be dressed in insults and disgrace!
¹⁴But me? I will hope. Always.
I will add to all your praise.
¹⁵My mouth will repeat
your righteous acts
and your saving deeds all day long.
I don’t even know
how many of those there are!
¹⁶I will dwell on your mighty acts, my Lord.
LORD, I will help others remember
nothing but your righteous deeds.
¹⁷You’ve taught me since my youth, God,
and I’m still proclaiming
your wondrous deeds!
¹⁸So, even in my old age with gray hair,
don’t abandon me, God!
Not until I tell generations
about your mighty arm,
tell all who are yet to come
about your strength—
¹⁹and about your righteousness, God,
to the highest height
because you’ve done awesome things!
Who can compare to you, God?
²⁰You, who have shown me
many troubles and calamities,
will revive me once more.^v
From the depths of the earth,
you will raise me up one more time.
²¹Please increase my honor
and comfort me all around.
²²Then I’ll give you thanks with a harp—
I will thank you for your faithfulness,
my God.
I will make music for you
with the lyre, holy one of Israel.
²³My lips will rejoice aloud
when I make music for you;
my whole being,^w which you saved,
will do the same.

^vQere; or *who have shown us . . . will revive us* (Kethib) ^wOr *soul*

²⁴My tongue, also, will tell of your righteousness all day long because those who seek my downfall have been put to shame and disgraced.

Psalm 72

Of Solomon.

- ¹God, give your judgments to the king.
Give your righteousness to the king's son.
- ²Let him judge your people with righteousness and your poor ones with justice.
- ³Let the mountains bring peace to the people;
let the hills bring righteousness.
- ⁴Let the king bring justice to people who are poor;
let him save the children of those who are needy,
but let him crush oppressors!
- ⁵Let the king live^x as long as the sun,
as long as the moon,
generation to generation.
- ⁶Let him fall like rain upon fresh-cut grass,
like showers that water the earth.
- ⁷Let the righteous flourish throughout their lives,
and let peace prosper until the moon is no more.
- ⁸Let the king rule from sea to sea,
from the river to the ends of the earth.
- ⁹Let the desert dwellers bow low before him;
let his enemies lick the dust.
- ¹⁰Let the kings of Tarshish and the islands bring tribute;
let the kings of Sheba and Seba present gifts.
- ¹¹Let all the kings bow down before him;
let all the nations serve him.
- ¹²Let it be so because he delivers the needy who cry out,
the poor,
and those who have no helper.
- ¹³He has compassion on the weak and the needy;

^xLXX; MT *May they fear you.*

he saves the lives of those who are in need.

- ¹⁴He redeems their lives from oppression and violence;
their blood is precious in his sight.
- ¹⁵Let the king live long!
Let Sheba's gold be given to him!
Let him be prayed for always!
Let him be blessed all day long!
- ¹⁶Let there be abundant grain in the land.
Let it wave on the mountaintops.
Let its fruit flourish like Lebanon.
Let it thrive like grass on the land.
- ¹⁷Let the king's name last forever.
Let his name endure as long as the sun.
Let all the nations be blessed through him and call him happy.
- ¹⁸Bless the LORD God, the God of Israel—the only one
who does wondrous things!
- ¹⁹Bless God's glorious name forever;
let his glory fill all the earth!
Amen and Amen!
- ²⁰The prayers of David, Jesse's son,
are ended.

BOOK III

(Psalms 73–89)

Psalm 73

A psalm of Asaph.

- ¹Truly God is good to Israel,
to those who are pure of heart.
- ²But me? My feet had almost stumbled;
my steps had nearly slipped
- ³because I envied the arrogant;
I observed how the wicked are well off:
- ⁴They suffer no pain;
their bodies are fit and strong.
- ⁵They are never in trouble;
they aren't weighed down
like other people.
- ⁶That's why they wear arrogance
like a necklace,

why violence covers them like clothes.
⁷Their eyes bulge out from eating so well;
 the delusions of their hearts overflow.
⁸They scoff and talk so cruel;
 from their privileged positions
 they plan oppression.
⁹Their mouths dare to speak
 against heaven!
 Their tongues roam the earth!
¹⁰That's why people keep going back
 to them,
 keep approving what they say.^y
¹¹And what they say is this:
 "How could God possibly know!
 Does the Most High have any
 knowledge at all!"
¹²Look at these wicked ones,
 always relaxed, piling up the wealth!

¹³Meanwhile, I've kept my heart pure
 for no good reason;
 I've washed my hands
 to stay innocent for nothing.
¹⁴I'm weighed down all day long.
 I'm punished every morning.
¹⁵If I said, "I will talk about all this,"
 I would have been unfaithful
 to your children.
¹⁶But when I tried to understand
 these things,
 it just seemed like hard work
¹⁷until I entered God's sanctuary
 and understood what would happen
 to the wicked.
¹⁸You will definitely put them
 on a slippery path;
 you will make them fall into ruin!
¹⁹How quickly they are devastated,
 utterly destroyed by terrors!
²⁰As quickly as a dream departs
 from one waking up, my Lord
 when you are stirred up,
 you make them disappear.^z
²¹When my heart was bitter,
 when I was all cut up inside,
²²I was stupid and ignorant.
 I acted like nothing but an animal
 toward you.

²³But I was still always with you!
 You held my right hand!
²⁴You have guided me with your advice;
 later you will receive me with glory.
²⁵Do I have anyone else in heaven?
 There's nothing on earth I desire
 except you.
²⁶My body and my heart fail,
 but God is my heart's rock
 and my share forever.
²⁷Look! Those far from you die;
 you annihilate all those
 who are unfaithful to you.
²⁸But me? It's good for me to be near God.
 I have taken my refuge in you,
 my LORD God,
 so I can talk all about your works!

Psalm 74

A maskil^a of Asaph.

¹God, why have you abandoned us forever?
 Why does your anger smolder
 at the sheep of your own pasture?
²Remember your congregation
 that you took as your own long ago,
 that you redeemed to be the tribe
 of your own possession—
 remember Mount Zion, where you dwell.
³March to the unending ruins,
 to all that the enemy destroyed
 in the sanctuary.
⁴Your enemies roared
 in your own meeting place;
 they set up their own signs there!
⁵It looked like axes raised
 against a thicket of trees.^b
⁶And then all its carvings
 they hacked down with hatchet and pick.
⁷They set fire to your sanctuary,
 burned it to the ground;
 they defiled the dwelling place
 of your name.
⁸They said in their hearts,
 We'll kill all of them together!
 They burned all of God's meeting places
 in the land.
⁹We don't see our own signs anymore.

No prophet is left.
And none of us know
how long it will last.

¹⁰How long, God, will foes insult you?
Are enemies going to abuse
your name forever?

¹¹Why do you pull your hand back?
Why do you hold your right hand
close to your chest?

¹²Yet God has been my king
from ancient days—
God, who makes salvation happen
in the heart of the earth!

¹³You split the sea with your power.
You shattered the heads
of the sea monsters on the water.

¹⁴You crushed Leviathan's heads.
You gave it to the desert dwellers
for food!

¹⁵You split open springs and streams;
you made strong-flowing rivers
dry right up.

¹⁶Yours is the day! The night too!
You established both the moon
and the sun.

¹⁷You set all the boundaries of the earth
in place.
Summer and winter? You made them!

¹⁸So remember this, LORD:
how enemies have insulted you,
how unbelieving fools
have abused your name.

¹⁹Don't deliver the life of your dove
to wild animals!
Don't forget the lives
of your afflicted people forever!

²⁰Consider the covenant!
Because the land's dark places
are full of violence.

²¹Don't let the oppressed live in shame.
No, let the poor and needy
praise your name!

²²God, rise up! Make your case!
Remember how unbelieving fools
insult you all day long.

²³Don't forget the voices of your enemies,
the racket of your adversaries
that never quits.

Psalm 75

*For the music leader. Do not destroy.
A psalm of Asaph. A song.*

¹We give thanks to you, God.
Yes, we give thanks!
Your name is near.
Your marvelous deeds are declared.

²God says,^c
"When I decide the time is right,
I will establish justice just so.

³The earth and all its inhabitants will melt,
but I will keep its pillars steady." *Selah*

⁴I said to the arrogant,
"Don't be arrogant!"
To the wicked I said,
"Don't exalt your strength!

⁵Don't exalt your strength so highly.
Don't speak so arrogantly
against the rock."^d

⁶Because what exalts someone
doesn't come from the east or west;
it's not from the south either.

⁷Rather it is God who is the judge.
He brings this person down,
but that person he lifts up.

⁸Indeed, there's a cup
in the LORD's hand
full of foaming wine,
mixed with spice.
He will pour it out,
and all of the earth's wicked people
must drink it;
they must drink every last drop!

⁹But I will rejoice^e always;
I will sing praises to Jacob's God!

¹⁰God says:^f
"I will demolish every bit
of the wicked's power,
but the strength of the righteous
will be lifted up."

^cHeb lacks *God says*. ^dLXX *against God*; MT *speaks with an arrogant neck* ^eLXX; MT *I will declare* ^fHeb lacks *God says*.

Psalm 76

For the music leader. With stringed instruments. A psalm of Asaph. A song.

- ¹God is known in Judah;
his name is great in Israel.
- ²His dwelling place became Salem;
his habitation was Zion.
- ³It was there that he broke
the fiery shafts of the bow,
the shield, the sword—
even the battle itself! *Selah*
- ⁴You are ablaze with light,
mightier than the mountains
that give food.
- ⁵The bravehearted lie plundered.
They sank into deep lethargy.
All the strong troops
couldn't even lift their hands!
- ⁶At your rebuke, Jacob's God,
both chariot and horse
were stopped dead still.
- ⁷You! You are awesome!
Who can stand before you
when you are angry?
- ⁸You have announced judgment
from heaven.
The earth grew afraid and fell silent
⁹when God rose up to establish justice,
when God rose up to save
all of the earth's poor. *Selah*
- ¹⁰Even human rage will turn to your praise
when you dress yourself
with whatever remains of your wrath.^g
- ¹¹Make promises to the LORD your God
and keep them!
Let all around him bring gifts
to the awesome one.
- ¹²He breaks the spirit of princes.
He is terrifying to all the kings
of the earth.

Psalm 77

For the music leader. According to Jeduthun. Of Asaph. A psalm.

- ¹I cry out loud to God—
out loud to God so that he can hear me!

- ²During the day when I'm in trouble
I look for my Lord.
At night my hands are still
outstretched and don't grow numb;
my whole being^h refuses
to be comforted.
- ³I remember God and I moan.
I complain, and my spirit grows tired. *Selah*
- ⁴You've kept my eyelids from closing.
I'm so upset I can't even speak.
- ⁵I think about days long past;
I remember years that seem an eternity
in the past.
- ⁶I meditate with my heart at night;ⁱ
I complain, and my spirit keeps
searching:
- ⁷"Will my Lord reject me forever?
Will he never be pleased again?"
- ⁸Has his faithful love
come to a complete end?
Is his promise over
for future generations?
- ⁹Has God forgotten how to be gracious?
Has he angrily stopped up
his compassion?" *Selah*
- ¹⁰It's my misfortune, I thought,
that the right hand of the Most High
is different now.
- ¹¹But I will remember the LORD's deeds;
yes, I will remember your wondrous
acts from times long past.
- ¹²I will meditate on all your works;
I will ponder your deeds.
- ¹³God, your way is holiness!
Who is as great a god as you, God?
- ¹⁴You are the God who works wonders;
you have demonstrated your strength
among all peoples.
- ¹⁵With your mighty arm
you redeemed your people;
redeemed the children of
Jacob and Joseph. *Selah*
- ¹⁶The waters saw you, God—
the waters saw you and reeled!
Even the deep depths shook!

^gHeb uncertain ^hOr soul ⁱLXX; MT I remember my song in the night.

- ¹⁷The clouds poured water,
the skies cracked thunder;
your arrows were flying all around!
- ¹⁸The crash of your thunder
was in the swirling storm;
lightning lit up the whole world;
the earth shook and quaked.
- ¹⁹Your way went straight through the sea;
your pathways went right through the
mighty waters.
But your footprints left no trace!
- ²⁰You led your people like sheep
under the care of Moses and Aaron.

Psalm 78

A maskil¹ of Asaph.

- ¹Listen, my people, to my teaching;
tilt your ears toward
the words of my mouth.
- ²I will open my mouth with a proverb.
I'll declare riddles
from days long gone—
³ones that we've heard
and learned about,
ones that our ancestors told us.
- ⁴We won't hide them
from their descendants;
we'll tell the next generation
all about the praise due the LORD
and his strength—
the wondrous works God has done.
- ⁵He established a law for Jacob
and set up Instruction for Israel,
ordering our ancestors
to teach them to their children.
- ⁶This is so that the next generation
and children not yet born
will know these things,
and so they can rise up
and tell their children
- ⁷to put their hope in God—
never forgetting God's deeds,
but keeping God's commandments—
- ⁸and so that they won't become like
their ancestors:
a rebellious, stubborn generation,
a generation whose heart
wasn't set firm
- and whose spirit
wasn't faithful to God.
- ⁹The children of Ephraim,
armed with bows,
retreated on the day of battle.
- ¹⁰They didn't keep God's covenant;
they refused to walk in his Instruction.
- ¹¹They forgot God's deeds
as well as the wondrous works
he showed them.
- ¹²But God performed wonders
in their ancestors' presence—
in the land of Egypt,
in the field of Zoan.
- ¹³God split the sea and led them through,
making the waters stand up like a wall.
- ¹⁴God led them with the cloud by day;
by the lightning all through the night.
- ¹⁵God split rocks open in the wilderness,
gave them plenty to drink—
as if from the deep itself!
- ¹⁶God made streams flow from the rock,
made water run like rivers.
- ¹⁷But they continued to sin against God,
rebelling against the Most High
in the desert.
- ¹⁸They tested God in their hearts,
demanded food for their stomachs.
- ¹⁹They spoke against God!
"Can God set a dinner table
in the wilderness?" they asked.
- ²⁰"True, God struck the rock
and water gushed and streams flowed,
but can he give bread too?
Can he provide meat for his people?"
- ²¹When the LORD heard this,
he became furious.
A fire was ignited against Jacob;
wrath also came up against Israel
- ²²because they had no faith in God,
because they didn't trust
his saving power.
- ²³God gave orders to the skies above,
opened heaven's doors,
²⁴and rained manna on them
so they could eat.
He gave them the very grain of heaven!

¹Perhaps *instruction*; the root is used in Ps 32:8.

²⁵ Each person ate the bread
of the powerful ones;^k
God sent provisions to satisfy them.
²⁶ God set the east wind moving
across the skies
and drove the south wind
by his strength.
²⁷ He rained meat on them
as if it were dust in the air;
he rained as many birds
as the sand on the seashore!
²⁸ God brought the birds down
in the center of their camp,
all around their dwellings.
²⁹ So they ate
and were completely satisfied;
God gave them exactly
what they had craved.
³⁰ But they didn't stop craving—
even with the food
still in their mouths!
³¹ So God's anger came up against them:
he killed the most hearty of them;
he cut down Israel's youth
in their prime.
³² But in spite of all that, they kept sinning
and had no faith
in God's wondrous works.
³³ So God brought their days to an end,
like a puff of air,
and their years in total ruin.
³⁴ But whenever God killed them,
they went after him!
They would turn
and earnestly search for God.
³⁵ They would remember that God
was their rock,
that the Most High was their redeemer.
³⁶ But they were just flattering him
with lip service.
They were lying to him
with their tongues.
³⁷ Their hearts weren't firmly set on him;
they weren't faithful to his covenant.
³⁸ But God, being compassionate,
kept forgiving their sins,
kept avoiding destruction;
he took back his anger so many times,
wouldn't stir up all his wrath!

³⁹ God kept remembering
that they were just flesh,
just breath that passes
and doesn't come back.
⁴⁰ How often they rebelled
against God in the wilderness
and distressed him in the desert!
⁴¹ Time and time again they tested God,
provoking the holy one of Israel.
⁴² They didn't remember God's power—
the day when he saved them
from the enemy;
⁴³ how God performed his signs in Egypt,
his marvelous works in the field of Zoan.
⁴⁴ God turned their rivers into blood;
they couldn't drink
from their own streams.
⁴⁵ God sent swarms against them
to eat them up,
frogs to destroy them.
⁴⁶ God handed over their crops
to caterpillars,
their land's produce to locusts.
⁴⁷ God killed their vines with hail,
their sycamore trees with frost.
⁴⁸ God delivered their cattle
over to disease,¹
their herds to plagues.
⁴⁹ God unleashed his burning anger
against them—
fury, indignation, distress,
a troop of evil messengers.
⁵⁰ God blazed a path for his wrath.
He didn't save them from death,
but delivered their lives over to disease.
⁵¹ God struck down
all of Egypt's oldest males;
in Ham's tents,
he struck their pride and joy.
⁵² God led his own people out like sheep,
guiding them like a flock
in the wilderness.
⁵³ God led them in safety—
they were not afraid!
But the sea engulfed their enemies!
⁵⁴ God brought them to his holy territory,
to the mountain that his own
right hand had acquired.

^kOr everyone ate the bread from heaven; Heb uncertain ¹Correction; MT to hailstones

⁵⁵ God drove out the nations before them
and apportioned property for them;
he settled Israel's tribes in their tents.

⁵⁶ But they tested and defied
the Most High God;
they didn't pay attention
to his warnings.

⁵⁷ They turned away, became faithless
just like their ancestors;
they twisted away like a defective bow.

⁵⁸ They angered God
with their many shrines;
they angered him with their idols.

⁵⁹ God heard and became enraged;
he rejected Israel utterly.

⁶⁰ God abandoned the sanctuary
at Shiloh,
the tent where he had lived
with humans.

⁶¹ God let his power be held captive,
let his glory go to the enemy's hand.

⁶² God delivered his people
up to the sword;
he was enraged at his own possession.

⁶³ Fire devoured his young men,
and his young women
had no wedding songs.

⁶⁴ God's priests were killed by the sword,
and his widows couldn't even cry.

⁶⁵ But then my Lord woke up—
as if he'd been sleeping!
Like a warrior shaking off wine,

⁶⁶ God beat back his foes;
he made them an everlasting disgrace.

⁶⁷ God rejected the tent of Joseph
and didn't choose
the tribe of Ephraim.

⁶⁸ Instead, he chose the tribe of Judah,
the mountain of Zion, which he loves.

⁶⁹ God built his sanctuary
like the highest heaven
and like the earth,
which he established forever.

⁷⁰ And God chose David, his servant,
taking him from the sheepfolds.

⁷¹ God brought him from shepherding
nursing ewes
to shepherd his people Jacob,
to shepherd his inheritance, Israel.

⁷² David shepherded them
with a heart of integrity;
he led them with the skill of his hands.

Psalm 79

A psalm of Asaph.

¹ The nations have come
into your inheritance, God!
They've defiled your holy temple.
They've made Jerusalem
a bunch of ruins.

² They've left your servants' bodies
as food for the birds;
they've left the flesh of your faithful
to the wild animals of the earth.

³ They've poured out the blood
of the faithful
like water all around Jerusalem,
and there's no one left to bury them.

⁴ We've become a joke to our neighbors,
nothing but objects of ridicule
and disapproval to those around us.

⁵ How long will you rage, LORD?
Forever?
How long will your anger burn like fire?

⁶ Pour out your wrath on the nations
who don't know you,
on the kingdoms
that haven't called on your name.

⁷ They've devoured Jacob
and demolished his pasture.

⁸ Don't remember the iniquities
of past generations;
let your compassion hurry to meet us
because we've been brought so low.

⁹ God of our salvation, help us
for the glory of your name!
Deliver us and cover our sins
for the sake of your name!

¹⁰ Why should the nations say,
"Where's their God now?"
Let vengeance for the spilled blood
of your servants

be known among the nations
before our very eyes!

¹¹ Let the prisoners' groaning reach you.
With your powerful arm
spare those who are destined to die.

¹² Pay back our neighbors seven times over,

right where it hurts,
for the insults they used on you, Lord.
¹³We are, after all, your people
and the sheep of your very own pasture.
We will give you thanks forever;
we will proclaim your praises
from one generation to the next.

Psalm 80

For the music leader.

According to "Lotus Blossoms."

A testimony of Asaph. A psalm.

¹Shepherd of Israel, listen!
You, the one who leads Joseph
as if he were a sheep.
You, who are enthroned
upon the winged heavenly creatures.
Show yourself ²before Ephraim,
Benjamin, and Manasseh!
Wake up your power!
Come to save us!
³Restore us, God!
Make your face shine
so that we can be saved!

⁴LORD God of heavenly forces,
how long will you fume
against your people's prayer?
⁵You've fed them bread made of tears;
you've given them tears
to drink three times over!
⁶You've put us at odds
with our neighbors;
our enemies make fun of us.
⁷Restore us, God of heavenly forces!
Make your face shine
so that we can be saved!

⁸You brought a vine out of Egypt.
You drove out the nations and planted it.
⁹You cleared the ground for it;
then it planted its roots deep,
filling the land.
¹⁰The mountains were covered by its shade;
the mighty cedars were covered
by its branches.
¹¹It sent its branches
all the way to the sea;

its shoots went
all the way to the Euphrates River.^m
¹²So why have you now torn down its walls
so that all who come along
can pluck its fruit,
¹³so that any boar from the forest
can tear it up,
so that the bugs can feed on it?

¹⁴Please come back, God of heavenly forces!
Look down from heaven and consider!
Attend to this vine,
¹⁵this root that you planted
with your right hand,
this son whom you secured
as your very own.
¹⁶It is burned with fire.
It is chopped down.
They die at the rebuke coming from you.
¹⁷Let your hand be with the one
at your right hand—
with the one whom you secured
as your own—
¹⁸then we will not turn away from you!
Revive us
so that we can call on your name.
¹⁹Restore us,
LORD God of heavenly forces!
Make your face shine
so that we can be saved!

Psalm 81

For the music leader.

According to the Gittith. Of Asaph.

¹Rejoice out loud to God, our strength!
Shout for joy to Jacob's God!
²Raise a song and strike the drum!
Sweet lyre along with harp!
³Blow the horn on the new moon,
at the full moon,
for our day of celebration!
⁴Because this is the law for Israel;
this is a rule of Jacob's God.
⁵He made it a decree for Joseph
when he went out
against the land of Egypt,
when I heard a language
I did not yet know:

⋮
⋮
⋮
○ ^mOr the Great River

⁶“I lifted the burden off your shoulders;
your hands are free of the brick basket!
⁷In distress you cried out, so I rescued you.
I answered you
in the secret of thunder.
I tested you at the waters of Meribah.
Selah
⁸Listen, my people, I’m warning you!
If only you would listen to me, Israel.
⁹There must be no foreign god among you.
You must not bow down
to any strange deity.
¹⁰I am the LORD your God,
who brought you up from Egypt’s land.
Open your mouth wide—I will fill it up!

¹¹“But my people wouldn’t listen
to my voice.
Israel simply wasn’t agreeable toward me.
¹²So I sent them off
into their hearts’ stubbornness;
they followed their own advice.
¹³How I wish my people would listen to me!
How I wish Israel would walk in my ways!
¹⁴Then I would subdue their enemies
in a second;
I would turn my hand against their foes.
¹⁵Those who hate the LORD
would grovel before me,
and their doom would last forever!
¹⁶But I would feed you with the finest wheat.
I would satisfy you with honey
from the rock.”

Psalm 82

A psalm of Asaph.

¹God takes his stand in the divine council;
he gives judgment among the gods:
²“How long will you judge unjustly
by granting favor to the wicked? *Selah*
³Give justice to the lowly and the orphan;
maintain the right of the poor
and the destitute!
⁴Rescue the lowly and the needy.
Deliver them
from the power of the wicked!”
⁵They don’t know; they don’t understand;
they wander around in the dark.
All the earth’s foundations shake.

⁶I hereby declare, “You are gods,
children of the Most High—all of you!
⁷But you will die like mortals;
you will fall down like any prince.”
⁸Rise up, God! Judge the earth
because you hold all nations
in your possession!

Psalm 83

A song. A psalm of Asaph.

¹God, don’t be silent!
Don’t be quiet or sit still, God,
²because—look!—
your enemies are growling;
those who hate you
are acting arrogantly.
³They concoct crafty plans
against your own people;
they plot against the people you favor.
⁴“Come on,” they say,
“let’s wipe them out as a nation!
Let the name Israel
be remembered no more!”
⁵They plot with a single-minded heart;
they make a covenant against you.
⁶They are the clans
of Edom and the Ishmaelites,
Moab and the Hagrites,
⁷Gebal, Ammon, Amalek,
Philistia along with the citizens of Tyre.
⁸Assyria too has joined them—
they are the strong arm
for Lot’s children. *Selah*

⁹Do to them what you did to Midian,
to Sisera, and to Jabin at the Kishon River.
¹⁰They were destroyed at Endor;
they become fertilizer for the ground.
¹¹Make their nobles like Oreb and Zeeb,
all their princes
like Zebah and Zalmunna—
¹²those who said, “Let’s take God’s
pastures for ourselves.”
¹³My God, make them like tumbleweeds,
like chaff blown by wind.
¹⁴Just like a fire consumes a forest,
just like flames set mountains ablaze,
¹⁵pursue them with your storm,
terrify them with your hurricane.

- ¹⁶Cover their faces with shame,
LORD, so that they might
seek your name.
- ¹⁷Let them be shamed
and terrified forever.
Let them die in disgrace.
- ¹⁸Let them know that you—
your name is the LORD!—
you alone are Most High
over all the earth.

Psalm 84

*For the music leader. According to the
Gittith. Of the Korahites. A psalm.*

- ¹How lovely is your dwelling place,
LORD of heavenly forces!
- ²My very being^a longs, even yearns,
for the LORD's courtyards.
My heart and my body
will rejoice out loud to the living God!
- ³Yes, the sparrow too
has found a home there;
the swallow has found herself a nest
where she can lay her young
beside your altars,
LORD of heavenly forces,
my king, my God!
- ⁴Those who live in your house
are truly happy;
they praise you constantly. *Selah*
- ⁵Those who put their strength in you
are truly happy;
pilgrimage is in their hearts.
- ⁶As they pass through the Baca Valley,^o
they make it a spring of water.
Yes, the early rain covers it
with blessings.
- ⁷They go from strength to strength,
until they see the supreme God in Zion.^p
- ⁸LORD God of heavenly forces,
hear my prayer;
listen closely, Jacob's God! *Selah*
- ⁹Look at our shield, God;
pay close attention
to the face of your anointed one!

- ¹⁰Better is a single day in your courtyards
than a thousand days anywhere else!
I would prefer to stand outside
the entrance of my God's house
than live comfortably
in the tents of the wicked!
- ¹¹The LORD is a sun and shield;
God is favor and glory.
The LORD gives—doesn't withhold!—
good things
to those who walk with integrity.
- ¹²LORD of heavenly forces,
those who trust in you are truly happy!

Psalm 85

*For the music leader. Of the Korahites.
A psalm.*

- ¹LORD, you've been kind to your land;
you've changed Jacob's circumstances
for the better.
- ²You've forgiven
your people's wrongdoing;
you've covered all their sins. *Selah*
- ³You've taken back all your fury;
you've turned away
from your burning anger.
- ⁴You, the God who can save us, restore us!
Cancel your anger at us!
- ⁵Will you be mad at us forever?
Will you prolong your anger
from one generation to the next?
- ⁶Won't you bring us back to life again
so that your people can rejoice in you?
- ⁷Show us your faithful love, LORD!
Give us your salvation!
- ⁸Let me hear what the LORD God says,
because he speaks peace to his people
and to his faithful ones.
Don't let them return to foolish ways.
- ⁹God's salvation is very close
to those who honor him
so that his glory can live in our land.
- ¹⁰Faithful love and truth have met;
righteousness and peace have kissed.
- ¹¹Truth springs up from the ground;
righteousness gazes
down from heaven.

⋮
○ ^aOr soul ^oLXX; Vulg Valley of Tears ^pCorrection; MT the God of gods will be seen in Zion

- ¹²Yes, the LORD gives what is good,
and our land yields its produce.
¹³Righteousness walks before God,
making a road for his steps.

Psalm 86

A prayer of David.

- ¹LORD, listen closely to me and answer me
because I am poor and in need.
²Guard my life because I am faithful.
Save your servant
who trusts in you—you! My God!
³Have mercy on me, Lord,
because I cry out to you all day long.
⁴Make your servant's life^a happy again
because, my Lord, I offer my life to you,
⁵because, my Lord,
you are good and forgiving,
full of faithful love
for all those who cry out to you.
⁶Listen closely to my prayer, LORD;
pay close attention to the sound
of my requests for mercy.
⁷Whenever I am in trouble, I cry out to you
because you will answer me.
- ⁸My Lord! There is no one like you
among the gods!
There is nothing that can compare
to your works!
⁹All the nations that you've made will come
and bow down before you, Lord;
they will glorify your name
¹⁰because you are awesome
and a wonder worker.
You are God. Just you.
- ¹¹Teach me your way, LORD,
so that I can walk in your truth.
Make my heart focused
only on honoring your name.
¹²I give thanks to you, my Lord, my God,
with all my heart,
and I will glorify your name forever
¹³because your faithful love toward me
is awesome
and because you've rescued my life
from the lowest part of hell.^f

- ¹⁴The arrogant rise up against me, God.
A gang of violent people want me dead.
They don't give a thought for you.
¹⁵But you, my Lord,
are a God of compassion and mercy;
you are slow to anger
and full of faithful love.
¹⁶Come back to me! Have mercy on me!
Give your servant your strength;
save this child of your servant woman!
¹⁷Show me a sign of your goodness
so that those who hate me
will see it and be put to shame—
show a sign that you, LORD,
have helped me and comforted me.

Psalm 87

A psalm of the Korahites. A song.

- ¹God's foundation is set
on the holy mountains.
²The LORD loves Zion's gates
more than all of Jacob's houses
combined.
³Glorious things are said about you,
the city of God! *Selah*
⁴I count Rahab and Babel
among those who know me;
also Philistia and Tyre,
along with Cush—
each of these was born there.
⁵And of Zion it is said:
"Each person was born in it,
but the one who will establish it
is the Most High."
⁶The LORD makes a record
as he registers the peoples:
"Each one was born there." *Selah*
⁷And while they dance, people sing:
"The source of my life comes from you."

Psalm 88

A song. A psalm of the Korahites.

For the music leader.

According to "Mahalath Leannoth."^{rs}

A maskil^t of Heman the Ezrahite.

- ¹LORD, God of my salvation,
by day I cry out,

^aOr *soul*; also in 86:4b, 13 ^rHeb *Sheol* ^sHeb uncertain ^tPerhaps *instruction*; the root is used in Ps 32:8.

even at night, before you—
²let my prayer reach you!
 Turn your ear to my outcry
³because my whole being^u
 is filled with distress;
 my life is at the very brink of hell.^v

⁴I am considered as one of those
 plummeting into the pit.
 I am like those who are beyond help,
⁵drifting among the dead
 lying in the grave, like dead bodies—
 those you don't remember anymore,
 those who are cut off from your power.
⁶You placed me down in the deepest pit,
 in places dark and deep.
⁷Your anger smothers me;
 you afflict me with wave after wave.

Selah

⁸You've made my friends distant.
 You've made me disgusting to them.
 I can't escape. I'm trapped!
⁹My eye is tired of looking at my suffering.
 I've been calling out to you every day,
 LORD—
 I've had my hands outstretched to you!

¹⁰Do you work wonders for the dead?
 Do ghosts rise up and give you thanks?
Selah

¹¹Is your faithful love
 proclaimed in the grave,
 your faithfulness in the underworld?^w

¹²Are your wonders known
 in the land of darkness,
 your righteousness
 in the land of oblivion?

¹³But I cry out to you, LORD!
 My prayer meets you
 first thing in the morning!

¹⁴Why do you reject my very being, LORD?
 Why do you hide your face from me?

¹⁵Since I was young I've been afflicted,
 I've been dying.
 I've endured your terrors. I'm lifeless.

¹⁶Your fiery anger has overwhelmed me;
 your terrors have destroyed me.

¹⁷They surround me all day long like water;
 they engulf me completely.

¹⁸You've made my loved ones
 and companions distant.
 My only friend is darkness.

Psalm 89

A maskil^x of Ethan the Ezrahite.

¹I will sing of the LORD's loyal love forever.
 I will proclaim your faithfulness
 with my own mouth
 from one generation to the next.

²That's why I say,
 "Your^y loyal love is rightly built—
 forever!
 You establish your faithfulness
 in heaven."

³You said,^z "I made a covenant
 with my chosen one;
 I promised my servant David:

⁴"I will establish your offspring forever;
 I will build up your throne from one
 generation to the next.'" *Selah*

⁵Heaven thanks you
 for your wondrous acts, LORD—
 for your faithfulness too—
 in the assembly of the holy ones.

⁶Is there any in the sky
 who could compare to the LORD?
 Who among the gods
 is equal to the LORD?

⁷God is respected
 in the council of the holy ones;
 God is awesome and revered
 more than all those around him.

⁸Who is like you,
 LORD God of heavenly forces?
 Mighty LORD, your faithfulness
 surrounds you!

⁹You rule over the surging sea:
 When its waves rise up,
 it's you who makes them still.

¹⁰It's you who crushed Rahab
 like a dead body;
 you scattered your enemies
 with your strong arm.

^uOr *soul*, also in 88:14 ^vHeb *Sheol* ^wHeb *Abaddon* ^xPerhaps *instruction*; the root is used in Ps 32:8. ^yHeb lacks

^zHeb lacks *You said*.

- ¹¹Heaven is yours! The earth too!
The world and all that fills it—
you made all of it!
- ¹²North and south—you created them!
The mountains Tabor and Hermon
shout praises to your name.
- ¹³You have a powerful arm;
your hand is strong;
your right hand is raised high!
- ¹⁴Your throne is built
on righteousness and justice;
loyal love and faithfulness
stand in front of you.
- ¹⁵The people who know the celebratory
shout are truly happy!
They walk in the light of your presence,
LORD!
- ¹⁶They rejoice in your name all day long
and are lifted high
by your righteousness
- ¹⁷because you are the beauty
of their strength.
By your favor you make us strong
- ¹⁸because our shield is the LORD's own;
our king belongs
to the holy one of Israel!
- ¹⁹Once you spoke in a vision
to your faithful servants:
I placed a crown on a strong man.
I raised up someone specially chosen
from the people.
- ²⁰I discovered my servant David.
I anointed him with my holy oil.
- ²¹My hand will sustain him—
yes, my arm will strengthen him!
- ²²No enemy will oppress him;
no wicked person will make him suffer.
- ²³I will crush all his foes in front of him.
I will strike down
all those who hate him.
- ²⁴My faithfulness and my loyal love
will be with him.
He will be strengthened by my name.
- ²⁵I will set his hand on the sea.
I will set his right hand on the rivers.
- ²⁶He will cry out to me:
"You are my father,
my God, the rock of my salvation."
- ²⁷Yes, I'll make him the one born first—
I'll make him the high king
of all earth's kings.
- ²⁸I will always guard my loyal love
toward him.
My covenant with him will last forever.
- ²⁹I will establish his dynasty for all time.
His throne will last
as long as heaven does.
- ³⁰But if his children ever
abandon my Instruction,
stop following my rules—
³¹if they treat my statutes like dirt,
stop keeping my commandments—
³²then I will punish their sin with a stick,
and I will punish their wrongdoing
with a severe beating.
- ³³But even then I won't take my loyal love
away from him.
I won't betray my faithfulness.
- ³⁴I won't break my covenant.
I won't renege on what crossed my lips.
- ³⁵By my own holiness I've sworn one thing:
I will not lie to David.
- ³⁶His dynasty will last forever.
His throne will be like the sun,
always before me.
- ³⁷It will be securely established forever;
like the moon, a faithful witness
in the sky. *Selah*
- ³⁸But you, God, have rejected
and despised him.
You've become infuriated
with your anointed one.
- ³⁹You've canceled the covenant
with your servant.
You've thrown his crown in the dirt.
- ⁴⁰You've broken through all his walls.
You've made his strongholds
a pile of ruins.
- ⁴¹All those who pass by plunder him.
He's nothing but a joke to his neighbors.
- ⁴²You lifted high his foes' right hand.
You gave all his enemies
reason to celebrate.
- ⁴³Yes, you dulled the edge of his sword
and didn't support him in battle.
- ⁴⁴You've put an end to his splendor.
You've thrown his throne to the ground.
- ⁴⁵You've cut short the prime of his life.
You've wrapped him up in shame. *Selah*

⁴⁶How long will it last, LORD?
Will you hide yourself forever?
How long will your wrath burn like fire?
⁴⁷Remember how short my life is!
Have you created humans
for no good reason?
⁴⁸Who lives their life without seeing death?
Who is ever rescued
from the grip of the grave?^a *Selah*
⁴⁹Where now are your loving acts
from long ago, my Lord—
the same ones you promised to David
by your own faithfulness?
⁵⁰Remember your servant's abuse,
my Lord!
Remember how I myself have carried
all the insults of the nations,^b
⁵¹the ones your enemies, LORD, use—
the ones they use to abuse
every step your anointed one takes.
⁵²Bless the LORD forever!
Amen and amen!

BOOK IV
(Psalms 90–106)

Psalm 90

A prayer of Moses, the man of God.

¹Lord, you have been our help,
generation after generation.
²Before the mountains were born,
before you birthed the earth
and the inhabited world—
from forever in the past
to forever in the future, you are God.
³You return people to dust,
saying, "Go back, humans,"
⁴because in your perspective
a thousand years
are like yesterday past,
like a short period
during the night watch.
⁵You sweep humans away like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning.
⁶True, in the morning it thrives, renewed,
but come evening it withers, all dried up.

⁷Yes, we are wasting away
because of your wrath;
we are paralyzed with fear
on account of your rage.
⁸You put our sins right in front of you,
set our hidden faults
in the light from your face.
⁹Yes, all our days slip away
because of your fury;
we finish up our years with a whimper.
¹⁰The number of our years
are at best seventy,
maybe eighty, if we're strong.
But their duration is hard work
and trouble
because they go by so quickly.
And then we fly off.
¹¹Who can comprehend
the power of your anger?
The honor that is due you
corresponds to your wrath.
¹²Teach us to number our days
so we can have a wise heart.

¹³Come back to us, LORD!
Please, quick!
Have some compassion
for your servants!
¹⁴Fill us full every morning
with your faithful love
so we can rejoice and celebrate
our whole life long.
¹⁵Make us happy for the same amount of
time that you afflicted us—
for the same number of years that we
saw only trouble.
¹⁶Let your acts be seen by your servants;
let your glory be seen by their children.
¹⁷Let the kindness of the Lord our God
be over us.
Make the work of our hands last.
Make the work of our hands last!

Psalm 91

¹Living in the Most High's shelter,
camping in the Almighty's^c shade,
²I say to the LORD, "You are my refuge,
my stronghold!
You are my God—the one I trust!"

⋮
⊙ ^aHeb Sheol ^bCorrection; MT *all of many peoples* ^cHeb Shaddai

- ³ God will save you from the hunter's trap
and from deadly sickness.
- ⁴ God will protect you with his pinions;
you'll find refuge under his wings.
His faithfulness is a protective shield.
- ⁵ Don't be afraid of terrors at night,
arrows that fly in daylight,
⁶ or sickness that prowls in the dark,
destruction that ravages at noontime.
- ⁷ Even if a thousand people
fall dead next to you,
ten thousand right beside you—
it won't happen to you.
- ⁸ Just look with your eyes,
and you will see the wicked punished.
- ⁹ Because you've made the LORD
my refuge,
the Most High, your place of residence—
¹⁰ no evil will happen to you;
no disease will come close to your tent.
- ¹¹ Because he will order his messengers
to help you,
to protect you wherever you go.
- ¹² They will carry you with their own hands
so you don't bruise your foot on a stone.
- ¹³ You'll march on top of lions and vipers;
you'll trample young lions
and serpents underfoot.
- ¹⁴ God says,^d
"Because you are devoted to me,
I'll rescue you.
I'll protect you
because you know my name.
- ¹⁵ Whenever you cry out to me,
I'll answer.
I'll be with you in troubling times.
I'll save you and glorify you.
- ¹⁶ I'll fill you full with old age.
I'll show you my salvation."
- ³ with the ten-stringed harp,
with the melody of the lyre
- ⁴ because you've made me happy, LORD,
by your acts.
I sing with joy
because of your handiwork.
- ⁵ How awesome are your works, LORD!
Your thoughts are so deep!
- ⁶ Ignorant people don't know—
fools don't understand this:
⁷ though the wicked spring up like grass
and all evildoers seem to blossom,
they do so only to be destroyed forever.
- ⁸ But you, LORD, are exalted forever!
- ⁹ Look at your enemies, LORD!
Look at how your enemies die,
how all evildoers are scattered abroad!
- ¹⁰ But you've made me
as strong as a wild ox.
I'm soaked in precious ointment.
- ¹¹ My eyes have seen my enemies' defeat;
my ears have heard
the downfall of my evil foes.
- ¹² The righteous will spring up
like a palm tree.
They will grow strong
like a cedar of Lebanon.
- ¹³ Those who have been replanted
in the LORD's house
will spring up
in the courtyards of our God.
- ¹⁴ They will bear fruit
even when old and gray;
they will remain lush and fresh
¹⁵ in order to proclaim:
"The LORD is righteous.
He's my rock.
There's nothing unrighteous in him."

Psalm 92

A psalm. A song for the Sabbath day.

- ¹ It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, Most High;
- ² to proclaim your loyal love
in the morning,
your faithfulness at nighttime

Psalm 93

- ¹ The LORD rules!
He is robed in majesty—
the LORD is robed,
clothed with strength.
Yes, he set the world firmly in place;^e
it won't be shaken.

^dHeb lacks *God says*. ^eLXX, Vulg; MT *the world is set firmly in place*; cf Ps 96:10

- ²Your throne is set firm
for a very long time.
You are eternal!
- ³LORD, the floods have raised up—
the floods have raised up their voices;
the floods raise up a roar!
- ⁴But mightier than the sound
of much water,
mightier than the sea's waves,
mighty on high is the LORD!
- ⁵Your laws are so faithful.
Holiness decorates your house, LORD,
for all time.

Psalm 94

- ¹LORD, avenging God—
avenging God, show yourself!
- ²Rise up, judge of the earth!
Pay back the arrogant
exactly what they deserve!
- ³How long will the wicked—oh, LORD!—
how long will the wicked win?
- ⁴They spew arrogant words;
all the evildoers are bragging.
- ⁵They crush your own people, LORD!
They abuse your very own possession.
- ⁶They kill widows and immigrants;
they murder orphans,
- ⁷saying all the while,
“The LORD can't see it;
Jacob's God doesn't know
what's going on!”
- ⁸You ignorant people better learn quickly.
You fools—
when will you get some sense?
- ⁹The one who made the ear,
can't he hear?
The one who formed the eye,
can't he see?
- ¹⁰The one who disciplines nations,
can't he punish?
The one who teaches humans,
doesn't he know?^f
- ¹¹The LORD does indeed
know human thoughts,
knows that they are nothing
but a puff of air.

- ¹²The people you discipline, LORD,
are truly happy—
the ones you teach
from your Instruction—
- ¹³giving them relief from troubling times
until a pit is dug for the wicked.
- ¹⁴The LORD will not reject his people;
he will not abandon
his very own possession.
- ¹⁵No, but justice will once again
meet up with righteousness,
and all whose heart is right
will follow after.
- ¹⁶Who will stand up for me
against the wicked?
Who will help me against evildoers?
- ¹⁷If the LORD hadn't helped me,
my life^g instantly would live
in total silence.
- ¹⁸Whenever I feel my foot slipping,
your faithful love steadies me, LORD.
- ¹⁹When my anxieties multiply,
your comforting calms me down.
- ²⁰Can a wicked ruler be your ally;
one who wreaks havoc
by means of the law?
- ²¹The wicked gang up
against the lives of the righteous.
They condemn innocent blood.
- ²²But the LORD is my fortress;
my God is my rock of refuge.
- ²³He will repay them for their wickedness,
completely destroy them
because of their evil.
Yes, the LORD our God
will completely destroy them.

Psalm 95

- ¹Come, let's sing out loud to the LORD!
Let's raise a joyful shout
to the rock of our salvation!
- ²Let's come before him with thanks!
Let's shout songs of joy to him!
- ³The LORD is a great God,
the great king over all other gods.
- ⁴The earth's depths are in his hands;

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○ ^fCorrection; MT *the one who teaches humans knowledge* ^gOr *soul*, also in 94:19, 21

the mountain heights belong to him;
⁵ the sea, which he made, is his
 along with the dry ground,
 which his own hands formed.

⁶ Come, let's worship and bow down!
 Let's kneel before the LORD, our maker!

⁷ He is our God,
 and we are the people of his pasture,
 the sheep in his hands.

If only you would listen to his voice
 right now!

⁸ "Don't harden your hearts
 like you did at Meribah,
 like you did when you were at Massah,
 in the wilderness,
⁹ when your ancestors tested me
 and scrutinized me,
 even though they had already seen
 my acts.

¹⁰ For forty years I despised
 that generation;
 I said, "These people have twisted hearts.
 They don't know my ways."

¹¹ So in anger I swore:
 "They will never enter my place of rest!"

Psalm 96

¹ Sing to the LORD a new song!
 Sing to the LORD, all the earth!

² Sing to the LORD! Bless his name!
 Share the news of his saving work
 every single day!

³ Declare God's glory among the nations;
 declare his wondrous works
 among all people

⁴ because the LORD is great
 and so worthy of praise.
 He is awesome beyond all other gods

⁵ because all the gods of the nations
 are just idols,
 but it is the LORD
 who created heaven!

⁶ Greatness and grandeur
 are in front of him;
 strength and beauty
 are in his sanctuary.

⁷ Give to the LORD,
 all families of the nations—
 give to the LORD glory and power!

⁸ Give to the LORD the glory due his name!
 Bring gifts!
 Enter his courtyards!

⁹ Bow down to the LORD
 in his holy splendor!
 Tremble before him, all the earth!

¹⁰ Tell the nations, "The LORD rules!
 Yes, he set the world firmly in place;^h
 it won't be shaken.
 He will judge all people fairly."

¹¹ Let heaven celebrate!
 Let the earth rejoice!
 Let the sea and everything in it roar!

¹² Let the countryside
 and everything in it celebrate!
 Then all the trees of the forest too
 will shout out joyfully

¹³ before the LORD because he is coming!
 He is coming to establish justice
 on the earth!
 He will establish justice
 in the world rightly.
 He will establish justice
 among all people fairly.

Psalm 97

¹ The LORD rules! Let the earth rejoice!
 Let all the islands celebrate!

² Clouds and thick darkness surround God.
 His throne is built
 on righteousness and justice.

³ Fire proceeds before him,
 burning up his enemies on every side.

⁴ His lightning lights up the world;
 the earth sees it and trembles!

⁵ The mountains melt like wax
 before the LORD,
 before the Lord of the whole world!

⁶ Heaven has proclaimed
 God's righteousness,
 and all nations have seen his glory.

⁷ All those who worship images,
 those who are proud of idols,

^hLXX, Vulg; MT *the world is firmly established*; cf Ps 93:1

Psalm 100*A psalm of thanks.*

- ¹Shout triumphantly to the LORD,
all the earth!
- ²Serve the LORD with celebration!
Come before him with shouts of joy!
- ³Know that the LORD is God—
he made us; we belong to him.^k
We are his people,
the sheep of his own pasture.
- ⁴Enter his gates with thanks;
enter his courtyards with praise!
Thank him! Bless his name!
- ⁵Because the LORD is good,
his loyal love lasts forever;
his faithfulness lasts
generation after generation.

Psalm 101*Of David. A psalm.*

- ¹Oh, let me sing
about faithful love and justice!
I want to sing my praises to you, LORD!
- ²I want to study the way of integrity—
how long before it gets here?
I will walk with a heart of integrity
in my own house.
- ³I won't set my eyes
on anything worthless.
I hate wrongdoing;
none of that will stick to me.
- ⁴A corrupt heart will be far from me.
I won't be familiar with evil.
- ⁵I will destroy anyone
who secretly tells lies about a neighbor.
I can't stomach anyone
who has proud eyes
or an arrogant heart.
- ⁶My eyes focus on those
who are faithful in the land,
to have them close to me.
The person who walks with integrity
will work for me.
- ⁷But the person who acts deceitfully
won't stay in my house.
The person who tells lies
won't last for long before me.
- ⁸Every morning I will destroy

all those who are wicked in the land
in order to eliminate all evildoers
from the LORD's city.

Psalm 102*A prayer of an oppressed person,
when weak and pouring out grief
to the LORD.*

- ¹LORD, hear my prayer!
Let my cry reach you!
- ²Don't hide your face from me
in my time of trouble!
Listen to me!
Answer me quickly as I cry out!
- ³Because my days disappear like smoke,
my bones are burned up
as if in an oven;
- ⁴my heart is beaten down
like dried-up grass.
I even forget to eat my food
- ⁵because of my intense groans.
My bones are protruding from my skin.
- ⁶I'm like some wild owl—
like some screech owl in the desert.
- ⁷I lie awake all night.
I'm all alone like a bird on a roof.
- ⁸All day long my enemies make fun of me;
those who mock me
curse using my name!
- ⁹I've been eating ashes instead of bread.
I've been mixing tears into my drinks
- ¹⁰because of your anger and wrath,
because you picked me up
and threw me away.
- ¹¹My days are like a shadow soon gone.
I'm dried up like dead grass.
- ¹²But you, LORD, rule forever!
Your fame lasts
from one generation to the next!
- ¹³You will stand up—
you'll have compassion on Zion
because it is time
to have mercy on her—
the time set for that has now come!
- ¹⁴Your servants cherish Zion's stones;
they show mercy even to her dirt.
- ¹⁵The nations will honor the LORD's name;

^kQere; Kethib and not we ourselves

all the earth's rulers
will honor your glory
¹⁶because the LORD will rebuild Zion;
he will be seen there in his glory.
¹⁷God will turn
to the prayer of the impoverished;
he won't despise their prayers.

¹⁸Let this be written down
for the next generation
so that people not yet created
will praise the LORD:
¹⁹The LORD looked down
from his holy summit,
surveyed the earth from heaven,
²⁰to hear the prisoners' groans,
to set free those condemned to death,
²¹that the LORD's name
may be declared in Zion
and his praise declared in Jerusalem,
²²when all people are gathered together—
all kingdoms—to serve the LORD.

²³God broke my strength in midstride,
cutting my days short.
²⁴I said, "My God, don't take me away
in the prime of life—
your years go on
from one generation to the next!"
²⁵You laid the earth's foundations long ago;
the skies are your handiwork.
²⁶These things will pass away,
but you will last.
All of these things will wear out
like clothing;
you change them like clothes,
and they pass on.
²⁷But you are the one!
Your years never end!
²⁸Let your servants' children live safe;
let your servants' descendants live
secure in your presence."

Psalm 103

Of David.

¹Let my whole being¹ bless the LORD!
Let everything inside me
bless his holy name!

²Let my whole being bless the LORD
and never forget all his good deeds:
³how God forgives all your sins,
heals all your sickness,
⁴saves your life from the pit,
crowns you with faithful love
and compassion,
⁵and satisfies you
with plenty of good things
so that your youth
is made fresh like an eagle's.

⁶The LORD works righteousness;
does justice for all who are oppressed.
⁷God made his ways known to Moses;
made his deeds known
to the Israelites.
⁸The LORD is compassionate
and merciful,
very patient, and full of faithful love.
⁹God won't always play the judge;
he won't be angry forever.
¹⁰He doesn't deal with us
according to our sin
or repay us
according to our wrongdoing,
¹¹because as high as heaven
is above the earth,
that's how large God's faithful love
is for those who honor him.
¹²As far as east is from west—
that's how far God has removed
our sin from us.
¹³Like a parent feels compassion
for their children—
that's how the LORD feels compassion
for those who honor him.
¹⁴Because God knows how we're made,
God remembers we're just dust.
¹⁵The days of a human life are like grass:
they bloom like a wildflower;
¹⁶but when the wind blows through it,
it's gone;
even the ground where it stood
doesn't remember it.
¹⁷But the LORD's faithful love is from
forever ago to forever from now
for those who honor him.

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○ ¹Or *soul*; also in 103:2, 22

And God's righteousness reaches
to the grandchildren
¹⁸of those who keep his covenant
and remember to keep his commands.
¹⁹The LORD has established his throne
in heaven,
and his kingdom rules over all.
²⁰You divine messengers,
bless the LORD!
You who are mighty in power
and keep his word,
who obey everything he says,
bless him!
²¹All you heavenly forces,
bless the LORD!
All you who serve him and do his will,
bless him!
²²All God's creatures,
bless the LORD!
Everywhere, throughout his kingdom,
let my whole being
bless the LORD!

Psalm 104

¹Let my whole being^m bless the LORD!
LORD my God, how fantastic you are!
You are clothed in glory and grandeur!
²You wear light like a robe;
you open the skies like a curtain.
³You build your lofty house on the waters;
you make the clouds your chariot,
going around on the wings of the wind.
⁴You make the winds your messengers;
you make fire and flame your ministers.
⁵You established the earth
on its foundations
so that it will never ever fall.
⁶You covered it with the watery deep
like a piece of clothing;
the waters were higher
than the mountains!
⁷But at your rebuke they ran away;
they fled in fear
at the sound of your thunder.
⁸They flowed over the mountains,
streaming down the valleys
to the place you established for them.

⁹You set a boundary they cannot cross
so they'll never again cover the earth.
¹⁰You put gushing springs
into dry riverbeds.
They flow between the mountains,
¹¹providing water
for every wild animal—
the wild donkeys quench their thirst.
¹²Overhead, the birds in the sky
make their home,
chirping loudly in the trees.
¹³From your lofty house,
you water the mountains.
The earth is filled full
by the fruit of what you've done.
¹⁴You make grass grow for cattle;
you make plants for human farming
in order to get food from the ground,
¹⁵and wine,
which cheers people's hearts,
along with oil,
which makes the face shine,
and bread,
which sustains the human heart.
¹⁶The LORD's trees are well watered—
the cedars of Lebanon,
which God planted,
¹⁷where the birds make their nests,
where the stork has a home
in the cypresses.
¹⁸The high mountains
belong to the mountain goats;
the ridges are the refuge of badgers.
¹⁹God made the moon for the seasons,
and the sun too,
which knows when to set.
²⁰You bring on the darkness and it is night,
when every forest animal prowls.
²¹The young lions roar for their prey,
seeking their food from God.
²²When the sun rises, they gather together
and lie down in their dens.
²³Then people go off to their work,
to do their work until evening.
²⁴LORD, you have done so many things!
You made them all so wisely!
The earth is full of your creations!

^mOr *soul*, also in 104:35

²⁵And then there's the sea, wide and deep,
with its countless creatures—
living things both small and large.
²⁶There go the ships on it,
and Leviathan, which you made,
plays in it!
²⁷All of your creations wait for you
to give them their food on time.
²⁸When you give it to them,
they gather it up;
when you open your hand,
they are filled completely full!
²⁹But when you hide your face,
they are terrified;
when you take away their breath,
they die and return to dust.
³⁰When you bring your breath back,
they are created,
and you make the surface of the
ground brand-new again.

³¹Let the LORD's glory last forever!
Let the LORD rejoice in all he has made!
³²He has only to look at the earth,
and it shakes.
God just touches the mountains,
and they erupt in smoke.

³³I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God
while I'm still alive.
³⁴Let my praise be pleasing to him;
I'm rejoicing in the LORD!
³⁵Let sinners be wiped clean
from the earth;
let the wicked be no more.
But let my whole being bless the LORD!
Praise the LORD!

Psalm 105

¹Give thanks to the LORD;
call upon his name;
make his deeds known to all people!
²Sing to God;
sing praises to the Lord;
dwell on all his wondrous works!
³Give praise to God's holy name!

Let the hearts rejoice of all those
seeking the LORD!
⁴Pursue the LORD and his strength;
seek his face always!
⁵Remember the wondrous works
he has done,
all his marvelous works,
and the justice he declared—
⁶you who are the offspring of Abraham,
his servant,
and the children of Jacob,
his chosen ones.

⁷The LORD—he is our God.
His justice is everywhere
throughout the whole world.
⁸God remembers his covenant forever,
the word he commanded
to a thousand generations,
⁹which he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac.
¹⁰God set it up as binding law for Jacob,
as an eternal covenant for Israel,
¹¹promising, "I hereby give you
the land of Canaan
as your allotted inheritance."

¹²When they were few in number—
insignificant, just immigrants—
¹³wandering from nation to nation,
from one kingdom to the next,
¹⁴God didn't let anyone oppress them.
God punished kings for their sake:
¹⁵"Don't touch my anointed ones;
don't harm my prophets!"

¹⁶When God called for a famine in the land,
destroying every supply of food,
¹⁷he sent a man ahead of them,
who was sold as a slave:
it was Joseph.
¹⁸Joseph's feet hurt in his shackles;
his neck was in an iron collar,
¹⁹until what he predicted
actually happened,
until what the LORD had said
proved him true.ⁿ
²⁰The king sent for Joseph
and set him free;
the ruler of many people released him.

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○ ⁿ Heb uncertain

- ²¹The king made Joseph master of his house and ruler over everything he owned,
²²to make sure his princes acted according to his will, and to teach wisdom to his advisers.
²³That's how Israel came to Egypt, how Jacob became an immigrant in the land of Ham.
- ²⁴God made his people very fruitful, more powerful than their enemies,
²⁵whose hearts God changed so they hated his people and dealt shrewdly with his servants.
²⁶God sent Moses his servant and the one he chose, Aaron.
²⁷They put God's signs on Egypt,^o his marvelous works on the land of Ham.
- ²⁸God sent darkness, and it became dark, but the Egyptians rejected his word.
²⁹God turned their waters into blood and killed their fish.
- ³⁰God made their land swarm with frogs^p— even in the bedrooms of their king!
³¹God spoke, and the insects came— gnats throughout their whole country!
³²God turned their rain into hail along with lightning flashes throughout their land.
³³God destroyed their vines and their fig trees; shattered the trees of their countryside.
³⁴God spoke, and the locusts came— countless grasshoppers came!
³⁵They devoured all the plants in their land; they devoured the fruit of their soil.
³⁶God struck down all the oldest sons throughout their land; struck down their very pride and joy.
³⁷Then God brought Israel out, filled with silver and gold; not one of its tribes stumbled.
³⁸Egypt celebrated when they left because the dread of Israel had come upon them.
- ³⁹God spread out clouds as a covering; gave lightning to provide light at night.
⁴⁰The people asked, and God brought quail; God filled them full with food from heaven.
⁴¹God opened the rock and out gushed water— flowing like a river through the desert!
⁴²Because God remembered his holy promise to Abraham his servant,
⁴³God brought his people out with rejoicing, his chosen ones with songs of joy.
⁴⁴God gave them the lands of other nations; they inherited the wealth of many peoples—
⁴⁵all so that they would keep his laws and observe his instructions.
- Praise the LORD!

Psalm 106

- ¹Praise the LORD!
 Give thanks to the LORD because he is good, because his faithful love endures forever.
- ²Who could possibly repeat all of the LORD's mighty acts or publicly recount all his praise?
- ³The people who uphold justice, who always do what is right, are truly happy!
- ⁴Remember me, LORD, with the favor you show your people. Visit me with your saving help
⁵so I can experience the good things your chosen ones experience, so I can rejoice in the joy of your nation, so I can praise along with your possession.
- ⁶We have sinned— right along with our ancestors. We've done what is wrong. We've acted wickedly.

^oCorrection; MT *they put on them the words of God's signs* ^pCorrection; DSS *their land swarmed with frogs*

⁷Our ancestors in Egypt didn't understand your wondrous works. They didn't remember how much faithful love you have. So they rebelled by the sea— at the Reed Sea.^a

⁸But God saved them for the sake of his good name, to make known his mighty power.

⁹God scolded the Reed Sea, and it dried right up; he led them through the deeps like they were a dry desert.

¹⁰God saved them from hostile powers; he redeemed them from the power of the enemy.

¹¹But the waters covered over their foes— not one of them survived!

¹²So our ancestors trusted God's words; they sang God's praise.

¹³But how quickly they forgot what he had done! They wouldn't wait for his advice.

¹⁴They were overcome with craving in the desert and tested God in the wastelands.

¹⁵God gave them what they asked for; he sent food^r to satisfy their appetites.

¹⁶But then they were jealous of Moses in the camp, jealous too of Aaron, the LORD's holy one.

¹⁷So the earth opened up, swallowing Dathan, and covering over Abiram's crowd.

¹⁸Fire blazed throughout that whole group; flames burned up the wicked.

¹⁹They made a calf at Horeb, bowing down to a metal idol.

²⁰They traded their glorious God^s for an image of a bull that eats grass.

²¹They forgot the God who saved them—the one who had done great things in Egypt,

²²wondrous works in the land of Ham, awesome deeds at the Reed Sea.

²³So God determined that he would destroy them— except for the fact that Moses, his chosen one, stood in the way, right in front of him, and turned God's destructive anger away.

²⁴But then they rejected the land that was so desirable. They didn't trust God's promise.

²⁵They muttered in their tents and wouldn't listen to the LORD's voice.

²⁶So God raised his hand against them, making them fall in the desert,

²⁷scattering their offspring among the nations, casting them across many lands.

²⁸They joined themselves to Baal-peor and ate sacrifices offered to the dead.

²⁹They made God angry by what they did, so a plague broke out against them.

³⁰Then Phinehas stood up and prayed, and the plague was contained.

³¹That's why Phinehas is considered righteous, generation after generation, forever.

³²But they angered God at Meribah's waters, and things went badly for Moses because of them,

³³because they made him bitter so that he spoke rashly with his lips.

³⁴They didn't destroy the nations as the LORD had ordered them to do.

³⁵Instead, they got mixed up with the nations,

learning what they did

³⁶and serving those false gods, which became a trap for them.

³⁷They sacrificed their own sons and daughters to demons!

³⁸They shed innocent blood, the blood of their own sons and daughters—the ones they sacrificed to Canaan's false gods— so the land was abused by the bloodshed.

^aOr *Red Sea*; also in 106:9, 22 ^rLXX ^sOr *their Glory*

³⁹They made themselves unclean
by what they did;
they prostituted themselves
by their actions.

⁴⁰So the LORD's anger burned
against his people;
he despised his own possession.

⁴¹God handed them over to the nations;
people who hated them ruled over them.

⁴²Their enemies oppressed them,
and they were humbled
under their power.

⁴³God delivered them numerous times,
but they were determined to rebel,
and so they were brought down
by their own sin.

⁴⁴But God saw their distress
when he heard their loud cries.

⁴⁵God remembered his covenant
for their sake,
and because of how much
faithful love he has,
God changed his mind.

⁴⁶God let them receive compassion
from all their captors.

⁴⁷LORD our God, save us!
Gather us back together
from among all the nations
so we can give thanks
to your holy name
and rejoice in your praise!

⁴⁸Bless the LORD, the God of Israel,
from forever ago to forever from now!
And let all the people say, "Amen!"

Praise the LORD!

BOOK V
(*Psalms 107-150*)

Psalm 107

¹"Give thanks to the LORD
because he is good,
because his faithful love lasts forever!"

²That's what those who are redeemed
by the LORD say,

the ones God redeemed
from the power of their enemies,
³the ones God gathered
from various countries,
from east and west, north and south.

⁴Some of the redeemed had wandered
into the desert, into the wasteland.
They couldn't find their way
to a city or town.

⁵They were hungry and thirsty;
their lives were slipping away.

⁶So they cried out to the LORD
in their distress,
and God delivered them
from their desperate circumstances.

⁷God led them straight
to human habitation.

⁸Let them thank the LORD
for his faithful love
and his wondrous works for all people

⁹because God satisfied the one
who was parched with thirst,
and he filled up the hungry
with good things!

¹⁰Some of the redeemed had been sitting
in darkness and deep gloom;
they were prisoners suffering in chains

¹¹because they had disobeyed
God's instructions
and rejected the Most High's plans.

¹²So God humbled them with hard work.
They stumbled, and there was no one
to help them.

¹³So they cried out to the LORD
in their distress,
and God saved them
from their desperate circumstances.

¹⁴God brought them out
from the darkness and deep gloom;
he shattered their chains.

¹⁵Let them thank the LORD
for his faithful love
and his wondrous works for all people

¹⁶because God has shattered
bronze doors
and split iron bars in two!

¹⁷Some of the redeemed were fools
because of their sinful ways.

- They suffered because of
their wickedness.
- ¹⁸They had absolutely no appetite for food;
they had arrived at death's gates.
- ¹⁹So they cried out to the LORD
in their distress,
and God saved them
from their desperate circumstances.
- ²⁰God gave the order and healed them;
he rescued them from their pit.
- ²¹Let them thank the LORD
for his faithful love
and his wondrous works for all people.
- ²²Let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices
and declare what God has done
in songs of joy!
- ²³Some of the redeemed had gone out
on the ocean in ships,
making their living on the high seas.
- ²⁴They saw what the LORD had made;
they saw his wondrous works
in the depths of the sea.
- ²⁵God spoke and stirred up a storm
that brought the waves up high.
- ²⁶The waves went as high as the sky;
they crashed down to the depths.
The sailors' courage melted
at this terrible situation.
- ²⁷They staggered and stumbled around
like they were drunk.
None of their skill was of any help.
- ²⁸So they cried out to the LORD
in their distress,
and God brought them out safe
from their desperate circumstances.
- ²⁹God quieted the storm to a whisper;
the sea's waves were hushed.
- ³⁰So they rejoiced because the waves
had calmed down;
then God led them to the harbor
they were hoping for.
- ³¹Let them thank the LORD
for his faithful love
and his wondrous works for all people.
- ³²Let them exalt God
in the congregation of the people
and praise God
in the assembly of the elders.
- ³³God turns rivers into desert,
watery springs into thirsty ground,
- ³⁴fruitful land into unproductive dirt,
when its inhabitants are wicked.
- ³⁵But God can also turn the desert
into watery pools,
thirsty ground into watery springs,
³⁶where he settles the hungry.
They even build a city and live there!
- ³⁷They plant fields and vineyards
and obtain a fruitful harvest.
- ³⁸God blesses them,
and they become many.
God won't even let their cattle
diminish.
- ³⁹But when they do diminish—
when they're brought down
by oppression, trouble, and grief—
- ⁴⁰God pours contempt on their leaders,
making them wander aimlessly
in the wastelands.
- ⁴¹But God raises the needy
from their suffering;
he makes their families
as numerous as sheep!
- ⁴²Those who do right see it and celebrate,
but every wicked person
shuts their mouth.
- ⁴³Whoever is wise will pay attention
to these things,
carefully considering
the LORD's faithful love.

Psalm 108^t

A song. A psalm of David.

- ¹My heart is unwavering, God.
I will sing and make music—
yes, with my whole being!
- ²Wake up, harp and lyre!
I will wake the dawn itself!
- ³I will give thanks to you, LORD,
among all the peoples;
I will make music to you
among the nations
- ⁴because your faithful love
is higher than heaven;
your faithfulness reaches the clouds.

- ⁵Exalt yourself, God, higher than heaven!
Let your glory be over all the earth!
- ⁶Save me by your power and answer me
so that the people you love
might be rescued.
- ⁷God has spoken in his sanctuary:
“I will celebrate as I divide up Shechem
and portion out the Succoth Valley.
- ⁸Gilead is mine, Manasseh is mine;
Ephraim is my helmet,
Judah is my scepter.
- ⁹But Moab is my washbowl;
I’ll throw my shoe at Edom.
I shout in triumph over Philistia!
- ¹⁰I wish someone would bring me
to a fortified city!
I wish someone would lead me to Edom!”
- ¹¹But you have rejected us, God,
haven’t you?
You, God, no longer accompany
our armies.
- ¹²Give us help against the enemy—
human help is worthless.
- ¹³With God we will triumph:
God is the one who will trample
our adversaries.

Psalm 109

To the leader. Of David. A psalm.

- ¹God of my praise, don’t keep quiet
²because the mouths of wicked liars
have opened up against me,
talking about me with lying tongues.
- ³Hateful words surround me;
they attack me for no reason.
- ⁴Instead of returning my love,
they accuse me—
but I am at prayer.
- ⁵They repay me evil for good,
hatred in return for my love.
- ⁶“Appoint a wicked person
against this person,” they say,
“an accuser to stand right
next to him.
- ⁷When the sentence is passed,
let him be found guilty—
let his prayer be found sinful!
- ⁸Let his days be few;
let someone else assume his position.
- ⁹Let his children become orphans;
let his wife turn into a widow.
- ¹⁰Let his children wander aimlessly,
begging,
driven out of their ruined homes.
- ¹¹Let a creditor seize everything he owns;
let strangers plunder his wealth.
- ¹²Let no one extend faithful love to him;
let no one have mercy on his orphans.
- ¹³Let his descendants be eliminated;
let their names be wiped out
in just one generation!
- ¹⁴Let his father’s wrongdoing
be remembered before the LORD;
let his mother’s sin never be wiped out.
- ¹⁵Let them be before the LORD always,
and let God eliminate the very memory
of them from the land.
- ¹⁶All because this person didn’t remember
to demonstrate faithful love,
but chased after the poor and needy—
even the brokenhearted—
with deadly intent!
- ¹⁷Since he loved to curse,
let it come back on him!
Since he didn’t care much for blessing,
let it be far away from him!
- ¹⁸Since he wore curses like a coat,
let them seep inside him like water,
seep into his bones like oil!
- ¹⁹Let them be like the clothes he wears,
like a belt that is always around him.”
- ²⁰But let all that be the reward my accusers
get from the LORD,
the reward for those
who speak evil against me!
- ²¹But you, LORD, my Lord!—
act on my behalf
for the sake of your name;
deliver me
because your faithful love is so good;
- ²²because I am poor and needy,
and my heart is broken.
- ²³Like a lengthening shadow,
I’m passing away;
I’m shaken off, like some locust.
- ²⁴My legs are weak from fasting;
my body is skin and bones.

- ²⁵ I've become a joke to my accusers;
when they see me,
they just shake their heads.
- ²⁶ Help me, LORD, my God!
Save me according to your faithful love!
- ²⁷ And let them know
that this is by your hand—
that you have done it, LORD!
- ²⁸ Let them curse—but you, bless me!
If they rise up, let them be disgraced,
but let your servant celebrate!
- ²⁹ Let my accusers be dressed in shame;
let them wear their disgrace like a coat.
- ³⁰ But I will give great thanks to the LORD
with my mouth;
among a great crowd I will praise God!
- ³¹ Because God stands
right next to the needy,
to save them from any
who would condemn them.

Psalm 110

Of David. A psalm.

- ¹ What the LORD says to my master:
“Sit right beside me
until I make your enemies
a footstool for your feet!”
- ² May the LORD make
your mighty scepter
reach far from Zion!
Rule over your enemies!
- ³ Your people stand ready
on your day of battle.
“In holy grandeur,
from the dawn's womb, fight!^u
Your youthful strength
is like the dew itself.”
- ⁴ The LORD has sworn an oath
and won't change his mind:
“You are a priest forever
in line with Melchizedek.”^v
- ⁵ My master, by your strong hand,
God has crushed kings
on his day of wrath.”^w

- ⁶ God brings the nations to justice,
piling the dead bodies,
crushing heads throughout the earth.
- ⁷ God drinks from a stream along the way,
then holds his head up high.^x

Psalm 111^y

- ¹ Praise the LORD!
I thank the LORD with all my heart
in the company of those who do right,
in the congregation.
- ² The works of the LORD are magnificent;
they are treasured
by all who desire them.
- ³ God's deeds are majestic and glorious.
God's righteousness stands forever.
- ⁴ God is famous for his wondrous works.
The LORD is full of grace and mercy.
- ⁵ God gives food to those who honor him.
God remembers his covenant forever.
- ⁶ God proclaimed his powerful deeds
to his people
and gave them what had belonged
to other nations.
- ⁷ God's handiwork is truth and justice;
all God's rules are trustworthy—
⁸ they are established
always and forever:
they are fulfilled
with truth and right doing.
- ⁹ God sent redemption for his people;
God commanded
that his covenant last forever.
Holy and awesome is God's name!
- ¹⁰ Fear of the LORD
is where wisdom begins;
sure knowledge
is for all who keep God's laws.
God's praise lasts forever!

Psalm 112^z

- ¹ Praise the LORD!
The people who honor the LORD,
who adore God's commandments,
are truly happy!

^uCorrection; or *Go!*; MT to you ^vOr a rightful king by my decree ^wOr My Lord (God), because of your (the king's)

⋮ strong hand, has crushed or The LORD is above your strong hand, crushing kings ^xHeb uncertain ^yPs 111 is an

⋮ alphabetic acrostic poem; see the note at Pss 9–10. ^zPs 112 is an alphabetic acrostic poem; see the note at

- ²Their descendants will be strong
throughout the land.
The offspring of those who do right
will be blessed;
- ³wealth and riches
will be in their houses.
Their righteousness stands forever.
- ⁴They shine in the dark
for others who do right.
They are gracious, merciful, righteous.
- ⁵Those who lend generously
are good people—
as are those who conduct their affairs
with justice.
- ⁶Yes, these sorts of people
will never be shaken;
the righteous
will be remembered forever!
- ⁷They won't be frightened at bad news.
Their hearts are steady,
trusting in the LORD.
- ⁸Their hearts are firm; they aren't afraid.
In the end, they will witness
their enemies' defeat.
- ⁹They give freely to those in need.
Their righteousness stands forever.
Their strength increases gloriously.
- ¹⁰The wicked see all this and fume;
they grind their teeth,
but disappear to nothing.
What the wicked want to see happen
comes to nothing!

Psalm 113

- ¹Praise the LORD!
You who serve the LORD—praise!
Praise the LORD's name!
- ²Let the LORD's name be blessed
from now until forever from now!
- ³From sunrise to sunset,
let the LORD's name be praised!
- ⁴The LORD is high over all the nations;
God's glory is higher than the skies!
- ⁵Who could possibly
compare to the LORD our God?
God rules from on high;
⁶he has to come down
to even see heaven and earth!
- ⁷God lifts up the poor from the dirt

- and raises up the needy
from the garbage pile
⁸to seat them with leaders—
with the leaders of his own people!
- ⁹God nests the once barren woman
at home—
now a joyful mother with children!

Praise the LORD!

Psalm 114

- ¹When Israel came out of Egypt—
when the house of Jacob came out
from a people who spoke
a different language—
- ²Judah was God's sanctuary;
Israel was God's territory.
- ³The sea saw it happen and ran away;
the Jordan River retreated!
- ⁴The mountains leaped away like rams;
the hills leaped away like lambs!
- ⁵Sea, why did you run away?
Jordan, why did you retreat?
- ⁶Mountains, why did you leap away
like rams?
Hills, why did you leap away like lambs?
- ⁷Earth: tremble before the Lord!
Tremble before the God of Jacob,
⁸the one who turned
that rock into a pool of water,
that flint stone into a spring of water!

Psalm 115

- ¹Not to us, LORD, not to us—
no, but to your own name give glory
because of your loyal love
and faithfulness!
- ²Why do the nations say,
"Where's their God now?"
- ³Our God is in heaven—
he can do whatever he wants!
- ⁴Their idols are just silver and gold—
things made by human hands.
- ⁵They have mouths, but they can't speak.
They have eyes, but they can't see.
- ⁶They have ears, but they can't hear.
They have noses, but they can't smell.

⁷They have hands, but they can't feel.
They have feet, but they can't walk.
They can't even make a noise
in their throats!

⁸Let the people who made these idols
and all who trust in them
become just like them!

⁹But you, Israel, trust in the LORD!
God is their help and shield.

¹⁰Trust in the LORD, house of Aaron!
God is their help and shield.

¹¹You who honor the LORD,
trust in the LORD!
God is their help and shield.

¹²The LORD remembers us and will bless us:
God will bless the house of Israel;
God will bless the house of Aaron;

¹³God will bless those
who honor the LORD—
from the smallest to the greatest.

¹⁴May the LORD add to your numbers—
both you and your children.

¹⁵May you be blessed by the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth!

¹⁶The highest heaven belongs to the LORD,
but he gave the earth to all people.

¹⁷The dead don't praise the LORD,
nor do those who go down to silence.

¹⁸But us? We will bless the LORD
from now until forever from now!

Praise the LORD!

Psalm 116

¹I love the LORD because he hears
my requests for mercy.

²I'll call out to him as long as I live
because he listens closely to me.

³Death's ropes bound me;
the distress of the grave^a found me—
I came face-to-face with trouble and grief.

⁴So I called on the LORD's name:
"LORD, please save me!"^b

⁵The LORD is full of grace and
righteousness;
our God is compassionate.

⁶The LORD protects simple folk;
he saves me
whenever I am brought down.

⁷I tell myself, You can be at peace again
because the LORD has been good to you.

⁸You, God, have delivered me from death,
my eyes from tears,
and my foot from stumbling,

⁹so I'll walk before the LORD
in the land of the living.

¹⁰I have remained faithful, even when I said,
"I am suffering so badly!"

¹¹even when I said, out of fear,
"Everyone is a liar!"

¹²What can I give back to the LORD
for all the good things
he has done for me?

¹³I'll lift up the cup of salvation.
I'll call on the LORD's name.

¹⁴I'll keep the promises
I made to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵The death of the LORD's faithful
is a costly loss in his eyes.

¹⁶Oh yes, LORD, I am definitely your servant!
I am your servant and the son
of your woman servant—
you've freed me from my chains.

¹⁷So I'll offer a sacrifice
of thanksgiving to you,
and I'll call on the LORD's name.

¹⁸I'll keep the promises I made
to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹in the courtyards of the LORD's house,
which is in the center of Jerusalem.

Praise the LORD!

Psalm 117

¹Praise the LORD, all you nations!
Worship him, all you peoples!

²Because God's faithful love toward us
is strong,
the LORD's faithfulness lasts forever!
Praise the LORD!

^aHeb *Sheol* ^bOr *my soul*; also in 116:7-8

Psalm 118

- ¹Give thanks to the LORD
because he is good,
because his faithful love lasts forever.
- ²Let Israel say it:
“God’s faithful love lasts forever!”
- ³Let the house of Aaron say it:
“God’s faithful love lasts forever!”
- ⁴Let those who honor the LORD say it:
“God’s faithful love lasts forever!”
- ⁵In tight circumstances,
I cried out to the LORD.
The LORD answered me
with wide-open spaces.
- ⁶The LORD is for me^c—I won’t be afraid.
What can anyone do to me?
- ⁷The LORD is for me—as my helper.
I look in victory on those who hate me.
- ⁸It’s far better to take refuge in the LORD
than to trust any human.
- ⁹It’s far better to take refuge in the LORD
than to trust any human leader.
- ¹⁰All the nations surrounded me,
but I cut them down^d
in the LORD’s name.
- ¹¹Yes, they surrounded me
on every single side,
but I cut them down in the LORD’s name.
- ¹²They surrounded me like bees,
but they were extinguished
like burning thorns.
I cut them down in the LORD’s name!
- ¹³I was pushed so hard^e I nearly died,
but the LORD helped me.
- ¹⁴The LORD was my strength
and protection;
he was my saving help!
- ¹⁵The sounds of joyful songs
and deliverance
are heard in the tents of the righteous:
“The LORD’s strong hand is victorious!”
- ¹⁶The LORD’s strong hand is ready to strike!
The LORD’s strong hand is victorious!”
- ¹⁷I won’t die—no, I will live
and declare what the LORD has done.

- ¹⁸Yes, the LORD definitely disciplined me,
but he didn’t hand me over to death.
- ¹⁹Open the gates of righteousness for me
so I can come in
and give thanks to the LORD!
- ²⁰This is the LORD’s gate;
those who are righteous
enter through it.
- ²¹I thank you because you answered me,
because you were my saving help.
- ²²The stone rejected by the builders
is now the main foundation stone!
- ²³This has happened because of the LORD;
it is astounding in our sight!
- ²⁴This is the day the LORD acted;
we will rejoice and celebrate in it!
- ²⁵LORD, please save us!
LORD, please let us succeed!
- ²⁶The one who enters in the LORD’s name
is blessed;
we bless all of you
from the LORD’s house.
- ²⁷The LORD is God!
He has shined a light on us!
So lead the festival offering with ropes
all the way to the horns of the altar.^f
- ²⁸You are my God—
I will give thanks to you!
You are my God—I will lift you up high!
- ²⁹Give thanks to the LORD
because he is good,
because his faithful love lasts forever.

Psalm 119^g

Ⲛ Ⲁ Ⲙ Ⲙ

- ¹Those whose way is blameless—
who walk in the LORD’s Instruction—
are truly happy!
- ²Those who guard God’s laws
are truly happy!
They seek God with all their hearts.
- ³They don’t even do anything wrong!

⋮ ^cLXX with *me or mine*; also in 118:7 ^dHeb uncertain; LXX, Vulg *drove or warded off*; also in 118:11–12 ^eLXX,
⋮ Vulg, Syr; MT *you pushed me* ^fHeb uncertain ^gPs 119 is an alphabetic acrostic poem (cf Pss 9–10, 111) in Heb,
⊙ with each line of Heb within the marked sections beginning with the same letter of the alphabet.

They walk in God's ways.
⁴ God, you have ordered that your decrees
 should be kept most carefully.
⁵ How I wish my ways were strong
 when it comes to keeping your statutes!
⁶ Then I wouldn't be ashamed
 when I examine
 all your commandments.
⁷ I will give thanks to you
 with a heart that does right
 as I learn your righteous rules.
⁸ I will keep your statutes.
 Please don't leave me all alone!

⌌ B E T

⁹ How can young people
 keep their paths pure?
 By guarding them
 according to what you've said.^h
¹⁰ I have sought you with my whole heart.
 Don't let me stray
 from any of your commandments!
¹¹ I keep your word close, in my heart,
 so that I won't sin against you.
¹² You, LORD, are to be blessed!
 Teach me your statutes.
¹³ I will declare out loud
 all the rules you have spoken.
¹⁴ I rejoice in the content of your laws
 as if I were rejoicing over great wealth.
¹⁵ I will contemplate your precepts
 and examine all your paths.
¹⁶ I will delight in your statutes;
 I will not forget what you have said.

⌌ G I M E L

¹⁷ Be good to your servant
 so I can go on living
 and keeping your word.
¹⁸ Open my eyes so I can examine
 the wonders of your Instruction!
¹⁹ I'm an immigrant in the land.
 Don't hide your commandments
 from me!
²⁰ I'm worn out by longing
 every minute for your rules!
²¹ You rebuke the arrogant,
 accursed people
 who stray from your commandments.

²² Take all their insults and contempt
 away from me
 because I've kept your laws!
²³ Even if rulers gather and scheme
 against me,
 your servant will contemplate
 your statutes!
²⁴ Yes, your laws are my joy—
 they are my most trusted advisers!

⌌ D A L E T

²⁵ My life is stuck in the dirt.
 Now make me live again
 according to your promise!
²⁶ I confessed my ways and you answered me.
 Now teach me your statutes!
²⁷ Help me understand
 what your precepts are about
 so I can contemplate
 your wondrous works!
²⁸ My spirit sags because of grief.
 Now raise me up
 according to your promise!
²⁹ Remove all false ways from me;
 show mercy to me
 by means of your Instruction.
³⁰ I've chosen the way of faithfulness;
 I'm set on your rules.
³¹ I'm holding tight to your laws, LORD.
 Please don't let me be put to shame.
³² I run the same path
 as your commandments
 because you give my heart insight.

⌌ H E

³³ LORD, teach me what your statutes
 are about,
 and I will guard every part of them.
³⁴ Help me understand
 so I can guard your Instruction
 and keep it with all my heart.
³⁵ Lead me on the trail
 of your commandments
 because that is what I want.
³⁶ Turn my heart to your laws,
 not to greedy gain.
³⁷ Turn my eyes away from looking at
 worthless things.
 Make me live by your way.

³⁸ Confirm your promise to your servant—
the promise that is
for all those who honor you.
³⁹ Remove the insults that I dread
because your rules are good.
⁴⁰ Look how I desire your precepts!
Make me live by your righteousness.

י וָוָו

⁴¹ LORD, let your faithful love come to me—
let your salvation come to me
according to your promise—
⁴² so I can have a response
for those who mock me,
because I have trusted in your word!
⁴³ Please don't take your true word
out of my mouth
because I have waited for your rules.
⁴⁴ I will always keep your Instruction,
always and forever!
⁴⁵ I will walk around in wide-open spaces
because I have pursued your precepts.
⁴⁶ I will talk about your laws
before rulers with no shame
whatsoever.
⁴⁷ I will rejoice in your commandments
because I love them.
⁴⁸ I will lift up my hands
to your commandments
because I love them,
and I will contemplate all your statutes.

י זַיִן

⁴⁹ Remember your promise
to your servant,
for which you made me wait.
⁵⁰ My comfort during my suffering is this:
your word gives me new life.
⁵¹ The arrogant make fun of me to no end,
but I haven't deviated
from your Instruction.
⁵² When I remember your ancient rules,
I'm comforted, LORD.
⁵³ But I'm seized with anger
because of the wicked—
because of those who abandon
your Instruction.
⁵⁴ Your statutes have been
my songs of praise
wherever I lived as an immigrant.

⁵⁵ LORD, I remember you name at nighttime,
and I keep your Instruction.
⁵⁶ This has been my practice
because I guard your precepts.

פָּ כֶּהֱת

⁵⁷ The LORD is my possession.
I promise to do what you have said.
⁵⁸ I've sought your favor with all my heart;
have mercy on me
according to your word.
⁵⁹ I've considered my ways and turned
my feet back to your laws.
⁶⁰ I hurry to keep your commandments—
I never put it off!
⁶¹ Though the wicked have surrounded me
with their ropes,
I haven't forgotten your Instruction.
⁶² I get up in the middle of the night
to give thanks to you
because of your righteous rules.
⁶³ I'm a friend to everyone who honors you
and to all who keep your precepts.
⁶⁴ LORD, the world is full
of your faithful love!
Teach me your statutes!

צֵת

⁶⁵ You have treated your servant well,
LORD, according to your promise.
⁶⁶ Teach me knowledge and good
judgment
because I've put my trust
in your commandments.
⁶⁷ Before I suffered, I took the wrong way,
but now I do what you say.
⁶⁸ You are good and you do good.
Teach me your statutes!
⁶⁹ The arrogant cover me with their lies,
but I guard your precepts
with all my heart.
⁷⁰ Their hearts are unfeeling, like blubber,
but I rejoice in your Instruction.
⁷¹ My suffering was good for me
because through it
I learned your statutes.
⁷² The Instruction you've given to me
is better
than thousands of pieces
of gold and silver!

Y O D

- ⁷³Your hands have made me
and set me in place.
Help me understand
so I can learn your commandments.
- ⁷⁴Then those who honor you
will see me and be glad
because I have waited for your promise.
- ⁷⁵LORD, I know that your rules are right
and that you rightly made me suffer.
- ⁷⁶Please let your faithful love comfort me,
according to what you've said
to your servant.
- ⁷⁷Let your compassion come to me
so I can live again,
because your Instruction is my joy!
- ⁷⁸But let the arrogant be ashamed
because they oppressed me
with lies—
meanwhile, I will be contemplating
your precepts!
- ⁷⁹Let the people who honor you
come back to me;
let those who know your precepts
return to me.
- ⁸⁰Let my heart be blameless in your statutes
so that I am not put to shame.

K A F

- ⁸¹My whole being yearns
for your saving help!
I wait for your promise.
- ⁸²My eyes are worn out
looking for your word.
“When will you comfort me?” I ask,
⁸³because I've become like a bottle
dried up by smoke,
though I haven't forgotten
your statutes.
- ⁸⁴How much more time
does your servant have?
When will you bring my persecutors
to justice?
- ⁸⁵The arrogant have dug pits for me—
those people who act
against your Instruction.
- ⁸⁶All your commandments are true,
but people persecute me for no reason.
Help me!

- ⁸⁷They've almost wiped me
off the face of the earth!
Meanwhile, I haven't abandoned
your precepts!
- ⁸⁸Make me live again
according to your faithful love
so I can keep the law you've given!

L A M E D

- ⁸⁹Your word, LORD,
stands firm in heaven forever!
- ⁹⁰Your faithfulness extends
from one generation to the next!
You set the earth firmly in place,
and it is still there.
- ⁹¹Your rules endure to this day
because everything serves you.
- ⁹²If your Instruction hadn't been
my delight,
I would have died
because of my suffering.
- ⁹³I will never forget your precepts
because through them
you gave me life again.
- ⁹⁴I'm yours—save me
because I've pursued your precepts!
- ⁹⁵The wicked wait for me, wanting to kill me,
but I'm studying your laws.
- ⁹⁶I've seen that everything,
no matter how perfect, has a limit,ⁱ
but your commandment is boundless.

M E M

- ⁹⁷I love your Instruction!
I contemplate it constantly.
- ⁹⁸Your commandment makes me wiser
than my enemies
because it is always with me.
- ⁹⁹I have greater insight
than all my teachers
because I contemplate your laws.
- ¹⁰⁰I have more understanding
than the elders
because I guard your precepts.
- ¹⁰¹I haven't set my feet on any evil path
so I can make sure to keep
your word.
- ¹⁰²I haven't turned away
from any of your rules

because you are the one
who has taught me.

- ¹⁰³Your word is so pleasing
to my taste buds—
it's sweeter than honey in my mouth!
¹⁰⁴I'm studying your precepts—
that's why I hate every false path.

י N U N

- ¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp before my feet
and a light for my journey.
¹⁰⁶I have sworn, and I fully mean it:
I will keep your righteous rules.
¹⁰⁷I have been suffering so much—
LORD, make me live again
according to your promise.
¹⁰⁸Please, LORD, accept my offerings
of praise.
Teach me your rules!
¹⁰⁹Though my life is constantly in danger,
I won't forget your Instruction.
¹¹⁰Though the wicked have set a trap for me,
I won't stray from your precepts.
¹¹¹Your laws are my possession forever
because they are my heart's joy.
¹¹²I have decided to do your statutes
forever, every last one.

ו S A M E K

- ¹¹³I hate fickle people,
but I love your Instruction.
¹¹⁴You are my shelter and my shield—
I wait for your promise.
¹¹⁵Get away from me, you evildoers;
I want to guard
my God's commandments!
¹¹⁶Sustain me according to your word
so I can live!
Don't let me be put to shame
because of hope.
¹¹⁷Support me so I can be saved
and so I can focus constantly
on your statutes.
¹¹⁸You discard everyone who strays
from your statutes
because they are dishonest and false.
¹¹⁹You dispose of all the wicked people on
earth like waste—
that's why I love your laws.

- ¹²⁰My body shudders because I fear you;
I'm in awe of your rules.

ז A Y I N

- ¹²¹I've done what is just and right.
Don't just hand me over
to my oppressors.
¹²²Guarantee good things for your servant.
Please don't let the arrogant
oppress me.
¹²³My eyes are worn out
looking for your saving help—
looking for your word
that will set things right.
¹²⁴Act toward your servant
according to your faithful love.
Teach me your statutes!
¹²⁵I'm your servant!
Help me understand
so I can know your laws.
¹²⁶It is time for the LORD
to do something!
Your Instruction has been broken.
¹²⁷But I love your commandments
more than gold,
even more than pure gold.
¹²⁸That's why I walk straight by every
single one of your precepts.
That's why I hate every false path.

ח P E

- ¹²⁹Your laws are wonderful!
That's why I guard them.
¹³⁰Access to your words^j gives light,
giving simple folk understanding.
¹³¹I open my mouth up wide, panting,
because I long for your
commandments.
¹³²Come back to me and have mercy on me;
that's only right
for those who love your name.
¹³³Keep my steps steady by your word;
don't let any sin rule me.
¹³⁴Redeem me from the people
who oppress me
so I can keep your precepts.
¹³⁵Shine your face on your servant,
and teach me your statutes.

¹³⁶Rivers of tears stream from my eyes
because your Instruction
isn't being kept.

ז TSADE

¹³⁷LORD, you are righteous,
and your rules are right.
¹³⁸The laws you commanded are righteous,
completely trustworthy.
¹³⁹Anger consumes me
because my enemies have forgotten
what you've said.
¹⁴⁰Your word has been tried and tested;
your servant loves your word!
¹⁴¹I'm insignificant and unpopular,
but I don't forget your precepts.
¹⁴²Your righteousness lasts forever!
Your Instruction is true!
¹⁴³Stress and strain have caught up with me,
but your commandments are my joy!
¹⁴⁴Your laws are righteous forever.
Help me understand so I can live!

פ QOF

¹⁴⁵I cry out with my whole heart:
"LORD, answer me
so I can guard your statutes!"
¹⁴⁶I cry out to you, "Save me
so I can keep your laws!"
¹⁴⁷I meet the predawn light and cry for help.
I wait for your promise.
¹⁴⁸My eyes encounter each hour of the night
as I contemplate your word.
¹⁴⁹Listen to my voice,
according to your faithful love.
LORD, make me live again,
according to your justice.
¹⁵⁰The people who love to plot wicked
schemes are nearby,
but they are so far
from your Instruction!
¹⁵¹But you, LORD, are nearby too,
and all your commandments are true.
¹⁵²Long ago I learned from your laws
that you had established them forever.

ר RESH

¹⁵³Look at my suffering and deliver me
because I haven't forgotten
your Instruction.

¹⁵⁴Argue my case and redeem me.
Make me live again by your word.

¹⁵⁵Salvation is far from the wicked
because they haven't pursued
your statutes.

¹⁵⁶You have so much compassion, LORD—
make me live again,
according to your rules.

¹⁵⁷My persecutors and enemies are many,
but I haven't turned away
from your laws.

¹⁵⁸I look on the faithless, and I am disgusted
because they haven't kept your word.

¹⁵⁹Look at how much I love your precepts.
Make me live again, LORD,
according to your faithful love!

¹⁶⁰The first thing to know about your word
is that it is true
and that all your righteous rules
last forever.

ש SIN AND SHIN

¹⁶¹Rulers persecute me without cause,
but my heart honors what you've said.

¹⁶²I'm overjoyed at your word,
like someone who finds great treasure.

¹⁶³I hate, I absolutely despise, what is false,
but I'm in love with your Instruction.

¹⁶⁴I praise you seven times a day
for your righteous rules.

¹⁶⁵The people who love your Instruction
enjoy peace—and lots of it.
There's no stumbling for them!

¹⁶⁶LORD, I wait for your saving help.
I do what you've commanded.

¹⁶⁷I keep your laws;
I love them so much!

¹⁶⁸I keep your precepts and your laws
because all of my ways are before you.

ת TAV

¹⁶⁹Let my cry reach you, LORD;
help me understand
according to what you've said.

¹⁷⁰Let my request for grace come before you;
deliver me according to your promise!

¹⁷¹Let my lips overflow with praise
because you've taught me your statutes.

¹⁷²Let my tongue declare your word
because all your commandments
are righteous.

¹⁷³ Let your power help me
because I have chosen your precepts.
¹⁷⁴ LORD, I long for your saving help!
Your Instruction is my joy!
¹⁷⁵ Let me live again so I can praise you!
Let your rules help me!
¹⁷⁶ I've wandered off like a sheep, lost.
Find your servant
because I haven't forgotten
your commandments!

Psalm 120

A pilgrimage song.^k

¹ I cried out to the LORD
when I was in trouble
(and he answered me):
² "LORD, deliver me^l from lying lips
and a dishonest tongue!"
³ What more will be given to you,
what more will be done to you,
you dishonest tongue?
⁴ Just this:^m a warrior's sharpened arrows,
coupled with burning coals
from a woodⁿ fire!
⁵ Oh, I'm doomed
because I have been an immigrant
in Meshech,
because I've made my home
among Kedar's tents.
⁶ I've lived far too long
with people who hate peace.
⁷ I'm for peace,
but when I speak, they are for war.

Psalm 121

A pilgrimage song.

¹ I raise my eyes toward the mountains.
Where will my help come from?
² My help comes from the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.
³ God won't let your foot slip.
Your protector won't fall asleep
on the job.
⁴ No! Israel's protector
never sleeps or rests!

⁵ The LORD is your protector;
the LORD is your shade right beside you.
⁶ The sun won't strike you during the day;
neither will the moon at night.
⁷ The LORD will protect you from all evil;
God will protect your very life.^o
⁸ The LORD will protect you
on your journeys—
whether going or coming—
from now until forever from now.

Psalm 122

A pilgrimage song. Of David.

¹ I rejoiced with those who said to me,
"Let's go to the LORD's house!"
² Now our feet are standing
in your gates, Jerusalem!
³ Jerusalem is built like a city
joined together in unity.
⁴ That is where the tribes go up—
the LORD's tribes!
It is the law for Israel
to give thanks there
to the LORD's name
⁵ because the thrones of justice are there—
the thrones of the house of David!
⁶ Pray that Jerusalem has peace:
"Let those who love you have rest.
⁷ Let there be peace on your walls;
let there be rest on your fortifications."
⁸ For the sake of my family and friends,
I say, "Peace be with you, Jerusalem."
⁹ For the sake of the
LORD our God's house
I will pray for your good.

Psalm 123

A pilgrimage song.

¹ I raise my eyes to you—
you who rule heaven.
² Just as the eyes of servants attend
to their masters' hand,
just as the eyes of a woman servant
attends to her mistress' hand—

^kOr *song of ascents* or *song of going up* (i.e., to Jerusalem); cf Ps 122:4. The heading is found in every psalm from
Ps 120 to Ps 134. ^lOr *my soul*; also in 120:6 ^mHeb lacks *this*. ⁿOr *the gorse* or *broom tree* ^oOr *your soul*

that's how our eyes
attend to the LORD our God
until he has mercy on us.

³Have mercy on us, LORD! Have mercy
because we've had
more than enough shame.

⁴We've had more than enough mockery
from the self-confident,
more than enough shame
from the proud.

Psalm 124

A pilgrimage song. Of David.

¹If the LORD hadn't been for us—
let Israel now repeat!—
²if the LORD hadn't been for us,
when those people attacked us,
³then they would have swallowed
us up whole
with their rage burning against us!
⁴Then the waters would have drowned us;
the torrent
would have come over our necks;^p
⁵then the raging waters
would have come over our necks!

⁶Bless the LORD
because he didn't hand us over
like food for our enemies' teeth!
⁷We escaped like a bird
from the hunters' trap;
the trap was broken so we escaped!
⁸Our help is in the name of the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.

Psalm 125

A pilgrimage song.

¹The people who trust in the LORD
are like Mount Zion:
never shaken, lasting forever.
²Mountains surround Jerusalem.
That's how the LORD
surrounds his people
from now until forever from now!
³The wicked rod won't remain
in the land given to the righteous

so that they don't use their hands
to do anything wrong.^q
⁴LORD, do good to people who are good,
to people whose hearts are right.
⁵But as for those people
who turn to their own twisted ways—
may the LORD march them off
with other evildoers!

Peace be on Israel!

Psalm 126

A pilgrimage song.

¹When the LORD changed Zion's
circumstances for the better,
it was like we had been dreaming.
²Our mouths were suddenly filled
with laughter;
our tongues were filled
with joyful shouts.
It was even said, at that time,
among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things
for them!"
³Yes, the LORD has done great things for us,
and we are overjoyed.
⁴LORD, change our circumstances
for the better,
like dry streams in the desert waste!
⁵Let those who plant with tears
reap the harvest with joyful shouts.
⁶Let those who go out,
crying and carrying their seed,
come home with joyful shouts,
carrying bales of grain!

Psalm 127

A pilgrimage song. Of Solomon.

¹Unless it is the LORD
who builds the house,
the builders' work is pointless.
Unless it is the LORD
who protects the city,
the guard on duty is pointless.
²It is pointless that you get up early
and stay up late,

⋮
⊙ ^pTraditionally *soul*; also in 124:5, 7 ^qHeb uncertain

eating the bread of hard labor
because God gives sleep
to those he loves.

- ³No doubt about it:
children are a gift from the LORD;
the fruit of the womb is a divine reward.
⁴The children born when one is young
are like arrows in the hand of a warrior.
⁵The person who fills a quiver
full with them is truly happy!
They won't be ashamed when arguing
with their enemies in the gate.

Psalm 128

A pilgrimage song.

- ¹Everyone who honors the LORD,
who walks in God's ways,
is truly happy!
- ²You will definitely enjoy
what you've worked hard for—
you'll be happy;
and things will go well for you.
- ³In your house, your wife will be
like a vine full of fruit.
All around your table, your children
will be like olive trees, freshly planted.
- ⁴That's how it goes for anyone
who honors the LORD:
they will be blessed!
- ⁵May the LORD bless you from Zion.
May you experience Jerusalem's
goodness your whole life long.
- ⁶And may you see your grandchildren.

Peace be on Israel!

Psalm 129

A pilgrimage song.

- ¹From youth, people have constantly
attacked me—
let Israel now repeat!—
- ²from youth people have constantly
attacked me—
but they haven't beaten me!

- ³They plowed my back like farmers;
they made their furrows deep.
- ⁴But the LORD is righteous—
God cut me free
from the ropes of the wicked!
- ⁵Let everyone who hates Zion be
ashamed, thoroughly frustrated.
- ⁶Let them be like grass on a roof
that dies before it can be pulled up,
⁷which won't fill the reaper's hand
or fill the harvester's arms.
- ⁸Let no one who passes by say to them:
"May the LORD's blessing be on you!
We bless you in the LORD's name!"

Psalm 130

A pilgrimage song.

- ¹I cry out to you from the depths, LORD—
²my Lord, listen to my voice!
Let your ears pay close attention
to my request for mercy!
- ³If you kept track of sins, LORD—
my Lord, who would stand a chance?
- ⁴But forgiveness is with you—
that's why you are honored.
- ⁵I hope, LORD.
My whole being^r hopes,
and I wait for God's promise.
- ⁶My whole being waits for my Lord—
more than the night watch
waits for morning;
yes, more than the night watch
waits for morning!
- ⁷Israel, wait for the LORD!
Because faithful love is with the LORD;
because great redemption
is with our God!
- ⁸He is the one who will redeem Israel
from all its sin.

Psalm 131

A pilgrimage song. Of David.

- ¹LORD, my heart isn't proud;
my eyes aren't conceited.

^rOr *soul*; also in 132:6

Psalm 135

- ¹Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD's name!
All you who serve the LORD,
praise God!
- ²All you who stand in the LORD's house—
who stand in the courtyards
of our God's temple—
- ³praise the LORD
because the LORD is good!
Sing praises to God's name
because it is beautiful!
- ⁴Because the LORD chose Jacob as his own,
God chose Israel
as his treasured possession.
- ⁵Yes, I know for certain
that the LORD is great—
I know our Lord is greater
than all other gods.
- ⁶The LORD can do whatever he wants
in heaven or on earth,
in the seas and in every ocean depth.
- ⁷God forms clouds at the far corners
of the earth.
God makes lightning for the rain.
God releases the wind
from its storeroom.
- ⁸God struck down
the Egyptians' oldest offspring—
both human and animal!
- ⁹God sent signs and wonders
into the very center of Egypt—
against Pharaoh and all his servants.
- ¹⁰God struck down many nations
and killed mighty kings:
- ¹¹Sihon, the Amorite king,
Og, the king of Bashan,
and all the Canaanite kings.
- ¹²Then God handed their land
over as an inheritance—
as an inheritance to Israel,
his own people.
- ¹³LORD, your name is forever!
LORD, your fame extends
from one generation to the next!
- ¹⁴The LORD gives justice to his people
and has compassion
on those who serve him.

- ¹⁵The nations' idols
are just silver and gold—
things made by human hands.
- ¹⁶They have mouths, but they can't speak.
They have eyes, but they can't see.
- ¹⁷They have ears, but they can't listen.
No, there's no breath in their lungs!
- ¹⁸Let the people who made these idols
and all who trust in them
become just like them!
- ¹⁹House of Israel, bless the LORD!
House of Aaron, bless the LORD!
- ²⁰House of Levi, bless the LORD!
You who honor the LORD,
bless the LORD!
- ²¹Bless the LORD from Zion—
bless the one who lives in Jerusalem!

Praise the LORD!

Psalm 136

- ¹Give thanks to the LORD
because he is good.
God's faithful love lasts forever!
- ²Give thanks to the God of all gods—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ³Give thanks to the Lord of all lords—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ⁴Give thanks to the only one
who makes great wonders—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ⁵Give thanks to the one
who made the skies with skill—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ⁶Give thanks to the one
who shaped the earth on the water—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ⁷Give thanks to the one
who made the great lights—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ⁸The sun to rule the day—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ⁹The moon and the stars
to rule the night—
God's faithful love lasts forever!
- ¹⁰Give thanks to the one who struck down
the Egyptians' oldest offspring—

- God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ¹¹ Give thanks to the one
who brought Israel out of there—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ¹² With a strong hand
and outstretched arm—
God's faithful love lasts forever!
- ¹³ Give thanks to the one
who split the Reed Sea^y in two—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ¹⁴ Give thanks to the one
who brought Israel through—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ¹⁵ And tossed Pharaoh and his army
into the Reed Sea—
God's faithful love lasts forever!
- ¹⁶ Give thanks to the one
who led his people through the desert—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ¹⁷ Give thanks to the one
who struck down great kings—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ¹⁸ And killed powerful kings—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ¹⁹ Sihon, the Amorite king—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ²⁰ Og, king of Bashan—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ²¹ Handing their land over
as an inheritance—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ²² As an inheritance to Israel,
his servant—
God's faithful love lasts forever!
- ²³ God remembered us
when we were humiliated—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ²⁴ God rescued us from our enemies—
God's faithful love lasts forever.
- ²⁵ God is the one who provides
food for all living things—
God's faithful love lasts forever!
- ²⁶ Give thanks to the God of heaven—
God's faithful love lasts forever!

Psalm 137

- ¹ Alongside Babylon's streams,
there we sat down,
crying because we remembered Zion.
- ² We hung our lyres up
in the trees there
- ³ because that's where
our captors asked us to sing;
our tormentors requested songs of joy:
"Sing us a song about Zion!" they said.
- ⁴ But how could we possibly sing
the LORD's song on foreign soil?
- ⁵ Jerusalem! If I forget you,
let my right hand wither!
- ⁶ Let my tongue stick
to the roof of my mouth
if I don't remember you,
if I don't make Jerusalem
my greatest joy.
- ⁷ LORD, remember what the Edomites did
on Jerusalem's dark day:
"Rip it down, rip it down!
All the way to its foundations!"
they yelled.
- ⁸ Daughter Babylon, you destroyer,^z
a blessing on the one
who pays you back
the very deed you did to us!
- ⁹ A blessing on the one
who seizes your children
and smashes them against the rock!

Psalm 138

Of David.

- ¹ I give thanks to you
with my whole heart, LORD.^a
I sing your praise before all other gods.
- ² I bow toward your holy temple
and thank your name
for your loyal love and faithfulness
because you have made
your name and word
greater than everything else.^b
- ³ On the day I cried out, you answered me.
You encouraged me with inner strength.^c

^yOr *Red Sea*; also in 136:15 ^zSym, Tg, Syr; MT *the devastated* ^aLXX, Syr, Tg, DSS (11QPs^a); MT lacks *Lord*.
^bCorrection; Heb uncertain ^cHeb uncertain

- ⁴Let all the earth's rulers
give thanks to you, LORD,
when they hear what you say.
- ⁵Let them sing about the LORD's ways
because the LORD's glory is so great!
- ⁶Even though the LORD is high,
he can still see the lowly,
but God keeps his distance
from the arrogant.
- ⁷Whenever I am in deep trouble,
you make me live again;
you send your power
against my enemies' wrath;
you save me with your strong hand.
- ⁸The LORD will do all this for my sake.

Your faithful love lasts forever, LORD!
Don't let go of what your hands
have made.

Psalm 139

For the music leader. Of David. A song.

- ¹LORD, you have examined me.
You know me.
- ²You know when I sit down
and when I stand up.
Even from far away,
you comprehend my plans.
- ³You study my traveling and resting.
You are thoroughly familiar
with all my ways.
- ⁴There isn't a word on my tongue, LORD,
that you don't
already know completely.
- ⁵You surround me—front and back.
You put your hand on me.
- ⁶That kind of knowledge
is too much for me;
it's so high above me
that I can't fathom it.
- ⁷Where could I go to get away
from your spirit?
Where could I go to escape
your presence?
- ⁸If I went up to heaven,
you would be there.
- If I went down to the grave,^d
you would be there too!
- ⁹If I could fly on the wings of dawn,
stopping to rest only
on the far side of the ocean—
¹⁰even there your hand would guide me;
even there your strong hand
would hold me tight!
- ¹¹If I said,
"The darkness will definitely hide me;
the light will become night around me,"
¹²even then the darkness
isn't too dark for you!
Nighttime would shine bright as day
because darkness is the same
as light to you!
- ¹³You are the one who created
my innermost parts;
you knit me together
while I was still in my mother's womb.
- ¹⁴I give thanks to you
that I was marvelously set apart.
Your works are wonderful—
I know that very well.
- ¹⁵My bones weren't hidden from you
when I was being put together
in a secret place,
when I was being woven together
in the deep parts of the earth.
- ¹⁶Your eyes saw my embryo,
and on your scroll every day was written
what was being formed for me,^e
before any one of them
had yet happened.^f
- ¹⁷God, your plans are incomprehensible
to me!
Their total number is countless!
- ¹⁸If I tried to count them—
they outnumber the sand!
If I came to the very end—
I'd still be with you.^g
- ¹⁹If only, God, you would kill the wicked!
If only murderers
would get away from me—
²⁰the people who talk about you,
but only for wicked schemes;
the people who are your enemies,

^dHeb *Sheol* ^eCorrection; Heb lacks *for me*. ^fHeb uncertain ^gCorrection

who use your name as if
it were of no significance.^h
²¹Don't I hate everyone who hates you?
Don't I despise those who attack you?
²²Yes, I hate them—
through and through!
They've become my enemies too.
²³Examine me, God! Look at my heart!
Put me to the test!
Know my anxious thoughts!
²⁴Look to see if there is any idolatrous wayⁱ
in me,
then lead me on the eternal path!

Psalm 140

For the music leader. A psalm of David.

¹Rescue me from evil people, LORD!
Guard me from violent people
²who plot evil things in their hearts,
who pick fights every single day!
³They sharpen their tongues
like a snake's;
spider poison^j is on their lips. *Selah*
⁴Protect me from the power
of the wicked, LORD!
Guard me from violent people
who plot to trip me up!
⁵Arrogant people have laid a trap
for me with ropes.
They've spread out a net
alongside the road.
They've set snares for me. *Selah*
⁶I tell the LORD, "You are my God!
Listen to my request for mercy, LORD!"
⁷My LORD God, my strong saving help—
you've protected my head
on the day of battle.
⁸LORD, don't give the wicked
what they want!
Don't allow their plans to succeed,
or they'll exalt themselves
even more!^k *Selah*
⁹Let the heads of the people
surrounding me

be covered with the trouble
their own lips caused!^l
¹⁰Let burning coals fall on them!
Let them fall into deep pits
and never get out again!
¹¹Let no slanderer be safe in the land.
Let calamity hunt down violent people—
and quickly!^m
¹²I know that the LORD
will take up the case of the poor
and will do what is right
for the needy.
¹³Yes, the righteous will give thanks
to your name,
and those who do right
will live in your presence.

Psalm 141

A psalm of David.

¹I cry out to you, LORD:
Come to me—quickly!
Listen to my voice
when I cry out to you!
²Let my prayer stand before you
like incense;
let my uplifted hands
be like the evening offering.
³Set a guard over my mouth, LORD;
keep close watch over the door
that is my lips.
⁴Don't let my heart turn aside
to evil things
so that I don't do wicked things
with evildoers,
so I don't taste their delicacies.
⁵Instead, let the righteous discipline me;
let the faithful correct me!
Let my head never reject
that kind of fine oil
because my prayers are always
against the deeds of the wicked.ⁿ
⁶Their leaders will fall from jagged cliffs,
but my words will be heard
because they are pleasing.^o

⋮
⋮
⋮^hHeb lacks *your name*. ⁱCorrection; cf Tg; LXX, Syr, Vulg *painful or wicked or hurtful way* ^jLXX *snake poison*
⊙^kHeb uncertain ^lHeb uncertain ^mHeb uncertain ⁿHeb uncertain ^oHeb uncertain

⁷Our bones^p have been scattered
at the mouth of the grave,^q
just like when the ground
is broken up and plowed.^r

⁸But my eyes are on you, my LORD God.
I take refuge in you; don't let me die!

⁹Protect me from the trap
they've set for me;
protect me from the snares
of the evildoers.

¹⁰Let the wicked fall into their own nets—
all together!—
but let me make it through safely.

Psalm 142

*A maskil^s of David, when he was
in the cave. A prayer.*

¹I cry out loud for help from the LORD.
I beg out loud
for mercy from the LORD.

²I pour out my concerns before God;
I announce my distress to him.

³When my spirit is weak inside me,
you still know my way.
But they've hidden a trap for me
in the path I'm taking.

⁴Look right beside me: See?
No one pays attention to me.
There's no escape for me.
No one cares about my life.

⁵I cry to you, LORD, for help.
"You are my refuge," I say.
"You are all I have
in the land of the living."

⁶Pay close attention to my shouting
because I've been brought down
so low!
Deliver me from my persecutors
because they're stronger than me.

⁷Get me out of this prison
so I can give thanks to your name.
Then the righteous
will gather all around me
because of your good deeds to me.

Psalm 143

A psalm of David.

¹Listen to my prayer, LORD!
Because of your faithfulness,
hear my requests for mercy!
Because of your righteousness, answer me!

²Please don't bring your servant
to judgment
because no living thing is righteous
before you.

³The enemy is chasing me,^t
crushing my life in the dirt,
forcing me to live in the dark
like those who've been dead forever.

⁴My spirit is weak inside me—
inside, my heart is numb.

⁵I remember the days long past;
I meditate on all your deeds;
I contemplate your handiwork.

⁶I stretch out my hands to you;
my whole being is like dry dirt,
thirsting for you.^u

Selah

⁷Answer me, LORD—and quickly!
My spirit is all used up.
Don't hide your face from me
or I'll be like those going down to the pit!

⁸Tell me all about your faithful love
come morning time
because I trust you.
Show me the way I should go
because I offer my life up to you.

⁹Deliver me from my enemies, LORD!
I seek protection from you.^v

¹⁰Teach me to do what pleases you,
because you are my God.
Guide me by your good spirit
into good land.

¹¹Make me live again, LORD,
for your name's sake.
Bring me out of distress
because of your righteousness.

¹²Wipe out my enemies
because of your faithful love.
Destroy everyone who attacks me
because I am your servant.

^pLXX manuscripts, Syr *their bones*; DSS (11QPs³) *my bones* ^qHeb *Sheol* ^rHeb uncertain ^sPerhaps *instruction*; it
also appears in Pss 42, 44–45, 52–55, 74, 78, 88–89, 142; cf. 47:7; the root is used in Ps 32:8. ^tOr *my soul*; also
in 143:6, 8, 11–12 ^uHeb lacks *thirsting*. ^vHeb uncertain; MT to you I have hidden

Psalm 144

Of David.

¹Bless the LORD, my rock,
who taught my hands how to fight,
who taught my fingers
how to do battle!

²God is my loyal one, my fortress,
my place of safety, my rescuer,
my shield, in whom I take refuge,
and the one who subdues
people before me.

³What are human beings, LORD,
that you know them at all?
What are human beings
that you even consider them?

⁴Humans are like a puff of air;
their days go by like a shadow.

⁵LORD, part your skies
and come down!
Touch the mountains so they smoke!

⁶Flash lightning
and scatter the enemy!
Shoot your arrows and defeat them!

⁷Stretch out your hand from above!

Rescue me and deliver me
from deep water,
from the power of strangers,
⁸whose mouths speak lies,
and whose strong hand is
a strong hand of deception!

⁹I will sing a new song to you, God.
I will sing praises to you
on a ten-stringed harp,

¹⁰to you—the one
who gives saving help to rulers,
and who rescues his servant David
from the evil sword.

¹¹Rescue me and deliver me
from the power of strangers,
whose mouths speak lies,
and whose strong hand
is a strong hand of deception,

¹²so that^w our sons can grow up fully,
in their youth, like plants;

so that our daughters can be like pillars
carved to decorate a palace;

¹³so that our barns can be full,
providing all kinds of food;
so that our flocks can be
in the thousands—

even tens of thousands—in our fields;

¹⁴so that our cattle can be loaded
with calves;

so that there won't be any breach
in the walls,
no exile, no outcries in our streets!

¹⁵The people who have it like this
are truly happy!
The people whose God is the LORD
are truly happy!

Psalm 145*

Praise. Of David.

¹I will lift you up high, my God,
the true king.

I will bless your name
forever and always.

²I will bless you every day.

I will praise your name
forever and always.

³The LORD is great
and so worthy of praise!
God's greatness can't be grasped.

⁴One generation will praise your works
to the next one,
proclaiming your mighty acts.

⁵They will talk all about^y the glorious
splendor of your majesty;
I will contemplate your wondrous works.

⁶They will speak of the power
of your awesome deeds;

I will declare
your great accomplishments.

⁷They will rave in celebration
of your abundant goodness;
they will shout joyfully
about your righteousness:

⁸"The LORD is merciful
and compassionate,
very patient and full of faithful love.

⋮
⋮
⋮ ^wHeb uncertain ^yPs 145 is an alphabetic acrostic poem; see the note at Pss 9–10, 111, 119.

○ ^yLXX, Syr, DSS (11QPs^a); MT and words of

⁹The LORD is good to everyone
and everything;
God's compassion extends
to all his handiwork!"

¹⁰All that you have made
gives thanks to you, LORD;
all your faithful ones bless you!

¹¹They speak of the glory of your kingdom;
they talk all about your power,
¹²to inform all human beings
about God's power
and the majestic glory of God's kingdom.

¹³Your kingdom is a kingship
that lasts forever;
your rule endures for all generations.
The LORD is trustworthy
in all that he says,
faithful in all that he does.²

¹⁴The LORD supports all who fall down,
straightens up all who are bent low.

¹⁵All eyes look to you, hoping,
and you give them their food
right on time,
¹⁶opening your hand
and satisfying the desire
of every living thing.

¹⁷The LORD is righteous in all his ways,
faithful in all his deeds.

¹⁸The LORD is close to everyone
who calls out to him,
to all who call out to him sincerely.

¹⁹God shows favor to those who honor him,
listening to their cries for help
and saving them.

²⁰The LORD protects all who love him,
but he destroys every wicked person.

²¹My mouth will proclaim
the LORD's praise,
and every living thing
will bless God's holy name
forever and always.

Psalm 146

¹Praise the LORD!

Let my whole being^a praise the LORD!

²I will praise the LORD with all my life;

I will sing praises to my God
as long as I live.

³Don't trust leaders;
don't trust any human beings—
there's no saving help with them!

⁴Their breath leaves them,
then they go back to the ground.
On that very same day,
their plans die too.

⁵The person whose help
is the God of Jacob—
the person whose hope
rests on the LORD their God—
is truly happy!

⁶God: the maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
God: who is faithful forever,

⁷who gives justice to people
who are oppressed,
who gives bread to people
who are starving!

The LORD: who frees prisoners.

⁸The LORD: who makes the blind see.
The LORD: who straightens up
those who are bent low.

The LORD: who loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD: who protects immigrants,
who helps orphans and widows,
but who makes the way of the wicked
twist and turn!

¹⁰The LORD will rule forever!
Zion, your God will rule
from one generation to the next!

Praise the LORD!

Psalm 147

¹Praise the LORD!
Because it is good to sing praise
to our God!
Because it is a pleasure
to make beautiful praise!

²The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem,
gathering up Israel's exiles.

ⓘ ²LXX, DSS (11QPs^a), Syr; Heb lacks these lines, but they correspond to the *nun* line in the alphabetic acrostic poem. ^aOr *soul*

³ God heals the brokenhearted
and bandages their wounds.
⁴ God counts the stars by number,
giving each one a name.
⁵ Our Lord is great and so strong!
God's knowledge can't be grasped!
⁶ The LORD helps the poor,
but throws the wicked down on the dirt!

⁷ Sing to the LORD with thanks;
sing praises to our God with a lyre!
⁸ God covers the skies with clouds;
God makes rain for the earth;
God makes the mountains
sprout green grass.
⁹ God gives food to the animals—
even to the baby ravens
when they cry out.
¹⁰ God doesn't prize the strength of a horse;
God doesn't treasure
the legs of a runner.
¹¹ No. The LORD treasures the people
who honor him,
the people who wait
for his faithful love.

¹² Worship the LORD, Jerusalem!
Praise your God, Zion!
¹³ Because God secures the bars
on your gates,
God blesses the children
you have there.
¹⁴ God establishes your borders peacefully.
God fills you full
with the very best wheat.

¹⁵ God issues his command to the earth—
God's word speeds off fast!
¹⁶ God spreads snow like it was wool;
God scatters frost like it was ashes;
¹⁷ God throws his hail down like crumbs—
who can endure God's freezing cold?
¹⁸ Then God issues his word
and melts it all away!
God makes his winds blow;
the water flows again.

¹⁹ God proclaims his word to Jacob;
his statutes and rules to Israel.

²⁰ God hasn't done that
with any other nation;
those nations have no knowledge
of God's rules.^b

Praise the LORD!

Psalm 148

¹ Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from heaven!
Praise God on the heights!
² Praise God, all of you
who are his messengers!
Praise God, all of you
who comprise his heavenly forces!
³ Sun and moon, praise God!
All of you bright stars, praise God!
⁴ You highest heaven, praise God!
Do the same, you waters
that are above the sky!
⁵ Let all of these praise the LORD's name
because God gave the command
and they were created!
⁶ God set them in place always and forever.
God made a law that will not be broken.

⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters
and all you ocean depths!
⁸ Do the same, fire and hail,
snow and smoke,
stormy wind that does what God says!
⁹ Do the same, you mountains,
every single hill,
fruit trees, and every single cedar!
¹⁰ Do the same, you animals—
wild or tame—
you creatures that creep along
and you birds that fly!
¹¹ Do the same, you kings of the earth
and every single person,
you princes and every single ruler
on earth!
¹² Do the same, you young men—
young women too!—
you who are old together
with you who are young!

^bLXX, Tg, DSS (11QPs^a) *God hasn't let those nations know his rules.*

- ¹³ Let all of these praise the LORD's name
because only God's name is high over all.
Only God's majesty
is over earth and heaven.
- ¹⁴ God raised the strength^c of his people,
the praise of all his faithful ones—
that's the Israelites,
the people who are close to him.

Praise the LORD!

Psalm 149

¹ Praise the LORD!

Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing God's praise
in the assembly of the faithful!

² Let Israel celebrate its maker;
let Zion's children rejoice in their king!

³ Let them praise God's name with dance;
let them sing God's praise
with the drum and lyre!

⁴ Because the LORD is pleased
with his people,
God will beautify the poor
with saving help.

⁵ Let the faithful celebrate with glory;
let them shout for joy on their beds.^d

⁶ Let the high praises of God
be in their mouths

- and a double-edged sword
in their hands,
⁷ to enact vengeance on the nations
and punishment on the peoples,
⁸ binding their rulers in chains
and their nobles in iron shackles,
⁹ achieving the justice
written against them.
That will be an honor
for all God's faithful people.

Praise the LORD!

Psalm 150

¹ Praise the LORD!

Praise God in his sanctuary!
Praise God in his fortress, the sky!

² Praise God in his mighty acts!
Praise God as suits
his incredible greatness!

³ Praise God with the blast
of the ram's horn!
Praise God with lute and lyre!

⁴ Praise God with drum and dance!
Praise God with strings and pipe!

⁵ Praise God with loud cymbals!
Praise God with clashing cymbals!

⁶ Let every living thing praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD!