

Theopolis
Bible Translations

NO 1

Psalms

Book One

—
TRANSLATION BY

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MISSION—

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Introduction

The translation here presented is a work in progress. We hope to get feedback from those who use this material. In this Introduction, we set forth how we are doing this and why.

The Structure of the Psalter

To begin with, the structure of the Psalter. The book of Psalms as we have it today is not the psalter used at Solomon's Temple, but the completed and reorganized psalter for the Second Temple, the Temple after the exile. This is clear from Psalm 137, which was written at the exile. It is also clear in that psalms by David are found scattered throughout the whole psalter. The psalter used in Solomon's Temple may well have been arranged quite differently, but while that psalter was inspired and authoritative for that time, what we have today is a rearranged and completed psalter, equally inspired and authoritative, as well as final.

We don't know whom God inspired to produce the final psalter. We can guess at Ezra, since he was a priest, and much involved with setting up the Second Temple order right after the return from Babylon.

The psalter now consists of five books, each of which ends with a doxology.

I: 1-41 (41:13)

II: 42-72 (72:18-19)

III: 73-89 (89:52)

IV: 90-106 (106:48)

V: 107-150 (105:6)

It is likely that the doxology for a given book was sung at the end of all the psalms in that book, as the Gloria Patri is sung at the end of psalms in liturgical churches today. In our translation we have made that assumption and included the relevant doxology at the end of each psalm. Book V seems to have no brief doxology, so we anticipate using the Gloria Patri there.

Our Protestant English Bibles have 150 psalms in them, but there are in fact only 146 "whole psalms" in the psalter:

Psalms 9-10 are one psalm, an alphabetic acrostic moving through the

Hebrew alphabet from the beginning of Ps. 9 to the end of Ps. 10.

Psalms 42-43 are clearly one psalm in three stanzas, as the refrain makes clear.

Psalms 32-33 are one psalm, for there is no title in Psalm 33, and they are linked in that Ps. 32 says God will instruct, and then Ps. 33 provides the instruction in 22 lines -- the number of letters in the Hebrew alphabet.

Psalms 70-71 are one psalm: Ps. 70 is virtually identical to Ps. 40:13-17, and this duplication makes sense only if it is the first part of Ps. 71, which again has no title.

Our Protestant arrangement follows the Hebrew text. Catholic and Orthodox Bibles follow the order of the Greek translation of the Hebrew text called the Septuagint, which combines and breaks up the psalms differently, resulting in different numbers for many of them. Comparing the Hebrew and the Septuagint shows us that in actual Temple practice, sometimes only part of a psalm might be sung. From the Bible we can also see that psalms were sometimes combined and rearranged, something we see in the composite psalms in 2 Samuel 22 and 1 Chronicles 16.

Looking at the 146 whole psalms, we find that the books of the psalter are significantly structured in their numerical *totals*:

I:	17 + 22 (Hebrew alphabet)
II:	17 + 12 (3 x 4)
III:	17
IV:	17
V:	17 + 27 (3 x 3 x 3)
or V:	22 + 22 (two x alphabet)

Seventeen is the sum of the two numbers of fullness, 7 and 10, and in I, II, and V another number related to fullness completes the count.

If we look at the *order* of the psalms, the same significant numbers turn up in Book V:

Ps. 107-118	12
Ps. 119	22 sections (alphabet)
Ps. 120-136	17 (15 of ascent to Temple, and then two Temple praise)
Ps. 137-150	14 (2 x 7)

All of this makes it clear that the final psalter has been very carefully structured,

under divine inspiration.

Of the 146 whole psalms, the central two are 77 and 78. Psalm 77 ends with Moses and Aaron, and Ps. 78 ends with David. Each recounts history, first the history leading to the priestly covenant, and then the history leading to the kingly covenant. Both psalms focus on the exodus from Egypt, from an old world to a new. Psalm 77 ends in the wilderness. Psalm 78 ends at Mt. Zion, with David.

That this is the core of the psalter provides us a perspective on how the psalter begins. Psalm 1 is about priestly obedience, and Psalm 2 is about kingly reign. While these are two different psalms, they are designed to be read together on occasion, so that the righteous obedient man of Psalm 1 is, or becomes, the anointed king of Psalm 2.

Book 1 of the Psalter consists of 17 + 22 psalms, while Book 5 consists of 22 + 22. There are 22 letters in the Hebrew alphabet and this is significant for Biblical theology and poetry. The second Person of God is the Word of God and also the Alphabet of God. As He says in Revelation, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end" (see Rev. 1:8; 21:6; 22:13). These are the first and last letters in the Greek alphabet. In Hebrew, they are 'aleph and tav.

In the Ark of the Covenant in the Holy of Holies was the Word of God made stone. Corresponding to this Ark-chest was a box on the chest of the High Priest, the pouch of the Ephod. Inside the pouch were stones called 'Urim and Thummim, two words that begin respectively with 'aleph and tav. These two letters summarize the alphabet, which in turn is a symbol of the whole word of God from beginning to end. Israel would consult God's Word either through the written Bible, or through the casting of the lots 'Urim and Thummim.

The Psalter begins with Psalm 1. Psalm 1 begins with the word "Blessed" (*'asher*) and ends with the word "perish" (*to'bher*). The first word begins with 'aleph, and the last word begins with tav.

Spun out from this are several alphabetic-acrostic psalms. Psalms 25, 34, and 145 begin each line with a successive letter of the alphabet, for a total of 22 lines. (So does Proverbs 31:10-31.) Psalm 9-10 is also an alphabetic-acrostic, though a few letters are missing. Psalm 37 and Lamentations 4 assigns two lines to each successive letter. In Lamentations 1 and 2, three lines are given to each letter. In Lamentations 3, three successive lines are given to each letter, and in Psalm 119 we find eight lines per letter. Finally, Psalms 33 and 38 (and Lamentations 5) have exactly 22 lines, though not alphabetically ordered. This seems no accident. Nahum 1 also includes a broken alphabetic-acrostic.

Since Psalm 1 introduces not only the Psalter but also Book 1 of the Psalter, it may be significant that all but two of the alphabetic psalms occur in Book 1, to wit: alphabetic-

acrostic: Pss. 9-10, 25, and 34; non-acrostic: Pss. 33 and 38.

There are *seven* acrostic Psalms in the Psalter: Pss. 9-10, 25, 34, 111, 112, 119, and 145. Since Ps. 119 uses each letter eight times, the total with the other six single-use Psalms is *fourteen* (2x7) acrostic usages.

The Titles of the Psalms

We have translated and included the titles of each psalm, on the assumption that these are part of the God-given inspired text. We are aware that in some circles this is a disputed point, but we have chosen to err on the side of caution and tradition.

We have also, however, followed the research of James William Thirtle, in his book *The Titles of the Psalm: Their Nature and Meaning Explained* (Second Edition, New York: Henry Frowde, 1905), as regards these titles. Thirtle made a good case, building on Habakkuk 3, that “Prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, according to Shigionoth” comes at the head of the psalm, and “For the Director, upon my stringed instruments” comes at the end. While Thirtle’s book has often been overlooked, his thesis has met with some favor, and we have provisionally adopted it here.

<http://tinyurl.com/ohxd5r8>

Selah

While the meaning of the term “selah” continues to be disputed, we have found R. W. Landis’s essay “The Meaning and Use of *Selah*” in *The Danville Review* (June, 1864), pp. 214-247, to be of the most help. He argues rather convincingly that the word “selah” indicates that the first lines of the psalm are to be repeated as a kind of refrain. We are very largely convinced, and have followed his advice here.

<http://tinyurl.com/nwtwfj8>

Some Translational Decisions

‘Asher. The first word in the psalter is usually translated “blessed,” but this is confusing because *barakh* is also translated “word *‘asher* also connotes “happy,” and that is why some translations use “happy.” The same is true of the Greek *makarios* in the Beatitudes. We have decided to use the phrase “blessed and merry.”

It would be nice if we could find one English word that would do, but we have not

found it thus far. We remember how Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, in translating the Latin prayers for the English Book of Common Prayer, often used two words for one Latin word. We have followed his principle.

Hesed. Here we have the word traditionally rendered “lovingkindness,” which today is often argued to be better rendered “covenant faithfulness” or even something like “kinship commitment.” We have stuck with the tradition, since many still argue for it, and it seems best to us.

Zamar. Usually translated something like “praise,” this is the word from which “psalm” is derived. It sounds like the playing of an instrument, and the word “psalm” in both Hebrew (*mizmor*) and Greek (*psallo*) means something sung with an instrument. In fact, there is no evidence anywhere in the Bible that anything was sung to God without instruments. We have rendered *zamar* as “play music.”

We have rendered *‘elohim* as “God,” *‘el* as “Mighty One,” *‘adonai* as “My Master,” *‘elyon* as “Most High,” and *‘eloah* as “Mighty Protector.” The Tetragrammaton YHWH we have put as “Yahweh.” We intend this for reading and singing the Psalms, not for Christian prayer, for the Name we have been given to use as a memorial name is Jesus, not Yahweh.

We invite those reading these efforts to write and ask about other words, so that we can expand this list. In time, discussions of particular psalms will be made available.

Those using these materials are free to download them and make any changes they see fit. If you do not wish to use “Yahweh” and to use LORD instead, make that change. If you want the colophon to be shifted into the title of the following psalm, make that change.

Verses or Lines?

In this first edition we have numbered the psalms in actual lines rather than in awkward verses. Often the verses group lines together curiously. The verses and chapter divisions in our Bibles are not infrequently infelicitous, and someday need to be changed. In future editions we intend to supply verse numbers as well for ease of studying.

Psalm 1

¹Blest and merry is the man

²who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,

³And in the way of sinners does not stand,

⁴And in the seat of mockers does not sit;

⁵But rather in Yahweh's Instruction is his delight,

⁶And on His Instruction he meditates day and night.

⁷And he is like a tree planted by streams of waters,

⁸Who yields his fruit in his season,

⁹And his leaf does not wither,

¹⁰And whatever he does prospers.

¹¹Not so the wicked!

¹²But rather they are like the chaff that Spirit-wind blows away.

¹³Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,

¹⁴Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

¹⁵For Yahweh knows the way of the righteous,

¹⁶But the way of the wicked shall perish.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 2

¹Why do nations conspire,
²And peoples murmur a vain thing?

³Arrayed are earth's kings,
⁴And rulers take counsel together,

⁵Against Yahweh,
⁶And against His anointed;

⁷Saying, "Let us break Their chains,
⁸And throw off of us Their ropes!"

⁹The One enthroned in the heavens laughs;
¹⁰My Master scoffs at them!

¹¹Then He speaks to them in His wrath,
¹²And in His burning anger He terrifies them.

¹³Saying, "I Myself have installed My King,
¹⁴On Zion, My holy hill."

¹⁵I will declare the statute:
¹⁶Yahweh said to Me,

¹⁷"My Son You are,
¹⁸I Myself today have begotten You.

¹⁹Ask of Me and I will make nations Your inheritance,
²⁰And Your possession the ends of earth.

²¹You will rule them with an iron scepter.
²²Like a vessel of clay will You smash them."

²³Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
²⁴Be warned, you judges of earth.

²⁵Serve Yahweh with fear,
²⁶And exult with trembling.

²⁷Kiss the Son, lest He be angry,

²⁸And you perish in the way,

²⁹For His wrath can flare up in a moment.

³⁰Blest and merry are all those who take refuge in Him.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 3

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

^cAs he fled from the face of Absalom, his son.

¹Yahweh, how many are my foes!

²How many are rising up against me!

³How many are saying of my soul,

⁴"There is no salvation for him in God"!

Selah. Yahweh, how many are my foes!
How many are rising up against me!

⁵But it is You, Yahweh, who are a shield around me,

⁶My Glory, and the One lifting up my head.

⁷With loud voice to Yahweh I cry,

⁸And He hears me from His holy mountain.

Selah. Yahweh, how many are my foes!
How many are rising up against me!

⁹I myself lie down and sleep;

¹⁰I awake because Yahweh sustains me.

¹¹I will not fear myriads of people,

¹²Who on all sides are set against me.

¹³Arise, Yahweh!

¹⁴Save me, O my God!

¹⁵For You have struck all my enemies on the jaw;

¹⁶The teeth of the ungodly You have broken.

¹⁷From Yahweh is the salvation!

¹⁸On Your people is Your blessing.

Selah. Yahweh, how many are my foes!
How many are rising up against me!

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!
From everlasting and unto everlasting.
Amen!
Yes! Amen!

^dFor the music director.
^eOn stringed instruments.

Psalm 4

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹When I call, answer me, my righteous God!

²From the distress give me relief.

³To me be merciful, and hear my prayer.

⁴You boys,¹ how long will my glory be shamed?

⁵How long will you love worthlessness?

⁶How long will you seek falsehood?

Selah. When I call, answer me, my righteous God!

From the distress give me relief.

To me be merciful, and hear my prayer.

⁷Now know that Yahweh has separated the godly to Himself;

⁸Yahweh will hear when I call to Him.

⁹Be angry, and do not sin.

¹⁰Search within your heart when you are on your bed, and be still.

Selah. When I call, answer me, my righteous God!

From the distress give me relief.

To me be merciful, and hear my prayer.

¹¹Sacrifice righteous communion meals,

¹²And trust Yahweh.

¹³Many are saying, "Who will show us good?"

¹⁴Let light from Your countenance shine upon us, Yahweh!"

¹⁵You have put gladness in my heart,

¹⁶More than any season when their grain and wine increased.

¹⁷Peacefully composed I will lie down and sleep,

¹⁸For it is You, Yahweh, alone who make me dwell in safety.

¹"Sons of males."

²Possibly, "a fear." Possibly a double entendre: teach them through fear.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!
From everlasting and unto everlasting.
Amen!
Yes! Amen!

^cFor the director.
^dFor flutes.

Psalm 5

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹To my words give ear, Yahweh;

²Consider my groaning.

³Listen to the sound of my plea, my King and my God,

⁴For to You I pray.

⁵Yahweh, it is morning: You hear my voice;

⁶It is morning: I lay my request before You and wait.

⁷For You are not a Mighty One who takes pleasure in wickedness.

⁸The wicked may not dwell with You.

⁹The arrogant will not stand before Your eyes.

¹⁰You hate all who make trouble.

¹¹You destroy those who speak falsehood.

¹²The man of blood and deceit Yahweh abhors.

¹³But as for me, by Your abundant lovingkindness I will enter Your house.

¹⁴I will bow toward Your holy temple in fear of You.

¹⁵Yahweh, lead me in Your righteousness.

¹⁶On account of those who lie in wait for me, make straight Your way before me.

¹⁷Because in his mouth is nothing trustworthy.

¹⁸Their inward part is destruction.

¹⁹An open grave is their throat.

²⁰With their tongue they speak deceit.

²¹Hold them guilty, O God!

²²Let them fall by their own intrigues!

²³For their multitudes of transgressions, banish them,

²⁴Because they are rebellious against You.

²⁵But let all who take refuge in You be glad;

²⁶Everlastingly let them sing for joy.

²⁷And spread Your protection over them,

²⁸That those who love Your Name may exult in You.

²⁹For it is You who bless the righteous man, Yahweh.

³⁰Like a shield, with favor You surround him.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

^cFor the director.

^dWith stringed instruments.

^eOn the Eight-string.

Psalm 6

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹Yahweh, do not rebuke me in Your anger,

²Nor in Your wrath chasten me.

³Be gracious to me, Yahweh, for I am pining away;

⁴Heal me, Yahweh, for my bones are agonizing.

⁵And my soul is in great anguish;

⁶But You, Yahweh, how long?

⁷Turn, Yahweh! Rescue my soul!

⁸Save me because of Your lovingkindness!

⁹For in death there is no Memorial for You;

¹⁰In Sheol who will give You Thanks?

¹¹I am weary with my sighing;

¹²All night long I flood my bed;

¹³With my tears I drench my couch.

¹⁴Weak with sorrow grows mine eye;

¹⁵It is becoming old because of all mine adversaries.

¹⁶Depart from me, all you who make trouble!

¹⁷For Yahweh has heard the sound of my weeping.

¹⁸Yahweh has heard my supplication;

¹⁹Yahweh accepts my prayer.

²⁰Disgraced and greatly dismayed are all my enemies!

²¹They turn back, disgraced suddenly!

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 7

^aA Shiggaion [meaning unknown].

^bBy David.

^cWhich he sang to Yahweh concerning the words of Cush, a Benjamite [the person slandering David; incident unknown].

¹Yahweh, my God, in You I take refuge;

²Save me from all my pursuers, and deliver me.

³Lest he tear my soul like a lion:

⁴Ripping to pieces; no one delivering.

⁵Yahweh, my God, if I did this:

⁶If there is injustice in my palms,

⁷If I did evil to one at peace with me,

⁸Or plundered mine adversary without cause,

⁹Let the enemy pursue my soul and overtake,

¹⁰And let him trample to the earth my life,

¹¹And my glory in the dust cause to dwell.

selah Yahweh, my God, in You I take refuge;
Save me from all my pursuers, and deliver me.

¹²Arise, Yahweh, in Your anger!

¹³Rise up against the ragings of mine adversaries!

¹⁴Awake, my Mighty One! Decree justice.

¹⁵And let the congregation of the peoples gather around You,

¹⁶And over her on the high place take the seat!

¹⁷Let Yahweh judge the peoples!

¹⁸Judge me, Yahweh, according to my righteousness,

¹⁹And according to mine integrity be it upon me.

²⁰Now let Him terminate the evil of the wicked and establish the righteous!

²¹For a searcher of hearts and kidneys is the Righteous God.

²²My shield is the High God,
²³Saver of the upright in heart.

²⁴God is a righteous Judge,
²⁵And a Mighty One who expresses wrath every day.

²⁶If He does not turn, His sword He sharpens;
²⁷His bow He bends and He strings it;

²⁸And for Himself He prepares deadly weapons:
²⁹His flaming arrows He readies.

³⁰Behold! the evil man is in labor,
³¹And he is pregnant with trouble,
³²And he gives birth to falsehood.

³³He digs a hole and scoops it out,
³⁴And falls into the destruction he has made.

³⁵His trouble recoils upon his own head,
³⁶And on his skull descends his own violence.

³⁷I will give thanks to Yahweh according to His righteousness,
³⁸And I will play music to the Name of Yahweh Most High.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!
From everlasting and unto everlasting.
Amen!
Yes! Amen!

^dFor the director.
^eAccording to the gittith [meaning unknown].

Psalm 8

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹Yahweh, our Master, how majestic is Your Name in all the earth,

²Who have set Your splendor upon the heavens!

³From the lips of children and infants You ordained strength because of Your enemies,

⁴To silence foe and avenger.

⁵When I consider Your heavens, the works of Your fingers,

⁶Moon and stars, which You have fixed,

⁷What is needy-man, that You remember him,

⁸And the son of Adam, that You visit him?

⁹Indeed, you made him for a little while lower than the gods,

¹⁰And with glory and majesty You crown him.

¹¹You make him ruler over the works of Your hands.

¹²All things You put under his feet:

¹³Sheep and oxen, all of them,

¹⁴And also beasts of the field,

¹⁵Bird of heaven and fish of the sea,

¹⁶Whatever passes through paths of the seas.

¹⁷Yahweh, our Master, how majestic is Your Name in all the earth!

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

^cFor the musical director.

^dUpon [to the tune of] *Muth-Labben* [*Death of/to a/the Son/Warrior (?)*]

Psalm 9-10

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

'aleph

¹I will give thanks to Yahweh with all my heart;

²I will tell of all Your wonders.

³I will rejoice and I will exult in You;

⁴I will play music to Your Name, Most High.

beth

⁵When my enemies turn back,

⁶They stumble and they perish before You.

⁷For You maintain my right and my cause;

⁸You sit enthroned, judging righteously.

gimel

⁹You have rebuked the nations;

¹⁰You have destroyed the wicked.

¹¹Their name You have blotted out everlastingly and forever;

he

¹²The enemy: They are overtaken – endless ruins.

¹³And cities You have uprooted – the very memory of them has perished.

¹⁴But Yahweh sits everlastingly enthroned;

¹⁵He has established His throne for judgment,

¹⁶And it is He who will judge the world in righteousness;

¹⁷He will execute judgment for the peoples with equity.

vav

¹⁸And He is Yahweh, a stronghold for the oppressed,

¹⁹A stronghold in times of trouble,

²⁰They will trust in You, those who know Your Name,

²¹For You have not forsaken those who seek You, Yahweh.

zayin

²²Play musics to Yahweh, the Enthroned of Zion;

²³Declare among the peoples His deeds.

²⁴For the Avenger of Blood remembers them;

²⁵He does not forget the cry of the afflicted.

heth

²⁶Be gracious to me, Yahweh;

²⁷Behold mine affliction from those who hate me, You who lift me up from the gates of death;

²⁸That I may tell of all Your praises,

²⁹That in the gates of Daughter Zion I may rejoice in Your salvation.

teth

³⁰The nations have sunk down in the destruction they made,

³¹In the net they hid, their own foot has been caught.

³²Yahweh has made Himself known;

³³He has executed judgment by the work of His palms,

³⁴Striking down the wicked.

Selah. Consider this: I will give thanks to Yahweh with all my heart;
I will tell of all Your wonders.

I will rejoice and I will exult in You;

I will play music to Your Name, Most High.

yodh

³⁵The wicked will turn into the grave,

³⁶All nations who forget God.

kaph

³⁷For the needy will not always be forgotten,

³⁸Nor the hope of the afflicted perish forever.

³⁹Arise, Yahweh, do not let mere man prevail;

⁴⁰Let the nations be judged before Your face.

⁴¹Appoint, Yahweh, a teaching² for them;

⁴²Let the nations know that they are but mere man.

Selah. I will give thanks to Yahweh with all my heart;
I will tell of all Your wonders.

I will rejoice and I will exult in You;
I will play music to Your Name, Most High.

lamed

⁴³Why, Yahweh, do You stand far off?

⁴⁴Why do You conceal Yourself in times of trouble?

⁴⁵In pride the wicked hunts the afflicted,

⁴⁶Who are caught in the schemes they devise.

⁴⁷For the wicked boasts of his heart's desire;

⁴⁸The greedy he blesses.³

nun

⁴⁹He reviles Yahweh, does the wicked, in the pride of his nose.

⁵⁰"He does not call to account."⁴ "No God over me!" – Such are all his thoughts.

⁵¹His ways prosper at all times.

mem

⁵²Your judgments are on high, far from him.

⁵³All his enemies? he sneers at them.

⁵⁴He says to himself, "I shall not be moved;

⁵⁵Generation after generation happy;

⁵⁶Never in trouble." – so has he sworn.⁵

²Possibly, "a fear." Possibly a double entendre: teach them through fear.

³The last two words of v. 3 (ln. 48) begin v. 4 (ln. 49).

⁴That this is a quotation, see ln. 72.

⁵Taken from the _rst word in v. 7 (ln. 57).

pe

⁵⁷His mouth is full of deceit and oppression;

⁵⁸Under his tongue is trouble and evil.

⁵⁹He lies in wait in the villages;

⁶⁰From the ambushes he murders the innocent.

`ayin

⁶¹His eyes secretly wait for the defenseless;

⁶²He lurks in the ambush like a lion in his thicket.

⁶³He lurks to catch the afflicted;

⁶⁴He catches the afflicted when he drags him off in his net.

⁶⁵And he crouches; he bows down;

⁶⁶And the defenseless fall into his claws.

⁶⁷He says to himself, "The Mighty One has forgotten;

⁶⁸He has hidden His face; He will never see it."

qoph

⁶⁹Arise, Yahweh! Mighty One, lift up Your hand!

⁷⁰Do not forget the afflicted!

⁷¹Why has the wicked reviled God?

⁷²He has said to himself, "You will not call to account."

resh

⁷³But You Yourself have seen it

⁷⁴Trouble and grief You consider, taking it into Your hand.

⁷⁵To You the defenseless one commits himself;

⁷⁶For the fatherless You Yourself are helper.

shin

⁷⁷Break the arm of the wicked and the evildoer,

⁷⁸Call his wickedness to account; certainly You will find it.

⁷⁹Yahweh is King everlastingly and forever;

⁸⁰The nations will perish from His land.

tav

⁸¹The desire of the afflicted you hear, Yahweh.

⁸²You will strengthen their heart.

⁸³You will incline Your ear to judge the fatherless and the oppressed,

⁸⁴That mere earthly man may terrorize no more.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

©For the director.

Psalm 11

^aBy David.

¹In Yahweh I take refuge;

²How can you say to me:

³"Flee to your mountain, bird."⁶

⁴"For look, the wicked bend the bow,

⁵"They set their arrow upon the string,

⁶"To shoot from the shadows at the upright in heart.

⁷"When the foundations are being destroyed,

⁸"What can a righteous one do?"⁷

⁹Yahweh is in His holy temple!

¹⁰Yahweh is on His heavenly throne!

¹¹His eyes observe,

¹²His eyelids examine the sons of Adam.

¹³Yahweh examines the righteous one.⁸

¹⁴But the wicked and the lover of violence His soul hates.

¹⁵He will rain upon the wicked fiery coals and sulfur,

¹⁶And scorching wind will be the portion of their cup.

¹⁷For righteous is Yahweh;

¹⁸Righteousness He loves;

¹⁹The upright will behold His face.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

⁶Or, "Flee to your mountain like a bird"; or, "Flee, your mountain is a bird."

⁷Or, "What is the Righteous One doing?"

⁸Or, "Yahweh, the Righteous One, examines."

^cFor the director.

^dOn the Eight-string.

Psalm 12

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹Help, Yahweh, for the godly person is no more;

²For the faithful disappear from among the sons of Adam.

³Emptiness they speak to one another.

⁴Flattering lips: With double heart they speak.

⁵May Yahweh cut off all flattering lips,

⁶The tongue that speaks great things;

⁷That say, "With our tongue we will prevail;

⁸"We own our lips – who is our master?"

⁹"Because of the oppression of the weak,

¹⁰"Because of the groaning of the needy

¹¹"I will arise," says Yahweh;

¹²"I will protect him from the one who maligns him."

¹³Yahweh's sayings are pure sayings;

¹⁴Silver purified in an earthen furnace, refined sevenfold.

¹⁵You, Yahweh, will guard them;

¹⁶You will preserve us from this generation everlastingly.

¹⁷On every side the wicked strut about,

¹⁸When vileness is exalted among the sons of Adam.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

^cFor the director.

Psalm 13

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹How long, Yahweh? Will You forget me forever?

²How long will You hide Your face from me?

³How long must I wrestle thoughts in my soul,

⁴Sorrow in my heart all day?

⁵How long will mine enemy triumph over me?

⁶Look! Answer me, Yahweh, my God!

⁷Enlighten mine eyes, lest I sleep in death.

⁸Lest mine enemy say, "I have overcome him."

⁹Lest mine adversaries rejoice when I am shaken.

¹⁰But as for me, in Your lovingkindness I trust;

¹¹My heart rejoices in Your salvation.

¹²I will sing to Yahweh, because He dealt bountifully with me.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

^cFor the director.

Psalm 14

^aBy David.

¹The fool said in his heart: “No God!”

²They are destroyers.

³They are abominable.

⁴As for performance: “No doer of good!”

⁵Yahweh looks down from heaven on the sons of Adam

⁶To see if there be one who understands, one who seeks God.

⁷All have turned aside;

⁸Together they have become corrupt.

⁹“No doer of good; not even one!”

¹⁰Will they never learn,

¹¹All the evildoers who eat up my people?

¹²They eat bread;

¹³On Yahweh they do not call.

¹⁴There they are, dreading what they dread,

¹⁵For God is with the righteous generation.

¹⁶“The counsel of the poor you would frustrate,

¹⁷But Yahweh is his refuge!”

¹⁸“Oh, let Him bring from Zion the salvation of Israel!”

¹⁹When Yahweh brings back the captivity of His people!

²⁰Let Jacob rejoice,

²¹Let Israel be glad!

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen! Yes!

Amen!

Psalm 15

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹Yahweh, who may abide in Your tent?

²Who may dwell on Your holy hill?

³He who walks perfectly,

⁴And who works righteousness,

⁵And who speaks truth with his heart.

⁶He does not trip up with his tongue.

⁷He does no evil to his neighbor,

⁸And a reproach he does not take up against his friend.

⁹Despised in his eyes is a reprobate,

¹⁰But the one who fears Yahweh he honors.

¹¹He swears to his own hurt and does not change.

¹²His silver he does not give with interest,

¹³And a bribe against the innocent he does not accept.

¹⁴He who does these things will not be shaken everlastingly.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 16

^aMikhtam.

^bBy David.

¹Guard me, Mighty One,
²For I take refuge in You.

³I said to Yahweh:
⁴"You are my Master,
⁵"There is nothing good for me apart from You."

⁶Of the saints who are in the land:
⁷"They are also majestic ones;
⁸All my delight is in them."

⁹They multiply sorrows who ally with another.
¹⁰I will not pour out their libations of blood,
¹¹Nor will I take their names upon my lips.

¹²Yahweh is my assigned inheritance and my cup.
¹³You are the one who secured my lot.

¹⁴The boundary lines have fallen to me in pleasant places;
¹⁵Surely I have a delightful heritage.

¹⁶I will praise Yahweh, who has counseled me;
¹⁷Even in darkest night my kidneys instruct me.

¹⁸I have set Yahweh before me continually.
¹⁹Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

²⁰Therefore my heart is glad,
²¹And my glory rejoices.

²²Also, my flesh will rest securely.
²³For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol,
²⁴Nor will You allow Your saint to see destruction.

²⁵You will make known to me the path of life,
²⁶Fullness of joy is in Your presence,
²⁷And pleasures are at Your right hand forever.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!
From everlasting and unto everlasting.
Amen!
Yes! Amen!

Psalm 17

^aPrayer.

^bBy David.

¹Hear a just cause, Yahweh,

²Give heed to my cry;

³Give ear to my prayer;

⁴It is not from deceitful lips.

⁵From Your face let my vindication come forth;

⁶Let Your eyes look with equity.

⁷You probe my heart;

⁸You visit me by night;

⁹You test me and find nothing;

¹⁰I have resolved that my mouth will not transgress.

¹¹As for the deeds of mankind,

¹²By the word of Your lips I have kept myself from the paths of the violent.

¹³My steps have held fast to Your tracks.

¹⁴My feet have not slipped.

¹⁵I, even I, call upon You,

¹⁶For You will answer me, Mighty One;

¹⁷Incline Your ear to me,

¹⁸Hear my speech.

¹⁹Show the wonder of Your lovingkindness.

²⁰You who save by Your right hand those who take refuge from their foes,

²¹Guard me like the pupil, the eye's daughter.

²²In the shadow of Your wings hide me

²³From the wicked who despoil me,

²⁴The enemies of my life, who surround me.

²⁵Their calloused hearts they close up,

²⁶With their mouth they speak proudly.

²⁷They have now surrounded us in our steps;

²⁸Their eyes are alert to cast us down to the ground.

²⁹He is like a lion that is eager to tear,

³⁰And like a strong lion lurking in hiding places.

³¹Arise, Yahweh, confront him, bring him low.

³²Rescue my soul from the wicked with Your sword,

³³From men with Your hand, Yahweh,

³⁴From men of this passing world whose portion is in this life.

³⁵As for those You cherish, You fill their belly.

³⁶Their sons have plenty,

³⁷And leave their abundance to their babies.

³⁸And I, in righteousness I shall behold Your face;

³⁹I shall be satisfied with beholding Your form when I awake.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

©For the Director.

Psalm 18

^aBy the servant of Yahweh.

^bBy David, who spoke to Yahweh the words of this song

^cOn the day Yahweh snatched him away from the palm of all his enemies

^dAnd from the hand of Saul.

^eAnd he said:

¹I love You, Yahweh, my Strength.

²Yahweh is my Cliff and my Fortress and my Deliverer;

³My Mighty One, my Rock, in whom I will trust;

⁴My Shield and the Horn of my salvation, my praiseworthy Stronghold.

⁵I call, "Yahweh!"

⁶And from my enemies I am saved.

⁷Entangling me were Cords of Death,

⁸And Floods of Belial terrified me.

⁹Cords of Sheol surrounded me;

¹⁰Confronting me were Snares of Death.

¹¹In my distress I called, "Yahweh!"

¹²And to my God I cried out.

¹³He heard my voice from His temple,

¹⁴And my cry came before Him, into His ears.

¹⁵And the earth trembled and shook;

¹⁶And the foundations of the mountains quaked;

¹⁷And they trembled because He was angry.

¹⁸Smoke rose from His nostrils,

¹⁹And consuming fire from His mouth.

²⁰Coals blazed forth from Him.

²¹And He bowed the heavens and came down,

²²And a dark cloud was under His feet.

²³And He mounted a cherub and flew;

²⁴And He soared upon the wings of the wind.

²⁵He made darkness His screen;

²⁶Around Him His booth was dark-watered thick clouds of the skies.

²⁷From the brightness before Him, His thick clouds advanced;

²⁸Hailstones and coals of fire.

²⁹And Yahweh thundered from heaven,

³⁰And the Most High uttered His voice.

³¹Hailstones and coals of fire.

³²And He sent out His arrows and scattered them,

³³And great lightnings, and He vanquished them.

³⁴And the channels of the waters were seen,

³⁵And uncovered were the foundations of the world,

³⁶At Your rebuke, Yahweh,

³⁷At the blast of the breath of Your nostrils.

³⁸He reached down from on high and took me;

³⁹And drew me out from mighty waters.

⁴⁰He snatched me away from my fierce enemy,

⁴¹And from those who hate me, for they were too strong for me.

⁴²They confronted me in the day of my calamity,

⁴³But Yahweh was my support.

⁴⁴And He brought me out into a broad place;

⁴⁵He rescued me because He delighted in me.

⁴⁶Yahweh rewarded me according to my righteousness;

⁴⁷According to the purity of my hands He recompensed me.

⁴⁸For I have guarded the ways of Yahweh,

⁴⁹And have not wickedly departed from my God.

⁵⁰For all His judgments were before me,

⁵¹And His statutes I did not put away from me.

⁵²And I was also perfect before Him,
⁵³And I guarded myself in dealing with my liability.

⁵⁴And Yahweh has recompensed me according to my righteousness,
⁵⁵According to the purity of my hands in His sight.

⁵⁶With the merciful You show Yourself merciful;
⁵⁷With a perfect man-of-strength You show Yourself perfect;

⁵⁸With the pure You will Yourself pure;
⁵⁹And with the devious You show Yourself shrewd.

⁶⁰For it is You who save humble people,
⁶¹And haughty eyes bring low.

⁶²For it is You who light my lamp;
⁶³Yahweh my God enlightens my darkness.

⁶⁴For with You I can run against a troop,
⁶⁵And with my God I can leap over a wall.

⁶⁶The Mighty One: Perfect is His way;
⁶⁷The word of Yahweh is proven;
⁶⁸A Shield is He for all who take refuge in Him.

⁶⁹For who is a Mighty Protector except Yahweh?
⁷⁰And who is a Rock except our God?

⁷¹It is the Mighty One who arms me with strength,
⁷²And makes perfect my way.

⁷³He makes my feet like a deer's,
⁷⁴And on my own high places He establishes me.

⁷⁵He trained my hands for the battle,
⁷⁶And a bow of bronze was bent by my arms.
⁷⁷And You gave me the shield of Your salvation;

⁷⁸And Your right hand sustained me,
⁷⁹And Your bending down has made me great.

⁸⁰You broadened my marching path under me,

⁸¹And my ankles did not slip.

⁸²I pursued my enemies and overtook them;

⁸³And I did not turn back until they were destroyed.

⁸⁴I shattered them, and they could not rise;

⁸⁵They fell beneath my feet.

⁸⁶And You armed me with strength for the battle;

⁸⁷You subdued my adversaries under me.

⁸⁸And You made my enemies turn tail before me,

⁸⁹And those who hated me I destroyed.

⁹⁰They cried out, but there was none to save;

⁹¹To Yahweh, but He did not answer them.

⁹²And I beat them fine as dust wafted by wind;

⁹³Like mud in the streets I poured them out.

⁹⁴You delivered me from the strife of people;

⁹⁵You made me the head of the nations;

⁹⁶People not known to me must serve me.

⁹⁷When their ear hears, they obey me;

⁹⁸Foreigners cringe before me.

⁹⁹Foreigners sink down,

¹⁰⁰And emerge trembling from their hideouts.

¹⁰¹Yahweh lives! And blessed be my Rock!

¹⁰²Exalted be my saving God!

¹⁰³The Mighty One who gives me vengeance,

¹⁰⁴And subdues peoples under me,

¹⁰⁵Delivering me from my enemies.

¹⁰⁶You also exalt me up above those who rise against me;

¹⁰⁷From the violent man You snatch me away.

¹⁰⁸Therefore I will give thanks to You among the Gentiles, Yahweh,

¹⁰⁹And to Your Name play musics.

¹¹⁰He magnifies victories for His king,

¹¹¹And shows lovingkindness to His anointed,

¹¹²To David and his descendants forevermore.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

†For the music director.

Psalm 19

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹The heavens are declaring the Mighty One's glory;

²And the work of His hands is proclaimed by the firmament.

³Day after day it pours forth speech,

⁴And night after night it displays knowledge.

⁵There is no speech and there are no words;

⁶Unheard is their sound.

⁷Into all the earth goes their line,

⁸And to the end of the world their utterances.

⁹For the sun He has placed a tent in them,

¹⁰And he is like a bridegroom coming forth from his pavilion;

¹¹He rejoices like a mighty man to run his course.

¹²At the end of the heavens is his rising,

¹³And his circuit is to their other end;

¹⁴And there is nothing hid from his heat.

¹⁵Yahweh's Instruction is perfect,

¹⁶Restoring the soul.

¹⁷Yahweh's testimonies are certain,

¹⁸Making wise the simple.

¹⁹Yahweh's precepts are right,

²⁰Rejoicing the heart.

²¹Yahweh's commandments are radiant,

²²Enlightening the eyes.

²³The fear of Yahweh is clean,

²⁴Enduring forever.

²⁵Yahweh's laws are true,

²⁶Altogether righteous.

²⁷They are more precious than gold,

²⁸And more than much fine gold;

²⁹And sweeter than honey,

³⁰Even drippings from honeycombs.

³¹Moreover, Your servant is illumined by them;

³²In guarding them is great reward.

³³Errors who can discern?

³⁴From hidden ones forgive me!

³⁵Also from presumptuous acts keep back your servant;

³⁶Let them not rule over me.

³⁷Then I shall be blameless,

³⁸And I shall be innocent of great transgression.

³⁹May they be pleasing – the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart – before
You, Yahweh,

⁴⁰My Rock and my Kinsman.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

©For the director.

Psalm 20

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹May Yahweh answer you in the day of trouble.

²May He set you on high, the Name of the God of Jacob.

³May He send you help from the sanctuary,

⁴And from Zion may He support you.

⁵May He remember all your Tributes,

⁶And your Ascensions may He count as fat.

Selah May Yahweh answer you in the day of trouble.

May He set you on high, the Name of the God of Jacob.

⁷May He grant you your heart's desire,

⁸And to all your plans may He grant success.

⁹We will sing for joy over your salvation [victory],

¹⁰And in the Name of our God we will set up our banners.

¹¹May Yahweh fulfill all your petitions.

¹²Now I know that Yahweh saves [gives victory to] His anointed;

¹³He answers him from His holy heaven

¹⁴With the saving [victorious] power of His right hand.

¹⁵Some trust in chariots and some in horses,

¹⁶But we, in the Name "Yahweh our God" we trust.

¹⁷They are brought to their knees and fall;

¹⁸But we rise up and stand firm.

¹⁹Yahweh, save [grant victory to] the king!

²⁰May He answer us in the day we call.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

For the director.

Psalm 21

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹Yahweh, in Your strength the king is glad,

²And in Your salvation how greatly he rejoices!

³The desire of his heart You granted him,

⁴And the request of his lips You did not withhold.

Selah Yahweh, in Your strength the king is glad,
And in Your salvation how greatly he rejoices!

⁵Indeed You welcomed him with excellent blessings;

⁶You set on his head a crown of fine gold.

⁷Life he asked of You;

⁸You gave him length of days everlastingly and forever.

⁹Great is his glory through Your salvation,

¹⁰Splendor and majesty You bestowed upon him.

¹¹Surely You have given him blessings forever;

¹²You made him happy in the gladness of Your presence.

¹³For the king trusts Yahweh,

¹⁴And in the lovingkindness of the Most High he will not be shaken.

¹⁵Your hand will find all your enemies;

¹⁶Your right hand will find your foes.

¹⁷You will make them like a fiery furnace

¹⁸At the time of your manifestation.

¹⁹Yahweh in His wrath will swallow them up,

²⁰And fire will consume them.

²¹Their fruit will you destroy from the earth,

²²And their seed from the sons of Adam.

²³Though they stretch out evil against you;

²⁴They devise a plot; they will not succeed.

²⁵For you will make them turn back

²⁶When you ready your bowstrings at their faces.

²⁷Be exalted, Yahweh, in Your strength;

²⁸We will sing and play music to Your power.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

^cFor the Director.

^dSet to "The Doe of the Dawn."

Psalm 22

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹My Mighty One, my Mighty One, why have You forsaken me?

²Being far from saving me!

³*Such are* my groaning words.

⁴My God, I cry by day, and You answer not;

⁵And by night, and there is no quiet-rest for me.

⁶And You -- The Holy One enthroned!

⁷The Praises of Israel!

⁸In You our fathers trusted.

⁹They trusted and You delivered them.

¹⁰To You they cried, and they escaped.

¹¹In You they trusted, and were not ashamed.

¹²But I? a worm and not a man:

¹³Scorn of mankind and despised by people.

¹⁴All those who see me ridicule me.

¹⁵They curl the lip; they shake the head.

¹⁶*Saying*, "Roll *yourself* onto Yahweh! Let Him deliver him.

¹⁷Let Him rescue him, since He delights in him!"

¹⁸Yet You are the One who took me out of the womb;

¹⁹You made me trust while on my mother's breasts.

²⁰Upon You I was cast from birth.

²¹From my mother's womb my Mighty One was You.

²²Be not far from me, for trouble is near;

²³No one is helping.

²⁴Surrounded me have many bulls

²⁵Strong ones, of Bashan, have encircled me.

²⁶They open against me their mouths

²⁷Like a lion raging and roaring.

²⁸Like waters I am poured out;

²⁹And out of joint are all my bones.

³⁰My heart is like wax;

³¹It has melted within me.

³²Dried up like a potsherd is my strength,

³³And my tongue cleaves to my palate;

³⁴To the dust of death you commit me.

³⁵For dogs have surrounded me;

³⁶A pack of evil men circles me like lions at my hands and my feet;

³⁷I can count all my bones.

³⁸They? they look on; they gloat at me.

³⁹They divide my garments among them,

⁴⁰And for my clothing they cast lots.

⁴¹And You, Yahweh, do not be far off;

⁴²My Strength, hasten to help me!

⁴³Rescue my soul from the sword,

⁴⁴From the hand of the dog my life.

⁴⁵Save me from the lion's mouth;

⁴⁶And from the horns of the wild oxen answer me.

⁴⁷I will declare Your Name to my brethren;

⁴⁸In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.

⁴⁹Yahweh-fearers, praise Him!

⁵⁰All you seed of Jacob, glorify Him,

⁵¹And fear Him, all you seed of Israel!

⁵²For He has not despised or detested the affliction of the afflicted;

⁵³And He has not hidden His face from him;

⁵⁴And when he cried to Him, He heard.

⁵⁵For you my praise will be in the great assembly.

⁵⁶My vows I will fulfill before those who fear Him.

⁵⁷The poor will eat and be satisfied;

⁵⁸They will praise Yahweh who seek Him.

⁵⁹Let your heart live forever!

⁶⁰They will remember and they will turn to Yahweh, all the ends of the earth,

⁶¹And they will worship before You, all the families of the nations.

⁶²For Yahweh's is the kingdom,

⁶³And He is ruling over the nations.

⁶⁴They will eat and they will worship, all the vigorous of the earth,

⁶⁵Before Him they will kneel, all those going down to the dust,

⁶⁶And the soul who cannot keep himself alive.

⁶⁷A seed will serve Him.

⁶⁸It will be recounted of my Master to the [next] generation,

⁶⁹They will come and declare His righteousness to a people who will be born,

⁷⁰Because He acted.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 23

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹Yahweh is my Shepherd,

²Nothing shall I lack.

³In green pastures He makes me lie down;

⁴Beside quiet waters He leads me.

⁵My soul He restores;

⁶He leads me in righteous paths for His Name's sake.

⁷Even though I walk in a valley of deep darkness, I will fear no evil;

⁸For You are with me,

⁹Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

¹⁰You prepare before me a table in the presence of mine enemies.

¹¹You fatten my head with oil;

¹²My cup overflows.

¹³Only goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life,

¹⁴And I shall dwell in Yahweh's house to the end of days.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 24

^aBy David.

^bPsalm.

¹Yahweh's is the earth, and her fullness,

²The world, and those who dwell in her,

³For He founded her upon the seas,

⁴And upon the rivers He established her.

⁵Who may ascend to Yahweh's hill?

⁶And who may stand in His holy place?

⁷He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

⁸Who does not lift up his soul in vanity,

⁹And does not swear deceitfully.

¹⁰He will receive a blessing from Yahweh,

¹¹And vindication from the God of his salvation.

¹²Such is the generation of those who seek Him,

¹³Who seek Your face—such is Jacob.

Selah Yahweh's is the earth, and her fullness,
The world, and those who dwell in her,

¹⁴Lift up your heads, O gates,

¹⁵And be lifted up, portals of the future,

¹⁶That the King of the Glory may enter!

¹⁷Who is this King of the Glory?

¹⁸Yahweh, strong and mighty,

¹⁹Yahweh, mighty in battle.

²⁰Lift up your heads, O gates,

²¹And lift them up, portals of the future,

²²That the King of the Glory may enter!

²³Who is this King of the Glory?

²⁴Yahweh of hosts!

²⁵He is the King of the Glory!

Selah Yahweh's is the earth, and her fullness,
The world, and those who dwell in her,

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!
From everlasting and unto everlasting.
Amen!
Yes! Amen!

Psalm 25

^aBy David

'aleph

¹To You, Yahweh!

²I lift up my soul, my God.

beth

³In You I trust, do not let me be shamed;

⁴Do not let my enemies triumph over me.

gimel

⁵Indeed, none of those who wait for You will be shamed;

⁶Those will be shamed who deal treacherously without cause.

daleth

⁷Your ways, Yahweh, show me!

⁸Your paths, teach me!

he

⁹Lead me in Your faithfulness and teach me,

¹⁰For You are the God of my salvation;

¹¹You are the one I await all the day.

zayin

¹²Remember your mercies, Yahweh, and Your lovingkindnesses,

¹³For they are everlasting.

heth

¹⁴Sins of my youth and my transgressions do not remember;

¹⁵According to Your lovingkindness remember me,

¹⁶Because of Your goodness, Yahweh.

teth

¹⁷Good and upright is Yahweh;

¹⁸Therefore He instructs sinners in the way.

yodh

¹⁹He leads the afflicted in justice,

²⁰And He teaches the afflicted His way.

kaph

²¹All the paths of Yahweh are lovingkindness and faithfulness,

²²For those who guard His covenant and His testimonies.

lamedh

²³For Your Name's sake, Yahweh,

²⁴Pardon my liability, for it is great.

mem

²⁵Who is the man who fears Yahweh?

²⁶He will instruct him in the way he should choose.

nun

²⁷His soul will abide in the good,

²⁸And his seed will inherit the land.

samekh

²⁹The secret counsel of Yahweh is for those who fear Him,

³⁰And His covenant He makes known to them.

`ayin

³¹My eyes are always turned to Yahweh,

³²For He will bring my feet out of the net.

pe

³³Turn to me and be gracious to me,

³⁴For lonely and afflicted am I.

tsaddeh

³⁵The troubles of my heart are enlarged;

³⁶From my distresses free me!

resh

³⁷Look upon my affliction and my toil,

³⁸And forgive all my sins.

³⁹Look at my enemies, how they have increased!

⁴⁰And they hate me with violent hatred.

shin

⁴¹Guard my soul and deliver me;

⁴²Do not let me be shamed, for I take refuge in You.

tav

⁴³Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.

⁴⁴Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 26

^aBy David

¹Judge me, Yahweh,

²For as for me, I have walked in my blamelessness;

³Yes, in Yahweh I have trusted;

⁴I have not wavered.

⁵Examine me, Yahweh, and try me;

⁶Test my inward parts and my heart.

⁷For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes,

⁸And I walk in Your truth.

⁹I do not sit with men of falsehood,

¹⁰And with hypocrites I do not consort.

¹¹I hate the assembly of evildoers,

¹²And with the wicked I do not sit.

¹³I wash my hands in innocence,

¹⁴And I join the circle around Your communion-site, Yahweh,

¹⁵To proclaim with a voice of thanksgiving,

¹⁶And to declare all Your wonders.

¹⁷Yahweh, I love the habitation of Your house,

¹⁸And the place of the tabernacle of Your Glory.

¹⁹Do not gather my soul away with sinners,

²⁰Or my life with men of bloodshed.

²¹In whose hands is a scheme,

²²And whose right hand is full with a bribe.

²³But as for me, in my blamelessness I walk;

²⁴Redeem me and be gracious to me.

²⁵My foot stands on level ground;

²⁶In the assemblies I shall praise Yahweh.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 27

^aBy David

¹Yahweh is my light and my salvation;

²Whom shall I fear?

³Yahweh is the stronghold of my life;

⁴Whom shall I dread?

⁵When evil men advance against me

⁶To chew up my flesh,

⁷My adversaries and my foes,

⁸They will stumble and fall.

⁹Though an army besiege me,

¹⁰My heart will not fear;

¹¹Though war break out against me,

¹²Even then will I be confident.

¹³One thing I ask of Yahweh,

¹⁴This is what I seek:

¹⁵That I may dwell in Yahweh's house

¹⁶All the days of my life,

¹⁷To gaze upon Yahweh's beauty,

¹⁸And to seek Him in His temple.

¹⁹For He will keep me safe in His dwelling in the day of trouble;

²⁰He will hide me in the hiding place of His tent;

²¹On a rock He will set me high.

²²And then my head will be exalted above my enemies gathered round;

²³I will sacrifice communion meals at His tent, joyfully shouting;

²⁴I will sing and play music to Yahweh.

²⁵Hear, Yahweh, my voice;

²⁶I call, "Be merciful to me and answer me," to You.

²⁷My heart reminds me: "Seek My face!"

²⁸Your face, Yahweh, I will seek.

²⁹Do not hide your face from me,

³⁰Do not turn your servant away in anger.

³¹My Helper you are! Do not reject me!

³²Yes, do not forsake me, O God my salvation.

³³Though my father and my mother forsake me,

³⁴Yet Yahweh will receive me.

³⁵Teach me, Yahweh, your way;

³⁶And lead me in a straight path because of my oppressors.

³⁷Do not turn me over to the desire of my adversaries,

³⁸For they rise up against me, false witnesses and violence-breathers.

³⁹Regardless, I am certain to see Yahweh's goodness

⁴⁰In the land of the living.

⁴¹Wait for Yahweh!

⁴²Be strong and encourage your heart and wait for Yahweh!

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 28

^aBy David

¹To You, Yahweh, I call;

²My Rock, do not be deaf to me;

³For if You are silent to me,

⁴Then I will be like those who go down to the pit.

⁵Hear the sound of my cries for mercy

⁶When I call to You for help,

⁷When I lift up my hands

⁸Toward the holy room of Your enthroned word.

⁹Do not drag me away with the wicked,

¹⁰And with those who make trouble;

¹¹Who speak peace with their neighbors,

¹²While evil is in their hearts.

¹³Repay them according to their work,

¹⁴And according to the evil of their practices;

¹⁵According to the deeds of their hands repay them;

¹⁶Bring what they deserve upon them.

¹⁷Because they do not regard Yahweh's works,

¹⁸Nor the deeds of His hands,

¹⁹He will tear them down,

²⁰And not build them up.

²¹Blessed be Yahweh,

²²Because He has heard the sound of my cries for mercy.

²³Yahweh is my strength and my shield;

²⁴In Him my heart trusts,

²⁵And I am helped;

²⁶And my heart exults,

²⁷And with my song I shall thank Him.

²⁸Yahweh is their strength,

²⁹And a saving refuge to His anointed is He.

³⁰Save Your people,

³¹And bless Your inheritance;

³²And be their shepherd,

³³And carry them into the everlasting time.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 29

^aPsalm

^bBy David

¹Ascribe to Yahweh, O sons of mighty ones,

²Ascribe to Yahweh glory and strength.

³Ascribe to Yahweh His glorious Name;

⁴Worship Yahweh in the majesty of holiness.

⁵The voice of Yahweh is upon the waters;

⁶The Mighty One of the glory thunders,

⁷Yahweh is upon great waters.

⁸The voice of Yahweh is powerful,

⁹The voice of Yahweh is majestic,

¹⁰The voice of Yahweh breaks cedars,

¹¹Yes, Yahweh shatters the cedars of Lebanon.

¹²And He causes them to skip like a calf,

¹³Lebanon and Sirion like a son of wild oxen.

¹⁴The voice of Yahweh is striking with flashes of fire;

¹⁵The voice of Yahweh causes the wilderness to whirl;

¹⁵Yahweh causes the wilderness of Kadesh to whirl.

¹⁷The voice of Yahweh causes does to give birth,

¹⁷And uncovers honeycombs,

¹⁹And in His temple everything says, "Glory!"

²⁰Yahweh sat enthroned at the flood;

²¹And Yahweh sits as King forever.

²²Yahweh gives strength to His people.

²³Yahweh blesses His people with peace.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 30

^aPsalm.

^bA song for the dedication of the house.

^cBy David.

¹I will lift You up, Yahweh, for You have drawn me up,

²And have not let my enemies rejoice over me.

³Yahweh, my God, I cried to You for help,

⁴And You healed me.

⁵Yahweh, You brought up my soul from Sheol;

⁶You spared me from going down to the pit.

⁷Play music to Yahweh, you His saints,

⁸And give thanks to His holy memorial-name,

⁹For but a moment lasts His anger;

¹⁰Lifetimes lasts His favor.

¹¹In the night weeping lingers,

¹²But in the morning, rejoicing.

¹³Now as for me, I said in my prosperity,

¹⁴"I shall never be moved."

¹⁵Yahweh, it was through Your favor!

¹⁶You made my mountain to stand strong!

¹⁷You hid your face;

¹⁸I was dismayed.

¹⁹To You, Yahweh, I called,

²⁰And to my Master I made supplication:

²¹"What profit is there in my blood,

²²In my going down to destruction?"

²³Will dust praise You?

²⁴Will it declare Your faithfulness?

²⁵Hear, Yahweh, and be gracious to me;

²⁶"Yahweh, be my Helper."

²⁷You turned for me my mourning into dancing;

²⁸You loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness;

²⁹That my glory may play music to You and not be silent.

³⁰Yahweh, my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

^dTo the chief musician.

Psalm 31

^aPsalm.

^cBy David.

¹In You, Yahweh, I have sought shelter.

²Let me not be shamed forever.

³In Your righteousness deliver me!

⁴Turn to me Your ear!

⁵Quickly rescue me!

⁶Be for me a rock of refuge,

⁷A house of strongholds to save me,

⁸Because You are my Rock and my Stronghold,

⁹And for Your Name's sake You lead me and guide me.

¹⁰You will bring me out from the net which they hid for me,

¹¹Because You Yourself are my refuge.

¹²Into Your hand I commit my spirit;

¹³You have redeemed me, Yahweh, faithful Mighty One.

¹⁴I hate those who cling to empty vapor;

¹⁵And as for me, in Yahweh I trust.

¹⁶I will shout for joy and rejoice in Your lovingkindness,

¹⁷Because You who saw my affliction.

¹⁸You have known the distresses of my soul,

¹⁹And You have not shut me up in the hand of the enemy.

²⁰You have made my feet stand in a wide place.

²¹Be gracious to me, Yahweh, for I am in distress!

²²Weakened by irritation is my eye,

²³My soul and my belly.

²⁴Indeed, wasted away in trouble is my life,

²⁵And my years in groaning.

²⁶My strength stumbles because of my liability,

²⁷And my bones are weak.

²⁸Because of all my adversaries I have become a reproach,

²⁹And to my neighbors especially,

³⁰And a terror to my acquaintances.

³¹Those who see me in the streets flee from me.

³²I am forgotten, as dead from heart;

³³I have become like pottery broken,

³⁴Because I hear the slander of many —

³⁵Terror on every side! —

³⁶As they scheme together against me:

³⁷To take my life they plot.

³⁸As for me, upon You I trusted, Yahweh;

³⁹I said, "You are my God!"

⁴⁰In Your hand are my times;

⁴¹Rescue me from my enemies' hand and from my pursuers.

⁴²Let Your face shine upon Your servant;

⁴³Save me in Your lovingkindness.

⁴⁴Yahweh, do not let me be shamed,

⁴⁵For I have called on You!

⁴⁶Let the wicked be shamed,

⁴⁷Lying still in Sheol!

⁴⁸Silenced be the lips of lying,

⁴⁹Which speak against a righteous man insolently, in pride and in scorn.

⁵⁰How great is Your goodness you bestow on those who fear You,

⁵¹And work for those who find shelter in You before the sons of Adam!

⁵²You hide them in the hiding-place of Your face from the conspiracies of men.

⁵³You store them in Your shelter from the disputes of tongues.

⁵⁴Blessed be Yahweh,

⁵⁵Because he has made His lovingkindness wonderful to me in a besieged city.

⁵⁶And as for me, I said in my haste, "I am cut off from before Your eyes."

⁵⁷Nevertheless You heard the voice of my prayers when I cried to You.

⁵⁸Love Yahweh, all you His loyal ones!

⁵⁹A preserver of the faithful is Yahweh,

⁶⁰Repaying abundantly the one who acts proudly.

⁶¹Be strong and let your heart be firm,

⁶²All you who wait for Yahweh.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 32-33

^aBy David.

^bMaskil.

¹Blest and merry is the person whose transgression is forgiven,

²Whose impurity is covered up.

³Blest and merry is the man to whom Yahweh does not impute liability,

⁴And in whose spirit there is no deceit.

⁵When I kept silent, my bones wasted away,

⁶Through my groaning all day long.

⁷For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me.

⁸My best oil was turned into the drought of summer.

Selah Blest and merry is the person whose transgression is forgiven,
Whose impurity is covered up.

⁹I acknowledged my impurity to You,

¹⁰And my liability I did not cover up;

¹¹I said, "I will confess my transgressions to Yahweh";

¹²And it was You who forgave the liability of my impurity.

Selah Blest and merry is the person whose transgression is forgiven,
Whose impurity is covered up.

¹³Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found;

¹⁴Surely when the many waters rise they will not reach him.

¹⁵You are my hiding place; from trouble You preserve me;

¹⁶With songs of deliverance You surround me.

Selah Blest and merry is the person whose transgression is forgiven,
Whose impurity is covered up.

¹⁷I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;

¹⁸I will counsel you with Mine eye upon you.

¹⁹Do not be like a horse, like a mule, having no understanding.

²⁰By bit and bridle he is harnessed for control; he does not come near you.

²¹Many are the sorrows of the wicked;

²²But he who trusts in Yahweh: Lovingkindness surrounds him.

²³Be glad in Yahweh and rejoice you righteous ones,

²⁴And sing out all you who are upright in heart.

[Psalm 33]

¹Sing out, you righteous ones, in Yahweh!

²For the upright ones, praise is fitting.

³Give thanks to Yahweh with a lyre;

⁴With a harp, a ten-string, play to Him!

⁵Sing to Him a new song!

⁶Pluck skillfully with a loud shout,

⁷Because upright is Yahweh's word,

⁸And His every deed is in faithfulness.

⁹He loves righteousness and justice;

¹⁰Yahweh's lovingkindness fills the earth.

¹¹By the Word of Yahweh the heavens were made;

¹²And by the Spirit of his mouth, all their host;

¹³Gathering as a heap the waters of the sea,

¹⁴Putting in storehouses the deeps.

¹⁵Let them fear Yahweh — all the earth!

¹⁶Of Him let them be afraid — all the inhabitants of the world,

¹⁷For He Himself spoke and it was;

¹⁸He Himself commanded and it stood firm.

¹⁹Yahweh negates the counsel of the nations;

²⁰He frustrates the designs of the peoples.

²¹The counsel of Yahweh will stand firm everlastingly;

²²The designs of His heart generation after generation.

²³Blest and merry is the nation whose God is Yahweh,

²⁴The people He chose for His inheritance.

²⁵From the heavens Yahweh looks;

²⁶He sees all the sons of mankind.

²⁷From the place of His habitation he gazes

²⁸At all the inhabitants of the earth.

²⁹It is He who fashions together their hearts,

³⁰Who understands all their deeds.

³¹No king can be saved by greatness of force;

³²A warrior cannot be rescued by greatness of strength.

³³A false hope is the horse for victory,

³⁴And by the greatness of his force he will not deliver.

³⁵Behold, Yahweh's eye is on those who fear Him,

³⁶On those hoping in His lovingkindness,

³⁷To rescue from death their soul

³⁸And to keep them alive in famine.

³⁹Our soul waits for Yahweh;

⁴⁰Our help and our shield is He,

⁴¹Because in Him our hearts rejoice;

⁴²Because in His holy Name we trust.

⁴³Let your lovingkindness, Yahweh, be upon us,

⁴⁴Even as our hope is toward You.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 34

^aBy David.

^bWhen he changed his sense [feigned insanity] before Abimelech,

^cAnd he drove him out,

^dAnd he departed.

¹ I bless Yahweh at every time;

²Continually His praise is in my mouth.

³ In Yahweh my soul boasts.

⁴The oppressed hear and rejoice.

⁵ Glorify Yahweh with me,

⁶And let us exalt His Name together.

⁷ I sought Yahweh and He answered me;

⁸And from all my terrors He delivered me.

⁹ They look to Him and shine;

¹⁰ And their faces are not shamed.

¹¹ This oppressed man called and Yahweh heard,

¹²And from all his distresses saved him.

¹³ Camping is the angel of Yahweh all around those who fear Him;

¹⁴And He rescues them.

¹⁵ Taste and see that Yahweh is good!

¹⁶Blest and merry is the mighty man who takes refuge in Him.

¹⁷ Fear Yahweh, his holy ones,

¹⁸Because there is no lack for those who fear Him.

¹⁹ Young lions have grown poor and hungry;

²⁰But the seekers of Yahweh do not lack any good.

²¹ Come, sons! Listen to me!

²²The fear of Yahweh I will teach you.

²³ Who is the man who desires life,

²⁴Who loves days in which to see good?

²⁵ _ Preserve your tongue from evil

²⁶And your lips from speaking deceit.

²⁷ _ Turn from evil and do good;

²⁸Seek peace and pursue it.

²⁹ _ The eyes of Yahweh are upon the righteous,

³⁰And His ears are toward their cry.

³¹ _ The face of Yahweh is against those who do evil,

³²To cut off from the earth their memorial.

³³ _ They cry out and Yahweh hears;

³⁴And from all their distresses delivers them.

³⁵ _ Near is Yahweh to the broken of heart;

³⁶And the crushed of spirit He saves.

³⁷ _ Many are the evils that befall the righteous,

³⁸And from them all Yahweh will deliver him,

³⁹ _ Guarding all his bones:

⁴⁰Not one of them is broken.

⁴¹ _ Evil will slay the wicked,

⁴²And the haters of the righteous will be condemned.

⁴³Yahweh redeems the soul of His servants,

⁴⁴And all who take refuge in Him will not be condemned.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 35

^aBy David.

¹Dispute, Yahweh, against my disputers!

²Devour my devourers!

³Seize buckler and shield

⁴And arise for my help.

⁵And draw the spear and shield-block against my pursuers;

⁶Say to my soul, "Your salvation – I Myself."

⁷Shamed and dismayed be the seekers of my soul;

⁸Turned back and humiliated be those who plan evil for me.

⁹Let them be like chaff before wind,

¹⁰And let the angel of Yahweh keep chasing them down.

¹¹Let their path be dark and slippery;

¹²And let the angel of Yahweh keep pursuing them,

¹³Because without cause they hid for me a pit for their net;

¹⁴Without cause they dug it for my soul.

¹⁵Let destruction he does not know come upon him;

¹⁶And his net that he hid — let it take him;

¹⁷To his destruction let him fall into it.

¹⁸Then my soul will exult in Yahweh

¹⁹Exulting in His salvation.

²⁰All my bones will say, "Yahweh, who is like You,

²¹Delivering the oppressed from the one stronger than himself,

²²And the oppressed and the needy from his despoiler?"

²³Accusatory witnesses take the stand,

²⁴Questioning me on things I know nothing about.

²⁵They repay me evil in the place of good –

²⁶A miscarriage for my soul.

²⁷And as for me, when they were sick my clothing was sackcloth;

²⁸I humbled my soul with fasting;

²⁹And my prayer kept returning into my bosom.

³⁰As if it were a friend, my own brother, I walked to and fro.

³¹Like one mourning a mother, I was in a pit of gloom.

³²But when I stumbled they rejoiced and gathered together;

³³Wretches gathered together against me,

³⁴And I did not know it!

³⁵They tore without ceasing.

³⁶Like ungodly mockers at a pastry feast,

³⁷They gnashed their teeth against me.

³⁸My Master, how long will you look on?

³⁹Restore my soul from their ravagings,

⁴⁰From the young lions my precious life.

⁴¹I will thank You in the great assembly;

⁴²Among the numerous people I will praise You!

⁴³Do not let them rejoice over me, my lying enemies;

⁴⁴Nor let those who hate me without cause narrow the eye;

⁴⁵Because they do not speak peace;

⁴⁶But against the quiet of the land they plan deceitful words,

⁴⁷And they have widened their mouth against me,

⁴⁸Saying, "Aha! Aha! Our eyes have seen."

⁴⁹You have seen, Yahweh. Do not be silent.

⁵⁰My Master, do not be far from me.

⁵¹Rouse Yourself and wake up for my judgment, my God!

⁵²And my Master, for my dispute!

⁵³Judge me according to Your righteousness, Yahweh my God,

⁵⁴And do not let them rejoice over me!

⁵⁵Do not let them say in their heart, “Aha! Our soul's desire!”

⁵⁶Do not let them say, “We have swallowed him up!”

⁵⁷Let them be shamed and humiliated together —

⁵⁸Those who rejoice in my evil *day*.

⁵⁹Let them be clothed with shame and dismay —

⁶⁰Those who magnify themselves against me.

⁶¹Let them shout and rejoice who desire my righteousness,

⁶²And let them say continually,

⁶³“Great is Yahweh,

⁶⁴Who desires the peace of His servant.”

⁶⁵And my tongue will declare your righteousness,

⁶⁶Your praise all the day.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

^bFor the Director.

Psalm 36

^aBy the Servant of Yahweh.

^bBy David.

^cAn Oracle.

¹The transgression of the wicked person is my meditation:

²There is no fear of God before his eyes.

³For he flatters himself in his own eyes,

⁴Hating to detect his liability.

⁵The words of his mouth are trouble and deceitful.

⁶He has ceased to be wise, to do good.

⁷Trouble he plots on his bed.

⁸He commits himself to a course not good;

⁹Evil he does not reject.

¹⁰Yahweh, in the heavens is Your lovingkindness,

¹¹Your faithfulness is up to the high clouds.

¹²Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains;

¹³Your justice like the great deep.

¹⁴Both mankind and cattle You preserve, Yahweh.

¹⁵How priceless is Your lovingkindness, O God!

¹⁶Yes, the sons of Adam in the shadow of Your wings find refuge.

¹⁷They feast on the abundance of Your house,

¹⁸And the river of Your delights You give them to drink,

¹⁹For with You is the fountain of life.

²⁰In Your light we see light.

²¹Continue Your lovingkindness to those who know You,

²²And Your righteousness to the upright in heart.

²³May the foot of the proud not come against me.

²⁴And let not the hand of wicked persons drive me away.

²⁵Behold how they lie fallen, the troublemakers!

²⁶Thrown down, unable to rise!

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

Psalm 37

^aBy David.

℣'Aleph is for "not."

¹Do not rage at evildoers;

²Do not be envious of the doers of unrighteousness,

³Because like grass they quickly dry out,

⁴And like a green plant they wither.

_Beth is for "trust."

⁵Trust in Yahweh and do good!

⁶Inhabit the land and feed on trustworthiness.

⁷And delight in Yahweh

⁸And He will give you the requests of your heart.

_Gimel is for "roll."

⁹Roll onto Yahweh your way,

¹⁰And rely on Him, and He Himself will do it.

¹¹And He will bring out, like the light, your righteousness,

¹²And your justice like the noontime.

_Daleth is for "be still."

¹³Be still before Yahweh

¹⁴And wait for Him.

¹⁵Do not rage at one who prospers in his way,

¹⁶At one who does what he plots.

_He is for "desist."

¹⁷Desist from anger and abandon wrath.

¹⁸Do not rage only to do evil,

¹⁹Because evildoers will be cut off,

²⁰But those who wait for Yahweh — they will possess the land.

_Waw is for "and while."

²¹And still a little while and there will be no wicked man,

²²And you will look carefully upon his place but he will not be there.

²³But the humble will possess the land,

²⁴And they will delight in abundance of peace.

_Zayin is for "plotting."

²⁵Plotting is the wicked man against the righteous

²⁶And gnashing at him with his teeth.

²⁷My Master laughs at him

²⁸Because He sees that his day is coming.

_Heth is for "sword."

²⁹A sword the wicked have drawn

³⁰And they have bent their bow

³¹To make the oppressed and poor fall,

³²To slaughter the upright in way.

³³Their sword will enter into their heart,

³⁴And their bows will be broken.

_Teth is for "better."

³⁵Better is a little belonging to a righteous man

³⁶Than the wealth of many wicked men,

³⁷Because the arms of the wicked will be broken,

³⁸But Yahweh supports the righteous.

_Yodh is for "knows."

³⁹Yahweh knows the days of the blameless,

⁴⁰And their inheritance will be forever.

⁴¹They will not be shamed in a time of evil,

⁴²And in days of famine they will be satisfied.

_Kaph is for "but."

⁴³But the wicked — they will perish,

⁴⁴And the enemies of Yahweh;

⁴⁵Like the precious part of pastures they are finished;
⁴⁶In smoke they are finished.

_ Lamedh is for "borrows."

⁴⁷A wicked man borrows and does not repay.
⁴⁸But a righteous man is gracious and gives,

⁴⁹Because his blessed ones will possess the land
⁵⁰But his dishonored ones will be cut off.

_ Mem is for "by."

⁵¹By Yahweh the steps of a young man are established
⁵²And in His way he delights.

⁵³Though he will fall he will not be thrown down
⁵⁴Because Yahweh supports him by His hand.

_ Nun is for "youth."

⁵⁵A youth I have been; now I am old.
⁵⁶But I have not seen a righteous man abandoned,
⁵⁷Or his seed begging bread.

⁵⁸All the day he is gracious and lending,
⁵⁹And his seed is for blessing.

_ Samekh is for "turn."

⁶⁰Turn from evil and do good
⁶¹And dwell forever,
⁶²Because Yahweh loves justice,
⁶³And He does not abandon His loyal ones.

_ `Ayin is for "forever."

⁶⁴Forever they are guarded,
⁶⁵But the seed of the wicked will be cut off.

⁶⁶The righteous will possess the land
⁶⁷And dwell forever upon it.

_ Pe is for "mouth."

⁶⁸The mouth of the righteous man proclaims wisdom,

⁶⁹And his tongue speaks judgment.

⁷⁰The Instruction of his God is in his heart.

⁷¹His steps will not waver.

_ Tsaddeh is for "watching."

⁷²The wicked are watching for the righteous

⁷³And are seeking to kill him.

⁷⁴Yahweh will not abandon him in his hand

⁷⁵And will not declare him guilty in his judgment.

_ Qoph is for "wait."

⁷⁶Wait upon Yahweh

⁷⁷And He will guard your way.

⁷⁸And He will exalt you to possess the land.

⁷⁹When the wicked are cut off you will see it.

_ Resh is for "seeing."

⁸⁰I have seen the wicked man, a terrifying man

⁸¹And spreading himself like a native green tree.

⁸²And he disappeared and — look! — he was not there.

⁸³And I looked for him and he was not found.

_ Shin is for "observe."

⁸⁴Observe the blameless man and watch the upright,

⁸⁵Because there is a future for the man of peace.

⁸⁶But the rebels will be destroyed together.

⁸⁷The future of the wicked will be cut off.

_ Taw is for "salvation."

⁸⁸But the salvation of the righteous is from Yahweh,

⁸⁹Their fortress in a time of trouble.

⁹⁰And Yahweh helps them and delivers them.

⁹¹He delivers them from the wicked

⁹²And He saves them because they seek refuge in Him.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!
From everlasting and unto everlasting.
Amen!
Yes! Amen!

Psalm 38

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

^cFor memorializing.

¹Yahweh, do not, in Your wrath, reprove me,

²Nor in Your anger chastise me.

³Indeed, Your arrows have descended into me

⁴And Your hand has descended upon me.

⁵There is no sound place in my flesh because of Your indignation;

⁶There is no peace in my bones because of my sin.

⁷Indeed, my liabilities go over my head;

⁸Like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me.

⁹My wounds stink, they have putrefied,

¹⁰Because of my foolishness.

¹¹I have been agitated, I have bowed down greatly;

¹²All the day I have gone about begrimed,

¹³Because my loins are filled with burning

¹⁴And there is no sound place in my flesh.

¹⁵I am numbed and crushed greatly;

¹⁶I roar from the groaning of my heart.

¹⁷My Master, before You is all my longing,

¹⁸And my sighing is not hidden from you.

¹⁹My heart pounds; my strength has abandoned me;

²⁰And the light of my eyes — even they are not with me.

²¹My lovers and my friends stand away from my plague;

²²And my neighbors stand afar off.

²³Those who seek my soul lay snares for me,

²⁴And those intent on my harm speak destructive words,

²⁵And deceits all the day they utter.

²⁶And I myself am like a deaf man who does not hear,

²⁷And like a mute man who will not open his mouth.

²⁸And I am like a man who does not hear

²⁹And there are in his mouth no objections.

³⁰Because for you, Yahweh, I wait.

³¹You will answer, my Master, my God!

³²Because I said, "Lest they rejoice concerning me";

³³When my foot slipped they magnified themselves against me.

³⁴Indeed, I myself am about to stumble,

³⁵And my suffering is before me continually.

³⁶Indeed, my liability I will declare;

³⁷I am anxious because of my impurity.

³⁸And my mortal enemies are strong,

³⁹And multiplied are my deceptive haters.

⁴⁰And those repaying evil for good —

⁴¹They oppose me for my pursuit of good.

⁴²Do not abandon me, Yahweh!

⁴³My God, do not be far from me!

⁴⁴To my help make haste,

⁴⁵My Master, my Salvation!

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

^dFor the director.

^eFor Jeduthun.

Psalm 39

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹I said, "I will guard my way
²Lest I defile with my tongue.

³I will guard my mouth with a muzzle
⁴While the wicked one is before me."

⁵I was mute with silence;
⁶I was quiet even from good.

⁷And my pain was stirred up.
⁸Hot was my heart within me.

⁹In my meditating the fire burned.
¹⁰I spoke with my tongue:

¹¹Make me know, Yahweh, my end,
¹²And the measure of my days what it is,
¹³That I may know how frail I am.

¹⁴Behold, as handbreadths You give my days,
¹⁵And my passing life is as nothing before You.
¹⁶Only vapor is every person who stands on earth.

Selah I said, "I will guard my way
Lest I defile with my tongue.

¹⁷Only as a shadow does a man walk.
¹⁸Only for vapor they clamor:
¹⁹He heaps up and does not know who will gather them.

²⁰And now, what do I await, my Master?
²¹As for my hope, it is in You.

²²From all my rebellions deliver me;
²³As the reproach of a fool do not set me up.

²⁴I am mute; I will not open my mouth

²⁵Because it was You who did it.

²⁶Remove from upon me Your touch;

²⁷From the opposition of Your hand I have come to an end.

²⁸With rebukes for liability You discipline a man,

²⁹And You melt, like a moth, his treasure.

³⁰Only vapor is every person.

Selah. I said, "I will guard my way
Lest I defile with my tongue.

³¹Hear my prayer, Yahweh!

³²And to my cry give ear!

³³To my tears do not be deaf,

³⁴Because a resident alien I am with You,

³⁵A sojourner like all my fathers.

³⁶Turn Your gaze from me and let me be happy

³⁷Before I go and am no more.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

©For the director.

Psalm 40

^aBy David.

^bPsalm.

¹Waiting, I waited for Yahweh,

²And He bent down to me and heard my cry.

³And He brought me up from a roaring cistern,

⁴From the slimy mud,

⁵And He set upon a rock my feet;

⁶He established my footsteps.

⁷And He put in my mouth a new song,

⁸Praise to our God.

⁹Many will see and fear,

¹⁰And will trust in Yahweh.

¹¹Blest and merry is the mighty man who has made Yahweh his trust,

¹²And has not turned to the proud and those turning aside to a lie.

¹³Many things have You done, Yahweh my God: Your wonders!

¹⁴And Your thoughts toward us: No one can list them to You.

¹⁵I will declare and speak:

¹⁶"They are too numerous to count!"

¹⁷Communion Sacrifice and Tribute You did not desire.

¹⁸My ears You have dug out for me.

¹⁹Ascension and Purification You did not ask.

²⁰Then I said, "Behold, I come.

²¹In the scroll of the book it is written about me.

²²To do Your will, my God, I delight;

²³And Your Instruction is within my inward parts."

²⁴I announce Your righteousness in a great assembly.

²⁵Behold, My lips I do not restrain.

²⁶Yahweh, You Yourself, You know!

²⁷Your righteousness I do not hide within my heart.

²⁸Your faithfulness and Your salvation I speak.

²⁹I do not conceal Your lovingkindness and Your trustworthiness from a great assembly.

³⁰You Yourself, Yahweh, will not hold back Your compassions from me.

³¹Let Your lovingkindness and Your trustworthiness continually preserve me,

³²Because surrounding me are evils

³³Till there is no number.

³⁴Overtaking me are my liabilities

³⁵And I am not able to see.

³⁶More numerous are they than the hairs of my head,

³⁷And my heart has left me.

³⁸Be pleased, Yahweh, to deliver me!

³⁹Yahweh, to my help make haste!

⁴⁰Let them be shamed and confounded together

⁴¹The ones seeking my soul to destroy it.

⁴²Let them be turned back and disgraced

⁴³Those who wish me evil.

⁴⁴Let them be desolate because of their shame

⁴⁵Those saying to me, "Ha, Ha!"

⁴⁶Let them be glad and rejoice in You – all those who seek You.

⁴⁷Let them say continually, "Great is Yahweh!" – those who love Your salvation.

⁴⁸But I? oppressed and needy!

⁴⁹My Master thinks about me.

⁵⁰My help and my deliverer are You.

⁵¹My God, do not delay.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!

For the director.

Psalm 41

^aPsalm.

^bBy David.

¹Blest and merry is the one who sympathizes with the poor.

²In the day of evil, Yahweh will deliver him.

³Yahweh will guard him and keep him alive;

⁴He will be called blessed in the land,

⁵And You will not give him to the desire of his enemies.

⁶Yahweh will support him upon the couch of sickness.

⁷His whole bed You transform in the midst of his illness.

⁸As for me, I said, "Yahweh, be gracious to me.

⁹Heal my soul, because I have sinned against You."

¹⁰My enemies say evil of me:

¹¹"When will he die and his name perish?"

¹²And if he comes to see me, falsehood he speaks.

¹³In his heart, he gathers troublemaking to himself.

¹⁴He goes out; to the street he speaks it.

¹⁵Together against me they whisper, all who hate me.

¹⁶Against me they plot evil for me.

¹⁷*Saying,* "A thing of Belial is poured into him,

¹⁸And where he lies down he will never be able to get up."

¹⁹Even my man of peace, in whom I trusted, who ate my bread,

²⁰Has lifted up his heel against me.

²¹And You, Yahweh, be gracious to me and raise me up,

²²And I will repay them.

²³By this I know that You are pleased with me,

²⁴Because mine enemy does not shout triumphantly over me.

²⁵And as for me, in my integrity You uphold me,

²⁶And You establish me before Your face everlastingly.

Praise to Yahweh, the God of Israel!

From everlasting and unto everlasting.

Amen!

Yes! Amen!