

1980

28c

Revision

of the

PSALM SECTION

of our

Book of Praise

1980  
28c

LIST OF VERSIFIERS

- Psalm 1. D.Westra, 1961, and W.Helder, 1980.
2. © W.Helder, 1980.
  3. D.Westra, 1931.
  4. © W.Helder, 1980.
  5. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  6. W.W.J.VanOene, 1972; revised.
  7. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  8. D.Westra, 1961, and W.W.J.VanOene, 1972; revised.
  9. W.van der Kamp, 1967.
  10. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  11. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  12. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  13. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  14. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  15. D.Westra, 1961, and W.W.J.VanOene, 1972; revised.
  16. G. VanDooren, 1961; revised.
  17. © W.Helder, 1980.
  18. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  19. D.Westra, 1931, and W.W.J.VanOene, 1972.
  20. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  21. W.W.J.VanOene, 1972.
  22. W.W.J.VanOene, 1972.
  23. © W.Helder, 1980.
  24. W. van der Kamp, 1967; revised.
  25. S.G. Brondsema, 1931; revised.
  26. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  27. © W.Helder, 1980.
  28. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  29. W. van der Kamp, 1967.
  30. W. van der Kamp, 1967; revised.
  31. W. van der Kamp, 1967; revised.
  32. © W.Helder, 1980.
  33. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  34. © W.Helder, 1980.
  35. W. van der Kamp, 1967.
  36. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  37. D.Westra, 1972; revised.
  38. © W.Helder, 1980.
  39. © W.Helder, 1980.
  40. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  41. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  42. D. Westra, 1931.
  43. W. Kuipers, 1931, and others.
  44. W. van der Kamp, 1967.
  45. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  46. W. van der Kamp, 1961.
  47. D. Westra, 1931.
  48. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  49. © W.Helder, 1980.
  50. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  51. W.W.J.VanOene, 1972; revised.
  52. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  53. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  54. W.W.J.VanOene, 1972.
  55. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  56. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  57. D. Westra, 1961, and W.Helder, 1980.
  58. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  59. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  60. © W.Helder, 1972.
  61. W. van der Kamp, 1967.
  62. W. van der Kamp, 1967; revised.
  63. © W. Helder, 1980.
  64. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  65. W. Kuipers, 1931; revised.
  66. © W. Helder, 1980.
  67. © W. Helder, 1980.
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  69. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  70. D. Westra, 1961; revised.
  71. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  72. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  73. © W.Helder, 1980.
  74. W.W.J. VanOene, 1972; revised.
  75. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  76. © W. Helder, 1972.
  77. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  78. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  79. © W. Helder, 1972.
  80. W.W.J. VanOene and W. Helder, 1972.
  81. © W. Helder, 1972.
  82. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  83. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  84. W. Kuipers, 1931, and W. Helder, 1980.
  85. © W. Helder, 1972.
  86. W. van der Kamp, 1967; revised.
  87. W. Kuipers, 1931; revised.
  88. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  89. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  90. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
  91. D. Westra, 1961, and W. Helder, 1972.
  92. © W. Helder, 1972.
  93. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
  94. W. van der Kamp, 1967.
  95. W. van der Kamp, 1967.
  96. © W. Helder, 1972.
  97. D. Westra, 1931; revised.
  98. D. Westra, 1931; revised.
  99. D. van der Boom, 1972, and W. Helder, 1980.
  100. © W. Helder, 1980.
  101. D. Westra, 1961, and W. Helder, 1980.

- Psalm 102. Author unknown, 1972; revised.
103. © W. Helder, 1972.
104. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
105. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
106. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
107. W. van der Kamp, 1972, and W. Helder, 1980.
108. D. Westra, 1961; revised.
109. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
110. W.W.J.VanOene, 1972.
111. D. Westra, 1961, and W. Helder, 1972.
112. © W. Helder, 1972.
113. © W. Helder, 1980.
114. W. van der Kamp, 1961.
115. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
116. W. Kuipers, 1931; revised.
117. © W. Helder, 1980.
118. © W. Helder, 1972.
119. © W. Helder, 1972.
120. © W. Helder, 1972.
121. D. Westra, 1931; revised.
122. D. Westra, 1931; revised.
123. D. Westra, 1931; revised.
124. Author unknown; revised.
125. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
126. D. Westra, 1967, and W. Helder, 1980.
127. D. Westra, 1961.
128. W.W.J.VanOene, 1972.
129. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
130. D. Westra, 1931; revised.
131. W. van der Kamp, 1967; revised.
132. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
133. D. Westra, 1931; revised.
134. L. J. Lamberts, 1928.
135. © W. Helder, 1980.
136. Author unknown; adapted by G.VanDooren, 1961, 1972.
137. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
138. D. Westra, 1931.
139. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
140. W. van der Kamp, 1972; revised.
141. W. van der Kamp, 1967.
142. Author unknown; revised.
143. D. Westra, 1967; revised.
144. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
145. D. Westra, 1961; revised.
146. W. van der Kamp, 1967; revised.
147. D. Westra, 1961, and W. Helder, 1972.
148. D. Westra, 1961; revised.
149. W. van der Kamp, 1972.
150. D. Westra, 1931; revised.

Previously published rhymings which have not been revised have almost all been altered with a view to their correction or improvement.

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1-SALM 1

1. How blessed is the man whose walk is not  
In evil counsel which the wicked plot,  
Who does not stand where sin its pleasure offers  
And will not take his seat among the scoffers;  
But his delight is in God's covenant law:  
By night and day he ponders it with awe.
2. Behold, the righteous man is like a tree  
Which by the streams yields fruit abundantly,  
Whose leaves are green and shall not fade or perish;  
In all he does, the righteous one shall flourish.  
But wicked men are not like him, for they  
Resemble chaff that winds will drive away.
3. Their downfall and destruction is at hand:  
The wicked shall not in the judgment stand,  
Nor sinners in the righteous congregation.  
The LORD our God shall judge their generation;  
He watches o'er the way of righteous men,  
But doomed forever is the way of sin.

1-SALM 2

1. Why do the restless heathen madly rage:  
What haughty schemes are they in vain contriving?  
The kings and rulers of the earth engage  
In rash attempts to plot their empty striving.  
They stand prepared, they all conspire together  
Against the LORD and His anointed King.  
"Let us," they say, "tear loose and break their fetters,  
Cast off their chains, their shackles from us fling."
2. Though proudly now they raise their battle cry,  
How vain is all their frenzied opposition!  
The LORD, who sits enthroned in heaven on high,  
Laughs them to scorn: He has them in derision.  
Then He will speak in wrath and indignation  
And all their host will He with terror fill:  
"I've set by King," so runs His proclamation,  
"Upon mount Zion, on My holy hill."
3. O peoples, listen to the LORD's decree,  
For unto Me He made this declaration:  
"Thou art My Son, I have begotten Thee  
This very day. To Thee I'll give the nations.  
Ask what Thou wilt: Thy heritage I'll make them,  
Their lands shalt Thou possess, both near and far.  
Lo, with a rod of iron shalt Thou break them,  
Dash them in pieces like a potter's jar."
4. Take heed, O rulers of the earth, and hear;  
Be wise, O kings, and let His edict warn you.  
Rejoice with trembling, serve the LORD with fear.  
Now kiss the Son, lest He in fury scorn you,  
Lest in His wrath the LORD cause you to perish,  
For quickly kindled is His anger's blaze.  
But all who trust in Him the LORD will cherish;  
He will defend and bless them all their days.

1-SALM 3

1. O LORD, how swiftly grows the number of my foes  
Who wantonly oppress me!  
Yea, multiplied are they that rise to my dismay,  
And day by day distress me.  
Though heavy my despair, they scornfully declare  
To my humiliation,  
That Thou, O God, no more canst help me as before  
Or come to my salvation.
2. But Thou, LORD, always art a shield about my heart,  
My hope and sure reliance.  
Thou, in the hour of dread, dost lift my weary head,  
And biddest them defiance.  
Where'er to God I cried, He hastened to my side  
In all my tribulations;  
From Zion's mountain fair He looked on my despair  
And heard my supplications.
3. When I lay down, I slept; I woke, for I was kept  
In His divine protection;  
The LORD was at my side, my safety He supplied,  
Whatever my affliction.  
Defended by His hand, I shall undaunted stand  
While thousands surge about me;  
Though furious foemen wage their war with mighty rage,  
I know they shall not rout me.
4. Arise and save me, LORD, for Thou hast smitten hard  
The jaws of them that hate me;  
Yea, Thou didst fiercely break for me, Thy servant's sake  
The teeth of the ungodly.  
I shall not suffer long, for my salvation strong  
Thou, O my LORD, providest.  
Thy people all will rest by Thee so richly blest,  
Since Thou with them abidest.

PSALM 4

1. God of my right, show me Thy answer  
When I in prayer cry out to Thee!  
Thou hast in sorrow and privation  
Bestowed relief and consolation.  
Be gracious now and hear my plea.  
O man, how long will you continue  
To turn my honour into shame?  
How long yet will you seek and follow  
All things deceitful, vain, and hollow?  
How long will you revile my name?
2. Know that the LORD in His good pleasure  
Has set the righteous ones apart  
To be His own, His chosen nation.  
He therefore hears my supplication;  
He takes my misery to heart.  
Be angry, but refrain from evil;  
Commune within your heart, be still.  
At all times bring right sacrifices.  
Rely not on your own devices:  
Trust in the LORD and heed His will.
3. How many sigh with heartfelt longing,  
"If only we some good might see!"  
O LORD, reveal Thy light and splendour  
And show Thyself the strong defender  
Of all who put their trust in Thee!  
More joy hast Thou to me imparted  
Than others have whose goods increase,  
Who in their grain and wine take pleasure.  
Thee do I as my refuge treasure:  
I will lie down and sleep in peace.

PSALM 5

1. O listen to my words, I pray Thee,  
And to my groaning, LORD, give heed.  
Hear Thou my cry and know my need,  
My King and God, my foes dismay me;  
Come Thou and stay me!
2. LORD, in the morning Thou shalt hear me;  
I bring my prayer to Thee and wait.  
Against all evil burns Thy hate;  
The ill of men who do not fear Thee  
Shall not stay near Thee.
3. The boastful shall not stand before Thee,  
All evil men Thou dost despise.  
And Thou destroyest him who lies;  
Thou hatest sinners who ignore Thee,  
O God of glory!
4. Thy steadfast love shall fail me never.  
Through its abundance I'll appear  
In Thy great house with holy fear  
To worship there, for none shall ever  
Us from Thee sever.
5. In fear of Thee I come before Thee.  
LORD, lead me in Thy righteousness  
Because of all who me oppress;  
Make Thou the way, I do implore Thee,  
Then straight before me.
6. There is no truth in all their chatter;  
Destruction, death, is what they crave;  
Their throat is like an open grave,  
And with their tongue they fawn and flatter  
While lies they scatter.
7. Declare them guilty who deride me!  
By their own counsel let them fall.  
All their transgressions, LORD, recall,  
Cast out those who will not abide Thee,  
But have defied Thee.
8. Let all who cling to Thee delight us  
With joyous songs that never end;  
LORD, those who love Thy name defend.  
Thou with Thy shield, though foes may fight us,  
Dost save the righteous.

PSALM 6

1. Chide me, O LORD, no longer,  
Nor chasten me in anger.  
In mercy hear my groans;  
O LORD, see how I languish.  
Heal Thou my bitter anguish,  
For troubled are my bones.
2. My soul is troubled greatly.  
O hasten Thou to aid me.  
Why dost Thou tarry, LORD?  
Turn back and show Thy favour;  
He in Thy love deliver,  
According to Thy word!
3. How can the dead adore Thee  
Or bring their thanks before Thee  
Or praise Thy holy Name?  
I'm weary with my moaning,  
Worn out with constant groaning  
And overcome with shame.
4. All night, instead of sleeping,  
I drench my couch with weeping;  
With grief my eyes grow weak,  
Since foes with hate surround me  
And without ceasing hound me;  
My ruin they all seek.
5. Depart from me, transgressors.  
Flee now, all you oppressors:  
The LORD did heed my cry!  
He heard my supplication,  
My plea for consolation,  
And with His help is nigh.
6. The LORD heard when I pleaded  
And my appeals He heeded.  
My foes shall be ashamed,  
For sudden fear shall shake them,  
And panic overtake them.  
Their doom has He proclaimed.

PSALM 7

1. Thou art my refuge; LORD, defend me.  
Come, lest my foes like lions rend me,  
And drag me off, a helpless prey.  
If I did good with ill repay,  
If sins, O God, my hands have blighted,  
And I in plunder have delighted,  
Let me then by my foe be found,  
And let him tread me to the ground.
2. Rise in Thy anger, LORD, and hasten  
The fury of my foes to chasten.  
My God, awake! Appoint Thy day,  
Put all the peoples in array;  
Ascend Thy throne and judge the nations,  
Do right unto their generations;  
Judge me, O LORD, for I profess  
Integrity and righteousness.
3. Ward off those who Thy people ravish;  
The just and righteous, LORD, establish.  
O Thou who triest heart and mind,  
Our God in righteousness enshrined.  
My shield Thou art; Thy help Thou gavest  
And men of upright heart Thou savest.  
O righteous judge, Thy anger's away  
Subdue the wicked every day.
4. If any man shows no repentance,  
Our God will whet His sword with vengeance.  
For those who to withstand have dared  
His bow is braced, His shafts prepared.  
For barbed with fire are all His arrows  
When He in ire the wicked harrows.  
And never will my foe achieve  
The evil which he did conceive.
5. With evil pregnant he will hound me;  
He brings forth falsehood to confound me.  
For me did he prepare a pit,  
But he himself fell into it.  
His mischief, on his head returning,  
Repays him who with hate was burning.  
God's righteousness I'll glorify.  
I praise the name of God Most High!

PSALM 8

1. O LORD, our LORD, Thou God of our salvation,  
How glorious is Thy name in all creation!  
Thou who hast set Thy majesty on high  
Beyond the skies for man to glorify.
2. Out of the mouth of infants praise is sounded,  
And so a mighty bulwark Thou hast founded.  
Thus breakest Thou the adversary's force  
And thwartest Thou the evildoer's course.
3. When I behold the skies Thou hast created,  
The moon and stars which Thou hast generated,  
O what is man that Thou wilt think of him,  
The son of man that Thou dost care for him?
4. Yet, little less than God -- so hast Thou made him,  
And Thou with glorious honour hast arrayed him,  
That over Thy creation he might reign;  
Thou hast assigned all things as man's domain.
5. Thou hast appointed him as lord and master  
Of bird and beast in forest, field, and pasture;  
He also rules the creatures of the sea.  
O LORD, how great is Thy Name's majesty.

PSALM 9

1. With all my heart I thank Thee, LORD,  
Thy wondrous deeds I will record.  
Thou art my joy, in Thee I'll glory.  
With psalms, Most High, I will adore Thee.
2. See how my enemies retreat;  
They stumble, perish in defeat;  
For my just cause hast Thou contended,  
And from Thy throne my right defended.
3. The nations' pride hast Thou made void,  
My wicked foes hast Thou destroyed,  
Their name wiped out, their memory banished.  
Their cities, rooted out, have vanished.
4. For aye the LORD is king alone;  
For judgment He set up His throne;  
The world hears rulings, just and righteous,  
By God whose equity delights us.
5. God is a stronghold for the oppressed,  
Their refuge when they are distressed.  
Those seeking Thee are not forsaken,  
Those trusting Thee shall not be shaken.
6. Praise Him who does in Zion dwell,  
His deeds among the peoples tell.  
He who avenges blood is near us,  
And when we cry our God shall hear us.
7. Have pity, LORD, my sufferings see,  
Thou who from death's gate savest me,  
That I, Thy praise and mercy voicing,  
In Zion's gates may find rejoicing.
8. My foes fell in the pit they made,  
Their feet caught in the snares they laid.  
The LORD has in His justice spoken;  
By their own guile my foes are broken.
9. The wicked to Sheol shall go  
And dwell amid the gloom below  
With all the godless, proud and greedy.  
But God shall not forget the needy.
10. Arise, LORD, let not men prevail;  
Let them in fear and terror wail.  
Judge Thou the nations, God of glory;  
Show them they are but men before Thee.

PSALM 10

1. Why dost Thou stand far off? O LORD, arise!  
Why dost Thou hide Thyself in troubled days?  
Dost Thou not hear it when the poor man cries?  
For on Thy poor the wicked sinner preys,  
His heart with heated arrogance ablaze.  
Let them be caught in schemes of their own making  
With all who in their evil are partaking.
2. The wicked man boasts of his heart's desire;  
And blesses them whose greed the LORD does spurn,  
And in his pride the wicked scorns Thy ire.  
"There is no God who shall our ill return,"  
Such are his thoughts, his heart knows no concern;  
He prospers and his foes dare not disturb him;  
Thy judgments stay on high and do not curb him.
3. He proudly thinks, "I shall forever stand:  
Throughout all generations I'll not meet  
Adversity or chastening by God's hand."  
His mouth is filled with cursing and deceit:  
His tongue is full of mischief and conceit.  
Iniquity and mischief does he cherish,  
And in his snares the innocent will perish.
4. He sits in ambush waiting for his prey,  
And kills the meek not of his wiles aware;  
His eyes search out the hapless on their way;  
He is a lion lurking in his lair,  
And in his nets he does the poor ensnare.  
He thinks deep in his heart, "God does not see it;  
Why fear His wrath? We do not have to flee it."
5. Arise, O LORD! O God, lift up Thy hand;  
Forget not the afflicted, be Thou near.  
Why do the wicked still so proudly stand  
Renouncing God, while in their hearts they sneer,  
"He will not punish, why then should we fear?  
He does not care; why should His wrath delay us?  
Who calls us to account or shall repay us?"
6. But Thou dost see our troubles and our woes  
And Thou shalt take our cause into Thy hand.  
The hapless flee to Thee; Thou shalt oppose  
The evildoers' proud and wicked band,  
For Thou hast been the orphans' help and stand.  
Break Thou the arm of him who evil cherished,  
Seek out his wickedness till he has perished.
7. The LORD is King, He reigns for evermore;  
The heathen soon shall perish from the land.  
Thou wilt incline Thy ear and wilt restore  
The weak and weary by Thy mighty hand.  
The orphaned and oppressed shalt Thou defend,  
That mortal men, aroused by hate and error,  
No more may strike the earth with fear and terror.

PSALM 11

1. In God I take my refuge. Why then say you,  
"Flee like a bird that to the mountains wings.  
For, lo, the wicked bend the bow to slay you;  
They fit their sharpened arrows to the strings;  
They shoot in secret those who righteousness cherish.  
What can the righteous who to justice clings  
Still do if the foundations fall and perish?"
2. The LORD does from His holy temple see this,  
And from His throne He judges wrong and right;  
All men will hear then what His just decree is.  
God hates those who in violence delight.  
Their lot is storm and brimstone fiercely burning.  
The righteous LORD shall favour the upright;  
They shall see Him for whom their heart is yearning.

PSALM 12

1. Help us, O LORD, the godly all have vanished;  
Gone are the faithful who Thy judgments seek.  
Men lie to one another, truth is banished;  
With flatt'ring lips and double heart they speak.
2. O may the LORD cut off the lips that flatter;  
And those who say, "Our tongue makes us succeed!"  
Hear how in vanity they proudly chatter,  
"Our lips are ours, what master do we need?"
3. Because they all despoil the poor and needy  
I will arise and right My people's wrong;  
I hear their groans and will destroy the greedy,  
And grant My own the rest for which they long.
4. The words of promise which the LORD has spoken  
Are purest silver seven times refined;  
His covenant stands from age to age unbroken;  
He is our God, in truth and faith enshrined.
5. O LORD, protect us from this generation;  
Forever save us from their ways of sin.  
They strut about; and vileness in the nation  
Do they exalt among the sons of men.

PSALM 13

1. How long, O LORD, wilt Thou forget?  
Far from Thy face I wait and fret.  
How long yet must I bear my sorrow?  
My heart longs for Thy mercy's morrow.  
Why am I still with foes beset?
2. Look, LORD my God, and answer me;  
Grant that my eyes Thy light may see,  
Lest, when the light of life shall fail me,  
When foes with joy and pride assail me,  
My fall delight my enemy.
3. Thy steadfast love has been my stay;  
My heart shall praise Thee night and day  
And shall rejoice in Thy salvation,  
And I will praise with jubilation  
Thy bounty, LORD Most High, for aye!

PSALM 14

1. The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."  
They are corrupt, their horrid deeds they cherish;  
Not one of them does good, and just men perish.  
None calls upon the LORD, none sings His laud  
Or fears His rod.
2. The LORD looks down from heaven's holy throne  
To see if there are any that act wisely.  
O God, not one seeks Thee; they all despise Thee:  
See how the sons of men, to evil prone,  
Thy law disown.
3. Will evildoers never understand?  
As though they ate their bread, so those who hate Thee  
Eat up my helpless people, who await Thee.  
They do not pray, but evil they have planned  
Throughout the land.
4. See how they tremble, how they cringe with fear,  
For God is with the just in love unbounded.  
They wish to see the poor man's hope confounded,  
But when he cries, however loud they jeer,  
The LORD shall hear.
5. O Israel, you people of God's choice,  
That out of Zion might come your salvation!  
When from their bondage God shall free His nation,  
Let Jacob sing and Israel rejoice  
With happy voice.

PSALM 15

1. LORD, who shall sojourn in Thy tent  
And have mount Zion for his dwelling?  
He who does what is good and right,  
Whose walk is blameless in Thy sight,  
In truth and equity excelling.
2. His tongue is from all slander free;  
He does not wrong or harm those near him;  
He scorns those acting wickedly,  
But honours the integrity  
Of all who serve the LORD and fear Him.
3. He keeps an oath that may bring pain,  
And takes no interest for his lending;  
He will not, moved by thought of gain,  
Against the innocent complain.  
He'll firmly stand through time unending.

PSALM 16

1. Preserve me, God, I put my trust in Thee.  
I say to Thee, "Thou art my faithful Saviour;  
Thou art my Lord, I need Thee constantly.  
Apart from Thee I can expect no favour."  
I love Thy saints, with them I am united,  
And in their midst my soul will be delighted.
2. Those choosing other gods instead of Thee  
Increase their sorrows, and their deeds will shame  
Their blood libations I keep far from me them.  
And I shall never lend my lips to name them.  
The LORD is good; I shall forsake Him never:  
He is my cup and portion now and ever.
3. My happy lot wilt Thou maintain, O LORD;  
The lines have fallen in most pleasant places.  
A goodly heritage didst Thou award,  
In beauty it excels earth's choicest spaces.  
Thy measuring-rod gave unto me for ever  
A place from which no power can me sever.
4. I praise the LORD and bless Him all the day  
For what He by His counsel has provided;  
E'en in the night my heart expounds the way  
That I should go; thus I am safely guided.  
I worship Him with joy and adoration;  
None can deprive me of His preservation.
5. Therefore I now rejoice with heart and soul;  
My flesh shall rest secure in Thy protection.  
Thou wilt not leave me down in dark Sheol,  
Nor let Thy Holy One there see corruption.  
With Thee full joy and bliss are ever present;  
The fulness of Thy right hand is most pleasant.



PSALM 17

1. O LORD, hear Thou my righteous cause;  
I come with fervent pleas before Thee.  
With blameless lips do I implore Thee  
To rescue one who loves Thy laws.  
I look to Thee for vindication;  
Show forth Thy judgment, heed my plight,  
And let Thine eye see what is right.  
O listen to my supplication!
2. LORD, Thou hast probed and tried my heart,  
And Thou by night dost test and weigh me.  
Thou findest when Thou dost assay me  
That I in evil take no part;  
My mouth does not commit transgression.  
As for the works of wicked men,  
Thy word has kept me far from sin,  
From ways of violence and oppression.
3. I took the paths marked out by Thee  
So that I would not slip or waver.  
I call on Thee, I seek Thy favour,  
For Thou, O God, wilt answer me;  
Incline Thy ear to me and hear me.  
Show forth, O LORD, from heaven above,  
The wonders of Thy steadfast love,  
Thou Shield of all who trust and fear Thee.
4. LORD, as the apple of Thine eye  
Keep Thou me, with Thy care provide me.  
Beneath Thy wings, O Saviour, hide me  
From deadly foes when they draw nigh.  
They close their hearts to all compassion  
And utter boastful vanity.  
They track me down, surrounding me  
Till I should yield to their oppression.
5. They like the lion crave their prey.  
Arise, O LORD! Thy power show them  
And draw Thy sword to overthrow them;  
With Thy right hand snatch me away.  
Save me from those whose only measure  
Is this life's portion, nothing more.  
O gorge them with Thy ample store  
And let their offspring share such treasure.
6. But as for me, when I awake  
I'll see Thy face in righteous glory;  
And, when Thy likeness stands before me,  
I shall in lasting joy partake.

PSALM 18

1. Thee, LORD, I love; Thou art my strength and power.  
My fortress is the LORD, my rock and tower;  
He, my deliverer, to Him I flee,  
My shield, my helper, who will rescue me.  
My stronghold and the horn of my salvation,  
To Him I bring my praise and adoration.  
I call upon the LORD; He hears my pleas,  
And I am saved from all my enemies.
2. Death bound me with its dreaded cords and racked me;  
The roaring floods of wickedness attacked me.  
I lay in death's entangling cords enmeshed;  
The grave confronted me and I despaired.  
I called upon the LORD, my God, to save me;  
He saw my plight, His mighty help He gave me.  
He from His temple heard my voice and cry;  
They reached His ears, He answered from on high.
3. Then reeled the earth, its pillars rocked and quavered;  
The deep foundations of the mountains wavered,  
Because the LORD was angry, they did quake;  
They trembled when they saw His wrath awake.  
The smoke rose from His nostrils, black and frightening,  
And from His mouth flashed scorching fire and lightning.  
He bowed the heavens in His anger's heat,  
While clouds of darkness swirled around His feet.
4. He rode upon a cherub bright and splendid;  
On wings of storm and wind the LORD descended.  
With darkness covered was His majesty;  
Clouds dark with water were His canopy.  
Light was His crown and brightness went before Him,  
Red fire and hail broke through the clouds that bore Him.  
His thunder roared and echoed through the sky;  
His mighty voice shook vale and mountain high.
5. The LORD did speak, the heavens heard His thunder;  
His mighty voice tore clouds and sky asunder.  
He sent His arrows, scattered all His foes;  
His lightnings flashed, none dared His wrath oppose.  
The ocean's deep, the bedrock of creation,  
Lay bare and dry, revealing earth's foundation.  
At Thy rebuke, O LORD, all stood aghast  
Before Thy nostrils' angry breath and blast.
6. From His high heavens He reached down to take me  
Out of the waters -- He did not forsake me!  
He saved me from my fiercest enemy,  
And from my haters much too strong for me.  
In my calamity they came upon me;  
But for the LORD, their onslaught had undone me.  
He came to rescue and to set me free,  
For He, the LORD my God, delights in me.
7. The LORD rewarded me, He saved and stayed me,  
According to my righteousness repaid me;  
For my clean hands and for my innocence  
He did with gifts and grace me recompense.  
I've kept His ways, He therefore did restore me;  
His statutes and His laws have stood before me.  
I kept myself from all iniquity;  
For this the LORD has now rewarded me.
8. Yes, mercy to the merciful Thou showest,  
And just to him whose justice well Thou knowest  
Art Thou, O LORD, whose wrath none can endure,  
And with the pure Thou showest Thyself pure.  
The cunning man shalt Thou outdo in cunning,  
For with Thy bounties shall be overrunning  
The cup of those who humbly fear Thy Name,  
But haughty eyes Thou bringest down to shame.

PSALM 18 cont'd

9. Yea, Thou dost light my lamp, Thou shalt restore me;  
The LORD my God makes bright the dark before me.  
With Thee I crush a troop and conquer all,  
And with my God I scale the highest wall.  
The way of God is perfect, truth availing,  
His word is tried and proven, never failing.  
A shield for those who with Him refuge take  
Is He, our God, whose power none can shake.
10. Who but our God is Lord of all creation?  
And who but He, the rock of our salvation?  
He who with strength and power girded me  
Made safe my way; my haters cringe and flee.  
Exult in songs, praise Him with harp and cymbal,  
He made my feet like hinds' feet, swift and nimble.  
God is with me, my enemies He smites;  
I am secure, He puts me on my heights.
11. O LORD, Thy hand and power shall sustain me,  
And for the day of battle Thou dost train me  
So that my arms can bend the strongest bow;  
With Thee my enemies I'll overthrow.  
Thou gavest me the shield of Thy salvation,  
And Thy right hand upheld my place and station;  
Thy help has made me glorious and great;  
I did not slip; my path was wide and straight.
12. LORD, when I met my enemies in battle  
I drove them off, they fled like frightened cattle.  
In my pursuit I overtook them all;  
I routed them, delighting in their fall.  
I thrust them through, they staggered and they stumbled;  
Beneath my feet they lay, prostrate and humbled.  
Me Thou didst gird with strength my foes to meet,  
Made my assailants sink beneath my feet.
13. Thou makest all my enemies to leave me;  
I have destroyed the man who hate and grieve me  
And all who for my doom and downfall crave.  
They cried for help, but there was none to save.  
I beat them fine, to wind-blown dust I pounded  
The man who without cause my life have hounded.  
Gone is their pride, their boast, and their conceit;  
I cast them out like refuse of the streets.
14. Me hast Thou saved from strife and provocations  
And made the head of other tribes and nations.  
I'm served by people whom I've never known,  
And foreigners came cringing to my throne,  
For when they heard of me, they all obeyed me  
Because Thou with Thy glory hast arrayed me.  
Strange nations left their strongholds, weak with fear,  
And trembling they before my throne appear.
15. The LORD does live, I bless Him with elation;  
Exalted be the rock of my salvation,  
The God who gave me vengeance, who subdued  
The peoples under me in servitude.  
Thou didst exalt me when my foes disgraced me;  
Above my adversaries hast Thou placed me.  
From me of violence and cruelty,  
From all my foes didst Thou deliver me.
16. For this, O LORD, I will among the nations  
Extol Thy Name and bring Thee my oblations,  
And praises to Thy Name I gladly sing:  
Great triumphs He has given to His king.  
His steadfast love He shows to His anointed,  
To David, now to Israel's throne appointed.  
To all his generations without end  
Shall He, the LORD, His faithfulness extend.

PSALM 19

1. The spacious heavens laud  
The glory of our God  
With full majestic praise.  
The soaring firmament  
Unmeasured in extent  
His handiwork displays.  
Day pours forth speech to day,  
Night will to night convey  
The knowledge of creation.  
There is no speech nor word,  
Their voices are not heard;  
Yet they reach every nation.
2. In this wide firmament  
God gave the sun a tent  
From which to start its run.  
Just as a joyful groom  
Emerges from his room,  
So comes the radiant sun.  
And as a man of force  
Rejoicing runs his course,  
So from the end of heaven  
The sun its path completes,  
And from its burning heat  
Can nothing remain hidden.
3. The law of God is whole  
And it revives the soul  
By bidding it to rise.  
His testimony sure  
Forever shall endure:  
It makes the simple wise.  
The precepts of the LORD,  
Which are His perfect Word,  
With joy our hearts to brighten;  
While His commandments sure,  
Which are both true and pure,  
The eyes of man enlighten.
4. The fear of God is clean;  
A fountain most serene  
It will forever be.  
His ordinances, too,  
Are righteous and are true,  
For everyone to see.  
To be desired far more  
Than gold, much fine gold, or  
What can be bought for money.  
They are far sweeter than  
Whatever sweetness man  
Receives from combs with honey.
5. Moreover, they forewarn  
Thy servant that he scorn  
All evil ways, O LORD.  
He who with faith in Thee  
Keeps them obediently  
Will reap a great reward.  
But, LORD, who is the man  
Who with precision can  
Discern his every error?  
Cleanse Thou, O Light divine,  
This sinful heart of mine  
From hidden faults for ever.
6. Keep Thou me all my days,  
O LORD, from evil ways;  
Wilt Thou their sway prevent.  
Then blameless I shall be,  
From great transgressions free,  
Before Thee innocent.  
That every word I say  
And all my heart's thoughts may  
Be proof of pure demeanour --  
All this Thy servant prays  
Of Thee who scanst his ways,  
My Rock and my Redeemer.

PSALM 20

1. O may the LORD in days of trouble  
From Zion hear your cry,  
Protect you, scattering like stubble  
Those who His Name deny.  
May He recall your gifts of spices,  
And from His sanctuary  
With favour see your sacrifices  
And quell your adversary.
2. May all your heart's desire be granted  
And God fulfil your plans!  
May we the victory you wanted  
Extol with song and dance.  
He made your way and war victorious.  
And we, His Name professing,  
Will set up banners great and glorious.  
God crown your prayers with blessing.
3. I know now that the LORD's anointed  
Will with His help be blessed.  
The LORD hears whom He has appointed  
And grants him his request.  
Yea, from His heaven high and holy  
His right hand strong and mighty  
Shall stay the proud, exalt the lowly,  
And with great deeds delight me.
4. Some boast of chariots, some of horses,  
But we boast in the Name  
Of Him who rules all heaven's forces,  
Our LORD so great in fame.  
They will collapse and fall before us,  
But we shall rise undaunted.  
O LORD, make Thou the king victorious,  
That so our prayers be granted.

PSALM 21

1. LORD, in Thy strength the king exults;  
Thou richly dost support him.  
His wish Thou dost accord him  
By granting him Thy best results.  
Thy power he avowed,  
Thou hast his prayer allowed.
2. His blessings from Thee are untold,  
Prosperity Thou grantest.  
Upon his head Thou plantest  
A precious crown of finest gold.  
The life he asked of Thee  
Thou givest, endlessly.
3. Great through Thy help his splendour is;  
Thou crownest him with glory  
And majesty before Thee.  
Thou grantest him abundant bliss.  
And, since Thou present art,  
Great joy fille all his heart.
4. The king does on the LORD rely,  
His faithfulness believing;  
And, steadfast love receiving,  
He, through the grace of the Most High,  
Is from his place not moved  
Which was by God approved.
5. Your hand will find your enemy,  
Your right hand all that hate you;  
With fear they must await you:  
A blazing oven they will see;  
By fire they are destroyed  
For evil they employed.
6. The LORD will swallow them in ire,  
And fire will soon consume them.  
Yea, with their seed, you'll doom them  
And cause them wholly to expire.  
Though mischief they may plot,  
Successful they are not.
7. For you will put them all to flight.  
Your arrows they'll be facing  
When you your bow are bracing.  
LORD, be exalted in Thy might.  
Thy praises we will voice,  
And in Thy power rejoice.

PSALM 22

1. My God, O why hast Thou forsaken me?  
Why dost Thou not, while unto Thee I flee,  
Grant any help, but seemest not to see  
My tribulation?  
I groan by day, but Thou art far from heeding  
The mournful cries that I have been repeating;  
By night also Thou dost not hear my pleading.  
I find no rest.
2. Yet Thou art holy, God of Israel!  
Enthroned on high, Thou dost midst praises dwell.  
Whatever to our fathers once befell,  
In Thee they trusted.  
This trust in Thee hast Thou with grace rewarded:  
Thou hast to them deliverance accorded  
And safety by Thy strong right hand afforded  
Where'er they cried!
3. But I, I am a worm, and not a man.  
I am despised and scorned by everyone.  
They stare and mock at me; whoever can  
Shows his derision.  
"From God the LORD his cause he would not sever;  
Let then the LORD," they say, "be his Deliverer  
And rescue him, if truly He did ever  
Delight in him!"
4. Yet from the womb Thou, LORD, hast been my rest,  
And kept me safe upon my mother's breast;  
Upon Thee, from my birth on, I was cast,  
My God and Keeper!  
Thou ever since the day my mother bore me  
Hast been my God. O wilt Thou then restore me  
And in all trouble be my help before me:  
None else can help!

PSALM 22 cont'd

5. Bulls that encompass me to kill, abound.  
Strong bulls of Bashan me, in rage, surround.  
They open wide their mouth at me and sound  
Like roaring lions.  
See how like water all my strength is going;  
My bones are out of joint, my heart (fear showing)  
Like melted wax within my body flowing  
Is sore distressed.
6. My strength is also withered and thereby  
My tongue from lack of moisture is parched dry.  
The dust of death has now come very nigh;  
Yea, dogs surround me.  
I suffer from the evildoers' smiting;  
They pierced my hands and feet; they gloat, and chiding,  
Among themselves my garments are dividing  
By casting lots.
7. But Thou, my LORD, O be not far away  
And to my help do hasten, be my stay.  
That from the deadly sword my soul now may  
Soon be delivered!  
Save, LORD, my soul from dogs and from their power,  
From lions' mouths, O Thou my Strength and Tower,  
And from wild oxen's horns do Thou allow her  
Deliverance.
8. I to my brethren of Thy Name will tell,  
And praise Thee in the midst of Israel.  
From him who fears the LORD let praises swell  
In the assembly.  
Let all the sons of Jacob sing Thy glory,  
And let all Israel stand in awe before Thee,  
For Thou hast not despised me nor abhorred me  
In my distress.
9. O LORD, Thou hast not hid from me Thy face,  
But when I cried hast shown to me Thy grace.  
So hast Thou given ample room for praise  
Among Thy people.  
My vows I pay before all those who fear Him,  
For the afflicted eats since God did hear him.  
All those that seek Him surely shall revere Him  
And live for aye.
10. The ends of all the earth recall His grace  
And, turning to the LORD, will seek His face.  
All families from every tribe and race  
Shall bow before Him.  
The kingdoms are the LORD's own habitations  
And He alone rules over all the nations;  
The proud of heart shall offer invocations  
And to Him bow.
11. Both high and low before His majesty,  
All those that turn to dust, will bow the knee;  
And he whose own strength cannot keep him free  
From death and ruin.  
A seed shall serve Him, and each generation  
In time to come shall hear of His salvation;  
The unborn, too, will hear the proclamation  
Of what He wrought.

PSALM 23

1. The LORD my Shepherd in His love defends me.  
I shall not want; in pastures green He tends me,  
Makes me lie down, His care and mercy showing;  
Leads me where peaceful streams are gently flowing.  
He for His Name's sake surely will restore me;  
In paths of righteousness He goes before me.
2. Though in death's valley, lonely and forsaken,  
I am by gloom and shadows overtaken,  
I fear no evil: Thou art ever near me  
And in my grief and sorrow Thou dost hear me.  
Thy rod and staff, O God of my salvation,  
Shall comfort me in all my tribulation.
3. Thy bounteous table Thou dost spread before me;  
My foes look on while Thou dost so restore me.  
My head Thou hast with soothing oil anointed;  
My cup runs over, for Thou hast appointed  
Goodness and mercy to forsake me never,  
And in Thy house, LORD, I shall dwell forever.

PSALM 24

1. The LORD is king of earth's domain,  
The world and all that dwell therein.  
Rejoice, O Zion's sons and daughters,  
For it stands firm by His decrees;  
He founded it upon the seas,  
Established it upon the waters.
2. Rich blessings shall be his reward,  
And vindication from the LORD,  
Who is the Rock of his salvation.  
Such are the men who seek the face  
Of Jacob's God, so rich in grace.  
From Him is all their expectation.
3. Lift up your heads, you arch and gate;  
O ancient doors, rise up and wait;  
Let Him come in, the King of glory.  
Who is that King, in glory great?  
The LORD of hosts, Him we await.  
The LORD, He is the King of glory!
4. Who shall ascend the hill of God,  
Stand in His holy place, and laud  
The LORD, who lives and reigns forever?  
He who withstands the wicked's lure,  
Who has clean hands, whose heart is pure,  
Who keeps his oaths and does not waver.
5. Lift up your heads, you arch and gate;  
O ancient doors, rise up and wait;  
Let Him come in, the King of glory.  
Who is that King, in glory great?  
The LORD of hosts, Him we await.  
The LORD, He is the King of glory!

PSALM 25

1. Unto Thee, O LORD, my Saviour,  
I lift up my waiting soul.  
O my God, in Thee I trusted;  
Let no shame now o'er me roll.  
On my enemies be shame,  
Oft without a cause transgressing;  
But all those who trust Thy Name  
Honour with abundant blessing.
2. Show Thou unto me, Thy servant,  
All Thy ways and teach Thou me,  
So that, by Thy Spirit guided,  
Clearly I Thy paths may see.  
In Thy truth wilt Thou me guide,  
Teach me, God of my salvation;  
All the day for Thee I bide,  
LORD, with eager expectation.
3. Wilt Thou then, I pray, be mindful  
Of Thy mercies manifold,  
Of Thy care and lovingkindness  
Which have ever been of old.  
Sins of youth remember not,  
Nor recall my hid transgression;  
For Thy goodness' sake, O God,  
Think of me in Thy compassion.
4. He, the LORD, is good and upright  
In His dealings evermore.  
Sinners are by Him instructed  
In the way untrod before.  
He will ever guide the meek  
In His judgments true and holy,  
Teach His ways to those who seek  
With a contrite heart and lowly.
5. All the paths the LORD has chosen  
Speak of truth and mercies pure  
Unto such as keep His covenant  
And His testimony sure.  
For the glory of Thy Name,  
Pardon, LORD, my evil-doing;  
Grievous though my sin and shame,  
Hear my cry, Thy love renewing.
6. Who, then, fears the LORD sincerely  
Walking with Him day by day?  
God will lead him safely onward,  
Guide him in the chosen way.  
Then at ease his soul shall rest,  
In the LORD his God confiding;  
And his children shall be blest,  
Safely in the land abiding.
7. To His people, who revere Him,  
Has the LORD His friendship shown,  
And He will to all who fear Him  
Make His steadfast covenant known.  
With a confidence complete,  
Toward the LORD my eyes are turning;  
From the net He'll pluck my feet;  
He will not despise my yearning.
8. Turn to me and show Thy favour;  
I am lonely and distressed.  
From my troubles me deliver;  
Save me, for I am oppressed.  
Heal the sorrows of my heart  
And regard my life as precious.  
Thou who my Deliverer art,  
Bring me out of my distresses.
9. Look upon my great affliction  
And my troubles, LORD, behold;  
Grant me full and free remission  
Of my trespasses untold.  
See my enemies, for great  
Is the number that upbraid me;  
Who, in their consuming hate,  
With their cruel scorn have played me.
10. Guard my life, O gracious Saviour;  
Come, I pray, deliver me,  
Lest my head with shame be covered,  
For my refuge is in Thee.  
Trusting in Thy power supreme,  
LORD, I wait for Thy salvation;  
God, come quickly to redeem  
Israel from tribulation.

PSALM 26

1. O vindicate me, LORD,  
Deceit I have abhorred;  
I've walked in my integrity.  
Thy law and word I favour,  
I did not halt or waver  
But constantly have trusted Thee.
2. O LORD, in truth enshrined,  
Test Thou my heart and mind,  
Prove all my ways, examine me.  
Let me not fall and perish;  
Thy steadfast love I cherish,  
I walk in faithfulness to Thee.
3. With fools I do not sit,  
I hate the hypocrite  
And evildoers' company.  
My seat I've never taken  
With men who have forsaken  
The path of truth, made known by Thee.
4. I, from all sin apart,  
In innocence of heart  
Will wash my hands and take my place.  
Around Thy altar singing,  
My voice with rapture ringing,  
I laud Thy wondrous deeds and grace.
5. Thy praise I will record.  
I love Thy house, O LORD,  
The place where all Thy glories dwell.  
O let my voice not falter  
When I before Thy altar  
The wonders of Thy might retell.
6. Sweep Thou me not away  
With those who disobey  
Thy holy law of truth and light,  
With men of blood and scoffers  
And with the man who offers  
His bribes to lure the weak from right.
7. But I shall walk with Thee  
Who vindicatest me.  
My foot stands firm on level ground;  
In the great congregation  
I bless the LORD's salvation;  
In praise of Him I shall abound.

PSALM 27

1. God is my light, my refuge, my salvation.  
Whom shall I fear? The LORD comes to my aid.  
He is my strength in all my tribulation.  
Of whom shall I then ever be afraid?  
When foes who seek my life close in on me,  
They all shall stumble and in anguish flee;  
And though their armies should in war draw near,  
I'll put my trust in Him, I will not fear.
2. One thing have I desired of God as favour;  
That I may always in His temple dwell  
To view the beauty of the LORD my Saviour  
And in His house to seek His holy will.  
For in the day of trouble and of strife  
He in His shelter will preserve my life.  
Within His tent He'll keep me at His side;  
High on a rock He safety will provide.
3. My head shall I lift up now with rejoicing  
Above the hostile forces round about,  
And in His tent, my jubilation voicing,  
My sacrifice I'll bring with joyful shouts.  
I will extol the steadfast love of God  
And with melodious hymns His mercy laud.  
O hear me, LORD, when I cry out to Thee;  
Show me Thy grace and favour, answer me!
4. "Seek ye my face." O LORD, so Thou hast spoken.  
And in response my heart says unto thee,  
"Thy count'nance do I seek in prayer unbroken."  
Do not, O LORD, now hide Thy face from me.  
In anger turn Thy servant not away,  
Thou who hast ever been my help and stay.  
Foreake me not, for I on Thee rely;  
O God of my salvation, hear my cry!
5. My father and my mother may forsake me:  
The LORD is faithful and His help is sure.  
Teach me Thy way. O LORD and Saviour, take me,  
Lead me on pathways level and secure,  
For evildoers lie in wait for me.  
Hind me not over to their tyranny.  
False witnesses against me still arise;  
They breathe out malice and abusive lies.
6. How I would have despaired in my affliction  
If I had not believed that in this life  
The LORD would show His goodness, His protection;  
I would have perished in my tears and strife.  
Wait for the LORD; be strong and undismayed.  
The LORD is faithful. Why then be afraid?  
Take courage, for His steadfast love is sure.  
Wait for the LORD; His mercy shall endure.

PSALM 28

1. To Thee, O LORD, I call in anguish;  
My rock, in fear of death I languish.  
Be Thou not deaf, but hear my crying  
Lest I become in all my sighing  
Like those who go down to the Pit.  
Be Thou not silent, answer it.
2. Take me not off with those who hate Thee,  
Who with their treachery await me,  
My enemies who boast and bluster  
When for their evil works they muster.  
To neighbours words of peace they feign,  
But in their hearts their misdeeds reign.
3. According to their works requite them,  
According to their evils blight them.  
Give them their due reward and render  
His handiwork to the offender.  
The works of God those foes ignore;  
He'll break them down, build them no more.
4. Blest be the LORD of my salvation,  
For He has heard my supplication.  
He is my strength, my shield forever;  
I trust in Him, He fails me never.  
So I am helped. Exult, my heart,  
To Him your joyful songs impart.
5. The LORD shall be our strength and power;  
A saving refuge and a tower  
Is He for those He has anointed,  
The people as His heirs appointed.  
Be Thou their shepherd, and their ward,  
And carry them forever, LORD.

PSALM 29

1. O you mighty, give the LORD  
Strength and praise with one accord;  
Sing His glory and His fame,  
Worship in His courts His name.  
O'er the waters rolls His thunder,  
Lightning tears the clouds asunder.  
Hear, God's voice is full of splendour;  
Earth, to Him your praises render.
2. Cedars shatter, forests fall,  
Mountains shudder at His call.  
Like a calf leaps Lebanon,  
Like a wild-ox Sirion.  
God's voice, flames from heaven flashing,  
And His thunders loudly crashing  
Shake the wilderness, and broken  
Lie its oaks when He has spoken.
3. Thunders roar and lightnings glare,  
God's voice strips the forest bare.  
In His temple they all cry:  
"Glory to the LORD on high!"  
He for whom the nations shiver  
Founds His throne on flood and river.  
May the LORD give strength and power,  
Peace upon His people shower.

PSALM 30

1. I will extol Thee, LORD; Thy might  
Has raised me up to life and light,  
My foes rejoice not over me.  
O LORD my God, I cried to Thee,  
And Thou hast healed me, my Defender.  
To Thee my thanks and praise I render.
3. His anger will not long endure,  
His favour all your life is sure.  
Though there be weeping for a night,  
Joy comes to greet the morning light.  
The LORD will change the dark of sorrow  
To song and laughter on the morrow.
5. LORD, unto Thee I called in prayer,  
Well of my foolish pride aware;  
I cried, "Of what avail is it  
If I go down into the Pit?  
Shall ever dust with songs adore Thee,  
Declare Thy faithfulness and glory?"
7. Now shall my heart sing praise to Thee:  
Gone is the grief that silenced me.  
I may, delivered from despair,  
Now laud Thy Name in song and prayer.  
Forever, LORD, my God and Saviour,  
Will I give thanks for Thy great favour.
2. O LORD, Thou hast brought up my soul  
From death's abode, from dark Sheol,  
My life from failing Thou didst keep,  
Saved from the pit, the lightless deep.  
Give thanks, you saints, lift up your faces,  
Bring to His holy Name your praises.
4. In my prosperity I thought  
My work would never come to nought,  
Unmindful that but by Thy grace  
I like a mountain held my place;  
When Thou didst hide Thy face I stumbled.  
I was dismayed, by troubles humbled.
6. "Hear Thou me as I seek Thy face;  
LORD, be my Helper, grant Thy grace."  
My grief hast Thou to dancing turned.  
The sackcloth that my pride had earned  
Hast Thou put off; Thou dost with gladness  
Now gird me after days of sadness.

PSALM 31

1. In Thee, O LORD, I've taken refuge.  
Let shame not cover me;  
I put my trust in Thee.  
Come in Thy righteousness and save me  
From those who do not fear Thee;  
My God and Helper, hear me.
3. Out of the net that they have hidden  
Set Thou me free, I pray.  
O LORD, do not delay.  
Into Thy hands I give my spirit;  
I'm ransomed by Thy favour,  
LORD, God of truth, my Saviour!
5. Thou, seeing my distress and anguish,  
Hast come to set me free,  
Didst not deliver me  
Into the hands of those who hate me.  
Thou hast set, LORD so gracious,  
My feet in spacious places.
7. I am the scorn of all my haters;  
My neighbours jest and jeer;  
Friends flee from me in fear.  
I have become a broken vessel;  
I'm like the dead, neglected,  
Forgotten and rejected.
9. But yet in Thee, O LORD, I've trusted;  
With Thee, my God, I'll stand.  
My times are in Thy hand;  
Deliver me from all my haters.  
Let me no longer languish  
In my distress and anguish.
11. Let lying lips be dumb and speechless,  
For with contempt and pride  
Thy servant they deride.  
Hear how my haters, bold and haughty,  
With joy to evil ponder,  
How they the righteous slander!
13. Thou in the shelter of Thy presence  
Securely hidest them  
From the intrigues of men;  
They find a refuge in Thy dwelling  
Far from all strife and slander,  
For Thou art their Defender.
15. O love the LORD, all you His people!  
The faithful He will spare,  
The proud He'll give their share.  
Be strong and let your heart take courage.  
His own He will deliver;  
He will forsake you never.
2. O LORD, come quickly to my rescue;  
Be Thou my rock and tower.  
To save me show Thy power;  
Thou art my rock and mighty fortress.  
Be Thou my Guide and head me,  
And for Thy Name's sake lead me.
4. I hate all those by whom vain idols  
Are worshipped and adored,  
For I trust in the LORD.  
I will be glad and sing Thy praises,  
My exultation voicing  
While in Thy love rejoicing.
6. In my affliction, LORD, show mercy  
My eyes are dimmed with grief;  
My soul yearns for relief;  
My life is spent in pain and sorrow.  
See how my strength is failing,  
For I am weak and ailing.
8. I hear the slander all round me;  
Fear stands on every side,  
And many me deride.  
Against my life they are conspiring;  
Their hatred is unbounded.  
By plots I am surrounded.
10. Make Thou Thy face to shine upon me;  
Let me not suffer shame,  
For I call on Thy Name.  
But let my foes with shame be covered;  
Let those who me surrounded  
Go to the grave dumbfounded.
12. O how abundant is Thy goodness,  
Which is reserved for all  
Who fear Thee and recall  
What Thou hast done for those who serve Thee,  
And all who have oppressed them  
Shall see that Thou hast blessed them.
14. I praise Thee, LORD, for all Thy mercy,  
Thy wondrous love for me.  
I felt cut off from Thee  
When foes besieged me like a city,  
But Thou in tribulation  
Didst hear my supplication.

PSALM 32

1. Blessed is the man whose trespass is forgiven,  
Whose sins are covered in the sight of heaven.  
Blessed is the man against whom, LORD, Thou wilt  
Not count all his iniquity and guilt.  
How happy he, contrite of heart and lowly,  
Who has confessed his sins, O LORD most holy;  
Who does not secretly Thy laws transgress,  
Whose spirit harbours no deceitfulness.
2. When I kept silent, sinful ways condoning,  
I pined away through my incessant groaning.  
Thy hand weighed down on me in my deceit;  
My strength was sapped as by the summer's heat.  
To Thee, O God of justice and compassion,  
I then at last acknowledged my transgression.  
I said, "I will confess my sins to Thee,"  
And all my guilt Thou hast forgiven me.
3. Let all the godly when they grieve and suffer  
To Thee, O LORD, their supplications offer.  
Surely when floods of mighty waters rise,  
They shall not reach him who on Thee relies.  
Thou art a hiding-place for those who serve Thee;  
Thou, mighty God, from trouble dost preserve me.  
Songs of deliverance everywhere resound:  
Thou me with great rejoicing dost surround.
4. I will instruct you, with my aid provide you,  
And in the way that you should go will guide you.  
My counsel will be ever at your side,  
And, keeping watch, I will with you abide.  
Be not a fool, who has no understanding;  
Do not behave like horse or mule, depending  
On bit and bridle to control their course;  
They disobey unless restrained by force.
5. With many woes the wicked are afflicted,  
But he who trusts in God is well protected;  
Him will the LORD with steadfast love surround.  
Those who revere Him are with mercy crowned.  
Be glad, O righteous, in the LORD rejoicing;  
Exult in Him, your jubilation voicing,  
For light and life He will to you impart.  
Now shout for joy, you men of upright heart.

PSALM 33

1. Rejoice ye in the LORD, O righteous,  
And let a new song fill the air.  
Praise is becoming to the upright;  
With harp and lyre His fame declare.  
For the LORD has spoken  
Words of truth unbroken;  
He is faithful still.  
Righteousness He treasures;  
Earth is with the measures  
Of His goodness filled.
2. He by His word has made the heavens;  
Their host appeared by His decree.  
He gathered in His storehouse chambers  
The waters of the deepest sea.  
Let the earth revere Him,  
And its peoples fear Him.  
God spoke, and 'twas done.  
He set all creation  
Firm on its foundation.  
Praise Him, everyone!
3. God brings to naught the nations' counsel;  
He frustrates all the peoples' plans.  
The LORD is steadfast in His purpose;  
For evermore His counsel stands.  
Blessed with His salvation  
Is His chosen nation,  
For He is their LORD.  
Freed from all oppression,  
They are His possession.  
Let Him be adored!
4. The LORD looks from His heavenly dwelling  
And He beholds the human race;  
The earth and all its population  
He sees from that exalted place.  
He knows every nation;  
All are His creation,  
And their hearts He moulds.  
'Tis the LORD who ever  
Sees all their endeavour;  
He their works beholds.
5. No king is saved by his great army;  
By strength the mighty are not freed.  
A horse of war will bring no victory;  
In vain the warrior trusts his steed.  
But the LORD our Saviour  
Looks on those with favour  
Who His mercy trust.  
Yea, though famine grieve them,  
He will never leave them  
Prey to death and dust.
6. Our soul awaits the great Redeemer;  
Our help and shield, Him we acclaim.  
Our hearts rejoice in Him and glory,  
For we trust in His holy Name.  
Though my sins accuse me,  
Let Thy steadfast mercy,  
LORD, upon me be,  
And in love deliver  
Us, Thy flock, forever  
As we hope in Thee.



PSALM 34

1. The LORD I will extol,  
At all times bless His holy Name.  
I will not cease to sing His praises;  
His goodness I proclaim.  
I glory in the LORD;  
Let the afflicted hear my voice.  
O magnify the LORD with me!  
With me in Him rejoice.
2. I sought the LORD in prayer;  
He heard my cry and answered me.  
From all my worries and my fears  
The LORD has set me free.  
Those who on Him rely  
Will never hang their heads in shame.  
When this poor man implored His aid,  
The LORD delivered him.
3. The Angel of the LORD  
Always encamps around all those  
Who fear Him and exalt His Name;  
God saves them from their woes.  
O come, then, taste and see  
That He, the LORD, is good and just.  
Blest is the man who turns to Him  
And puts in Him his trust.
4. All you who are His saints,  
Revere the LORD and worship Him,  
For those who fear Him have no want;  
He richly blesses them.  
Though lions may grow faint  
And pangs of hunger may endure,  
Those seeking Him lack no good thing;  
In Him they rest secure.
5. Come, children hear my voice;  
You I will teach to fear the LORD.  
Who is the man desiring life,  
Its pleasures and rewards?  
Keep then your tongue from wrong  
And let your lips no falsehood speak.  
Depart from evil and do good;  
True peace and concord seek.
6. The LORD from heaven above  
Regards the righteous with His eyes,  
And when they call on Him, His ears  
Are open to their cries.  
But evildoers all  
The anger of the LORD must face;  
He cuts them off, and from the earth  
Their name He will erase.
7. But when the righteous cry,  
The LORD in mercy hears their pleas;  
He graciously delivers them  
From all their miseries.  
The LORD is always near;  
The brokenhearted He will heal.  
Those crushed in spirit He will save,  
To them His love reveal.
8. The righteous man may grieve;  
He many troubles may endure.  
The LORD will free him from them all;  
His help is ever sure.  
Why should he then despair?  
God keeps his bones from injury;  
Not one of them will come to harm,  
For great and good is He!
9. Their countless evil deeds  
Will slay the wicked in the end.  
All those who hate the righteous ones  
He'll to perdition send.  
The LORD redeems the life  
Of those who serve and honour Him;  
All who in Him their refuge take  
He never will condemn.

PSALM 35

1. Strive, LORD, with those who strive with me,  
Fight Thou my fight and set me free.  
Take shield and buckler, rise in splendour,  
Stand up in glory, my Defender.  
Draw out the spear and bar the way  
Of those who want me for their prey;  
Say to my soul, "Be still and know,  
I shall to you salvation show."
2. Let them be put to scorn and shame  
Who seek my life and me defame.  
Let them be turned back and confounded  
Who harass me, by whom I'm hounded.  
Foiled be the mischief they intend.  
Be they like chaff before the wind,  
And let the Angel of the LORD  
Pursue them with His glittering sword.
3. Their way be slippery, dark with woe,  
The Angel of the LORD their foe.  
A net to ensnare me they had hidden.  
Hast Thou not, LORD, their ruse forbidden,  
They would have caught me in their pit.  
May they themselves fall into it.  
Let ruin seize them unawares;  
May their own net themselves ensnare.
4. Then shall my soul in God rejoice,  
And praise Him with a thankful voice.  
I shall delight with exultation  
In His deliverance and salvation.  
I shall exclaim, "Who is like Thee,  
O LORD, who dost deliver me,  
With all the weak and those in need  
From our oppressor's strength and greed?"
5. False witnesses rise up and lie,  
But all their slander I deny.  
With evil they for good repay me;  
My soul is lost; they try to slay me.  
But I was grieved when they were sick,  
Their sorrows hurt me to the quick;  
I went in sackcloth, I did fast;  
I bowed in prayer, with eyes downcast.
6. My heart was sad as for a friend,  
I mourned, my mantle I did rend  
As one who sorrows for a brother,  
And who with grief laments his mother.  
But when I stumbled they rejoiced;  
They gathered, all their hate they voiced,  
And wretches whom I did not know  
Mocked me and gloried in my woe.

PSALM 35 cont'd

7. My honour is their scoff and jeer;  
They gnash their teeth, they laugh and sneer.  
Come, LORD, how long yet shall this rabble  
Abuse me with their godless babble?  
Save from these raging beasts my soul;  
Then shall my voice Thy strength extol.  
The great assembly will then hear  
How I Thy mighty Name revere.
8. O LORD, let not my lying foes  
Wink at each other o'er my woes.  
Wrong is the hatred which they cherish;  
Let them before Thy presence perish.  
They speak no peace, deceit they've planned  
Against the quiet in the land.  
They open wide their mouth and lie.  
"Our eyes have seen it all," they cry.
9. This Thou hast seen; O LORD, remain  
Not silent but behold my bane;  
Stand not afar, be my defender.  
Bestir Thyself, wake up and render  
Unto my haters sevenfold  
Their evil and the lies they told.  
LORD, vindicate me, grant redress  
According to Thy righteousness.
10. Let them not say, "Yes, we have won,  
We've swallowed him, he is undone!"  
Let shame and great confusion humble  
Those who are happy when I stumble,  
And make dishonour the reward  
Of those who rise against Thee, LORD.  
Before Thee let not those abide  
Who boast against me in their pride.
11. Let those rejoice with shout and song  
Who for my vindication long,  
And let them praise with happy voices  
The LORD, who in my good rejoices.  
Then shall my tongue, saved from distress,  
Tell of Thy faithful righteousness;  
Then shall I laud with word and song  
Thy praise and justice all day long.

PSALM 36

1. He who in evil does rejoice  
Hears in his heart a wicked voice;  
It whispers and it flatters.  
It lures him on, and he obeys  
Till from Thy fear, O LORD, he strays  
And him Thy anger shatters.  
His words are lies, his wisdom gone;  
All his transgressions urge him on,  
He does their will with pleasure.  
Upon his bed he plans deceit,  
On ways of sin he sets his feet,  
His evil is his treasure.
2. Thy love and faithfulness extend  
Wherever Thou to heaven's end  
Thy righteous sceptre wieldest.  
Thy judgment is a secret deep,  
Thy justice like God's mountains steep,  
And man and beast Thou shieldest.  
Of Thy great mercy heaven sings  
For in the shadow of Thy wings  
No son of man shall perish.  
Thou shalt them to Thy feasts invite,  
They drink from streams of Thy delight,  
Thy precious love they cherish.
3. Life's fountain is, O LORD, with Thee,  
And in Thy light the light we see;  
Let right and mercy tarry  
With them who fear Thy faithful Name;  
Put Thou the enemies to shame,  
Let all their schemes miscarry.  
Save Thou me for Thy mercy's sake,  
Let not the proud me overtake,  
Nor from Thy covenant sever.  
O people, praise your God and see  
The workers of iniquity  
Who are cast down forever!

PSALM 37

1. Fret not yourself because of evildoers  
Nor envy them whose wicked deeds you see.  
They soon will fade like grass before the viewer,  
And like green herbs they'll wither presently.  
Do good! And trust in God as your renewer.  
Dwell in the land, enjoy security.
2. Delight yourself in God and He'll deliver  
All your desires as from His holy height.  
Commit your ways to Him. Believe Him ever  
And He will honour them before your sight.  
He will reward all your upright endeavour  
And vindicate you as the noon-day light.
3. Rest in the LORD with patient expectation;  
Envy not him who prospers in his way,  
Whose evil schemes have gained him wealth and station.  
Yield never to resentment and dismay;  
Forsake your wrath, refrain from all vexation,  
Lest sin and evil in your life hold sway.
4. Behold, the righteous in their generation  
Shall yet inherit all the earth some day  
Whereas the wicked to their consternation  
Shall be destroyed and disappear for aye.  
If you should seek their former habitation,  
You'll find no more than ashes and decay.

PSALM 37 cont'd

5. The humble shall possess the land forever,  
Delighting in the peace within their gates.  
The wicked may pursue with bow and quiver  
Or gnash their teeth at them in angry hate.  
The LORD will laugh at them and their endeavour;  
He sees how they are coming to their fate.
7. The little that the just possess in token  
Exceeds the wealth of evil men who stray.  
The arms of all the wicked shall be broken  
But God upholds the blameless in their way.  
He knows their days and verily has spoken,  
Awarding them their heritage for aye.
9. The wicked borrow much but don't restore it;  
The righteous graciously give it away.  
The promised land the blessed shall inherit;  
Those cursed by God shall be cut off for aye.  
The upright man is guided by His Spirit;  
God gives him strength and watches o'er his way.
11. Day in, day out, he's bountiful in lending;  
His children, too, have many goods in store.  
Depart, then, from the paths to evil tending;  
So you will dwell in peace for evermore.  
But our just LORD, His godly ones defending,  
Upon the seed of foes His wrath will pour.
13. The LORD His upright servant will deliver,  
Not let him by his judges be condemned.  
Wait for the LORD and keep His way with fervour;  
He will exalt you to possess the land.  
The wicked you will see cut off for ever  
Because their sure destruction is at hand.
15. Observe the upright and the just consider;  
There is a future for the man of peace.  
Transgressors shall be wiped out altogether;  
The line of their posterity shall cease.  
Then shall the just rejoice with one another  
And sing for their abundance of increase.
6. The wicked draw the broad sword of oppression  
And bend their bows to bring the needy down,  
To slay the upright by their bold aggression,  
But they will merely hurt themselves alone.  
Their bows are broken by God's intercession,  
Their base designs completely overthrown.
8. They are not put to shame in time of trouble  
And in the days of famine they shall eat.  
But, be assured, the ruthless and ignoble,  
All who oppose the LORD, shall see defeat  
And fade away as smoke of burning stubble,  
Consumed before His anger's flaming heat.
10. When in his steps he falters and is shaken,  
The LORD Himself will grasp him by the hand.  
I once was young, age now its toll has taken,  
But always God the righteous did defend.  
Indeed, I've never seen him left forsaken  
Nor his descendants begging in the land.
12. The righteous man to wisdom gives expression;  
His tongue speaks justice, showing what is right.  
Within his heart, God's law is his possession.  
His walk will never wander from its light  
Though evil men may aim at his oppression;  
They seek to slay the righteous day and night.
14. I've seen a wicked man, in all his power,  
Spread out his branches like a native tree.  
But then he fell as grass before the mower  
And soon no trace of him was left to see.  
Although I tried to find this evildoer,  
I searched in vain: forever gone was he.
16. The LORD salvation on the just will shower;  
He is their shelter in the time of stress.  
He will preserve them by His strength and power,  
Protect them from the hosts of wickedness.  
Beneath His wings they refuge will discover,  
For they rely on Him to save and bless.

PSALM 38

1. LORD, rebuke me not in anger,  
And no longer  
Let Thy wrath on me descend.  
Thou hast pierced me with Thy arrows,  
Brought me sorrows,  
Bowed me down with Thy own hand.
3. All my wounds are foul and reeking;  
Ever weakening,  
I am utterly bowed down.  
Bitter fruits of folly reaping,  
I go weeping,  
For my vigour is all gone.
5. How my pounding heart is straining;  
Strength is waning,  
And my eyes are failing me.  
I am by my friends neglected  
And rejected;  
Kinsmen see my plague and flee.
7. Thou, O LORD my God, wilt hear me  
And be near me;  
Thou, O LORD, wilt heed my voice.  
Though my foot may slip and waver,  
Show Thy favour  
And let not my foes rejoice.
2. Thou hast of all strength bereft me;  
Health has left me,  
And Thy wrath is my despair;  
My iniquities distress me  
And oppress me;  
They are more than I can bear.
4. I am crushed and numb with anguish  
As I languish,  
And I groan in misery.  
Thou dost hear my mournful crying,  
And my sighing  
Is not hidden, LORD, from Thee.
6. Those who lie in wait to snare me  
Will not spare me  
All the mischief they devise.  
Seeming deaf and dumb before them,  
I ignore them  
And I offer no replies.
8. I am prone to fall or stumble,  
And I tremble,  
Thinking of my grief and pain.  
I acknowledge my transgression  
In confession,  
Deeply troubled by my sin.

PSALM 38 cont'd

9. Countless mighty foes berate me,  
Fiercely hate me;  
Without cause I am oppressed.  
Ill for good they always render;  
As they slander  
Since I strive for what is best.
10. LORD, forsake me not but hear me;  
Be Thou near me  
As my help and shield, I pray.  
Hasten to my aid, O Saviour;  
Show Thy favour.  
O my God, do not delay.

PSALM 39

1. I said that I would closely guard my ways  
And keep from sinning with my tongue,  
That on my mouth a muzzle I would place  
While evildoers round me throng.  
When, dumb and silent, I then held my peace,  
My grief and woe did but increase.
2. Then did my heart grow hot with fiery blaze.  
I cried, "Make me to know my end:  
O LORD, reveal the measure of my days.  
Thou as mere handbreadth didst extend  
My span of fleeting days, so frail and light.  
It is as nothing in Thy sight.
3. "Surely a man is nothing but a breath;  
He as a shadow goes his way.  
Surely in vain he struggles till his death:  
He piles up riches while he may,  
Not knowing who will later gather them.  
His striving will not profit him.
4. "What is it that I now shall wait for, LORD?  
In Thee I've put my hope and trust.  
From all my sins deliverance afford.  
And let me not by scorn be crushed.  
I'm dumb, and open not my mouth: I see  
It is Thy hand that chastens me.
5. "Remove from me the chastisement I fear,  
Lest I should perish through Thy wrath.  
At Thy rebukes, that which a man holds dear  
Will fade and shrivel like a moth.  
For man is merely breath and vanity;  
Yes, like a puff of wind is he.
6. "Hear Thou my cry, give ear to my request;  
O LORD, do not my tears ignore.  
For I with Thee am but a passing guest,  
As all my fathers were before.  
O turn away from me Thy watchful eye,  
And give me joy before I die."

PSALM 40

1. I waited and I waited for the LORD.  
Then from the pit He lifted me,  
From clay and mire He set me free:  
The LORD bent down to me, my cry He heard.  
Upon a rock He brought me;  
I sing the song He taught me,  
A new song to His laud.  
Now many shall come near  
To see it and to fear,  
And put their trust in God.
2. Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust,  
Who does not turn to men of pride,  
To those who in false gods confide,  
But clings to Him, our God so great and just.  
Thy mighty deeds so wondrous  
And all Thy thoughts toward us  
Thou, LORD, hast multiplied.  
None can with Thee compare,  
Nor all Thy works declare,  
Nor count them, though he tried.
3. No sacrifice didst Thou, O LORD, require;  
Thou gavest me an open ear.  
Then I said, "Lo, I now appear;  
To do Thy will, O God, is my desire.  
Take Thou my life and mould it.  
I come, the book foretold it;  
'Tis written in its roll.  
Thy will is my delight;  
I cherish day and night  
Thy law in heart and soul."
4. Before the congregation I profess  
The love and truth Thou hast revealed;  
My lips, O LORD, I have not sealed;  
My heart did not conceal Thy righteousness.  
For everywhere I've spoken,  
Of faithfulness unbroken,  
Of blessings from above.  
The great assembly heard  
Of Thy trustworthy word  
And of Thy steadfast love.
5. Do not withhold Thy mercy and Thy grace;  
Preserve me by Thy steadfast love  
And let Thy truth, shown from above,  
Uphold me ever, LORD, before Thy face.  
For evils do surround me.  
My many misdeeds hound me  
Till I no more can see.  
My sins, I do confess,  
Are almost numberless;  
My heart is failing me.
6. O be Thou pleased, LORD, to deliver me!  
O LORD, come to my help, make haste!  
Let those be stricken and disgraced  
Who seek my life and have forgotten Thee.  
Let those, dismayed, desert me  
Who seek to harm and hurt me;  
May they forsaken be  
Because of their own shame.  
Dishonour Thou the name  
Of those who jeer at me!

PSALM 40 cont'd

7. May those who seek Thee in Thy love rejoice  
 And may they all be glad in Thee.  
 Yes, may they say continually,  
 "Great is the LORD," praise Him with heart and voice.  
 I may be poor and needy,  
 But yet my God will heed me;  
 The LORD takes thought for me.  
 Thou art my help and stay;  
 My God do not delay.  
 I put my trust in Thee!

PSALM 41

1. How blest is he who will regard the poor:  
 He shall forever stand.  
 In troubled days the LORD makes him endure:  
 Blest is he in the land.  
 His enemies demand his life in vain,  
 Though he be near death's door.  
 The LORD sustains him on his bed of pain:  
 His health Thou shalt restore.
2. I said, "O LORD, be gracious unto me,  
 Heal me, my sins are great."  
 In malice speak my enemies of me,  
 And for my death they wait.  
 My visitor says empty words, O God,  
 With mischief in his heart.  
 When he goes out, he tells it all abroad,  
 Rejoicing when I smart.
3. All those whose hate is fierce and grim  
 Imagine in disdain,  
 "A deadly thing has gotten hold of him,  
 He will not rise again."  
 See how my bosom friend, whom I did trust,  
 With whom I shared my bread,  
 Has turned against me, showing his disgust,  
 And slanderous tales has spread.
4. But Thou, O LORD, be gracious unto me;  
 Let me their ill requite.  
 By this I know that Thou art pleased with me:  
 My foes are put to flight.  
 Forever in Thy presence I shall dwell,  
 Upheld by Thee again.  
 Blest be the LORD, the God of Israel,  
 From age to age! Amen.

PSALM 42

1. As the hart, about to falter,  
 In its trembling agony,  
 Yearns for flowing streams of water,  
 So my soul cries out for Thee.  
 Yes, athirst for Thee I cry;  
 God of life, O when shall I  
 Come again to stand before Thee  
 In Thy temple, and adore Thee?
2. Bitter tears of lamentation  
 Are my food by night and day.  
 In my deep humiliation  
 "Where is now your God?" they say.  
 Oh, my soul's poured out in me,  
 When I bring to memory  
 How the throngs I would assemble,  
 Shouting praises in Thy temple.
3. O my soul, why are you grieving,  
 Why disquieted in me?  
 Hope in God, your faith retrieving:  
 He will still your refuge be.  
 I again shall laud His grace  
 For the comfort of His face:  
 He will show His help and favour,  
 For He is my God and Saviour.
4. From the land beyond the Jordan,  
 With my soul cast down in me,  
 From Mount Mizor and Mount Hermon  
 I will yet remember Thee.  
 As the waters plunge and leap,  
 Deep re-echoes unto deep,  
 All Thy leaves and billows roaring  
 O'er my troubled soul are pouring.
5. But the LORD will send salvation,  
 And by day His love provide.  
 He shall be my exultation,  
 And my song at eventide.  
 On His praise e'en in the night  
 I will ponder with delight,  
 And in prayer, transcending distance,  
 Seek the God of my existence.
6. I will say to God, my fortress,  
 "Why hast Thou forgotten me?  
 Why must I proceed in sadness,  
 Hounded by the enemy?"  
 Their rebukes and scoffing words  
 Pierce my bones like pointed swords,  
 As they say with proud defiance,  
 "Where is God, your firm reliance?"
7. O my soul, why are you grieving,  
 Why disquieted in me?  
 Hope in God, your faith retrieving:  
 He will still your refuge be.  
 I again shall laud His grace  
 For the comfort of His face:  
 He will show His help and favour,  
 For He is my God and Saviour.

PSALM 43

1. O judge me, God of my salvation,  
Plead Thou my cause, defending me  
Against a cruel, ungodly nation;  
From a deceitful generation  
O save Thou me and set me free  
That I may honour Thee.
2. Thou art my stronghold from oppression,  
O why then hast Thou cast me off?  
Why let my foes with their aggression  
Cause me such mourning and depression?  
See how they gather round to scoff  
And at my woes to laugh.
3. Send forth, O LORD of my salvation,  
Thy light and truth to be my guide;  
O let their rays, in my privation,  
Lead me unto Thy habitation,  
Where 'neath Thy wing I'll be supplied  
With grace Thou wilt provide.
4. Then, at Thy sacred altar bending,  
My heart to God in prayer I'll raise.  
With harp and voice, in worship blending,  
Thy courts resound; while psalms, ascending  
To God my highest joy, bring praise  
For all His wondrous ways.
5. My soul, why are you sad and grieving,  
Why so oppressed with anxious care?  
Hope yet in God, His Word believing;  
For, light and joy from Him receiving,  
I'll praise His Name again and laud  
My Helper and my God.

PSALM 44

1. Our ears have heard it, God of glory;  
We marvelled at our fathers' story  
Of all Thy deeds in days of old.  
Thou didst uproot the nations bold,  
But we were planted by Thy hand.  
Thou wastest them in war before us,  
For not their sword did win the land,  
Nor did their arm make them victorious;
2. But Thy right hand, Thy arm so mighty,  
The radiance of Thy face that brightly  
Shines on the race of Thy delight.  
Thou art my King, my God, whose might  
No foes of Jacob can oppose.  
Thou art our God, Thou shalt not fail us;  
Through Thee we overwhelm our foes  
And trample down all who assail us.
3. I do not trust in bow or bravery,  
My sword will from defeat not save me,  
But Thou hast saved us from our foes,  
And them hast Thou beset with woes.  
Our boast was always in our God,  
And we shall thank Thy Name forever.  
Thy faithful love our songs will laud:  
Thy covenant stands and falters never.
4. Yet Thou hast cast off and abased us,  
In battle have our foes disgraced us.  
We go to war, but without Thee,  
And from our foes we shrink and flee.  
Our enemies spoil us with mirth;  
Thou madest us like sheep for slaughter,  
And hast dispersed us o'er the earth.  
O LORD, we are poured out like water.
5. O LORD, Thou dost no more uphold us,  
And for a trifle Thou hast sold us.  
Thou madest us our neighbours' taunt,  
Who us with scorn and mockery haunt.  
O God, we are in this our fall  
A byword now among the nations,  
The laughingstock of peoples all,  
A shame among our generations.
6. O LORD, why are we thus forsaken?  
When shalt Thou to my help awaken?  
For all day long I know disgrace,  
And shame has covered, LORD, my face.  
By day and night I have to hear  
The voice of taunter and of scoffer;  
My foe and my avenger sneer  
And scorn and insult do they offer.
7. All this reviling, LORD, befell us,  
Though in Thy service we were zealous.  
True to Thy covenant are we  
And we have not forgotten Thee.  
Our heart turned not from Thy command,  
Our steps did from Thy ways not wander.  
But Thou hast crushed us by Thy hand  
And covered us with gloom and slender.
8. Had we the name of God neglected  
And statues for strange gods erected,  
God would have seen it long ago.  
There are no thoughts He does not know.  
O LORD, for Thy sake we are slain;  
We are like sheep, prepared for slaughter,  
And all day long we call in vain,  
Thy haters ravish Zion's daughter!
9. Why dost Thou sleep and hearest never?  
Wake up! Reject us not forever!  
LORD, rouse Thyself, hide not Thy face.  
Hast Thou forgotten our disgrace?  
Our soul is bowed down to the dust;  
We lie abased; why dost Thou break us?  
Rise up and help! In Thee we trust;  
Let not Thy steadfast love forsake us.

PSALM 45

1. With noble themes my heart and mouth are ringing,  
And to the honour of the king I'm singing.  
Into a hymn of praise my thoughts are strung,  
And nimble as a scribe's pen is my tongue.  
In beauty you surpass all men around you,  
With glory, O our king, the LORD has crowned you;  
Your lips are graced, your wisdom we adore;  
So you are blest by God for evermore.
2. O mighty one, our hero and defender,  
Gird on your sword, ride forth in pomp and splendour  
To execute true sentence and to speak  
Just judgment, shielding all the poor and weak.  
Let your right hand teach you dread deeds of power:  
Sharp are your arrows, humbled nations cower  
Beneath your feet; they fear your terror's sway,  
The courage of the king's foes melts away.
3. Your throne is like God's throne; it stands forever.  
Your sceptre is a righteous sceptre ever.  
You love the right and hate all wickedness.  
Hence God, your God, with oil of happiness  
Has you above all other kings anointed,  
Myrrh and sweet spices for your robes appointed.  
Hear! From a palace walled in ivory  
Stringed instruments greet you with melody.
4. The queen, arrayed in Ophir's gold, is seated  
At your right hand, by noble women greeted.  
O daughter, hear the words my mouth avows:  
Forget your people and your father's house;  
So will the king desire your beauty's splendour.  
He is your lord, to him your homage render.  
The men of Tyre, your favour coveting,  
Shall with the richest men gifts to you bring.
5. In the king's palace honour shall await her,  
The daughter of a king; her maids arrayed her  
In cloth-of-gold and rich embroidery  
To meet the king in glorious pageantry;  
And greeted with the noise of great rejoicing,  
Her train of virgins joy and gladness voicing  
As they are entering the palace gate,  
Her escort leads her to the king in state.
6. You shall have sons, O king, and you shall call them  
In place of their forefathers to install them,  
To hand to them your sceptre's might and worth,  
To make them rulers over all the earth.  
Your name I will make known among the nations  
And celebrated in all generations;  
They will remember you and sing your praise  
Forever and forever, all their days.

PSALM 46

1. God is our refuge; He will shield us  
And to our foes He will not yield us.  
He is our strength, in troubles nigh;  
Our help is He, the LORD Most High.  
The earth may shake in great commotion,  
The mountains plunge into the ocean,  
The seas may roar and rock the hills,  
God is with us, our fears He stills.
2. There is a river which is bringing  
To God's own city joy and singing.  
The holy house of God Most High  
Is in her midst; He hears her cry.  
In her the LORD His place has taken;  
Therefore she never will be shaken.  
At early dawn her God will hear  
And to her help He will appear.
3. The nations rage, the kingdoms tremble,  
The heathen who for war assemble.  
When God but speaks, gone is their worth;  
His fearful anger melts the earth.  
By mighty enemies assaulted,  
We trust in Him, so high exalted.  
The LORD of hosts is on our side:  
With Jacob's God we safely hide.
4. Come, see the works which all around us  
The LORD has done, deeds which astound us:  
The desolations He has wrought,  
The victories His arm has brought.  
The bows He breaks, the spear He shatters;  
Their shields on fire, our foes are scattered.  
The proudest kings He overturns;  
With fire He all their chariots burns.
5. "Be still and know, all you who bide Me,  
That I am God, and none beside Me.  
I am exalted, and My might  
Makes haughty nations flee in fright.  
In all the earth I am exalted;  
By Me your enemies are halted!"  
The LORD of hosts is on our side:  
With Jacob's God we safely hide.

PSALM 47

1. Praise the LORD, ye lands! Nations, clap your hands,  
Shout aloud to God, spread His fame abroad.  
Praise Him loud and long with a triumph song;  
Bow as ye draw nigh, for the LORD Most High,  
Terrible is He in His dignity;  
And His kingdom's girth circles all the earth.
2. God has gone on high with a joyful cry;  
Hosts with trumpet sound make His praise abound.  
Sing ye praise to God, tell His fame abroad,  
Take a psalm and shout, let His praise ring out,  
Lift your voice and sing glory to our King;  
He is Lord of earth, magnify His worth.
3. Praise His majesty understandingly;  
God is King alone on His holy throne,  
Issues His commands to all heathen lands.  
Lo, the princes all gather at His call;  
His the shields of earth, His the power, the worth;  
He, the God on high, is our Helper nigh.

PSALM 48

1. Great is the LORD! Him greatly laud  
Within the city of our God!  
To Him your grateful praises render.  
His holy mountain soars in splendour.  
Joy and pride of all the earth,  
She proclaims her Maker's worth.  
In the north the city towers;  
There the great King shows His powers.  
He, her sure defense, will ever  
Be her strength, forsake her never.
2. Like lions, sharpening their claws,  
Her mighty foes made common cause.  
But when those kings her walls surrounded  
They stood aghast and were astounded.  
Stunned and shaken by the sight,  
They in panic took to flight,  
And the pain that made them tremble  
Throes of travail did resemble.  
Ships of Tarshish Thou hast scattered;  
By the east wind they were shattered.
3. As we have heard, so have we seen  
Here in the city, God's domain,  
Which He establishes forever.  
The LORD of hosts forsakes it never.  
In Thy temple we have thought  
On the peace Thy hand has brought,  
And Thy steadfast love we ponder.  
As Thy Name, O God of wonder,  
So Thy praise, Thy exaltation,  
Reaches earth's remotest nation.
4. Thy right hand holds the victory;  
Let Zion's mount be glad in Thee!  
Let Judah's daughters with rejoicing  
Thy judgments and Thy truth be voicing.  
Walk around her citadels,  
Count her towers and crenelles,  
See her walks, her strong foundations,  
Tell the coming generations:  
This is God, who leaves us never;  
He will be our guide forever.

PSALM 49

1. Come, hear my words, you peoples everywhere,  
And be attentive to what I declare.  
All you who dwell throughout the earth, draw near;  
Let high and low, and rich and poor, give ear.  
My mouth to you great wisdom will impart,  
For thoughtful and discerning is my heart.  
My ear now to a parable inclining,  
I with the harp will show my riddle's meaning.
2. In evil days why should my courage fail,  
Though wicked men against me may prevail --  
Those who in their possessions place their trust,  
Who with their own great riches are impressed?  
None for his brother's life can pay the price,  
Nor give to God a ransom to suffice.  
From death's decay man's wealth can save him never,  
And it will not let him live on forever.
3. He surely sees that even wise men die,  
That foolish men cannot death's power defy.  
The grave's dark pit will ever be their home,  
Their dwelling for all ages yet to come.  
Although to great estates they give their name,  
They leave their wealth for other men to claim.  
For man, despite the riches he may cherish,  
Cannot abide but, like the beasts, will perish.
4. Such is the fate of proud and foolish men,  
The end of those who praise them for their sin.  
Into Sheol like sheep they headlong run;  
Their shepherd, Death, stands by to urge them on.  
They all go down directly to the grave;  
From death's corruption no one then can save.  
But God will pay my ransom and not leave me,  
For He into His glory will receive me.
5. When any man grows rich, be not afraid,  
Nor let his glory render you dismayed.  
He will not take it with him when he dies;  
On his possessions he in vain relies.  
Though he may here enjoy the praise of men,  
He will not see the light of life again.  
For man, despite the riches he may cherish,  
Cannot abide but, like the beasts, will perish.

PSALM 50

1. The Mighty One, the LORD, proclaims His Word;  
God speaks, and everywhere His voice is heard,  
And from the rising to the setting sun  
His summons stands, His high command is done.  
Out of His Zion God shines forth in splendour;  
Men to her perfect beauty homage render.
2. Our God will not keep silent but speak out;  
Devouring fire puts all His foes to rout.  
A mighty tempest round about Him swirls  
When He His summons at creation hurles.  
The heavens above, the earth below shall hear Him  
When He gives judgment to all those who fear Him.
3. "Go out and gather at My high decree  
My servants who by sacrifice to Me  
Have made with Me a steadfast covenant,  
Those faithful ones whom I My help shall grant."  
The heav'ns declare Thy justice with elation,  
For God Himself is judge and rules His nation.
4. "My people, I will speak, and hear Me well.  
I testify against you, Israel.  
I am the LORD, your God, whom you exalt.  
With all your sacrifice I find no fault;  
Your offerings are day and night before Me,  
I hear when you with songs of praise adore Me.



PSALM 50 cont'd

5. "The bulls which you to Me, your God, devote  
I do not need; I do not want your goats.  
The forest and its beasts are Mine alone,  
The cattle on a thousand hills I own;  
All birds I know, I give them life and feed them.  
Could I not take all creatures, should I need them?"
7. "Bring God your sacrifices in His house,  
And pay to Him, the LORD Most High, your vows.  
In days of trouble or distress come near;  
Then call on Me, for all your prayers I'll hear  
And will deliver you, My hand will save you,  
And you shall praise Me for the help I gave you."
9. "You meet a thief and choose him for your friend,  
And with adulterers your days are spent.  
You give your mouth free rein for wickedness,  
Your tongue is eager slander to profess.  
You sit and speak but ill against your brother,  
And you malign the son of your own mother.
11. "Blessed is the man whom sin cannot entice,  
Who brings thanksgiving as his sacrifice  
Unto My house, that I his faith may see.  
That man is righteous, thus he honours Me;  
To him who shuns the wrong ways of temptation,  
That upright man I will show God's salvation!"
6. "If I were hungry, why should you be told?  
Mine are the earth, the sea, and all they hold.  
Shall I then eat your herds, your cattle's flesh,  
Or drink the blood of goats which you possess?  
Am I a man to ask your bread and water,  
Must I be nourished with the beasts you slaughter?"
8. God says to those who hold Him not in awe:  
"What right have you still to recite My law,  
The words which you about My covenant say,  
You wicked men, who throw My words away?  
When I rebuke you and of sin remind you,  
Then you cast all My warning words behind you."
10. "These things you've done, and when I yet kept still  
You thought I was like you, in love with ill,  
But now I will rebuke you to your face,  
And you will feel the sting of My disgrace.  
Mark this, you who forget all that God gave you,  
Or I will rend you, and yet one will save you."

PSALM 51

1. God, hear my plea, be merciful to me;  
Treat me according to Thy lovingkindness.  
Blot out my misdeeds, done in sinful blindness,  
So that again Thy mercy I may see.  
All my offences in Thy grace forgive,  
And wash away the guilt of my transgression,  
That I may free from taint of evil live;  
LORD, from my sin cleanse me in Thy compassion.
3. Behold, I was in sinfulness conceived,  
And in iniquity my mother bore me.  
Thou dost desire that I should walk before Thee  
And in my inmost heart Thy truth receive.  
Purge me with hyssop: clean shall I then be;  
Wash me to whiteness snow can never capture.  
Grant joy and gladness so that unto Thee  
Bones Thou hast broken shout again with rapture.
5. Then to transgressors I will teach Thy ways,  
And sinners will return to seek Thy favour.  
O LORD, me from bloodguiltiness deliver,  
That I may sing aloud unto Thy praise.  
Then unto Thee shall I my tribute bring,  
O God of my salvation, my Deliverer.  
LORD, open Thou my lips, and I shall sing  
My songs of praise to Thee, salvation's Giver.
7. O God, behold Thy city from above;  
Make Zion prosper, LORD, in Thy good pleasure.  
Safeguard Jerusalem, Thy pride and treasure,  
And build its walls in Thy unfailing love.  
Then off'rings will find favour in Thy sight;  
Thou wilt be pleased with sacrifices proffered.  
In whole burnt off'rings Thou wilt then delight;  
Then on Thy altar bullocks will be offered.
2. All my transgressions do I know within,  
And all my sin is constantly before me.  
Let Thy abundant mercy then restore me;  
Against Thee, LORD, Thee only, did I sin.  
I have committed evil in Thy sight;  
I know that Thou art righteous in Thy dealings.  
Thy sentence, LORD, is wholly justified,  
Thy judgment blameless, righteousness revealing.
4. O God, hide Thou Thy face from all my sins,  
Blot out all my iniquities that grieve Thee.  
Create in me a clean heart; do not leave me.  
Renew my spirit, make it strong again.  
O from Thy presence cast me not away.  
Let nought me from Thy Holy Spirit sever.  
Let joy of Thy salvation with me stay,  
Uphold me with a willing spirit ever.
6. Thou, LORD, in sacrifice hast no delight;  
If I should with oblations try to please Thee,  
With my burnt off'rings seeking to appease Thee,  
Then I would find no favour in Thy sight.  
One gift alone is pleasing in God's eyes:  
The contrite heart of one who has repented.  
A broken spirit Thou wilt not despise  
When as a sacrifice to Thee presented.

PSALM 52

1. Why do you boast, O man so mighty,  
Of all your wickedness?  
For all day long you plan to blight me  
While feigning righteousness.  
Your treacherous tongue is razor-sharp;  
The truth you twist and warp.
2. For you love evil more than merit  
And lies more than the truth.  
Sweet sounds your voice to all who hear it,  
But though your tongue is smooth,  
You love those words that will destroy,  
And falsehood is your joy.
3. But God will break you down forever  
And tear you from your tent.  
He will uproot all your endeavour;  
Your cloak of lies He'll rend.  
Alive He'll snatch you from the land  
For all the ill you planned.
4. The just shall see it and respect it,  
And they shall laugh and say,  
"So this is he who has rejected  
God as his strength and stay.  
In vain he sought in wealth a hold  
And trusted in his gold!"
5. But like an olive tree I'm growing,  
Safe in God's house and care.  
His steadfast love He is bestowing  
On all who sojourn there.  
I trust in Him for evermore;  
His greatness I adore.
6. Forever I will thank and praise Thee;  
It is Thy doing, LORD.  
Upon a rock Thy hand has raised me;  
Thy glory I record.  
Among the godly I'll proclaim:  
Good is Thy wondrous Name!

PSALM 53

1. The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."  
They are corrupt, their horrid deeds they cherish;  
Not one of them does good, and just men perish.  
None calls upon the LORD, none sings His laud  
Or fears His rod.
2. The LORD looks down from heaven's holy throne  
To see if there are any that act wisely.  
O God, not one seeks Thee; they all despise Thee;  
See how the sons of men, to evil prone,  
Thy law disown.
3. Will evildoers never understand?  
As though they ate their bread, so those who hate Thee  
Eat up my helpless people, who await Thee.  
They do not pray, but evil they have planned  
Throughout the land.
4. See how they tremble, how they cringe with fear,  
For God is with the just in love unbounded.  
They wish to see the poor man's hope confounded,  
But when he cries, however loud they jeer,  
The LORD shall hear.
5. O Israel, you people of God's choice,  
That out of Zion might come your salvation!  
When from their bondage God shall free His nation,  
Let Jacob sing and Israel rejoice  
With happy voice.

PSALM 54

1. O God, save Thou me by Thy Name  
And by Thy power vindicate me  
From all my foes who loathe and hate me.  
Hear Thou my prayer: Thy help I claim.  
Against me haughty men did rise  
And ruthless foes are out to slay me:  
Be Thou my help to save and stay me;  
All fear of God those foes despise.
2. Behold, God is my Helper strong,  
He will sustain my life and hear me  
And will not let their sword come near me  
But will, in grace, my days prolong.  
Upon my foes will soon descend  
The evil which God will repay them.  
LORD, in Thy faithfulness do slay them  
That all their schemes come to an end.
3. To Thee an off'ring I will bring,  
A freewill sacrifice to laud Thee;  
With songs of joy I will applaud Thee;  
Thy Name is good: to Thee I sing.  
For my Deliverer Thou hast been  
From all the trouble round about me  
And from my foes who hunt and flout me:  
Triumphantly their fall I've seen.

PSALM 55

1. Give ear and listen to my pleading;  
Hide not Thyself, O God, not heeding  
My fervent prayer, my supplications!  
Attend to me, and answer me;  
I am beset by infamy  
And overcome by tribulations.
2. The shoutings of my foes distress me,  
My wicked enemies oppress me;  
They bring me trouble and they cherish  
In angry hate their enmity.  
My heart is faint with misery;  
In dread of death and grave I perish.

PSALM 55 cont'd

3. Dismay and trembling come upon me,  
And fear and terror have undone me;  
I am alone, by all forsaken.  
Were I a dove, with pinions blest,  
I would fly off and be at rest,  
No more by threats and terrors shaken.
5. Destroy their plans; LORD, show no pity;  
Confuse their tongues, for in the city  
I notice violence and oppression.  
Both day and night their vice abounds  
When on the walls they make their rounds.  
The market place teems with transgression.
7. No, it is you who have betrayed me  
And who with ill for good repaid me,  
My friend in whom I once confided,  
With whom I kept sweet company  
And walked in God's house pleasantly,  
But who now with my foes has sided.
9. I cry to God; the LORD will save me.  
I trust the promise which He gave me.  
At noon, at evening, in the morning  
I utter my complaint and moan,  
And He will hear me as I groan,  
When traitors strike me without warning.
11. My friend appears now as a traitor,  
A sleek-tongued covenant violator.  
His speech was smoother still than butter,  
Yet war was in his heart and mind;  
His words were swords, though soft and kind;  
It was all feigned what he did utter.
13. But Thou, O God, wilt vindicate us;  
Thou wilt cast down the ones who hate us.  
And in the lowest pit shall perish  
The men of blood and treacherous ways.  
They shall not live out half their days.  
I trust in Thee, Thy Word I cherish.
4. Yes, I would flee to distant places;  
I would escape, would leave no traces,  
And seek, far from my adversary,  
A shelter in the wilderness:  
Where raging winds cause no distress  
Nor storms can shake my sanctuary.
6. It is no foe who comes with taunting,  
For then I could endure his flaunting.  
It is not that an adversary  
Treats me with insolence and pride,  
For then from him I still could hide  
And I would be on guard and wary.
8. Let death strike them till they have perished,  
Those whom I as my equals cherished;  
Let them be caught in their own error;  
Let them who now against me strive  
Go down into Sheol alive,  
Descend into their graves in terror.
10. He saves me, though my foes are raging,  
Out of the battle I am waging.  
God will give ear, then He will humble;  
He, high enthroned from days of old,  
Will break my haters' strangling hold;  
Because they keep no law, they'll stumble.
12. Cast on the LORD the cares that grieve you;  
He takes your burden and relieves you;  
He will sustain you and will humble  
The liar and the hypocrite;  
Your downfall He will not permit;  
The righteous man will never stumble.

PSALM 56

1. Be gracious, O my God, to whom I flee.  
I am oppressed, strong is my enemy,  
And all day long assailants harass me;  
They fight against me proudly.  
When I'm afraid, when fears of death enshroud me,  
I trust in God, who never disavowed me;  
His word I praise, He has with grace endowed me.  
What can flesh do to me?
3. My woes and wand'rings Thou dost count and see;  
Put Thou my tears, O God to whom I flee,  
Into Thy bottle and remember me  
When foes oppress and grieve me.  
Are all my ills, the sorrows that bereave me  
Not in Thy book, and shalt Thou not relieve me?  
My enemies are put to flight and leave me  
The day I cry to Thee.
5. I must perform to Thee, O God, my vow;  
Before Thy throne with grateful gifts I bow,  
Thank-offerings I bring and I avow  
That Thou from death didst save me,  
For in the book of life Thou didst engrave me.  
Thou hast upheld me, foes could not enslave me,  
So that I in the light of life God gave me  
May walk before Him now.
2. They seek to harm my just cause all day long,  
And in their thoughts intend to do me wrong;  
They band together in an evil throng;  
They watch my steps and hound me.  
As they have waited for my life and bound me,  
So recompense those foemen who surround me;  
In wrath cast down the peoples who confound me,  
O God, my helper strong.
4. For this I know, that God is at my side.  
In Him whose word I praise I do confide;  
He heard my voice when in my fears I cried.  
The LORD is my defender.  
In God I trust, to Him my praise I render.  
I do not fear, I trust His mercies tender.  
My foes shall flee when He appears in splendour.  
Why fear then human pride?

PSALM 57

1. Be merciful, be merciful to me,  
O God, for I my refuge take in Thee.  
Beneath Thy mighty wings I'll seek protection  
Until the storms pass by. To God I flee,  
To God Most High who charts my life's direction.
2. He'll send from heav'n and save me as before,  
Frustrating those who hound me evermore.  
His steadfast love will comfort me in sorrows  
Though I lie down amid the lions' roar,  
Mid enemies with teeth like spears and arrows.
3. O God, exalt Thyself above the skies!  
Let over all the earth Thy glory rise!  
My soul was grieved: where'er my way I wended  
They set a snare, but to their great surprise  
They fall into the pit for me intended.
4. See how my heart is steadfast, O my God;  
I'll make a melody unto Thy laud.  
Awake, O harp and lyre! Awake, my spirit!  
I'll rise at dawn Thy mercy to applaud,  
To sing Thy praise that all mankind may hear it.
5. Among the nations I will sing Thy praise  
And give Thee thanks, for wondrous are Thy ways.  
Unto the clouds extends Thy love unfailing;  
Thy faithfulness outdistances our gaze.  
Shine forth Thy glory, everywhere prevailing!

PSALM 58

1. Do you indeed, you men so mighty,  
Decree in justice what is right?  
Are all your verdicts truth and light,  
And do you judge all men uprightly?  
No, in your hearts you wrongs devise:  
You deal out violence and lies.
2. Right from their birth the wicked wander,  
And from the womb they go astray;  
Deceit and falsehood mark their way.  
Like serpent's venom is their slander;  
They're deaf like snakes that stop the ear  
Lest they the charmer's voice should hear.
3. God, break the teeth of those that slaughter;  
Repay them with their victims' pangs;  
Tear out their savage lion fangs.  
O let them vanish like the waters  
That over rocks and gravel pass;  
Cause them to wither as the grass.
4. Let them to ruin be surrendered  
Like snails that turn to slime and die;  
As to untimely births, deny  
To them the gift of sunlight's splendour.  
Let them like thorns be swept away;  
Destroy them, LORD, without delay.
5. Then will the righteous with rejoicing  
Look on when God His vengeance shows;  
They'll bathe their feet in blood of foes,  
And men will say, their gladness voicing,  
"The righteous their reward will see:  
There is a God of equity."

PSALM 59

1. Deliver me, O God, I pray Thee  
From ruthless foes who seek to slay me;  
Protect me, rescue me again,  
And save me from bloodthirsty men.  
They lie in wait and will not spare me;  
Fierce men are plotting to ensnare me.  
For no trespass of mine, or fault,  
They run to plan their dark assault.
2. Arouse Thyself and come to save me,  
LORD God of hosts, lest they enslave me,  
For Thou art God of Israel,  
Our stronghold and our citadel.  
Awake to punish all the nations  
That taunt Thee with their provocations;  
Spare none of those who treacherously  
Plot evil and iniquity.
3. Like packs of savage dogs that howling  
Through all the city's streets are prowling,  
My enemies each night return,  
And for my life they lust and yearn.  
Lo, there they are, their mouths are growling,  
Their lips shriek hate, their mien is scowling,  
For, "Who," they think, "will hear and stay  
Our hands stretched out to seize our prey?"
4. But Thou, O LORD, dost laugh; Thy power  
Derides the nations till they cower.  
My Strength, I will sing praise to Thee,  
My Fortress, to Thy strength I flee.  
My God in steadfast love will meet me,  
And with His help and mercies greet me.  
In triumph He will let me see  
The downfall of my enemy.
5. Slay them not yet, lest those who hear me,  
My people, should forget to fear Thee.  
O God of power and great renown,  
Cause them to totter, bring them down.  
Let them be humbled and be broken  
For all the sins their mouths have spoken.  
O LORD, our Shield, with whom we hide,  
Let them be trapped in their own pride!
6. For all their lies, their evil cursing,  
And for the hatred they are nursing,  
O God, consume them, I implore,  
Consume them till they are no more.  
Show them Thy anger, let them cower  
Before Thy great and righteous power,  
That men may know that God does reign  
O'er Jacob and all earth's domain.

PSALM 59 cont'd

7. Each evening they, like dogs that howling  
Through street and market place are prowling,  
Return and look about for prey,  
And everywhere they seek and stray.  
They roam for food about the city;  
Their ravenous hunger knows no pity.  
They bark and bellow loud and shrill,  
And growl unless they get their fill.
8. But I will sing, my haters scorning,  
Thy steadfast mercies in the morning.  
A fortress hast Thou been to me.  
My Refuge, to Thy rock I flee  
Whene'er my haters' anger blazes.  
My Strength, to Thee I will sing praises,  
For God has heard me from above,  
The God who shows me steadfast love.

PSALM 60

1. Thou hast rejected us, O God,  
And scattered our defence abroad;  
Thou hast to us Thy anger shown.  
O now restore us as Thy own.  
The earth was rent, the ground did shake,  
For Thou didst cause the land to quake.  
God, put an end to tribulation;  
Deliver us, Thy holy nation.
2. Afflicted with adversity,  
We turn again, O God, to Thee.  
Thou gavest us a cup of wrath  
That sent us reeling on our path.  
Yet Thou didst raise a banner high  
For those who on Thy help rely.  
Now rescue Thy beloved nation.  
O God, reply! Send us salvation.
3. The LORD spoke in His holiness  
And gave these steadfast promises:  
"Shechem and Succoth I'll subdue,  
Moab and Edom conquer too.  
Manasseh's tribe belongs to me,  
While Ephraim shall my helmet be,  
And Judah is my sceptre glorious;  
In Palestine I'll be victorious."
4. Who will to me the stronghold show  
And help me into Edom go?  
Are we cast off because of sin?  
When wilt Thou lead our host again?  
LORD, guide us as none other can,  
For worthless is the aid of man.  
With God we'll rise to bold endeavour,  
For He will crush our foes forever.

PSALM 61

1. Listen to my cry, and hear me,  
Be Thou near me;  
O my God, heed Thou my plaint;  
From the ends of earth I call Thee;  
Woes befall me,  
And my heart is weak and faint.
2. Lead Thou me, for I abide Thee;  
Come and guide me  
To the rock for me too high;  
Thou my refuge, great in power,  
Art my tower  
When the enemy is nigh.
3. Keep me in Thy tent forever!  
Leave me never!  
Of Thy faithfulness I sing.  
Oh, to be where Thou me shieldest,  
Where Thou yieldest  
Me the shelter of Thy wings!
4. Thou hast heard all that I vowed Thee  
And endowed me  
With the heritage of those  
Who revere Thy name and glory  
And before Thee  
In Thy steadfast love repose.
5. May the king's life, by Thee strengthened,  
LORD, be lengthened,  
Of his reign no end be known.  
Bless, O God, all his endeavour;  
May he ever  
Sit before Thee on his throne.
6. Be, O God of truth and splendour,  
His defender;  
Make Thy steadfast love his stay!  
So will I, Thy name professing,  
For Thy blessing  
Pay my vows day after day.

PSALM 62

1. In God alone my soul finds rest,  
For in His faithfulness I trust;  
From Him, my God, comes my salvation.  
He only is my rock, my stay,  
My fortress and my help for aye,  
And none shall move my place and station.
2. How long will you, my haters all,  
As though I were a leaning wall,  
A tottering fence, beset and press me?  
They plan to thrust me down to earth;  
Their falsehood gives them joy and mirth.  
Their hearts curse, though their lips may bless me.
3. In silence bide I God alone  
And He shall hear me from His throne;  
He is my hope and my salvation.  
He only is my rock and stay,  
My fortress and my help for aye,  
And none shall shake my place and station.
4. On God rests my deliverance,  
For He my honour will enhance.  
He is my mighty rock, my Saviour.  
O people, trust this God of grace,  
Pour out your heart before His face  
And hope at all times for His favour.

PSALM 62 cont'd

5. Mere breath are men of low estate,  
And a delusion are the great;  
They rise when in the scales you weigh them;  
Together lighter than a breath  
Are they, the prey of doom and death.  
Their sudden downfall will dismay them.
6. Do in extortion not confide;  
In stolen goods do not take pride;  
Set no vain hopes on theft and plunder.  
Put not in growing wealth your trust;  
The greatest riches are but dust;  
Set not your heart on earthly splendour.
7. God once has spoken, twice I've heard  
His sure and never-shaken word:  
To God belongs the power and glory,  
And steadfast love is Thine, O LORD,  
For Thou dost every man reward  
According to his work before Thee.

PSALM 63

1. Thou art my God, I seek Thy face.  
O God, for Thee I thirst and languish;  
For Thee my flesh grows faint with anguish  
Here in this dry and weary place.  
When I stood in Thy sanctuary,  
Where Thou art worshipped and adored,  
I there beheld Thy greatness, LORD,  
And marvelled at Thy power and glory.
2. Thy steadfast love is better far  
Than life itself, O God my Saviour.  
Thy faithfulness will never waver;  
My lips Thy praises will declare.  
With joyful singing I will bless Thee  
And all my life Thy love proclaim.  
With hands uplifted in Thy Name,  
I will in thankful prayer address Thee.
3. In Thy rich blessings I delight  
As in a lavish feast before me.  
In meditation I adore Thee  
Throughout the watches of the night.  
I cling to Thee, my strong Deliverer,  
And in the shadow of Thy wings  
My mouth for joy Thy praises sings,  
For Thy right hand upholds me ever.
4. When foes Thy servant seek to slay,  
Earth's deep abysses shall receive them.  
The sword's dread power shall harm and grieve them;  
They shall become the jackal's prey.  
The king then in his God shall glory  
With all who swear by His great Name,  
For liars He will put to shame  
And silence every adversary.

PSALM 64

1. Heed my complaint, O God, and hear me;  
Regard my voice, protect my life.  
I am beset by threats and strife.  
Save me from those who do not fear Thee,  
And be Thou near me.
2. From wicked plots and scheming hide me,  
From those who whet their tongues like swords.  
Like deadly arrows are their words.  
Hear how those noisy crowds deride me  
And taunt and chide me.
3. The wicked with their plots confound me,  
Hide me from their conspiracy.  
They shoot from ambush suddenly,  
And without fear their mobs surround me  
To vex and hound me.
4. The secret plans they hatch are clever;  
They talk of laying snares for me  
And say, "Not one is there to see,"  
For cunningly devised as ever  
Is man's endeavour.
5. But God, my enemies pursuing,  
Shoots arrows from which none can flee.  
They will be struck down suddenly,  
And their own tongues, disaster wooing,  
Are their undoing.
6. Then all will see God's works and fear Him  
And shake their heads when He has brought  
The works of evil men to nought.  
They join in praise with those who hear Him  
And who revere Him.
- 7 LORD, let the righteous all adore Thee  
And take their refuge in Thy might.  
Thy victory is their delight.  
Let men of upright heart now glory  
In joy before Thee.

PSALM 65

1. Forth from Thy courts, Thy sacred dwelling,  
In jubilant accord,  
We hear sweet strains of praises swelling,  
O Israel's mighty Lord!  
To God, who hears our supplication,  
We come to pay our vow;  
Soon men from every tribe and nation  
Before our God shall bow.
2. Our countless misdeeds and transgressions  
Prevail from day to day;  
But Thou, O God, in great compassion,  
Wilt purge our guilt away.  
Blest is the man whom Thou hast chosen,  
And bringest nigh to Thee,  
That in Thy courts, in Thee reposing,  
His dwellingplace may be.
3. There, in Thy holy habitation,  
Thou wilt Thy saints provide  
With every blessing of salvation,  
Till all are satisfied.  
By awesome deeds, so just and mighty,  
God saves us from all woe;  
To those who walk with Him uprightly  
He will salvation show.
4. Thou art the hope of distant nations;  
Thou hast by Thy great power  
Set mountain peaks on firm foundations  
And stilled the sea's loud roar.  
Those who in far off lands are dwelling  
All tremble at the sight;  
Both dawn and dusk, in praise excelling,  
With joy acclaim Thy might.
5. From stores on high Thy streams flow over  
The hard and arid land;  
The fields are sown with grain and clover,  
Provided by Thy hand;  
The furrows, softened by Thy showers,  
Are blest with springing grain.  
How great, O God, Thy love and power  
Throughout Thy vast domain!
6. The year is crowned, O fount of blessing,  
With gifts to cheer the land;  
Thy goodness fills the earth, expressing  
The wonders of Thy hand.  
The hills rejoice; the pastures, teeming  
With flocks that skip and spring,  
The golden grain, in valleys gleaming - -  
They shout for joy and sing.

PSALM 66

1. Let all the earth with loud rejoicing  
The greatness of our God acclaim.  
With shouts of praise let all adore Him,  
Sing to the glory of His Name.  
Let all then say, "How awe-inspiring  
Are all Thy works, how great Thy power;  
Before Thy strength, O God almighty,  
Thy enemies all cringe and cower.
2. "All peoples, bowing down before Thee,  
Sing praises to Thy glorious Name;  
To Thee, O God, they all pay homage,  
With hymns of joy declare Thy fame."  
O come and see with reverent wonder  
The awesome deeds which God has done,  
His mighty works among the nations,  
The victories His hand has won.
3. His strength to Israel revealing,  
He turned the sea to arid land,  
And they on foot passed through the river;  
The waters heeded His command.  
We sang His praise, in Him rejoicing  
Who by His might rules without end;  
His eyes keep watch on every nation,  
Let rebels not His power withstand.
4. Come, bless our God with joyful voices;  
All nations, let His praise resound,  
For He has kept our feet from stumbling;  
In Him we have a refuge found.  
Thy people Thou, O God, hast tested  
As ore is in the furnace tried;  
We in the fire of Thy refining  
Have been, like silver, purified.
5. Into the net Thou, God, hast brought us;  
Thou heavy burdens didst impose.  
Thou didst let men upon us trample;  
We have been humbled by our foes.  
We went through fire, we went through water,  
Yet Thou didst show Thy power and grace.  
Thou hast delivered us, Thy people,  
And brought us to a spacious place.
6. Thy holy temple I shall enter  
And there my thanks to Thee express.  
I shall fulfil what I have promised  
In days of trouble and distress.  
Burnt sacrifices I shall offer,  
With choicest fattings pay my vows.  
With smoke of rams, with goats and bullocks  
I shall adore Thee in Thy house.
7. Come and be to my words attentive,  
All you who the Almighty fear.  
Let me declare how He has helped me,  
How in my troubles He drew near.  
I cried to God in my affliction,  
And He in mercy heard my voice;  
I sang His praise with exultation.  
In His compassion I rejoice.
8. If I had cherished any evil,  
The LORD would not have heeded me.  
I know that God indeed has heard me;  
He has attended to my plea.  
Forever blest be God, my Saviour,  
Who has not turned away my prayer,  
Nor has withheld from me His mercy,  
His never-failing love and care.

PSALM 67

1. May God be merciful and bless us,  
Illumine us with light divine;  
May He to us be ever gracious  
And cause His face on us to shine.  
May He to all nations  
Show His revelation  
And His way unfold.  
Great is God our Saviour;  
Let all see His favour  
And His power behold.
2. Let all the peoples come before Thee  
To sing their praises to Thy Name;  
Let all the heathen tribes adore Thee,  
With joy Thy mighty deeds proclaim.  
Thou dost rule the nations,  
Judge their populations,  
Showing equity.  
Justice Thou providest;  
Thou all peoples guidest.  
Let them honour Thee.
3. O God, let every tribe and nation  
Shout forth Thy praise far and wide.  
Let all men come with jubilation:  
The earth its harvest did provide.  
God is good and gracious;  
Richly did He bless us --  
He, our God and King.  
Let all peoples fear Him,  
All the earth revere Him,  
Of His glory sing.

PSALM 68

1. God shall arise, and by His might  
Put all His enemies to flight;  
In conquest shall He quell them.  
Let those who hate Him, scattered, flee  
Before His glorious majesty,  
For God Himself shall fell them.  
Just as the wind drives smoke away,  
So God will scatter the array  
Of those who evil cherish.  
As wax that melts before the fire,  
So, vanquished by God's dreadful ire,  
Shall all the wicked perish.
2. But let the just with joyful voice  
In God's victorious might rejoice;  
Let them exult before Him!  
O sing to God, His praise proclaim  
And raise a psalm unto His Name;  
In joyful songs adore Him.  
Lift up your voice and sing aloud  
To Him who rides upon the clouds  
High in the spacious heavens.  
The LORD, that is His glorious Name.  
Sing unto Him with loud acclaim;  
To Him be glory given.
3. The Father to the fatherless,  
Defence of widows in distress,  
Is in His habitation.  
He in the goodness of His grace  
Gives lonely ones a dwelling-place;  
He grants them consolation.  
He leads the captive out to see  
The joys of new-found liberty,  
For bounteous is God's mercy.  
But who against Him dare rebel  
Must certainly with famine dwell:  
Their land is dry and thirsty.
4. When through the desert's solitude  
Thou to Thy people's multitude  
Didst show a path to travel,  
The rain poured down, the earth did quake,  
Yes, even Sinai's base did shake  
Before the God of Israel.  
Rain in abundance Thou, O God,  
Upon Thy host didst shed abroad,  
Thy heritage reviving.  
Thy flock has found a dwelling there:  
Thou to Thy poor didst show Thy care,  
For all their needs providing.
5. When God but speaks His mighty word,  
Great is the host whose shouts are heard:  
"The kings have fled like cattle!"  
The women who at home abide,  
Yes, even they the spoil divide,  
Gained by their men in battle.  
See here the wealth which they did bring:  
Now silver decks a pigeon's wings  
And glistening gold its feathers.  
Before the LORD the kings all fled  
As snow is on mount Zalmon spread  
By blasts of stormy weather.
6. O mount of Bashan, massive height,  
Far higher than all peaks in sight,  
So great and elevated!  
O you, whose tops are seen from far,  
Whose peaks so high and numerous are,  
So glorious and elated!  
Why do you still with envy look  
At Zion's mount, which God once took  
And made His throne's location?  
God has desired this mountain fair  
For His abode, and always there  
Will have His habitation.
7. With mighty chariotry untold,  
His host ten thousand thousandfold,  
The LORD came to His nation,  
From Sinai's mount He made His way  
To Zion, which He made for aye  
His Holy habitation.  
Thou didst, O LORD, ascend again,  
With many captives in Thy train  
And gifts from men obtaining,  
From even those who did rebel,  
That here the LORD our God may dwell,  
Here evermore remaining.
8. Blest be the LORD, who on our way  
Provides for us, and day by day  
Upholds us by His power.  
God of Salvation is His Name;  
This glorious Name shall we proclaim.  
He is our Shield and Tower.  
Our God, the LORD, is strong to save  
From mortal danger, from the grave  
And every cruel oppression.  
But God will crush the head of foes,  
The hairy crown of him who goes  
In ways of foul transgression.



PSALM 68 cont'd

9. The LORD has said, "From where they are,  
Yes, even though it be from far,  
From Bashan I will guide them  
And bring them back by My own hand,  
Returning them from distant lands,  
Though ocean depths should hide them,  
That you may bathe your feet in blood  
Of those who bear the wrath of God  
For all their sinful actions;  
In blood of foes, whom none can save,  
Your dogs their eager tongues will lave  
Unto their satisfaction.
10. Thy solemn throngs are gathered here;  
To God, my King, do they draw near.  
They come with sounding cymbals:  
The singers first, the minstrels last;  
And in among them, filing past,  
The maidens play their timbrels.  
In this great congregation's throng  
Bless all the LORD in joyful song,  
O Jacob's generation!  
See, Benjamin, though least, leads on  
The chiefs of Judah and Zebulun  
And Naphtali's whole nation.
11. To Thee Thy strength has glory brought.  
Show now Thy might, Thou who hast wrought  
For us so great a treasure!  
Because of Thy great temple here  
Kings in Jerusalem appear  
With bounties in great measure.  
Rebuke the beasts among the reeds,  
Both bulls and calves, those filled with greed,  
All that in wars take pleasure.  
Let bronze be brought from Egypt's land;  
To God let Ethiopia's hand  
Stretch out to give its treasure.
12. Praise God and magnify His worth,  
O kings and kingdoms of the earth!  
Unto the LORD sing praises,  
To Him who in the heavens rides,  
Who in the ancient skies resides,  
From whence His voice He raises.  
Ascribe then strength to God alone,  
Whose glory is in Israel known,  
Whose might is in the heavens.  
He from His temple terror sows,  
But on His people strength bestows.  
To God let praise be given.

PSALM 69

1. Save me, O God! The waters rise and leap  
Up to my neck; the roaring floods surround me.  
There is no foothold, deadly dangers hound me,  
I've come into the waters of the deep.  
I am engulfed by floods for me too great,  
My throat is parched, I'm weary with my crying;  
My eyes grow dim while for my God I wait.  
O LORD, give ear and listen to my crying.
2. More numerous than the hairs upon my head  
Are those who without cause or reason scorn me.  
Too strong for me are those whose hate has torn me;  
Those who attack me with their lies I dread.  
Must I restore now what I did not steal?  
I know I've done the things Thou hast forbidden.  
O God, my folly I did not conceal,  
From Thee my wrongs and misdeeds are not hidden.
3. Let not all those who put their hope in Thee  
Be put to shame through me and be forsaken;  
Let those who seek Thee not be overtaken  
By slender and disgrace because of me.  
O God of Israel, taunts and shame I've borne,  
And for Thy sake I am to friend and brother  
A stranger whom they disavow and scorn,  
An alien to the children of my mother.
4. For Thy great house I am consumed with zeal,  
And on me fall the taunts of those who taunt Thee.  
And when I weep and fast my haters hound me.  
Reproach and insult now to me they deal.  
And when of sackcloth I my clothing made,  
A byword I became to all who flout me.  
I am the talk of idlers in the gate;  
The drunkards make their mocking songs about me.
5. But as for me, my prayer is, LORD, to Thee.  
At Thy own time, O God my helper, hear me,  
And with Thy great and steadfast love be near me,  
From sinking in the mire do rescue me.  
Deliver me from foes and waters deep;  
Incline Thy ear, O God, show me Thy favour,  
And draw me from the current's mighty sweep,  
Let death not close its mouth on me, my Saviour.
6. LORD, answer me: good is Thy steadfast love;  
O turn to me in Thy abundant mercy.  
Hide not Thy face, know how my haters curse me;  
I'm in distress, O hear me from above.  
Make haste to answer me, draw near to me,  
Redeem me, come and save Thy faithful servant;  
To Thee I call, O come and set me free  
From enemies and haters fierce and fervent.
7. Thou knowest my reproach, the shame I bear;  
Thou seest how my enemies disgrace me,  
For known to Thee are all those who abase me.  
Taunts broke my heart, and I am in despair.  
I looked for pity, but I found deceit,  
And for consolers, but they did desert me.  
They also gave me gall as food to eat  
And vinegar as drink when I was thirsty.
8. Let their own table be their snare, and make  
Their feasts of sacrifice a trap to slay them.  
Their eyes be dimmed, that blindness may repay them,  
And let their loins and limbs convulse and shake.  
Pour out Thy anger, let it not abate,  
And in Thy burning fury overtake them.  
Let their encampments be left desolate,  
Leave Thou their tents forgotten, and forsake them.
9. They persecute him whom Thy hand did smite;  
The pains of him Thou woundest, they increase them.  
Charge them with sin on sin, do not release them,  
And grant them no acquittal in Thy sight.  
Blot Thou their names out of the book of life  
And with Thy just decree, O God, delight us.  
Remember Thou their hearts with evil rife;  
Let them not be enrolled among the righteous.
10. Regard me in my pain and poverty.  
I am afflicted; LORD, let Thy salvation  
Set me on high. Restore my place and station.  
Hear me, O God, I put my trust in Thee.  
I will exalt the Name of God in song:  
He will strike down the sinners who defy Him.  
With harp and hymn I shall His praise prolong;  
With my thanksgiving I will magnify Him.

PSALM 69 cont'd

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| <p>11. More than a sacrificial ox or bull<br/>My songs of praise and thankfulness will please Him.<br/>Let the oppressed be glad: God will release him,<br/>For He, my help, is great and merciful.<br/>You who seek God, now let your hearts revive;<br/>Rejoice and sing, the LORD will hear the needy.<br/>His captive people He will cause to thrive.<br/>Since He does not despise us, He will heed us.</p> | <p>12. Let heaven and earth praise Him with grateful songs,<br/>The seas and all that stir in them adore Him,<br/>His people come with shouts of joy before Him,<br/>For God shall save His Zion from her wrongs<br/>And Judah's cities will the LORD rebuild.<br/>There will His servants be, in praise excelling.<br/>With their descendants will the land be filled;<br/>All those who love His Name find there a dwelling.</p> |
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PSALM 70

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| <p>1. Be pleased to save me, God, I pray;<br/>Make haste and come to my deliverance.<br/>O LORD, confound those with Thy presence<br/>Who seek to take my life away.<br/>Let them turn back and be embarrassed<br/>Whose joy it is to do me harm.<br/>Cause them to tremble with alarm<br/>Who say, "Aha!" when I am harassed.</p> | <p>2. May all then yet rejoice in Thee<br/>Who seek Thy face with supplication;<br/>May those who love Thy great salvation<br/>Say, "God be praised!" and sing with me.<br/>But I, O God, am poor and needy;<br/>Come, then, to my assistance now,<br/>My help and my Deliverer Thou.<br/>O LORD, do not delay to heed me.</p> |
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PSALM 71

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| <p>1. In Thee, O LORD, do I take refuge;<br/>I trust in Thy great Name,<br/>Lest I be put to shame.<br/>Me in Thy righteousness deliver;<br/>Incline Thy ear and hear me;<br/>With saving help be near me.</p> <p>3. Thou, from my youth my trust and helper,<br/>My hope, I praise Thy worth;<br/>I've leaned on Thee from birth.<br/>Yes, from the womb, LORD, of my mother<br/>Art Thou the One who took me,<br/>And never yet forsook me.</p> <p>5. Do not in my old age forsake me<br/>When all my strength is spent.<br/>Hear how my foes consent<br/>In plans to watch me and to seize me;<br/>They say, "God does not see him,<br/>And there is none to free him."</p> <p>7. But I will hope in Thee forever,<br/>And praise Thee more and more;<br/>My life Thou shalt restore.<br/>My mouth will tell of all Thy doings,<br/>Of all Thy acts so righteous<br/>That to Thy praise incite us.</p> <p>9. Thou from my youth, O God, hast taught me,<br/>And I do still proclaim<br/>Thy wondrous deeds, Thy fame.<br/>Now that I'm old, LORD, and grey-headed,<br/>Do not forsake and leave me<br/>When foes and haters grieve me.</p> <p>11. Thou who hast done great things and glorious,<br/>O God, who is like Thee?<br/>Thou, who hast burdened me<br/>With bitter troubles, wilt revive me.<br/>Out of the depths yet bring me,<br/>With fame and comfort ring me.</p> | <p>2. Be Thou to me a rock of refuge,<br/>A fortress steep and strong,<br/>To save me from their wrong.<br/>God, rescue me from all the wicked,<br/>From men unjust and savage,<br/>Who me surround and ravage.</p> <p>4. A portent I have been to many,<br/>But Thou art, O my LORD,<br/>My refuge, my reward.<br/>My mouth is filled with praise and homage,<br/>And with Thy wondrous glory.<br/>Hear Thou me, and restore me.</p> <p>6. O God, my Rock, be not far from me;<br/>Come to my help, make haste,<br/>And may those be disgraced<br/>Who seek my hurt and who accuse me.<br/>May my oppressors suffer<br/>The scorn and shame they offer.</p> <p>8. The wondrous deeds of Thy salvation<br/>Shall I praise all day long<br/>With joyful psalm and song.<br/>Their number, LORD, is past my knowledge.<br/>I'll show Thy deeds so mighty;<br/>Thy righteousness delights me.</p> <p>10. To all the coming generations<br/>I will proclaim Thy might,<br/>Thy justice and Thy right.<br/>Thy righteousness, Thy power and splendour<br/>Reach unto highest heaven.<br/>To Thee all praise be given.</p> <p>12. LORD, with the harp I'll also praise Thee<br/>For Thy great faithfulness,<br/>And with the lyre I'll bless,<br/>O Israel's Holy One, Thy glory.<br/>My lips will shout for gladness,<br/>I shall no more know sadness.</p> <p>13. My soul also which Thou hast rescued,<br/>My tongue, with psalm and lay,<br/>Will sing of Thee all day.<br/>I'll praise Thy righteous help and greatness;<br/>Thou who didst not desert me<br/>Hast shamed who sought to hurt me.</p> |
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PSALM 72

1. O God, give to the king Thy justice,  
His son Thy righteousness.  
Thou art the God in whom our trust is,  
Thy hand alone can bless.  
May he, the royal son, be reigning  
With judgments true and sure,  
To all Thy people right ordaining  
And justice to Thy poor.
2. May for the people hill and mountain  
Bring forth the peace they seek,  
And justice, gushing like a fountain  
Restore the faint and meek.  
May he defend the poor and needy,  
May he their children save,  
And crush oppressors, proud and greedy,  
Who for their downfall crave.
3. May he, so high above the nations,  
Live while the sun endures,  
He, who throughout all generations  
Our joy and peace ensures;  
And may he be like rain that drenches  
The meadows parched and pale,  
Like showers whose abundance quenches  
The thirst of hill and vale.
4. May in his days Thy justice flourish,  
The earth with peace abound,  
Thy righteousness the people nourish,  
And evil not be found.  
Long may he live, and rule our nation  
While sun and moon endure;  
May he in every generation  
Their peace and joy ensure.
5. For evermore may his dominion  
From sea to sea extend,  
And from the River to the regions  
Of earth's remotest ends.  
May every tribe and tongue adore him,  
And may from east and west  
His foes all come to bow before him,  
His haters lick the dust.
6. May princes, moved by awe and wonder,  
Then travel miles on miles,  
That they may him the tribute render  
Of Tarshish and the isles.  
May Sheba's king with gifts adore him,  
And Sebe treasures bring.  
May rulers all fall down before him  
And serve him as their king.
7. The helpless poor he will deliver  
And hear them when they call,  
For he, the great and gracious giver,  
Has pity on them all.  
He saves them from oppressors greedy  
And hears their anguished cries;  
The blood of all the poor and needy  
Is precious in his eyes.
8. Long may he live, and may they render  
Him Sheba's choicest gold!  
Long may his arm in light and splendour  
God's right and might uphold.  
For him the prayers shall without ceasing  
Ascend to heaven's throne;  
All day we shall, our songs increasing,  
Praise him with joyful tone.
9. May in the land the grain be growing  
From plain to mountaintop,  
Like Lebanon, with riches glowing --  
A rustling, bounteous crop.  
May in the cities people flower  
Like hillsides in the spring,  
May all the earth acclaim his power,  
His glory's fulness sing.
10. The king, whose name we are professing,  
Shall like the sun endure;  
In him all nations find their blessing;  
Make Thou his throne secure!  
Blessed be the LORD, for He so glorious  
Alone does wondrous things.  
O God, in all the earth our chorus  
With "Amen, Amen" rings.

PSALM 73

1. How truly God His goodness shows,  
Bestowing favour on all those  
Who are in Israel purehearted  
And have not from His ways departed.  
But as for me, I slipped almost,  
For when I heard the foolish boast  
Of those who pay no heed to Thee,  
I envied their prosperity.
2. No suff'ring lies in store for them;  
They all are sleek and sound in limb.  
They do not share our pain and anguish;  
No troubles ever make them languish.  
Pride is their necklace, and they dare  
Make violence the robe they wear.  
Their hearts with follies overflow,  
And in their minds illusions grow.
3. They speak with scorn and haughtiness;  
They scoff, and threaten to oppress.  
Their mouth lays claim to heaven's regions,  
Their tongue demands the earth's allegiance.  
So people turn to praise these men  
And they can find no fault in them.  
"God does not see it," they declare;  
"The Most High does not know or care."
4. Such are the wicked -- they're secure;  
Their wealth increases evermore.  
Surely in vain I've been purehearted  
And have not from God's laws departed,  
And I in vain have washed my hands  
In purity and innocence.  
For all day long I suffer here,  
And with new grief each dawn draws near.
5. If I had spoken this way too,  
How should I then have been untrue  
To all the present generation,  
The children of Thy holy nation.  
I tried to probe the mystery  
But found it was too much for me  
Till, entering God's holy place,  
I saw the destiny they face.
6. For surely Thou dost set them all  
On slippery ground and make them fall.  
They headlong to their ruin tumble  
When Thou, O God, dost make them stumble.  
How suddenly destroyed are they,  
By terrors wholly swept away.  
They're like a dream; when Thou dost rise  
Thou wilt their phantom form despise.

PSALM 73 cont'd

7. When I was bitter in my heart,  
And when with pangs my soul did smart,  
Then in my folly I ignored Thee;  
I was a brutish beast before Thee.  
Yet I am always, LORD, with Thee;  
By my right hand Thou holdest me.  
Thy counsel guides me all my days,  
And me Thou wilt to glory raise.
8. Whom do I have in heav'n but Thee?  
Who shall on earth my refuge be?  
Since I have Thee as Rock and Saviour,  
I seek no further wealth or favour.  
Although my flesh and heart may fail,  
God is my strength, I shall prevail,  
For He, whose steadfast love is sure,  
Will be my portion evermore.
9. All who from Thee have gone astray  
Shall perish in their evil way.  
Thou wilt destroy those who, false-hearted,  
From Thy commandments have departed.  
But as for me, I will not fear:  
How good it is that God is near.  
Thou have I made my refuge, LORD,  
That all Thy deeds I may record.

PSALM 74

1. O God, why dost Thou cast us off for aye?  
Why does Thy anger smoke in indignation  
Against Thy sheep? O come with Thy salvation!  
Bestow Thy grace on them and be their stay.
2. Remember Thou Thy people in Thy love,  
Thy heritage of old by Thee selected,  
The congregation which Thou hast elected  
In Thy good pleasure, shown from heaven above.
3. Remember Zion's mount, where Thou hast dwelt,  
And see Thou its perpetual desolations.  
See the destruction which the hostile nations  
Brought to the place where once Thy children knelt.
4. Within Thy holy place Thy foes did roar  
And in Thy temple they set up their banners;  
They broke it down with hatchets and with hammers  
And smashed the carvings that were there before.
5. They boldly set Thy holy shrine ablaze,  
Defiled the dwelling of Thy Name so glorious.  
They boasted that their might would be victorious;  
Each place of worship they did burn and raze.
6. We do not see our signs -- not one is left --  
And by no prophet is Thy word now spoken.  
Is then the bond with Thee forever broken?  
How long shall we of comfort be bereft?
7. How long, O God, is still our foe to scoff?  
Shall the reviling of Thy Name cease never?  
Wilt Thou hold back Thy strong right hand forever?  
Withdraw it from Thy bosom! Cut him off!
8. Yet God, my King, is God and King of old  
And Thou throughout the earth hast worked salvation.  
Thee see Thou hast divided for Thy nation  
And broken heads of dragons fierce and bold.
9. Thou, LORD, Leviathan's proud heads hast crushed,  
Its flesh as food on desert beasts bestowing.  
Thou didst cleave open fountains ever-flowing  
And dry up streams where mighty waters rushed.
10. Thine is the day, Thine also is the night;  
Sun, moon, and stars hast Thou set in the heavens.  
To all the earth Thou boundaries hast given;  
The seasons were established by Thy hand.
11. Remember, LORD, the scoffing of our foes;  
Hear how Thy Name is taunted by the wicked!  
Yield not Thy dove to beast from field and thicket,  
Do not forget Thy children in their woes.
12. Have for Thy covenant, O LORD, regard,  
For terror reigns in all the land's dark places.  
Put not to shame, but safeguard from disgrace  
Thy poor and needy. Let them praise Thee, LORD!
13. Arise, O God, arise and plead Thy cause:  
Do not forget the snares of all Thy scoffers,  
The clamour which is all the godless offer,  
The uproar which Thy foes make without pause.

PSALM 75

1. Thee, O God, yes, Thee we praise,  
And we give Thee thanks, O LORD,  
For the proud get their reward  
And the wicked Thou shalt raze,  
But we laud Thy mercy's fount,  
And Thy wonders we recount.
2. When the appointed time is there,  
I My judgment will reveal.  
Tetter may the earth and reel,  
When it has My wrath to bear;  
I did fashion it of old  
And its pillars I uphold.
3. To the proud and bold I say,  
"Let Me no more hear your boast."  
I tell them and all their host  
To forsake their wicked way:  
"Do not lift your horn on high,  
Nor with outstretched neck draw nigh."
4. Helpers will not from the east  
And not from the west appear  
To exalt and to reverse  
Him whom God makes last and least.  
He, the Judge of great renown,  
Will lift up and will bring down.

PSALM 75 cont'd

5. For the LORD has filled a bowl  
With wine foaming, spiced, and strong;  
All the wicked and the wrong,  
All who hound His servant's soul  
Shun this cup of wrath in vain;  
E'en the drags they have to drain.

6. Psalms I sing and praise I shout;  
I will pay my vows to God.  
I shall ever heed His rod;  
Jacob's God, my joy rings out:  
All the wicked feel Thy scorn,  
But Thou shalt exalt our horn!

PSALM 76

1. In Judah's land prevails God's fame,  
And great in Israel is His Name.  
In Salem stands His tent of praise;  
In Zion is His dwellingplace.  
There shield and sword no longer rattle:  
He broke all weapons used in battle.

2. Thy glory longer shall endure  
Than mountain heights that stand secure!  
Stouthearted men, deprived of spoil,  
Sank into sleep and ceased their toil;  
And men of might became weak-handed  
Once Thou their downfall hadst commanded.

3. O God of Jacob, by Thy will  
Both horse and rider now lie still.  
But Thou, God, terrible art Thou!  
For who can stand before Thee now  
And face Thy angry indignation  
As it resounds through all creation?

4. The earth in silence, struck with fear,  
Did from above Thy verdict hear.  
For God arose and judgment gave,  
That the afflicted He might save.  
Thou from men's wrath Thy praise ordainest;  
Thy further anger Thou restrainest.

5. Then let all men in worship bow  
And pay unto the LORD their vow.  
Let all present Him gifts of worth,  
For He does awesome deeds on earth.  
He stops the breath of kings and princes  
And sweeps away their proud pretences.

PSALM 77

1. I cry out, that God may hear me  
And with help be ever near me.  
To the LORD I cry aloud  
By a weight of troubles bowed.  
I stretch out my hands to reach Him;  
Day and night my prayers beseech Him;  
To my God my grief I told,  
I refuse to be consoled.

2. I remember God with weeping.  
Thou dost keep my eyes from sleeping.  
With a spirit faint and weak,  
So distressed I cannot speak,  
Days and years of old I ponder.  
In the dark of night I wonder,  
And my spirit finds no rest:  
"Where is God, who once us blessed?"

3. "Will the LORD spurn us forever  
And us from His covenant sever?  
Why is He, our God, displeased?  
Has His steadfast love now ceased  
And the promises He made us?  
Will the LORD forget to aid us,  
Does He in His wrath withhold  
All His mercies from of old?"

4. And I say, "This grief besets me,  
That the God Most High forgets me,  
And His right hand now has changed,  
That I am from Him estranged."  
LORD, I will recall Thy wonders,  
On Thy deeds of old I ponder,  
On Thy works I meditate,  
Musing on Thy deeds so great.

5. O my God, Thy way is holy;  
For Thy greatness we extol Thee.  
What god is there, strong and great  
Like our God, so high in state?  
For Thou art the God whose glory  
Makes the peoples bow before Thee.  
Thy strong arm redeemed and freed  
Jacob's sons and Joseph's seed.

6. When the waters, all assembled,  
Saw Thee, God, they writhed and trembled.  
Fear convulsed their mighty sweep,  
Terror shook the hidden deep.  
Clouds poured rain, with thunders crashing,  
On all sides Thy arrows flashing.  
When Thy hand its lightnings hurled,  
Thou didst rock and shake the world.

7. Through the sea Thy way did lead Thee;  
Wind and tossing waves did heed Thee;  
Mighty waters fled in awe,  
Yet no man Thy footprints saw.  
LORD, Thy people Thou hast guided,  
Shepherds for Thy flock provided:  
Moses, Aaron, by their hand  
Brought them to the promised land.

1. Give ear, my people, listen to my teaching;  
Incline your ear, and let my words be reaching  
Your heart and mind, and with their truth impress you;  
The parable in which I speak shall bless you.  
My mouth will voice dark sayings from of old,  
Things we have heard, which us our fathers told.
2. Such things we'll tell, not from their children hide them  
That those accounts of olden days may guide them,  
And we will tell the coming generation  
How God has dealt with Israel, His nation --  
The glorious deeds the LORD for them has wrought,  
The wonders which His mighty hand them brought.
3. A testimony He in Jacob founded,  
In Israel He had His law expounded,  
And to our fathers He, the LORD, commanded  
That all His words from kin to kin be handed,  
That children yet unborn once might arise  
And teach their seed these laws so good and wise.
4. So would their hope in God alone be founded;  
Then they would not forget all He propounded,  
Nor come to share their fathers' condemnation,  
That stubborn and rebellious generation,  
Those wayward men, who felt His anger's rod,  
Whose spirit was not faithful to their God.
5. The Ephraimites with bows for war assembled;  
Yet they in battle all turned back and trembled.  
They did not keep God's covenant or fear Him,  
But they defied His law and did not hear Him,  
Forgot His deeds for Israel, His own,  
The miracles that He to them had shown.
6. God wrought great marvels and their fathers saw them,  
In Egypt and in Zoan wonders awed them.  
There they beheld how He the sea divided  
And through the sea His people Israel guided;  
He made the waters stand up like a heap,  
His mighty hand restrained the roaring deep.
7. By day He gave a cloud to lead and guide them,  
With fiery light He did at night provide them.  
He cleft the rocks, and founts sprang up to save them,  
Abundant drink as from the deep He gave them;  
Out of the barren rock fresh water burst,  
And rivers flowed to quench His people's thirst.
8. Yet more they sinned against Him in rebelling  
When in His care they were in deserts dwelling.  
Against the LORD, the Most High they contested,  
And in their evil hearts their God they tested.  
In stubborn pride defiantly they raved,  
Demanding from His hand the food they craved.
9. They spoke against their God, "Will He be able  
To spread us in the wilderness a table?  
He smote the rock, we saw the fountains gushing  
And streams of water through the desert rushing,  
But can He also give His people bread  
And bring us meat so that we may be fed?"
10. Therefore the LORD, who heard their provocation,  
Was full of wrath against His chosen nation;  
A fiery rage against all Israel mounted;  
His anger rose, for never they recounted  
What He had done to help them in their plight;  
They did not trust His saving power and might.
11. Yet He commanded then the skies to heed them,  
And heaven's doors He opened wide to feed them,  
With bounteous rain of manna them endowing  
And heaven's grain to Israel allowing.  
The food of angels gave He them for bread,  
Abundantly were Jacob's children fed.
12. The east wind He called up from heaven's borders;  
The south wind He led out to do His orders,  
And on their wings they brought what God had given,  
For flesh, like dust that by the storm is driven,  
Rained down upon them from the darkened sky;  
With quails the LORD did Israel supply.
13. They ate and were well filled with flesh He granted;  
He gave them all the food they craved and wanted,  
But then, before their craving had been sated,  
The food still in their mouth, their lust elated,  
God's anger rose against them, and they died;  
He slew their strongest men, their flower and pride.
14. In spite of this, they still with sins did grieve Him;  
Despite His wonders they did not believe Him.  
So like a breath He made their days to vanish;  
Their years went by in terror and in anguish,  
But when He slew them, then their eyes did see;  
They turned to God and sought Him earnestly.
15. Then they remembered God, their rock and Saviour,  
The Most High God, who in redeeming favour  
Had brought them out of Egypt, that enslaved them.  
They flattered Him, yet thought that He would save them.  
Though with their lips they might fine words express,  
They scorned His cov'nant in their faithlessness.
16. Yet He in pity and in lovingkindness  
Forgave them their iniquity and blindness,  
Did not destroy them when His wrath was burning,  
But He restrained the anger they were earning,  
Rememb'ring that they were but flesh, and vain,  
A wind gone by that will not come again.
17. How often did they all rebel and leave Him,  
And with their evil in the desert grieve Him!  
They tested Him, always His word decrying,  
The Holy One of Israel denying,  
And they forgot how He His might did show  
That day when He redeemed them from their foe.
18. Through wondrous deeds His Israel He delivered;  
He turned to blood all Egypt's mighty rivers,  
And swarms of flies He on their fields did shower,  
Frogs which destroyed them showed His anger's power.  
To caterpillars crops and grass He gave,  
From hungry locusts none their fruits could save.
19. With hail and frost their trees and vines He shattered;  
Their flocks and herds with thunderbolts were scattered.  
He loosed on them His wrath and indignation;  
It caused distress and widespread devastation.  
Destroying angels He among them sent,  
Who brought great ruin everywhere they went.
20. Free rain He gave His fury to ensnare them,  
From death and grave His anger did not spare them;  
He gave their lives to plague and devastation;  
And heavy was His hand on Pharaoh's nation.  
Their firstborn everywhere His hand did smite;  
Death came to all Ham's dwellings overnight.

PSALM 78 cont'd

21. Then He led forth His people, and He guided  
Like sheep His children who in Him confided.  
He led their flock, and without fear they followed,  
For all their enemies the sea had swallowed.  
And to His holy land He brought His own,  
Unto the mount which His right hand had won.
22. The LORD drove out before them heathen nations,  
Apportioned to the tribes their habitations,  
And in their tents they safely found a dwelling;  
Yet they, against the Most High God rebelling,  
Turned traitors, for His laws were not observed,  
And, like their fathers, from God's ways they swerved.
23. They twisted like deceitful bows and braces;  
His anger they provoked with their high places,  
For in their idols' service they were zealous,  
And with their images they made Him jealous;  
Great was God's wrath when He saw them rebel.  
He utterly rejected Israel.
24. The tent at Shiloh, where He had been dwelling,  
He left when He His people heard rebelling;  
To enemies His power He did surrender,  
Into their hands the ark with all its splendour.  
He gave His people over to the sword,  
In anger that His word had been ignored.
25. Then did the raging flames their youth devour;  
Their maidens had no bridal song or bower;  
Their priests fell by the sword of heathen nations,  
Their widows made for them no lamentations.  
The land which God once to their fathers gave  
The peoples round about did now enslave.
26. The LORD then as from slumber did awaken;  
He saw how enemies His land had taken,  
And like a warrior, swords and arrows flouting,  
Who, flushed with wine, his joy is boldly shouting,  
So God stood up, to Israel's help He came,  
And put their foes to everlasting shame.
27. The tent of Joseph's children He rejected,  
In Ephraim His house was not erected;  
He chose the tribe of Judah for His nation,  
Mount Zion, which He loves as habitation.  
He like the heavens built His sanctuary,  
And like the earth, to last eternally.
28. He chose His servant David, and He crowned him,  
He took him from the sheepfold where He found him;  
From tending ewes and newborn lambs He brought him;  
To make him Jacob's shepherd God had sought him.  
With upright heart did David tend the land  
And guided Israel with skilful hand.

PSALM 79

1. Thy land, O God, the gentiles have invaded;  
By heathen hordes Thy heritage was raided.  
Look how they have, without restraint or pity,  
Defiled Thy temple and destroyed Thy city.  
To carrion bird and beast  
They offered as a feast  
The saints whom they did slaughter;  
Around Jerusalem,  
With none to bury them,  
Their blood was poured like water.
2. We are taunt to those around us dwelling.  
When wilt Thou come, the enemy expelling?  
O hear us, LORD! Wilt Thou extinguish never  
Thy jealous anger? Will it burn forever?  
Thy wrath, O LORD, pour out  
On all who Thy name flout;  
Consume the godless nations.  
For greedily did they  
Seize Jacob as their prey  
And raze his habitations.
3. Remember not the misdeeds of our fathers;  
Hold not their guilt against us, LORD, but rather  
Show Thy compassion to Thy humbled nation.  
O come with haste, Thou God of our salvation!  
LORD, so increase Thy fame,  
The glory of Thy name.  
Free Thou us from oppression.  
For Thy name's sake we thus  
Pray Thee to rescue us  
And pardon our transgression.
4. Why should the heathen, Israel deriding,  
Ask in contempt, "Where may their God be hiding?"  
Arise, O LORD! Strike in retaliation;  
The blood of saints avenge before the national  
LORD, on Thy holy throne  
Hear Thou the prisoner's groan.  
Thy greatness manifesting,  
Preserve us as of old;  
Repay them sevenfold  
Who taunt Thee with their jesting.
5. We shall forever joyful praises render  
To Thee, our shepherd and our great defender.  
We as Thy flock, Thy chosen generation,  
Shall give Thee thanks through every generation.

PSALM 80

1. O Israel's Shepherd, hear our pleading,  
O Thou who Joseph's flock art leading,  
Enthroned above the cherubim!  
Shine forth before Thy Ephraim,  
Show Benjamin, Manasseh light!  
Come, save us, God! Stir up Thy might!
2. How long wilt Thou with indignation  
Ignore Thy people's supplication?  
Tears are the bread of Israel;  
Thou givest tears to drink as well.  
Thou makest us to suffer scorn;  
Our neighbours' jeering we have borne.
3. LORD, God of hosts, wilt Thou restore us;  
Cause then Thy face to shine before us.  
From servitude in Egypt's land  
Didst Thou bring out a vine to plant.  
Where other nations dwelt before  
Thou plantedst it for evermore.
4. Thou didst prepare the ground for planting;  
Thy vine took root and, nothing wanting,  
It filled the land so that its shade  
A shelter for the mountains made;  
It overspread the mighty trees,  
Right to the River and the sea.

PSALM 80 cont'd

5. Why didst Thou break its walls asunder?  
All who pass by its fruit can plunder.  
Thy vine is ravaged by the bear,  
And other beasts devour still more.  
Turn Thou, O God, and show Thy face;  
Look down upon Thy vine in grace.
6. O God of hosts, grant preservation;  
Protect Thy vine from devastation.  
For they with fire have burned the vine  
And cut it down, though it was Thine.  
O let them perish in their fear  
When Thou dost with rebuke appear.
7. But let Thy hand, so full of power,  
Thy aid and favour freely shower  
Upon the men of Thy right hand;  
Help Thou the son of man to stand,  
For Thou didst cause him to be Thine.  
Upon him cause Thy face to shine.
8. From Thee we then shall turn back never;  
Revive us and we shall for ever  
Call on Thy Name, before Thee bow.  
LORD God of hosts, restore us now.  
Upon us cause Thy face to shine,  
And save us, LORD, for we are Thine.

PSALM 81

1. Sing a psalm of joy,  
Shout with holy fervour.  
All your skills employ;  
With your heart and soul  
Jacob's God extol.  
He is our preserver.
2. O all Israel,  
Voice your jubilation.  
Let your music swell,  
Harp and timbral play.  
Show in every way  
Joy and exultation.
3. With the trumpet's tune  
Herald, in due season,  
Feastdays of the moon:  
Let its echo sound.  
To let joy abound  
God gives every reason.
4. Keep by God's command  
Your commemoration:  
When in Egypt's land  
Captive Israel  
Did in bondage dwell,  
He gave liberation.
5. "When you served as slaves  
Of the ruthless Pharaoh,  
I, the God who saves,  
Listened to your plea  
And I set you free  
From distress and sorrow.
6. "In the worst of plights  
Comfort I provided.  
On Mount Sinai's heights  
Did I give My law.  
You at Meribah  
Tested were and guided.
7. "Israel, draw nigh.  
O My people, hear Me  
While I testify  
And admonish you.  
O in all you do,  
Would you but reverse Me!
8. "Never shall you praise  
Gods of heathen nations.  
Never all your days  
To the idols go;  
Them you shall not show  
Any veneration.
9. "Sing to Me your laud.  
Out of Egypt's power  
I, the LORD your God,  
Rescued Israel;  
So on you as well  
Blessings I will shower.
10. "By their wilful choice  
They My love rejected;  
They ignored My voice.  
Israel did not  
Heed what they were taught.  
They My law neglected.
11. "To their stubborn way  
Them I did surrender.  
Would they but obey  
And return to Me!  
O then I would be  
Israel's defender!
12. "Then I would in haste  
Israel deliver.  
I would soon lay waste  
The oppressor's land  
And with mighty hand  
Thwart the foe's endeavour.
13. "As their just reward  
All the hostile nations  
Who despise the LORD  
Would before His face  
Cringe in their disgrace  
And humiliation.
14. "With abundance I  
Israel would nourish.  
You I would supply  
With the finest wheat,  
Honey pure and sweet.  
Israel would flourish!"



PSALM 82

1. In solemn courts the gods assemble;  
Before the LORD they stand and tremble,  
For in their midst He took His place,  
And all that live His judgment face.  
"How long yet will you disobey Me?  
You judge unjustly and dismay Me,  
For you show partiality  
To wicked men whose sins you see.
2. "Give justice to the weak and heed them;  
Grant rights to orphans when they need them;  
Maintain the cause of sick and poor;  
Make the afflicted one secure.  
Withstand the clamour of the greedy;  
Rescue the weak, be with the needy,  
And free them from the wicked's hands;  
Ward off the evils he has planned."
3. They have no wit or understanding,  
And knowledge they are not demanding;  
The justice of the LORD they flout;  
In darkness deep they walk about.  
The order of the world is shaken,  
For evil counsels they have taken;  
Since they unjust decrees unfold,  
All earth's foundations no more hold.
4. I say to you, "As gods I crowned you;  
As sons of the Most High I count you;  
Yet, since all justice you defy,  
Like other men, you too shall die.  
You'll fall like any other princes  
And rulers with their proud pretences."  
Arise, O God, the earth now judge:  
All nations are Thy heritage.

PSALM 83

1. Do not keep silence, O my God;  
Be not unmoved, lift up Thy rod.  
For lo, Thy foes prepare for fighting;  
They raise their heads, for war uniting.  
The flames of hatred they are fanning,  
The downfall of Thy loved ones planning.
2. They say, "Come let us wipe them out,  
Let Israel be put to rout;  
Burn down its towns to ash and ember,  
Let none that nation's name remember."  
With one accord they are conspiring,  
The fall of Israel desiring.
3. Yea, Edom and the Ishmaelites,  
The Hagarenes and Moabites,  
All the Philistines and the Tyrians  
Join Ammon's tribe and the Assyrians.  
Gabal confers with Agag's remnants;  
They all give aid to Lot's descendants.
4. Treat them as Thou didst Midian,  
As Sisera, a fleeing man  
Slain by the woman he relied on,  
As Jabin's army at the Kishon.  
His warriors, stripped of all their splendour,  
Are dung now on the fields of Endor.
5. Bring Thou their nobles' pride to naught,  
Like Midian's kings, whom Gideon caught.  
The sword repaid them their transgression  
When they said, "Let us take possession  
Of God's own green and fertile regions."  
Destroy our foes and all their legions.
6. My God, make them like whirling dust,  
Like chaff before a sudden gust.  
As fire throughout the forest blazing,  
As flames the hills and mountains razing,  
So with Thy tempest, LORD, pursue them,  
With terrifying storms subdue them.
7. Fill Thou their faces, LORD, with shame  
That they may seek Thy glorious Name;  
O cast them down, dismayed forever,  
And let them know that all endeavour  
Is vain, if not due praise is given  
To Thee, Most High, in earth and heaven.

PSALM 84

1. O LORD of hosts, O God of grace,  
How lovely is Thy holy place,  
How good and pleasant is Thy dwelling!  
O how my soul longs earnestly,  
Yea, faints Thy holy courts to see  
Mid festal throngs and music swelling.  
My heart and flesh cry out to God;  
To Him I spread my hands abroad.
2. The sparrow finds a home to rest;  
The swallow deftly builds her nest  
And has her young beside Thy altar.  
So, LORD of hosts, my God, my King,  
I seek the shelter of Thy wings;  
Thou wilt not let me slip and falter.  
How blest are those who dwell with Thee  
And praise Thy Name unceasingly.
3. How blest are those whose strength Thou art,  
Who on Thy ways have set their heart --  
The highways to Thy habitation.  
For them refreshing fountains flow  
When they through Baca's valley go,  
A land of drought and desolation.  
The wilderness, with showers blest,  
Becomes for them a vale of rest.
4. From strength to strength God's people go,  
And He to them His face will show  
In Zion's courts, His holy dwelling.  
O LORD, Thou God of hosts, give ear;  
O Jacob's God, in mercy hear,  
Thy steadfast promises fulfilling.  
O God, our king and shield behold;  
To him Thy power and love unfold.

PSALM 84 cont'd

5. Lo, one day in Thy house of praise  
Is better than a thousand days  
Outside the courts of Thy salvation.  
As one who fears and serves the LORD,  
I would much rather stand and guard  
The threshold of His habitation  
Than, far from God, to dwell within  
The tents of wickedness and sin.
6. The LORD His goodness has revealed:  
He is to us a sun and shield,  
For He bestows renown and favour.  
And when the upright seek His face,  
The LORD will not withhold His grace;  
His faithfulness endures forever.  
O LORD of hosts, how blest is he  
Who puts his hope and trust in Thee.

PSALM 85

1. Thou hast shown favour to Thy land, O LORD,  
And Jacob's fortunes were by Thee restored.  
Thy people Thou hast from their guilt set free;  
Thou didst forgive all their iniquity.  
Thy fury and displeasure have now passed;  
The flames of anger Thou hast quenched at last.  
O God our Saviour, hear us as we pray;  
Restore us now and take Thy wrath away.
2. LORD, will Thy blazing anger never cease  
And will Thy wrath for evermore increase?  
Wilt Thou not give new life and set us free,  
That all Thy people may rejoice in Thee?  
O LORD, Thy steadfast love and mercy show  
And Thy salvation on us now bestow.  
To us Thy lasting faithfulness unfold,  
Thy lovingkindness as in days of old.
3. Let me now hear what God the LORD will speak,  
For to His saints who in their hearts Him seek  
He will proclaim His steadfast words of peace.  
From chains of bondage He will grant release.  
For surely His salvation is at hand,  
Prepared for those who honour His command.  
Then in our land may radiant glory dwell,  
Which on the earth shall have no parallel.
4. Then faithfulness and steadfast love will meet;  
Then righteousness and peace each other greet.  
Then faithfulness will spring up from the ground,  
And from the sky will righteousness abound.  
The LORD our God will add prosperity;  
Our land will yield its crops abundantly.  
Before Him justice will its banners sway  
And make the footsteps of the LORD a way.

PSALM 86

1. Turn Thy ear, O LORD, and heed me;  
Answer me, I'm poor and needy,  
I who serve Thee constantly  
Trust that Thou wilt rescue me.  
Thou, LORD, art my God and Saviour;  
Show to me Thy grace and favour.  
Cheer Thy servant, gladden me:  
I lift up my soul to Thee.
2. Thou art good, Thy grace astounding,  
And in steadfast love abounding.  
When we call, O LORD, be nigh,  
Listen to my troubled cry.  
Thee I call, for Thou art near me,  
None among the gods will hear me  
Or is like Thee, LORD benign,  
And no works compare with Thine.
3. All the nations will adore Thee;  
They shall come and bow before Thee  
And shall glorify Thy Name,  
For none equals Thee in fame.  
Great and wondrous things Thou doest,  
And my spirit Thou renewest.  
Glorious art Thou on Thy throne.  
Thou, O LORD, art God alone.
4. Guide my feet, O LORD, and teach me,  
Be my helper, I beseech Thee,  
And unite my heart and aim  
In Thy truth, to fear Thy Name.  
Great Thou art, Thou shalt reward me  
In Thy steadfast love toward me.  
In Thy mercy Thou didst save  
Me, Thy servant, from the grave.
5. LORD, the proud rose up around me;  
Ruthless foes pursue and hound me,  
And to Thee they pay no heed  
In their arrogance and greed.  
But Thou, God of grace and favour,  
Slow to anger, faithful ever,  
Dost in steadfast love abound.  
With Thy mercy me surround.
6. Grant Thy strength in my affliction;  
Give Thy servant Thy protection,  
Rescue me, Thy handmaid's son.  
Let Thy might my haters stun.  
Give me proof of Thy great favour:  
Show my foes Thou art my Saviour.  
Shame them all and let them see  
Thou didst help and comfort me.

PSALM 87

1. Our gracious God has laid His firm foundations  
On Zion's mount, the courts of His delight;  
Her gates of splendour, bathed in heavenly light,  
He loves far more than Jacob's habitations.
2. What glorious things, O city of God's favour,  
Are spoken in melodious tones of you!  
Rehab will I include, and Babel too,  
With those who know Me as the LORD, their Saviour.
3. The Moor with the Philistine and the Tyrian  
Shall soon, O Zion, throng your holy gate;  
In songs of joy I'll hear her sons relate:  
"These all were born within the walls of Zion."
4. God will Himself confirm it with His blessing,  
And on the roll of nations He will count  
All these as born on Zion's holy mount,  
In many tongues one God, one faith confessing.
5. Then shall God's Name with holy adoration  
And joyful tones be praised by Israel's throng;  
Both harp and voice will blend in swelling song:  
"In Zion are the founts of my salvation."

PSALM 88

1. O God, I call for help by day;  
I cry out in the night before Thee.  
LORD, let my prayer then come before Thee,  
Incline Thy ear, do not delay.  
My soul is full of troubles, hear me;  
The darkness of Sheol draws near me.
2. I am as one down in the pit,  
Like one among the dead forsaken.  
My strength and comfort Thou hast taken,  
LORD, hear my prayer and answer it.  
Cut off, as from Thy presence banished,  
I have from Thy remembrance vanished.
3. I'm plunged into the lowest grave;  
In regions dark and deep I languish.  
Thy wrath weighs on me in my anguish;  
I'm overwhelmed by all Thy waves;  
And of my friends Thou hast bereft me;  
They shunned me and in horror left me.
4. Imprisoned, I can't break away;  
My eyes grow dim, Thou hast undone me.  
All day I call, O LORD, upon Thee,  
Spread out my hands to Thee and pray.  
Will in the grave Thy wonders face me?  
And do the dead rise up to praise Thee?
5. Shall death Thy steadfast grace profess?  
And does Abaddon sing Thy glory?  
Shall for Thy faithfulness adore Thee  
The dim land of forgetfulness?  
Are there Thy wonders known and greeted?  
Is there Thy saving help entreated?
6. But as for me I cry to Thee;  
My prayer I offer in the morning.  
O LORD my God, why art Thou scorning  
My anguish and my fervent plea?  
Why dost Thou cast me off and leave me?  
Why dost Thou hide Thy face to grieve me?
7. I am afflicted, close to death,  
And by Thy anger overtaken.  
I'm helpless and by terrors shaken;  
My life is but a feeble breath.  
Thy fury has swept down upon me;  
Thy dread assaults have overrun me.
8. Thy terrors hunt me all day long,  
And like a flood Thy threats surround me.  
They all close in on me and hound me;  
I'm crushed by haters fierce and strong.  
Of friend and kin Thou hast bereft me,  
And only darkness Thou hast left me.

PSALM 89

1. I will extol Thee, LORD, Thy mercies I will praise,  
And of Thy steadfast love I'll sing through all my days.  
LORD, with my mouth I will to every generation  
Proclaim Thy faithfulness with joyful adoration.  
Thy steadfast love Thou hast established, LORD, forever;  
Thy faithfulness is firm, Thy covenant changes never.
2. LORD, Thou hast said, "I've made a steady covenant  
With him, My chosen one, that I will not relent.  
To David as My servant I did once assever,  
'I will establish your descendants' reign forever;  
Your kingdom will endure, for I laid its foundations,  
And I will build your throne throughout all generations.' "
3. The heavens praise, O LORD, Thy wonders all their days;  
The holy ones in their assembly sing Thy praise.  
Thy faithfulness they laud when they, O LORD, adore Thee,  
For who in all the skies can proudly stand before Thee?  
And who can be compared to Thee, our strength and tower?  
Among the sons of God none equals Thee in power.
4. The holy ones in council fear Thy majesty;  
Thou art far greater, LORD, than those surrounding Thee,  
For who among the ones that near Thy throne assemble  
Does not, LORD, God of hosts, before Thee quake and tremble?  
Who equals Thee in strength, and who would dare to flout  
Thee?  
Thy faithfulness and truth stand radiant round about Thee.
5. O LORD, Thy hand does rule the raging of the sea;  
Its mighty waves may roar, they all are stilled by Thee.  
Proud Rehab Thou didst crush, its carcass Thou hast  
shattered,  
And by Thy mighty arm Thy enemies were scattered.  
Thine are the heavens and earth; Thy power is unbounded;  
The world and all that is hast Thou in wisdom founded.
6. The farthest north and south didst Thou create and frame;  
Mount Tabor and Mount Hermon praise Thy holy Name,  
For mighty is Thy arm; Thy hand, endued with power,  
Thy right hand, so exalted, makes the nations cower.  
On justice stands Thy throne, on righteousness and glory;  
Thy steadfast love goes with Thy faithfulness before Thee.

PSALM 89 cont'd

7. Bless are the people who acclaim Thee as their King,  
Who know the festive shout and of Thy mercies sing.  
They see Thy holy face and walk in light before Thee,  
Exulting all the day in Thy great Name and glory.  
Thy wondrous grace they laud, Thy righteousness recalling  
They go their way with joy, Thy steadfast love extolling.
8. Thou art their strength and glory; all their foes they  
scorn,  
For Thou hast favoured us: exalted is our horn.  
Our shield belongs to Thee, our King so great in power;  
Upon Thy faithful ones Thou strength and joy didst shower.  
High praises we will sing, and homage we will render  
To Israel's Holy One, our King and our Defender.
9. Of old Thou, LORD, didst speak in visions true and sure  
To him, Thy faithful one, whose kingdom shall endure,  
"I've set the crown upon a man upright and mighty;  
I have exalted him, whose loyalty delights Me,  
One chosen from the people as their king appointed:  
My servant David, with My holy oil anointed.
10. "My right hand shall not fail, but will abide with him,  
Forever shall My arm uphold and strengthen him.  
No foe shall him outwit, no wicked man him humble;  
His haters I'll strike down, his foes shall reel and  
stumble,  
For by My steadfast love his enemies are halted,  
And in My faithful Name his horn shall be exalted.
11. "Yea, I, the LORD, will set his hand upon the sea,  
His right hand on the rivers. He shall cry to Me,  
'My Father and my God, the Rock of my salvation!'  
And him I'll make among the princes of the nation  
My firstborn son, the highest of all kings around him;  
On him My eye shall be. My wonders shall astound him.
12. "Forever I will keep him in My steadfast love,  
My cov-enant confirm with blessings from above.  
His line will last, I will establish it forever,  
Enduring as the heav'ns, his throne shall vanish never.  
My promise I uphold, the oath to David spoken  
I always will maintain; My word cannot be broken.
13. "But if his children ever will forsake My law,  
Not keep all that I have ordained with proper awe,  
And if they violate the statutes which I founded,  
No longer keep the just commandments I expounded,  
Then, surely, with My rod I'll punish their transgression  
And their iniquities with scourges and oppression.
14. "But from him I'll not take My steadfast love away,  
Nor will I ever My own faithfulness betray;  
I will not violate the covenant they have broken,  
Nor will I alter what I once for all have spoken,  
For by My holiness I've sworn and I change never.  
I will not lie; My word to David stands forever.
15. "His royal line will thus continue evermore,  
And, like the sun, his throne before Me shall endure.  
His kingdom will not fail, by foes or famine ravished,  
For like the moon it shall for ever be established.  
As long as over earth and sea the skies are vaulted,  
His reign will be secure, his crown will be exalted."
16. But now Thou hast withdrawn Thy hand, and him hast spurned;  
Thy wrath hast Thou against Thy own anointed turned.  
Thou hast renounced the cov'nant once with him erected;  
His crown lies in the dust, his prayers Thou hast rejected;  
Thou hast breached all his walls by Thy great anger's  
power;  
His strongholds Thou hast razed, in ruins lie his towers.
17. All who pass by despoil him, smitten and forlorn.  
He, once so high, has now become his neighbours' scorn.  
The right hand of his foes hast Thou, O God, exalted.  
They triumphed and rejoiced when they Thy king assaulted.  
Yea, Thou didst blunt his sword, his enemies have felled him,  
And in his many battles Thou hast not upheld him.
18. Thou hast, O LORD, removed the sceptre from his hand,  
Cast to the ground his throne, him from Thy presence  
banned.  
His days of youth and strength hast Thou cut short and  
taken,  
And, covered with his shame, he is by Thee forsaken.  
How long, O LORD? Wilt Thou then hide Thyself forever?  
Thy wrath like fire is burning; wilt Thou quench it never?
19. Remember Thou, O LORD, life's short and fleeting span  
And for what vanity Thou hast created man.  
For who can live and see the light of day forever,  
Who can escape Sheol and meet its terrors never?  
What man can save himself, who is there to release us  
From gaping grave and death that soon will grasp and seize  
us?
20. O LORD our God, where is Thy steadfast love of old,  
The oath to David sworn with promises untold?  
Remember how I hear the taunts of all the nations,  
The insults of Thy foes, their countless provocations;  
For mocking Thy anointed is their sole endeavour.  
Yea, amen, amen! Bless-ed be the LORD for ever!

PSALM 90

1. LORD, Thou hast been since Thou didst shape creation  
Our dwellingplace in every generation.  
Before the mountains were brought forth and grounded,  
And Thou the earth and world hadst formed and founded,  
From everlasting stands Thy holy throne;  
To everlasting Thou art God alone.
2. What is our worth when Thou Thy help delayest?  
Thou turnest man back to the dust and sayest,  
"Turn back, O sons of men," and thus we perish.  
Brief is our life, and vain the things we cherish.  
A thousand of our years are in Thy sight  
A day gone by, a watch gone with the night.
3. Thou sweepest men away, vain in their glory,  
For they are like a fleeting dream before Thee,  
Like grass which springs up in the early morning,  
Like flowers for a while the earth adorning,  
That with the dawn unfold on hill and glade:  
By evening time they wither and they fade.
4. For we are all consumed by Thy great anger,  
And in dismay we've seen Thy fury linger.  
Thou settest our iniquities before Thee.  
Thy light reveals our secret sins most surely,  
For in Thy wrath do all our days go by,  
Our years come to their ending with a sigh.

PSALM 90 cont'd

5. Threescore and ten are all the years allowed us,  
And fourscore when Thou hast with strength endowed us.  
Soon they are gone, their best is toil and trouble.  
We fly away, our labours worthless stubble.  
Who understands the power of Thy wrath,  
When Thy great vengeance meets us on our path?
6. Who understands the woe of all who fear Thee,  
Why burns Thy wrath against those who revere Thee?  
We pass our years in fear and fitful slumber;  
Teach us that we our span of days may number,  
So that our hearts gain wisdom. LORD, return!  
How long? Have pity! For Thy love we yearn.
7. LORD, in the morning come and satisfy us,  
With steadfast love and with Thy blessings ply us  
So that we may rejoice and sing with gladness  
As many days as we have mourned in sadness,  
As many years as evil we have seen,  
That after grief we times of joy may glean.
8. Show forth Thy work to all who serve before Thee,  
And to Thy children show Thy power and glory.  
May He, the LORD, our gracious God and Saviour,  
Shed on us all the riches of His favour.  
Establish Thou the labours of our hand;  
Establish them, that to Thy praise they stand.

PSALM 91

1. Those dwelling in the hiding place  
Of God Most High shall tarry  
Beneath the shadows of His grace;  
His goodness will not vary.  
My Fortress when I am beset,  
My Rock -- I trust Him ever,  
For He will from the Fowler's net  
His faithful ones deliver.
2. He'll save you from the pestilence,  
His wings as shelter lending.  
His pinions are your sure defence,  
His truth a shield unbending.  
At night you will not fear the gloom,  
Nor, during day, the arrow,  
Nor havoc that may spread at noon,  
Nor nights of plagues and sorrow.
3. A thousand at your side may fall,  
But you'll be safely guarded;  
When tens of thousands die in all,  
You'll see the foe rewarded.  
Since you the LORD your refuge made,  
Your Rock and habitation,  
No evil shall your tents invade,  
Nor plague and tribulation.
4. His hosts of angels God commands  
For evermore to serve you.  
They will support you on their hands  
And from all danger serve you,  
Lest ever you your foot should dash  
Against a stone, or stumble.  
The deadly serpent you will crush,  
The lion you will humble.
5. "Because he on My love relies,  
I surely will defend him.  
He knows My Name; thus, when he cries,  
My answer I will send him.  
I'll come with rescue in the strife;  
To him is honour owing.  
I'll bless him with great length of life,  
To him salvation showing."

PSALM 92

1. 'Tis good with jubilation to sing and glorify  
Thy Name, O LORD Most High, and thank Thee for salvation,  
At dawn in Thee rejoicing and in Thy steadfast love,  
At night the praises of Thy boundless mercy voicing.
2. With song and music blending, I will Thy praise recite;  
Let harp and lute unite in harmony unending.  
My thankfulness expressing, I'll praise Thy deeds of might;  
I'll sing of my delight, Thy faithfulness confessing.
3. Thy works are great and splendid! O how profound Thy  
thought!  
The senseless fool cannot begin to understand it.  
Though evil men may flourish, though like the grass  
they sprout,  
LORD, Thou shalt root them out; they shall forever  
perish.
4. Thou art on high for ever. Thou, LORD, shalt overthrow  
The proud and godless foe, and topple his endeavour.  
My horn Thou hast appointed to match the bull's in height,  
To equal his in might. By Thee I've been anointed.
5. My foes' defeat and anguish I did myself behold,  
And also I've been told that all their host is van-  
quished.  
The just Thou wilt remember, to them Thy favour show;  
They like the palm tree grow, like Lebanon's fine  
timber.
6. Those whom the LORD will cherish, within His house He put;  
There planted, they took root and in His courts they  
flourish.  
Their fruit in old age bearing, they're vigorous and  
green.  
Yes, now my Rock I've seen, His righteousness, His caring.

PSALM 93

1. The LORD is King, enrobed with majesty;  
He girds Himself with strength and equity.  
Therefore the world, established by His hand,  
Cannot be moved, but shall forever stand.
2. Firm from of old has stood, O LORD, Thy throne;  
From everlasting art Thou God alone.  
Thy mighty floods have lifted up their voice,  
The waves that roar and in their strength rejoice.
3. But mighty though the thund'ring floods may be,  
More glorious than the surging of the sea  
Is He, the LORD, in majesty on high.  
For evermore Thy Name we glorify.
4. Thy word is sure, in Thy decrees we trust;  
Thy law is right, Thy testimony just,  
And holiness, O LORD whom we adore,  
Is fitting to Thy house for evermore.

PSALM 94

1. O LORD of vengeance, show Thy glory;  
Judge of the earth, call all before Thee.  
Rise up, reveal Thy justice, LORD,  
And give the proud their just reward!  
Thine is the vengeance, Thine the might;  
Put Thou my enemies to flight.
2. How long yet shall the wicked flourish,  
The godless all their evil nourish?  
They bluster and they boast aloud;  
Of all their misdeeds they are proud.  
They crush Thy people in their rage,  
And they afflict Thy heritage.
3. They slay the widow, and they curse me,  
They kill the alien without mercy  
And put to death the fatherless.  
All those who trust Thee they oppress;  
They say, "The LORD, He does not see;  
The God of Jacob, where is He?"
4. O dullest of the people, mark this,  
You fools whose mind perverse and dark is.  
Shall He who made the ear not hear.  
And shall He not in wrath appear?  
Shall He who formed the eye not see  
And fight for us and set us free?
5. Shall He who chastens all the nations  
Forget your sins and provocations?  
Shall He who teaches men not know  
The hidden thoughts of friend and foe?  
The LORD knows that the thoughts of men  
Are but a breath and short of span.
6. Bless is the man whom Thou dost chasten:  
To soothe his anguish Thou shalt hasten.  
Bless he whom Thou dost teach Thy ways  
To give relief from troubled days,  
Till for the wicked, one and all,  
A pit is dug in which they fall.
7. God's people will not be forsaken;  
His heritage cannot be shaken,  
For to the righteous will return  
The equity for which they yearn.  
The light of justice will be lit;  
All upright men will follow it.
8. Who will, when wicked men attack me,  
Be on my side, stand up and back me?  
Who will defend me when my foes  
Delight in my distress and woes?  
Had not the LORD my cause upheld,  
In silence would I soon have dwelt.
9. O LORD, with songs of praise I hail Thee  
For when I thought, "My feet will fail me,"  
Didst Thou stretch out Thy mighty hand,  
And by Thy steadfast love I stand.  
'Tis God who in my cares and fears  
My soul with consolation cheers.
10. Can wicked rulers share Thy favour  
And be Thy allies, O my Saviour?  
They frame their mischief by decree;  
They band together and agree.  
To kill the just is their intent,  
And they condemn the innocent.
11. The LORD has been my strong Defender;  
God is my rock, to Him I render  
My thankful praise, my triumph songs.  
He will repay them for their wrongs,  
And all the wicked He shall rout.  
The LORD our God will wipe them out.

PSALM 95

1. The LORD be praised, come, let us sing,  
And let our voice with rapture ring  
To hail the rock of our salvation.  
Before our God with strength endued  
We'll come with shouts of gratitude,  
With psalms and songs of adoration.
2. The LORD our God is good and great;  
None is like Him in royal state.  
No god, O God, shall stand before Thee.  
The depths of earth are in His hand;  
He formed the mountains, shaped the lands;  
The sea is His; all show His glory!
3. Come, let us worship and bow down  
Before this God of great renown.  
Our Maker, Him our thanks we render:  
He led us by His mighty hand  
To pastures in a verdant land.  
He is our Shepherd, our Defender.
4. Would that today you heard His voice!  
Do not renew your fathers' choice;  
Meri-bah, Massah saw them chastened.  
He led us by His mighty hand  
To pastures in a verdant land.  
He is our Shepherd, our Defender.

PSALM 95 cont'd

5. For forty years I bore their ill.  
I said, "They err in heart and will  
And from My ways they stray forever."  
Then in My anger I did swear,  
"My heritage they shall not share,  
Into My rest they'll enter never."

PSALM 96

1. Sing to the LORD with exultation.  
O sing a new song, all creation,  
Sing to the LORD and bless His Name;  
Day after day with joy proclaim  
The wondrous deeds of His salvation.
2. Declare His glory to the nations;  
Make known to all their populations  
His marvellous works, for He, the LORD,  
Is to be worshipped and adored.  
To Him alone show veneration.
3. The peoples' gods are man's invention:  
Mere idols, lacking comprehension.  
The LORD made all the heavens' extent.  
Lo, splendour dwelle within His tent;  
With awe His majesty be mentioned.
4. Glory and strength, O tribes and nations,  
Ascribe to God with exultation,  
And render to the LORD's great Name  
The glory to which He lays claim.  
Sing praise to Him with jubilation.
5. With off'rings in His courts assemble.  
Let all the earth before Him tremble;  
In your array of holiness  
Worship the LORD. Let all confess:  
He reigns and none can Him resemble.
6. O let His praises be resounded.  
By Him the world was firmly founded;  
It shall endure. The people He  
Will govern by His just decree;  
He'll judge with equity unbounded.
7. Your joy display, O glorious heavens;  
O earth, be glad, to rapture driven.  
Rejoice, O roaring sea's domain;  
Exult, O fields of golden grain.  
By rustling woods let praise be given.
8. Sing to the LORD with exultation,  
For He is King of all creation.  
Behold, He comes! Your joy express!  
He comes with truth and righteousness  
To judge the earth and rule its nations.

PSALM 97

1. The LORD our God is King!  
O earth, rejoice in Him!  
All islands, coasts, and ocean  
Break forth in glad devotion.  
Dark clouds of secrecy  
Enfold His majesty.  
The pillars of His throne  
Are righteousness alone  
And perfect equity.
2. Consuming flames deploy  
Before Him, to destroy  
His foemen round about Him  
Who vainly seek to flout Him.  
His lightning bolts, when hurled,  
Enlighten all the world;  
Earth sees and quakes with fear  
To see His wrath appear  
And thunderous clouds unfurled.
3. The hills, as wax by fire,  
All melt before His ire,  
When God on His creation  
Pours flaming indignation.  
The heavens in awe express  
His perfect righteousness.  
Let all the nations see  
His glorious majesty,  
His royal power confess.
4. To shame are put all they  
Who in their folly pray  
To idols, man's creation,  
And worthless for salvation.  
The LORD we bring our laud,  
For He alone is God!  
Come, all you gods, draw near,  
Bow down to Him in fear,  
By His dominion awed.
5. O Zion, lift your voice,  
Within your gates rejoice!  
Thy judgments, LORD, so glorious,  
Made Judah all victorious.  
Her daughters sing with mirth,  
For high above the earth,  
Thou, who art God alone,  
Hast made Thyself a throne  
And magnified Thy worth.
6. The LORD shows love to him  
Who hates and flees from sin.  
His saints the LORD will ever  
From wicked men deliver.  
Behold, both joy and light  
Will dawn for the upright.  
Thank Him with heart and voice,  
In His great Name rejoice,  
And glory in His might.

PSALM 98

1. Sing to the LORD, a new song voicing,  
For mighty wonders He has done.  
His right hand and His arm most holy  
The victory for Him have won.  
The LORD displayed His just salvation,  
His vindication He has shown,  
Revealing to the heathen nations  
That judgment issues from His throne.
2. He has remembered all His mercy,  
His faithfulness to Israel.  
The ends of earth have seen His glory;  
In victory did He excel.  
Now make a joyful noise before Him,  
O all the earth, His praises sing!  
With loud acclaim let all adore Him  
And let the joyful anthems ring!
3. Join to the harp your glad rejoicing,  
A psalm of adoration sing,  
With trumpet and the cornet voicing  
Your joyful praise to God the King.  
Let oceans roar with all their fulness,  
The world and all that dwell therein;  
Acclaim the LORD's great power with boldness,  
Exalt Him ever and again.
4. Let all the streams in joyous union  
Now clap their hands and praise accord;  
The mountains join in glad communion  
And leap with joy before the LORD.  
He comes, He comes to judge the peoples  
In righteousness and equity;  
He will redeem the world from evil  
And righteous shall His judgment be!

PSALM 99

1. God, the LORD, is King, throned on cherubim.  
Let the peoples quake, earth's foundations shake,  
For in Zion He shows His majesty  
And His exaltation over every nation.
2. Let them spread the fame of His awesome Name;  
Holy is the LORD and to be adored.  
Let them praise their King, of His justice sing.  
Worship Him uprightly; He, the King, is mighty.
3. Thou in Jacob's land hast by Thy own hand  
Right and truth maintained, equity ordained.  
At His footstool bow and revere Him now.  
Praise Him, high and lowly, for the LORD is holy.
4. Moses to Him prayed, Aaron sought His aid;  
Later Samuel called on Him as well.  
They cried out to Him, and He answered them;  
He in tribulation heard their supplication.
5. He to Israel spoke in a cloud of smoke;  
They His glory saw, worshipped Him with awe,  
He, the LORD, their Guide, statutes did provide  
Which His chosen nation kept with dedication.
6. When they called on Thee, Thou didst hear their plea;  
Thou didst pardon them, though avenging sin.  
Come to Zion's hill and perform God's will;  
Praise Him, high and lowly, for the LORD is holy.

PSALM 100

1. You lands and peoples of the earth,  
Before the LORD your joy shout forth.  
Serve Him with gladness all your days;  
Come unto Him with songs of praise.
2. Know that the LORD is God alone;  
He made us, and we are His own,  
His people, who extol His ways,  
The sheep that in His pastures graze.
3. Come, enter then His gates with praise  
And in His courts your voices raise.  
Give thanks to Him and bless His Name;  
Within His house your joy proclaim.
4. The LORD is good, and evermore  
His love and mercy will endure.  
All generations He will bless  
In His unchanging faithfulness.

PSALM 101

1. LORD, I will sing, the praise of justice voicing;  
Uprightness is the theme of my rejoicing.  
A song of loyalty and blameless ways  
To Thee I'll raise.
2. I'll wisely tread the pathway of perfection.  
When wilt Thou come, O LORD, for my direction?  
I'll walk within my house with blameless heart,  
From sin apart.
3. No base and worthless thing will I have near me,  
And all apostasy I hate sincerely.  
Those who in secret other men defame  
I'll put to shame.
4. The proud of eye and heart I will not suffer,  
But to the faithful I will friendship offer.  
The man who walks in all integrity  
Shall wait on me.
5. Deceitful men shall from my presence vanish,  
For liars I will from my household banish,  
And those who spread their tales of slander shall  
Not with me dwell.
6. To all the nation I will justice render;  
I will destroy the criminal offender,  
And every day Thy city's peace, O LORD,  
Will I safeguard.



PSALM 102

1. Hear my prayer, O LORD, be near me;  
O incline Thy ear to hear me.  
Let my cry come unto Thee;  
Do not hide Thy face from me.  
When I pray in grief and worry,  
LORD, to me Thy answer hurry.  
Listen to my supplication;  
Quickly come with consolation.
2. For my days, like smoke, are fleeting;  
Each goes by without repeating.  
Like a hearth my bones do burn,  
While I for Thy answer yearn.  
For my heart is so dejected  
That my bread I have neglected,  
Skin and bones, together cleaving,  
Are the outcome of my grieving.
3. While I lie awake in sorrow,  
I am like a lonely sparrow  
Perching on the housetop high.  
Like the pelican am I  
And the owl; in desolation  
Have such birds their habitation.  
In my loneliness I languish,  
For I suffer constant anguish.
4. All day long my foes deride me;  
They with curses have defied me.  
I no longer eat my bread,  
But with ashes I am fed;  
With my drink my tears are blended,  
For Thy wrath has not yet ended.  
Thou didst in Thy anger take me  
And an outcast Thou didst make me.
5. Like an evening shadow, fleeting,  
Soon in night its span completing,  
So my days do quickly pass,  
For I wither as the grass.  
But, O LORD, Thou changeest never,  
For Thou art enthroned forever.  
Thy great Name and revelation  
Last through every generation.
6. LORD, Thou wilt arise in pity  
On Thy house and holy city.  
It is time to show Thy face,  
The appointed time for grace.  
Thou wilt hear our supplication  
When we pray for restoration.  
Those who serve Thee, LORD, sincerely,  
Love the stones of Zion dearly.
7. All the nations shall revere Thee;  
All the kings of earth shall fear Thee,  
For Thou shalt Thy city build,  
To be with Thy glory filled.  
Thou shalt set Thy congregation  
Firm on Zion's strong foundation.  
When we pray, LORD, Thou shalt hear us;  
When we suffer, Thou art near us.
8. God be praised with adoration  
By each passing generation.  
He looked down from heav'n on high  
To release those doomed to die;  
From His holy height He sees us,  
From captivity He frees us,  
That His people Him may worship,  
And all kingdoms praise His lordship.
9. God has tried me in His rigour,  
And He broke my strength and vigour.  
"O my God, my God," I pray,  
"Do not yet take me away.  
Thou whose years endure forever,  
Do not yet my life-thread sever.  
LORD of every generation,  
Answer Thou my supplication."
10. Thou didst lay the earth's foundation,  
Mighty God of all creation.  
Thou didst frame the vast extent  
Of the lofty firmament.  
But they both shall fall and tumble;  
What may seem secure shall crumble.  
Like a garment one may cherish  
So will they wear out and perish.
11. Like a cloak, Thy whole creation,  
From the skies to earth's foundation,  
Thou dost change; it fades away,  
But Thou art the same for aye.  
LORD, the children of Thy servants,  
All the line of their descendants,  
Shall in safety dwell before Thee,  
For Thy steadfast love adore Thee.

PSALM 103

1. O bless the LORD, my soul, bless your Preserver;  
Let all within me praise His Name with fervour.  
My soul, forget not all His benefits;  
O bless the LORD, who pardons your transgression,  
Who heals your illnesses in His compassion,  
Who saves you and redeems you from the Pit.
2. Bless Him who with His steadfast mercy crowns you,  
Who with His love and faithfulness surrounds you,  
Who grants His bounteous gifts your whole life through.  
To Him who shows His righteousness sing praises;  
From their affliction He His people raises.  
Your youth He, like the eagle's, will renew.
3. To the oppressed His justice He discloses.  
His glorious ways He once made known to Moses;  
The LORD revealed His deeds to Israel.  
He will not always chide, but, mercy showing,  
His steadfast covenant love on us bestowing,  
He'll stay His wrath; the LORD is merciful.
4. The LORD has dealt with us in great compassion,  
Not punished us according to transgression.  
High as the soaring heavens, without end,  
So great His mercy is to those who fear Him,  
And He the sins of all those who revere Him  
Removes as far as east from west extends.

PSALM 103 cont'd

5. A father with his children sympathizes;  
Likewise for us God's pity swiftly rises.  
Let all who fear Him in His mercy trust.  
He knows our frame, that it is weak and humble;  
He keeps in mind how prone we are to stumble.  
The LORD recalls that we are only dust.
6. The fleeting life of man is like the grasses,  
And like a flower when the stormwind passes:  
It soon is gone, its place knows it no more.  
But God's unfailing love shall never perish,  
For everlastingly the LORD will cherish  
Those who revere Him and His Name adore.
7. For children's children, through the generations,  
The LORD shall work His glorious vindication,  
His righteousness revealing, as of yore,  
To those who keep His precepts in obedience  
And to His cov'nant show their full allegiance,  
His steadfast love endures for evermore.
8. God has His throne high in the heavens founded;  
He governs all, by angel-hosts surrounded.  
You mighty servants, all His ways extol!  
O bless the LORD, created works in union,  
Throughout all places of His vast dominion.  
Extol the LORD and bless Him, O my soul.

PSALM 104

1. O bless the LORD, my soul, and praise His Name.  
LORD God, how great Thou art, how bright Thy fame!  
Thou, who art clothed with majesty and glory,  
Thou, robed in light, we honour and adore Thee.  
The heavens Thou hast stretched out like a tent,  
Thy dwelling founded on the firmament.  
Clouds are Thy chariot, storms lend Thee their pinions;  
Winds are Thy heralds, fire and flame Thy minions.
2. The earth, which Thou hast founded, none can shake.  
The raging deep Thou as its cloak didst make,  
And even mountains were concealed thereunder.  
Waves rushed and fled at Thy rebuke, Thy thunder;  
Hills then sprang up, while valleys sank and drowned.  
To mighty oceans Thou didst set a bound;  
Thou didst appoint a place for them, that never  
Their roaring floods the earth again might cover.
3. Thou makest springs gush forth in vales and dells.  
Between the hills, brooks flow from sparkling wells  
And quench the thirst of beasts in field and forest;  
Wild asses drink the waters which Thou pourest.  
There birds of heaven dwell in shrub and tree;  
They sing among the branches, praising Thee.  
Hills dranchest Thou from heaven where Thou livest,  
The earth is satisfied with all Thou givest.
4. Thou madest grass for cattle and wild beasts,  
And plants for men who on Thy bounties feast.  
Oil makes his face to shine when he rejoices  
In bread and wine and then Thy praises voices.  
Well-watered are God's trees; it rains upon  
His cedars planted throughout Lebanon.  
There in the tree-tops are the storks residing;  
Goste roam the crags where badgers find a hiding.
5. To mark the months Thou, LORD, hast made the moon.  
At Thy command the sun turns dusk to noon,  
And when Thy day by night is overtaken  
Then in the forest all the beasts awaken.  
Young lions roar and ask from God their prey,  
But when the dawn appears they steal away  
And lie down in their dens, the sunlight scorning.  
Then men awake and graze the dewy morning.
6. Men goes forth to his work when morning calls  
And labours till the evening shadow falls.  
O LORD, Thy many glorious works astound us;  
In wisdom hast Thou made them all around us.  
Of Thy great riches Thy creation sings.  
Thy ocean teems with countless living things;  
It is for ships a place to make their way in,  
And for Leviathan a place to play in.
7. All look to Thee, a countless multitude,  
That in due time Thou mayest give them food.  
Now filled with the good things that Thou providest,  
They are dismayed when Thou Thy countenance hidest.  
When Thou dost take away their breath, they die;  
They are created when Thou, from on high  
Thy Spirit sending, them with life enduest.  
The face of all the earth Thou, LORD, renewest.
8. The glory of the LORD forever stands;  
May He rejoice in all that He commands.  
He looks on earth and makes creation shiver;  
He touches mountains and they smoke and quiver.  
I'll sing to God as long as I shall live;  
May to the LORD my worship pleasure give.  
But may all sinners from the earth be driven.  
Bless God, my soul! To Him all praise be given.

PSALM 105

1. O thank the LORD with great rejoicing,  
His deeds among the peoples voicing!  
Praise Him, His wondrous works proclaim  
And glory in His holy Name.  
Let those who seek Him praise the LORD,  
Their hearts exulting in His word.
2. Turn to the LORD, who fails us never,  
And seek His face, His strength forever.  
Recall the wonders He has wrought,  
The righteous judgments He has taught.  
Remember these, you chosen ones,  
O Abraham's offspring, Jacob's sons!
3. He is the LORD, our God unfailing,  
His judgments everywhere prevailing.  
He will remember and uphold  
His covenant made in days of old.  
The steadfast words He did command  
A thousand generations stand.
4. Firm stands His word to Abraham spoken,  
His oath to Isaac, never broken.  
His everlasting covenant  
With Israel, God will not recant.  
He said, "To you this land I give  
That as My heirs you there may live."

PSALM 105 cont'd

5. When few in number and neglected  
They by the nations were rejected,  
And when they wandered far and wide  
The LORD remained their faithful guide,  
So none His people could oppress;  
Kings could not curse when God did bless.
6. He said, "Touch not whom I anointed,  
Nor harm the prophets I appointed."  
When famine came on God's command  
And hunger ravaged Canaan's land  
In breaking every staff of bread,  
The LORD had sent a man ahead.
7. Sold as a slave and torn by anguish  
Did Joseph far in Egypt languish;  
Forgotten and with irons chained  
There in a prison he remained  
Until the king about him knew,  
And then the LORD's word proved him true.
8. The king called Joseph and released him,  
His prophecies and counsels pleased him;  
He made him master of the land,  
Gave all he had into his hand,  
To guide his princes on their course,  
To show his elders wisdom's source.
9. Then Israel with kin and cattle  
Went down to Egypt there to settle.  
Rich blessings did the LORD bestow,  
He made them stronger than their foe,  
Whose hearts He turned till they did treat  
His chosen servants with deceit.
10. The LORD sent Moses as their saviour  
With Aeron, whom He chose to favour,  
And through their words He wrought for them  
Great wonders in the land of Ham.  
Deep darkness covered it by day,  
Yet they did not God's word obey.
11. He turned to blood both stream and river,  
To frogs did He their land deliver;  
They into inner chambers went.  
Then swarming flies and gnats He sent.  
Their fields and orchards hailstorms leashed,  
Throughout the land the lightning flashed.
12. Their fig trees and their vines were shattered,  
Their fields by swarms of locusts battered,  
Devouring fruit and foliage green  
Till there was nothing left to glean.  
The LORD in anger raised His hand  
And smote the firstborn in the land.
13. With silver and with gold provided,  
They went, by God their Shepherd guided.  
How glad was Egypt when they left;  
Of all its pride it was bereft.  
God spread a cloud and gave a light  
To point the way by day and night.
14. The winds brought quails when they did crave them;  
Abundant bread from heav'n He gave them.  
Out of the rock God's mighty hand  
Made rivers flow in desert land;  
His promise, made to Abraham,  
He kept and safely guided them.
15. God led them forth with joy and singing,  
Their voices with His praises ringing;  
He gave to them the nations' land,  
Filled with their fruit His people's hand,  
That they might serve Him all their days.  
O Israel, to the LORD give praise!

PSALM 106

1. O thank the LORD, bring Him your praise,  
Extol His goodness all your days;  
His steadfast love endures forever.  
Who can His mighty deeds profess?  
Blest those who right and truth endeavour,  
Who at all times do righteousness!
2. Remember me, O LORD, when Thou  
Thy own with favour dost endow;  
When Thou dost save them, me deliver,  
That with Thy flock I may engage  
In praising Thee, O gracious Giver,  
And glory with Thy heritage.
3. Both we and all our fathers, LORD,  
Have done the sins by Thee abhorred;  
Iniquity we have committed  
And we have acted wickedly;  
Yet often hast Thou us acquitted  
Though we did not remember Thee.
4. Our fathers, failing to recall  
God's wondrous works for Israel,  
How He with blessings would provide them,  
Did His abounding love deny;  
They at the Red Sea shore defied Him,  
Rebelled against the LORD Most High.
5. Yet for the sake of His great Name,  
His mighty power to proclaim,  
The roaring waves He then divided.  
At His rebuke the Red Sea fled;  
As through a desert they were guided,  
And through the deep they went ahead.
6. Their enemy God put to rout,  
He set them free and let them out.  
Before His ire all Egypt cowered;  
Not one escaped His anger's blaze.  
His people's foes the sea devoured.  
Then they believed and sang His praise.
7. His works and words they soon forgot;  
Against His counsel they did plot,  
And Him with lustful cravings taunted.  
They put their Saviour to the test,  
And when He gave them all they wanted,  
He scourged them with a deadly pest.
8. When jealous men in envy rose  
God's chosen leaders to oppose,  
The earth beneath them split, and swallowed  
Those who with Dathan did conspire,  
And who Abiram's lead had followed.  
The wicked perished in the fire.

PSALM 106 cont'd

9. At Horeb's mount a calf they made  
And to a molten image prayed.  
They had for it exchanged God's splendour  
The glory nothing can surpass.  
They, scorning God, their great Defender,  
Revered a bullock eating grass.
11. Therefore He said He would wipe out  
His people who His will did flout.  
But Moses, whom He had elected,  
Stood in the breach God's wrath to stem,  
That Israel might be protected  
Against the anger threatening them.
13. He swore that He would slay them all,  
That in the desert they would fall  
Because of all their provocations,  
And that their sons at His command  
Would be dispersed among the nations,  
And scattered over all the lands.
15. Then Phin'has rose to intervene,  
The plague was stayed when God had seen  
How he denounced their provocations  
And chastised them for wickedness.  
It has been through all generations  
Accounted him for righteousness.
17. They disobeyed the LORD's command  
To slay the peoples of the land,  
But there they mingled with the nations.  
They learned how in their sins to share,  
Served Canaan's vain abominations;  
Its gods became for them a snare.
19. To Canaan's idols, gods of vice,  
They gave their sons as sacrifice;  
The land was with their blood polluted;  
By unclean acts for all to see,  
God's covenant bond they prostituted  
And played the harlot openly.
21. Time after time He set them free,  
Though they did never bend their knee  
But were rebellious and defied Him.  
They sank into iniquity;  
God made their enemies deride them  
Till they lamented bitterly.
23. Save us, O LORD our God, we pray,  
Bring back Thy people gone astray,  
And take them from among the nations,  
That to Thy great and holy Name  
We may give thanks with jubilation  
And glory in Thy wondrous fame.
10. Their God and Saviour they forgot,  
He who had changed their dreary lot,  
Who showed to Egypt all His power,  
His wondrous works and majesty,  
Who made the land of Ham to cower  
With dreadful things at the Red Sea.
12. Then they despised the pleasant land  
And trusted not His mighty hand.  
His steadfast promise not believing,  
They sulked and grumbled in their tents.  
The LORD with disobedience grieving,  
His word and will they did resent.
14. By Beal Peor's lure misled  
They ate from offers for the dead,  
Provoked the LORD, who never wronged them.  
He saw their deeds, His wrath arose;  
A deadly plague broke out among them,  
Because they Midian's idol chose.
16. At Maribah they spurned God's will,  
And there with Moses it went ill.  
Embittered by their profanations,  
God's envious wrath he did provoke  
When, roused by burning indignation,  
With rashness angry words he spoke.
18. God saw how they, to sin enticed,  
Their sons and daughters sacrificed,  
Their own to evil demons offered,  
How they the blood of innocents  
To evil gods of Canaan proffered  
And paid to idols reverence.
20. Then did the LORD stand up in rage  
And He abhorred His heritage;  
Surrend'ring Israel to the nations,  
The LORD to slavery did condemn  
Those who had roused His indignation.  
Their enemies ruled over them.
22. Then He regarded their distress;  
He heard their cry and gave redress;  
God in His steadfast love relented.  
No longer did He those condemn  
Who of their evils had repented.  
He caused their foes to pity them.
24. Blest be the God of Israel  
Whose deeds in majesty excel;  
From age to age praise Him forever.  
Let all the people "Amen!" say,  
Extol His Name, who fails us never.  
Praise Him, the LORD our God, for ever!

PSALM 107

1. Give thanks to God rejoicing  
Because the LORD is good.  
Bless Him with anthems voicing  
Your love and gratitude.  
He who our peace ensures  
Forekeeps His promise never.  
His steadfast love endures,  
And we are His forever.
2. Let His redeemed now say this --  
Those whom the LORD set free --  
For He is their strength and stay is;  
Gone is their enemy.  
Let all then praise His Name!  
In far-off lands He sought them,  
From east and west they came,  
From north and south He brought them.

PSALM 107 cont'd

3. Some, wand'ring in waste places,  
Found nowhere they could stay.  
God heard them and was gracious;  
He led them on their way.  
With thirst and hunger weak  
They cried to God to save them  
From deserts dry and bleak.  
A place of rest He gave them.
4. God led them to a city  
Where they could safely dwell;  
He showed them love and pity.  
Let them His wonders tell,  
And let their anthems rise.  
His steadfast love relieves them,  
Their thirst He satisfies,  
No more their hunger grieves them.
5. Some chained in gloomy prisons  
Endured His anger's rod.  
They had rebelled and risen  
Against the words of God.  
His counsel they had spurned,  
The Most High's voice neglected.  
In vain for help they yearned;  
They were by all rejected.
6. They cried to God to save them;  
He broke their shackles all  
And liberty He gave them;  
The gloom did He dispel.  
Let them God's love adore  
And at His marvels wonder;  
He shatters great bronze doors,  
Snaps iron bars asunder.
7. Some were with illness stricken  
Through sinful ways and guilt.  
All food caused them to sicken;  
They were with loathing filled.  
Close to death's gate they came,  
And there were none to cheer them.  
Then in their grief and shame  
They cried, and God did hear them.
8. To them His word revealing,  
He came with power to save,  
Stretched out His hand of healing  
And snatched them from the grave.  
Let them all thank the LORD,  
Their sacrifices bringing,  
And His great deeds record  
With joyful shouts and singing.
9. Some who in ships were sailing  
The ocean's mighty sweep  
Saw there God's power prevailing  
In wonders of the deep.  
The tempest, when He spoke,  
Caused waves to rise like mountains  
That roared and fell and broke  
Into wild, foaming fountains.
10. They were distressed and humbled,  
Their soul did melt away;  
Like drunken men they stumbled  
In terror and dismay.  
The LORD saw their despair,  
And when to Him they shouted,  
He heard their fervent prayer;  
The raging storm He routed.
11. The LORD, their fears allaying,  
Bade storm and wind be still;  
Hushed were the waves, obeying  
Their Maker's word and will.  
How happy were the men  
When He the calm provided  
And He their ship again  
To longed-for heavens guided.
12. Let all then thank their Saviour  
And sing their songs of praise;  
He showed them love and favour  
In many wondrous ways.  
Let them exalt His fame  
Within their congregation;  
Let elders praise His Name  
In solemn convocation.
13. Into dry land He changes  
The fields where streams abound.  
Clear springs and verdant ranges  
He turns to thirsty ground.  
To salty wastes He turned  
A land of fruit and flower,  
Because its people spurned  
His Word of truth and power.
14. Into cool streams He changes  
A thirsty desert land;  
In parched and barren ranges  
Flow springs at His command.  
There He reveals His grace,  
Shows hungry ones His pity,  
Allows them in that place  
To build themselves a city.
15. He grants them fields for sowing  
And vineyards to prepare;  
In harvests overflowing  
They see God's wondrous care.  
His favour does not cease;  
Their garners they replenish.  
In numbers they increase;  
Their herds do not diminish.
16. God pours contempt on princes  
When they His own oppress,  
Drives them with their pretences  
Into the wilderness.  
He, lifting them from wee,  
His people does remember;  
Like flocks their families grow,  
For He adds to their number.
17. The upright with elation  
God's mighty works acclaim;  
The wicked of all nations,  
Struck dumb, are put to shame.  
Let wise men then regard  
All this with awe and wonder,  
And, turning to the LORD,  
Let them His mercy ponder.

PSALM 108

1. My heart is steadfast, O my God,  
And I will sing unto Thy laud,  
Yes, I will make a melody  
And give my thanks, O LORD, to Thee.  
Awake, O harp and lyre, awake!  
For I will urge the dawn to break.  
I'll sing Thy glory to the nations,  
Thy praise among their populations.
2. Great is, O God, Thy steadfast love  
Right to the heavens and above;  
Thy faithfulness soars to the skies.  
Let over earth Thy glory rise;  
Let, reaching to the clouds, Thy praise  
Transcend our earthly human ways.  
Now rescue Thy beloved nation.  
O God, reply! Send us salvation!
3. The LORD spoke in His holiness  
And gave these steadfast promises:  
" Shechem and Succoth I'll subdue,  
Moab and Edom conquer too.  
Manasseh's tribe belongs to me,  
While Ephraim shall my helmet be,  
And Judah is my sceptre glorious;  
In Palestine I'll be victorious."
4. Who will to me the stronghold show  
And help me into Edom go?  
Are we cast off because of sin?  
When wilt Thou lead our host again?  
LORD, guide us as none other can,  
For worthless is the aid of man.  
With God we'll rise to bold endeavour,  
For He will crush our foes forever.

PSALM 109

1. O be not silent, heed and hear me,  
God of my praise, art Thou not near me?  
For wicked mouths, Thy word defying,  
Frame with their tongues deceit and lying.  
Though not deserving ill or threat  
I am with words of hate beset.
2. They rave and without cause abuse me  
And in return for love accuse me.  
I pray for those who have abhorred me;  
With evil they for good reward me.  
LORD, Thou dost see it from above;  
With hatred they repay my love.
3. Appoint a wicked man to seize him,  
Let his accuser not release him;  
To him be guilt and blame awarded;  
His prayers be all as sin regarded!  
His days be few, his life distressed,  
His goods by other men possessed.
4. Waifs be the sons he has begotten,  
His wife be widowed and forgotten.  
And when they beg, let nought be given;  
They from their ruined homes be driven.  
May creditors seize all he won,  
His work by strangers be undone!
5. May he be banished from the city,  
None show his children any pity.  
May his posterity be banished,  
Cut off, until his name has vanished!  
Let man his father's sins record,  
His mother's guilt before the LORD.
6. May it be always recollected  
That he mistreated the afflicted,  
That to the destitute he never  
Showed any kindness, any favour;  
The poor and brokenhearted he  
Chased to their death, relentlessly.
7. He loved to curse, may curses press him!  
He scoffed at blessings, may none bless him!  
He as a garment wore his cursing,  
His evil and his hatred nursing.  
May all the ill he did and spoke  
Like oil into his body soak.
8. His cursing be a cloak around him,  
A belt that with his guilt has bound him.  
May all who without cause accuse me  
And speak their evil to abuse me  
Receive all these things from the LORD  
As their appropriate reward.
9. But Thou, O God my LORD and Saviour,  
For Thy Name's sake show me Thy favour!  
Thy steadfast love is good; O heed me,  
Come to my help, I'm poor and needy.  
Deliver me and set me free,  
For stricken is my heart in me.
10. An evening shadow, soon departed,  
A locust, shaken off, discarded --  
These do I in my woe resemble.  
My knees, through fasting weakened, tremble;  
My body gaunt, all strength has fled,  
And my accusers wag their head.
11. Help me, O LORD my God, and hear me.  
In Thy unfeeling love be near me!  
Do justice to Thy foes who shun it  
And let them know that Thou hast done it.  
LORD, let them curse, but do Thou bless,  
And save me in Thy righteousness.
12. Put Thou to shame those who attack me  
And with their taunts torment and rack me;  
But may Thy servant sing with gladness,  
Saved by Thy hand from grief and sadness.  
Dishonour all who me accuse,  
Clothe them with shame and with abuse!
13. I'll thank the LORD for His salvation  
And praise Him in the congregation,  
For at the right hand of the needy  
Stands He who in His love shall heed me.  
Though foes the poor man may condemn,  
The LORD Himself saves him from them.

PSALM 110

1. The LORD unto my Lord these words has spoken:  
"Sit Thou upon the throne at My right hand  
Till I the power of Thy foe have broken,  
And Thou upon his neck Thy feet shalt plant."
2. To Thee the LORD will send forth out of Zion  
The sceptre of authority and might.  
Amidst Thy enemies show Thy dominion  
And rule them by Thy own God-given right.
3. Thy people will be wholly glad and willing  
When Thou to Thy great battle callest them.  
Thy youth will come, as dew when day is dawning;  
Arrayed in holiness are Thy young men.
4. The LORD has made an oath He will not sever:  
"After the order of Melchizedek  
Thou art a Priest, a Priest to Me for ever."  
This He has sworn; He will not take it back.
5. The LORD is at Thy right hand; He will shatter  
The kings when He comes on the day of wrath,  
And all the nations He will judge and slaughter;  
He crushes those who stand up in Thy path.
6. Brooks by the way refresh Him with their water;  
He will in His campaign not faint or fall.  
He will not waver in His steps nor falter,  
But will lift up His head and rule o'er all.

PSALM 111

1. Praised be the LORD! I shall impart  
My thanks to Him with all my heart  
Among the righteous congregation.  
Great are the doings of the LORD,  
And all to whom they joy afford  
Will study them with dedication.
2. In majesty and glory stand  
The works of His almighty hand.  
His righteousness endures forever.  
He caused His wondrous acts to be  
Preserved in thought and memory.  
The steadfast love of God faile never.
3. The LORD upholds with open hand  
All those who honour His command:  
He keeps His covenant obligations.  
His mighty deeds has He made known:  
He gave His people, as their own,  
The heritage of heathen nations.
4. The wondrous works His hands have done  
Are just and faithful: everyone  
Can put his trust in God's direction.  
The LORD's decrees are firm and sure;  
They shall eternally endure,  
Performed by Him in true perfection.
5. To Israel He redemption sent;  
Eternal is God's covenant.  
His holy Name is all-surpassing!  
The fear of God is wisdom's source,  
A light to all who walk its course.  
O LORD, Thy praise is everlasting!

PSALM 112

1. Come, praise the LORD, let all revere Him.  
Blest is the man who loves and fears Him,  
Who takes delight in His commandments.  
Blest shall be also his descendants;  
They shall be mighty in the nation,  
For blest shall be their generation.
2. The just shall thrive in all endeavour;  
His righteousness endures forever.  
He is compassionate and gracious.  
Behold how light the gloom displaces:  
In darkest night it for him rises  
Who fair is in his enterprises.
3. While generosity revealing,  
He justice shows in all his dealings.  
He stands upon a firm foundation;  
Unending is his name's duration.  
The righteous, in the LORD confiding,  
Is not afraid of evil tidings.
4. His gifts he on the needy showers;  
Behold his honour, fame, and power.  
His enemy looks in vexation  
Upon his courage and elation,  
But though he plots, provoked and jealous,  
To nought shall come the wicked's malice.

PSALM 113

1. Come, praise the LORD, His might acclaim!  
Let all His servants praise His Name;  
From now forevermore adore Him.  
From where the sun begins to rise  
To where it sets in western skies,  
Let all with praises come before Him.
2. God far above all nations dwells;  
His glory heav'nly heights excels,  
For who compares in might and splendour  
With Him, the LORD, who from His throne  
On earth and on the heav'ns looks down?  
Let all to Him their praises render.
3. God saves the needy from disgrace  
And lifts them to an honoured place  
Among the princes of His nation.  
His favour makes the barren spouse  
A joyful mother in her house.  
Praised be the LORD with exultation.

PSALM 114

1. When Israel escaped from Egypt's reach,  
And Jacob's house from people of strange speech,  
The earth in terror trembled.  
God's sanctuary Judah then became  
And Israel His dominion, in the name  
Of Him, their LORD, assembled.
2. The waves rolled back, the sea fled at the sight,  
The Jordan turned its waters back in fright;  
Dread came on all creation.  
The mountains shook and skipped like frightened rams,  
The hills were tottering and hid like lambs  
In fear and consternation.
3. Why so afraid, why do you run, O sea?  
And Jordan, why do you turn back and flee  
At Israel's vindication?  
Why, mountains, do you skip like frightened rams?  
Why, hills, are you upset like shivering lambs  
In fear and desolation?
4. Tremble, O earth, before the LORD, and fear,  
For Jacob's God in glory did appear  
On Horeb's holy mountain.  
He turns the rock into a sparkling stream,  
The granite cliffs He makes with cascades gleam  
From newborn spring and fountain.

PSALM 115

1. Not unto us, but only to Thy Name,  
O LORD our God, so great in power and fame,  
Ascribe and give the glory.  
Thy steadfast love and faithfulness we laud!  
Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?"  
And heathen men ignore Thee?
2. Our God in heav'n, enthroned midst cherubim,  
Will bring to pass whatever pleases Him.  
The idols of the nations,  
Though skilful works of silver and of gold,  
Are merely things that hands of men did mould  
Into abominations.
3. Though they have mouths, they do not shout or speak,  
Their staring eyes are lifeless, blind and bleak,  
And see no sacrifices.  
They may have ears, but they can never hear;  
Their nostrils cannot smell though men draw near  
With frankincense and spices.
4. Men have made gods with hands that cannot feel,  
And at dead feet do their adorers kneel.  
Though precious stones encrust them,  
Yet from their mouths a sound can never come.  
Their makers will, like them, grow deaf and dumb,  
And so will all who trust them.
5. O Israel, trust in your mighty LORD!  
Praise Him, your help and shield, with one accord;  
His power will protect you.  
O house of Aaron, put in God your trust;  
All you who fear Him, in the LORD find rest  
When troubles may afflict you.
6. The LORD will not forget us but will bless  
His people who their faith in Him confess  
With thanks for all He gave them.  
On Aaron's house and on His Israel,  
On all who fear Him shall His blessings dwell;  
Both small and great, He saves them.
7. May He, the LORD, give you a rich increase,  
You and your children with His bounties please;  
May you be blessed from heaven  
By Him who heav'n's and earth's foundations laid.  
His are the heavens, but the earth He made  
The LORD to man has given.
8. The dead cannot in God the LORD rejoice;  
Those who go down to silence cannot voice  
A new song to revere Him.  
But we will bless the LORD for evermore,  
From this time forth and always Him adore.  
Praise then the LORD and fear Him.

PSALM 116

1. I love the LORD, the fount of life and grace;  
He heard my voice, my cry and supplication,  
Inclined His ear, gave strength and consolation;  
In life, in death, my heart will seek His face.
2. The cords of death held me in deep despair;  
The terrors of the grave caused me to languish.  
I suffered untold grief and bitter anguish;  
In my distress I turned to God in prayer.
3. I cried to Him, "Oh, I beseech Thee, LORD,  
Preserve my life and prove Thyself my Saviour!"  
The LORD is just and He shows grace and favour;  
In boundless mercy He fulfils His word.
4. The LORD preserves the helpless graciously;  
For, when brought low, in Him I found salvation.  
Come, O my soul, relieved from tribulation,  
Turn to your rest; the LORD has favoured me.
5. O righteous LORD, Thou in Thy sovereign grace  
Hast saved my soul from death and woe appalling,  
Dried all my tears and kept my feet from falling,  
That I may live and walk before Thy face.
6. I have believed, and therefore did I speak  
When I was made to suffer tribulation;  
I said in haste and bitter consternation:  
All men are false, and guileful ways they seek.
7. What shall I render to my Saviour now  
For all the riches of His consolation?  
With joy I'll take the cup of His salvation,  
And call upon His Name with thankful vow.
8. In all His people's presence I will pay  
My vow to Him, the LORD so good and gracious.  
To God the death of all His saints is precious;  
In times of grief He is their help and stay.
9. I am, O LORD, Thy servant, bound yet free,  
Thy handmaid's son, whose shackles Thou hast broken.  
Redeemed by grace, I'll render as a token  
Of gratitude my constant praise to Thee.
10. Jerusalem! Within your courts I'll praise  
The LORD's great Name, and with a spirit lowly  
Pay all my vows. O Zion, fair and holy,  
Come join with me and bless Him all your days!



PSALM 117

1. Come, all you nations, praise the LORD!  
Extol Him all with one accord.  
Great is His steadfast love toward us,  
Enduring is His faithfulness.  
All peoples, in the LORD rejoice  
And praise His Name with heart and voice.

PSALM 118

1. O come with thanks, God's goodness praising;  
His firm and steadfast love endures.  
Let Israel and the house of Aaron  
Proclaim His love forever sure.  
Let all who come to Him in worship  
Be in His steadfast love secure.  
Come to the LORD with your thanksgiving;  
His everlasting love endures.
2. I cried to God in my affliction;  
He answered me and set me free.  
The LORD Himself is my protection.  
What can a man then do to me?  
On all my foes I look in triumph;  
With God I face them fearlessly.  
I'll put no confidence in princes;  
The LORD, He shall my refuge be.
3. I was surrounded by all nations,  
But I subdued them in His Name;  
And though they swarmed like bees around me,  
I beat them down like thorns aflame.  
I was hard pressed and close to falling;  
To my support the LORD then came.  
He is my song and my salvation;  
His strength is evermore the same.
4. Hear in the dwelling of the righteous  
Their joyful songs of victory:  
"The LORD's right hand is high exalted,  
The LORD's right hand does valiantly!"  
I shall survive, I shall not perish;  
In song His deeds my theme shall be.  
Although the LORD has sorely chastened,  
He will from death deliver me.
5. I'll thank the LORD; now let me enter.  
Unlock the gates of righteousness.  
The righteous shall here be admitted,  
For this indeed the LORD's gate is.  
I thank Thee, LORD, that Thou hast heard me  
And rescued me from my distress.  
Thou hast become, LORD, my salvation;  
All those who seek Thee wilt Thou bless.
6. The stone the builders had rejected  
Was chosen as the cornerstone.  
This marvellous act, most unexpected,  
The doing is of God alone.  
This is the day the LORD created;  
Now let us sing with joyful tones.  
Grant us prosperity, we pray Thee;  
O LORD, save those who are Thy own.
7. Bless He who in the LORD's Name enters!  
We bless you from the house of God.  
He is our strength and our salvation;  
The LORD has shed His light abroad.  
Bind festal off'ings to the altar;  
With sacrifices bring Him laud.  
Shout forth your joy within His temple.  
O praise the LORD, for He is God.
8. Thou art my God; I will extol Thee.  
Thou, mighty LORD, hast rescued me.  
For Thy unfailing love and mercy  
I offer now my thanks to Thee.  
O thank the LORD for all His goodness,  
For most compassionate is He.  
His steadfast grace and lovingkindness  
Endure through all eternity.

PSALM 119

1. How blessed are those upright in their way,  
Who keep the LORD's decrees with dedication  
And in their walk of life His law obey.  
How blest are those who with determination,  
Wholeheartedly, seek Him by night and day  
And look to Him for guidance and salvation.
2. How blest are they who shun iniquities,  
Thy holy law with diligence observing.  
Thou hast laid down Thy statutes and decrees,  
To be obeyed with faithfulness unswerving.  
O may I but submit myself to these  
And so go forth, a steady course preserving.
3. I know that I shall not be put to shame  
If I but with attention undivided  
Heed the commands which Thou, LORD, didst proclaim.  
I thank Thee for the law Thou hast provided;  
I worship Thee and praise Thy holy Name.  
Forsake me not; by Thee let me be guided.
4. How can a youth preserve his way, O LORD,  
And keep it free of evil and transgression?  
By guarding it according to Thy word:  
O let my heart be wholly Thy possession,  
That by Thy servant sin may be abhorred.  
Let me not stray, denying my confession.
5. Thy words I have laid up within my heart;  
I keep Thy faithful promise as my treasure,  
Lest I should ever from Thy ways depart.  
O LORD, how blest Thou art beyond all measure.  
Thy statutes and decrees to me impart,  
For in Thy law I find my greatest pleasure.
6. In Thy commandments I take great delight;  
They are the subject of my meditation.  
The path marked by Thy law I'll keep in sight  
And guide myself against all deviation.  
Thy holy word I'll not neglect or slight;  
Thy statutes are the cause of my elation.

PSALM 119 cont'd

7. Grant the desire that in my heart arose,  
That I may keep Thy precepts while surviving.  
Remove my blindness and to me expose  
The marvels from Thy ord'nancess deriving.  
To me, a stranger here, Thy law disclose,  
Thy servant not of Thy commands depriving.
9. Though princes may together scheme and plot,  
Against me their conspiracies devising,  
I'll contemplate the precepts Thou hast taught;  
I'll study them, Thy testimonies prizing.  
In Thy instruction my delight I've sought,  
And in the counsel from Thy law arising.
11. LORD, comfort me as I in sorrow weep;  
According to Thy faithful word, restore me.  
Thy servant far from ways of falsehood keep;  
Grant me by grace Thy law and testimony.  
With vigour on the way of truth I'll leap;  
Thy sacred ord'nancess I've set before me.
13. Teach me, O LORD, the way set out by Thee,  
And I will keep Thy statutes to the finish.  
Bless me with insight so that constantly  
I may with all my heart Thy precepts cherish.  
Reveal the path of Thy decrees to me,  
For Thy commandments joy and pleasure furnish.
15. Keep me from sin and give me life instead.  
Fulfil the promise made to those who fear Thee.  
Turn Thou away the censure which I dread,  
For Thy decrees are good. How I sincerely  
Long for Thy law, by which I may be led!  
O righteous LORD, grant life, for I revere Thee.
17. O let Thy servant speak the truthful word;  
Let nothing me from Thy commandments sever.  
Thy ordinances hope to me afford;  
I vow to keep them always and forever.  
Then shall I walk in liberty, O LORD;  
I've sought Thy law as guide in all endeavour.
19. Be mindful of Thy servant and recall  
The steadfast word which Thou, O LORD, hast spoken.  
Though troubles and affliction me befall,  
Thy statutes do Thy faithfulness betoken;  
I have gained life through Thy commandments all:  
Thy holy promise never shall be broken!
21. Thy statutes are the theme of all my songs  
Wherever here on earth I may be dwelling.  
All through the night Thy praise do I prolong  
Within my heart, as from a fountain welling.  
I've kept Thy law, I sing with joyful tongue:  
Thy precepts are a blessing all-excelling.
23. With haste I act and ever am prepared  
To honour Thy commands without postponing.  
Though foes may for Thy servant set a snare,  
I've kept Thy law, no negligence condoning.  
At midnight I my thanks to Thee declare;  
I praise Thy just decrees, a psalm intoning.
25. To me, Thy servant, Thou hast kindness shown,  
Thy mercy with Thy promise underpinning.  
Instruct me, LORD, for it is Thou alone  
Who art of all true knowledge the beginning.  
Before I was afflicted, I will own,  
I went astray, but now refrain from sinning.
8. By night and day for Thy decrees I long;  
My soul consumes itself in constant yearning.  
Thou dost rebuke the proud for all their wrongs --  
Those who, accursed, from Thy commands are turning.  
LORD, set me free from their insulting tongues;  
I've kept Thy law, Thy holy will discerning.
10. Behold, my soul is cleaving to the dust;  
Revive me as Thou in Thy word hast stated.  
All I have done I have to Thee confessed,  
And Thou to me Thy answer hast related.  
Teach me Thy statutes, excellent and just;  
Then may Thy wondrous works be contemplated.
12. See how I to Thy testimonies cling;  
Do not subject me to humiliation.  
Thy precepts are my guide in everything;  
I'll run the course marked out by Thy dictation,  
For from Thy holy law true joy does spring;  
It is the source of all my exultation.
14. Unto Thy word of law incline my heart,  
That all Thy precepts I may search and ponder.  
From Thy commandments let me not depart;  
To thoughts of gain let not my spirit wander.  
Restrain me lest I wishful glances dart  
At vanities. O LORD, let me not flounder.
16. May Thy unfailing mercy come to me;  
As Thou hast promised, show me Thy salvation.  
Then if I meet with scorn and mockery,  
I'll give my answer without hesitation,  
For I have put my confidence in Thee;  
LORD, Thou hast sworn to grant me liberation.
18. Undaunted I will kings and princes face;  
I will before them speak of Thy salvation  
And not be put to shame or be disgraced.  
Thy law I love and hold in veneration.  
Thy precepts I revere; their path I'll trace.  
I will attend to them in meditation.
20. The proud have treated me with utter scorn,  
Yet from Thy law I have not deviated.  
I am consoled. Why should I sit and mourn?  
I keep in view what Thou of old hast stated.  
By gusts of flaming anger I am torn  
When evil men forsake Thy law and hate it.
22. O LORD, Thou art my portion and my lot,  
And to Thy words I am by vow committed.  
With all my heart Thy favour I have sought;  
Recall Thy promise, LORD, and grace exhibit.  
Whenever to Thy ways I turned in thought,  
To Thy instruction always I've submitted.
24. With all who fear Thee I keep company --  
Those for Thy precepts veneration showing.  
Thy mercy is poured forth abundantly,  
And with Thy love the earth is overflowing.  
O LORD, reveal Thy statutes all to me  
And so unfold the knowledge most worth knowing.
26. O Thou art good and, LORD, Thou doest good.  
Teach me; by Thy commands let me be guided.  
My name is smeared by false men, proud and rude,  
But with Thy law wholeheartedly I've sided.  
They in their godless hearts are gross and crude,  
But as for me, Thy words have joy provided.

PSALM 119 cont'd

27. How good it is that I have suffered pain,  
For thus in all Thy statutes Thou didst school me.  
Thy holy law, which Thou, LORD, didst ordain,  
Is better far than wealth; O let it rule me.  
Thy ordinances are my greatest gain,  
For gold and silver can no longer fool me.
28. LORD, Thou hast fashioned me with Thy own hands;  
By Thee I once was moulded and created.  
Give me then insight into Thy commands,  
That to Thy law I may be dedicated.  
Those who revere Thee shall acclaim my stand.  
Thy word I've trusted; hence they are elated.
29. I know, O LORD, Thy judgments all are just;  
In faithfulness Thou'et brought me tribulation.  
As Thou hast promised -- and Thy word I trust --  
Thy steadfast love shall be my consolation.  
In Thy compassion grant me life and rest:  
Thy law is my delight and exultation.
30. Let proud and godless men be put to shame;  
My cause they have deceitfully distorted.  
But Thy decrees I'll ponder and proclaim.  
Let by my words the faithful be exhorted.  
May in Thy law my heart be free from blame;  
I'll not be shamed when by the LORD supported.
31. LORD, how I long for Thee to set me free,  
But in Thy word I hope despite my anguish.  
To Thee I cry, "When wilt Thou comfort me?"  
With failing eyes I for Thy promise languish.  
A wineskin in the smoke I seem to be;  
Yet Thy commandments I will not relinquish.
32. Thy testimony I do not forget,  
The holy law which Thou hast instituted.  
O how long must Thy servant suffer yet?  
Judge Thou the proud by whom I'm persecuted.  
Their pits they dig and me with snares beset;  
They flout Thy word and wickedly refute it.
33. All Thy commandments shall forever stand;  
Help Thou me, for by falsehood I am hounded.  
The godless almost swept me from the land,  
But I have kept Thy law, in which I'm grounded.  
In Thy unfailing love my life defend,  
That I may heed what Thou, LORD, hast expounded.
34. Thy word is in the heavens fixed for aye;  
Eternal are Thy faithfulness and mercy.  
When Thou didst Thy creative might display,  
The earth was set immovable before Thee.  
By Thy decree, LORD, they stand firm today,  
For all things are Thy servants and adore Thee.
35. If Thy commands had not been my delight,  
I should have perished in my great affliction.  
Thy precepts I will not forget or slight,  
For Thou hast shown me life by their direction.  
Thy statutes I have pondered day and night.  
Since I am Thine, LORD, grant me Thy protection.
36. Though evil men may lie in wait for me,  
I will give thought to Thy divine instruction.  
All things, however perfect they may be,  
Are marred with flaws and headed for destruction,  
But the commandments once proclaimed by Thee  
Are unsurpassed, unequalled in perfection.
37. O how I love the precepts of Thy law!  
I pore forever o'er its hallowed pages.  
Since all the day I ponder it with awe,  
I'm wiser than my foes and all their sages.  
The insight which from Thy decrees I drew  
Excels that of my teachers and the aged.
38. In understanding I surpass the old;  
I heed Thy law, Thee, LORD, with fervour serving.  
From evil courses I my feet withhold,  
In faithfulness Thy holy word observing.  
Thou didst instruct me and Thy law unfold;  
Thus I have kept Thy precepts without swerving.
39. How pleasing are Thy promises, O LORD;  
Far sweeter than is honey to my palate.  
Thy testimonies true delight afford;  
Through them I gain the wisdom ever valid.  
Thus every path of falsehood I've abhorred;  
I shun deceit and from my ways repel it.
40. Thy word is as a lamp unto my feet,  
A lantern shining on the path before me.  
I've sworn an oath and here my vow repeat:  
I'll keep Thy just decrees, LORD, and adore Thee.  
I suffer in affliction and defeat;  
Recall Thy steadfast promise and restore me.
41. Accept, O LORD, my offerings of praise;  
Teach me the words that of Thy grace are token.  
Though I may live in danger all my days,  
Thy law shall by Thy servant not be broken;  
And though my foe his snares and pitfalls lays,  
I do not stray from all that Thou hast spoken.
42. Thy testimonies are forever mine --  
My heritage and permanent possession,  
My joy, which I shall in my heart enshrine --  
And to their praise I ever give expression.  
My heart to Thy commandments I incline,  
Unto the and refraining from transgression.
43. I hate the fickle and divided heart;  
I love Thy law. On Thee I am dependent;  
O LORD, my hiding-place and shield Thou art.  
I trust Thy word and hope in its fulfilment.  
You evildoers, all from me depart,  
That I may ever keep my God's commandments.
44. Uphold me, LORD, lest I should hope in vain,  
For on Thy word I base my expectation.  
Fulfil Thy promise and my life sustain;  
I look to Thee for refuge and salvation.  
O LORD, enable Thou me to maintain  
Thy statutes; let them be my meditation.
45. All those who from Thy precepts go astray  
Thou dost reject; in vain do they dissemble.  
The wicked Thou as dross wilt cast away;  
I therefore love Thy law. Let me not stumble.  
I quake when Thou Thy judgments dost display;  
In awe of Thee, O LORD, I fear and tremble.
46. I've kept Thy law; I've done what's just and right.  
O LORD, to my oppressors do not leave me.  
Be surety for my welfare, God of might;  
Let not my haughty foes oppress and grieve me.  
My eyes grow dim with watching day and night  
For Thee to keep Thy promise and relieve me.

PSALM 119 cont'd

47. Be mindful of Thy steadfast love, and deal  
With me in grace and mercy, I beseech Thee.  
O LORD, Thy statutes and decrees reveal,  
And all Thy wondrous testimonies teach me.  
Give me discernment and my blindness heal;  
Let all my pleas for understanding reach Thee.
49. How wondrous are Thy testimonies, LORD;  
I keep them for they truly are astounding.  
Thou dost reveal and open up Thy word,  
Thou shedding light into my dark surroundings.  
Thou insight to the simple dost afford,  
For Thy decrees shine forth with light abounding.
51. Save me from man's iniquitous designs,  
That by Thy precepts I may be directed.  
LORD, let Thy face upon Thy servant shine;  
Teach me Thy law and let my life reflect it.  
While shedding countless tears, I grieve and pine  
Because Thy law is not all all respected.
53. Thy promise is well-tryed and stands secure;  
Thy pledge I love, in Thee, O LORD, confiding.  
Though I'm of no account, despised and poor,  
I'll not forget Thy precepts and Thy guiding.  
Thy righteousness for ever shall endure;  
Thy law is truth, eternally abiding.
55. With all my heart, O LORD, I cry to Thee.  
Show me Thy answer to my supplication.  
Thy statutes I will keep unceasingly.  
I call on Thee and pray for preservation.  
Save me, O LORD, and listen to my plea,  
That I may keep Thy law with veneration.
57. My foes draw near and malice they intend;  
Far from Thy law are those by whom I'm hounded.  
But Thou art near; on Thee, LORD, I depend.  
Thy words are true; by them I am surrounded.  
As I've long known, Thy statutes have no end;  
For ever are Thy testimonies founded.
59. Great is, O LORD, Thy mercy in distress;  
Grant me the life by Thy decree awarded.  
Though countless foes Thy servant may oppress,  
Against departing from Thy law I've guarded.  
O how I loathe the traitor's faithlessness;  
I grieve when Thy commands are disregarded.
61. By princes I am hounded without cause,  
Yet I stand awed before Thy revelation.  
And I rejoice at Thy commands and laws;  
They, like great spoil, rouse me to jubilation.  
I loathe all vain deceit that ever was;  
I love Thy law but spurn abomination.
63. I hope in Thee, for me Thou wilt preserve;  
I do Thy will and keep Thy law before me.  
I heed Thy word and Thy commands observe,  
For peace and consolation they afford me.  
I do not from Thy testimonies swerve,  
For all my ways are plain, O LORD, before Thee.
65. O let my lips run over with Thy praise,  
For Thy decrees Thou hast in me implanted.  
My tongue will sing, a joyful anthem raise,  
For in Thy statutes justice is presented.  
Let Thy hand help me when Thy servant strays:  
I've chosen, LORD, the precepts Thou hast granted.
48. 'Tis time for Thee to act, O LORD. Behold,  
By evil men Thy law is violated.  
I prize it more than all the finest gold;  
My love for Thy commands is unabated.  
My steps from ways of falsehood I withhold,  
For by Thy law my course is regulated.
50. For all Thy law I long wholeheartedly;  
I pant and thirst, for all Thy statutes yearning.  
As is Thy way with those who honour Thee,  
Be gracious, LORD, Thy face towards me turning.  
Let works of evil get no hold on me;  
LORD, guide my steps, Thy promises confirming.
52. LORD, Thou art righteous and Thy law is just;  
Thy judgments Thou on righteousness hast founded,  
In all Thy statutes I have put my trust,  
For they in faithfulness are firmly grounded.  
By zeal consumed, I'm speechless with disgust  
When foes ignore what Thou, LORD, hast expounded.
54. Though now I suffer anguish and distress,  
Thy law is my delight and consolation.  
For everlasting is Thy righteousness,  
And faithful are Thy words of revelation.  
Thy servant, LORD, with understanding bless,  
That I may live, that I may see salvation.
56. I cry for help before the break of day;  
I trust Thy promise. Thy decrees I ponder;  
I've waited for the night so that I may  
Upon Thy words reflect in awe and wonder.  
LORD, hear me in Thy steadfast love, I pray;  
The proud are set on tearing me asunder.
58. See my affliction, LORD, and set me free;  
I keep Thy law and ever shall retain it.  
Plead Thou my cause and win release for me;  
Recall Thy promise, for I then shall gain it.  
But far from those who seek not Thy decree  
Is Thy salvation; they shall not attain it.
60. Behold, O LORD, Thy precepts I revere;  
I love Thy law, I scorn the wicked's railing.  
Preserve my life, O LORD, and persevere  
According to Thy mercy never-failing.  
The sum of all Thy word is truth most clear,  
And each decree shall ever be prevailing.
62. O LORD, I praise Thee seven times a day,  
For righteous is the law Thou hast provided.  
Great peace is theirs who honour and obey  
Thy precepts and who by Thy word are guided.  
No snares or pitfalls shall beset the way  
Of those who in Thy justice have confided.
64. Incline Thy ear and listen to my cry;  
According to Thy word hear Thou my sighing  
And give me understanding in reply,  
To me Thy testimonies not denying.  
On Thee I for deliverance rely;  
LORD, rescue me, Thy promised aid supplying.
66. I long for Thy salvation night and day,  
And Thy commandments my delight awaken.  
O let me live to praise Thy Name for aye;  
Let Thy decrees lend me support unshaken.  
I wander like a sheep that's gone astray:  
O seek me, LORD; Thy law I've not forsaken.

PSALM 120

1. I seek the LORD in my affliction  
And cry to Him for His protection:  
"O save me, LORD, from lips that slander,  
From tongues that will to falsehood ponder."  
Deceitful tongue, what shall He grant you,  
And with what more will He present you?  
Sharp arrows from a warrior's bow  
And burning charcoal's red-hot glow!
2. Woe me! Behold my tribulation,  
For Meshech is my habitation;  
Near Kedar's tents I'm forced to wander,  
Where treacherous tribesmen kill and plunder.  
Too long I have with those resided  
Who hate all peace and who deride it.  
I am for peace, which they abhor;  
Thus when I speak, they are for war!

PSALM 121

1. Unto the hills I lift my eyes.  
From whence comes all my aid  
When troubled or afraid?  
The LORD shall to my help arise,  
He who made earth and heaven.  
His aid is freely given.
2. Your Keeper slumbers not, nor shall  
He cause your foot to fail  
When dangers you assail.  
Lo, he who keeps His Israel  
Will neither sleep nor slumber:  
Nought shall your life encumber.
3. The LORD your Keeper is for aye,  
A shade on your right hand:  
You shall securely stand.  
The moon by night, the sun by day  
Shall not afflict or smite you,  
But with their radiance light you.
4. The LORD will guard and keep you when  
You meet with harm or strife.  
He will preserve your life;  
When going out or coming in,  
The LORD will you deliver  
From this time forth and ever.

PSALM 122

1. How glad I was when unto me  
They said, "Let us with one accord  
Go to the temple of the LORD,  
There to adore His majesty."  
Jerusalem, where blessing waits,  
Our feet are standing in your gates;  
Here shall we bring our supplication.  
Jerusalem is built so well:  
It is the pride of Israel,  
Securely knit are its foundations.
2. As was decreed for Israel,  
The tribes assemble from abroad  
With thanks unto the Name of God,  
For there His holy presence dwells.  
The seats for judgment are therein,  
The thrones of David's royal kin,  
There sit the rulers of the nation.  
Prosperity be unto them  
That love you, O Jerusalem,  
Who make your peace their supplication.
3. Let peace be found within your walls  
And in your palaces repose;  
May blessings be conferred on those  
Who dwell within your favoured halls.  
For friends and brethren I will say,  
"Let peace abide in you for aye,  
May nought disturb you now or ever."  
By reason of God's temple fair  
And for the mercy proffered there,  
I will invoke your good for ever.

PSALM 123

1. To Thee, O LORD who dwellest in the height,  
My eyes look up for light.  
Lo, as the eyes of servants, when neglected,  
Are to their lord directed,  
And as a maiden's glance for favour lingers  
Upon her mistress' fingers,  
Thus too our eyes look to our Master's face  
Till He provide us grace.
2. O LORD, our God, grant us Thy grace again,  
Grant us Thy grace again,  
For, lo, our ears are full of man's derision  
At our estranged condition;  
Our soul is sated with the scorn and chiding  
Of those at ease abiding,  
And of the proud who in their vanity  
Regard us haughtily.

PSALM 124

1. Let Israel now say in thankfulness  
That if the LORD had not our right maintained  
And if the LORD had not with us remained,  
When cruel men against us rose to strive,  
We'd surely have been swallowed up alive.
2. Yea, when their wrath against us fiercely roared,  
Then would the tide o'er us have spread its waves;  
The raging stream would have become our grave;  
The surging flood, in proudly swelling roll,  
Most surely would have overwhelmed us all.
3. Blessed be the LORD who made us not their prey;  
As from the fowler's net a bird may flee,  
So from their broken snare did we go free.  
Our only help is in God's holy Name;  
He made the earth and all the heavenly frame.

PSALM 125

1. Those who trust in the LORD resemble  
Mount Zion, firm and sure,  
Which ever will endure;  
It stands unmoved and will not tremble.  
So Israel will not be shaken  
Or be forsaken.
2. Jerusalem! The hills surround her  
And mountains stand on guard  
To keep her peace unmarred  
When threats of enemies confound her.  
So guard the LORD His own who hear Him  
And praise and fear Him.
3. The wicked's sceptre shall not humble  
The land He did entrust  
To people right and just,  
Lest they, enticed by evil, stumble,  
And they their hands to wrong be turning,  
God's counsel spurning.
4. Do good, O LORD, to those who hear Thee,  
To men good in Thy sight  
And in their hearts upright.  
Let in Thy Israel that fears Thee,  
When sinners to their doom are driven,  
Thy peace be given.

PSALM 126

1. When Zion was at last restored,  
Brought out of bondage by the LORD,  
It seemed a dream to us, and we  
All laughed and shouted joyfully.  
Then it was said among the nations,  
"To them the LORD gave restoration."  
The LORD has done great things for us;  
With joy and thanks His Name we bless.
2. Restore our fortunes by Thy hand,  
O LORD, like streams in desert land.  
Grant those who sow their seed in tears  
A golden harvest through the years.  
The sower bearing grain in sadness  
Shall certainly come home with gladness  
When, at the harvest, he retrieves  
The increase in abundant sheaves.

PSALM 127

1. Unless the LORD will build the house,  
Its builders toil to useless pain;  
The city's keepers watch in vain  
Unless the LORD its cause espouse.  
No enterprise can have success  
Unless the LORD decides to bless.
2. 'Tis vain to waken in the dark  
To start one's daily enterprise  
And slave till night to realize  
One's sustenance by endless work.  
For God His gifts on us will heap:  
To His beloved He gives sleep.
3. Lo, sons are precious gifts from Him,  
The body's fruit His blessed reward.  
The sons of youth like arrows guard  
The man whose quiver's full of them.  
He shall be mighty in the gate:  
No foe shall enter his estate.

PSALM 128

1. Blessed is the man who always  
Reveres and serves the LORD,  
Who, walking in His pathways,  
Obeys and keeps His Word.  
The fruit of all your labour  
As your reward you'll eat  
And, blest by His great favour,  
You'll have what you may need.
2. Your wife a vine resembles,  
Fruitful within your house.  
Like olive shoots assemble  
The children God allows.  
Around your table sitting,  
They are the rich reward,  
A blessing great and fitting  
For him who fears the LORD.
3. From Zion come your blessing;  
May you see Salem's peace  
And happiness progressing  
Until your days will cease.  
May you through life's duration  
Know that your seed is well  
And see their generations.  
Peace be on Israel!

PSALM 129

1. "They have oppressed me sorely from my youth."  
O Israel, make this your song forever;  
"They have oppressed me sorely from my youth,"  
Yet they have not prevailed against me ever.
2. They ploughed my back as if they ploughed a field;  
Long furrows drew those enemies who hound me.  
The LORD is righteous; He, my strength and shield,  
Has cut the cords with which the wicked bound me.
3. May all those who hate Zion be brought low,  
Put them to shame, LORD. Crush them by Thy power.  
Make them like weeds that on the housetops grow,  
That, dry and withered, die before they flower.
4. No reaper gathers those to have them threshed;  
Such worthless grass no binder cares to rescue.  
Those passing by will never say, "Be blessed!"  
And, "In the Name of the LORD God we bless you!"

PSALM 130

1. Out of the depths of sadness,  
O LORD, I cried to Thee;  
Thou who canst fill with gladness,  
Lend now Thy ear to me.  
O Fount of consolation,  
Attend unto my cry,  
Hear Thou my supplication  
And to my help draw nigh.
2. If, showing no compassion,  
Thou shouldst our sins record  
And mark all our transgressions,  
Who then could stand, O LORD?  
But Thou dost pardon fully  
All our iniquity,  
That we may serve Thee truly  
And fear Thy majesty.
3. I wait for God to hide me;  
My soul, with longing stirred,  
Shall hope, whatever betide me,  
In His unfailing word.  
For Thee, LORD, I am yearning  
With more intense desire  
Than watchers for the morning  
To dawn of day aspire.
4. Hope in the LORD, O nation!  
With Him is steadfast love;  
His plenteous salvation  
He'll send you from above.  
He will redeem His people,  
His chosen Israel,  
From all their sin and evil,  
That they His praise may tell.

PSALM 131

1. O LORD in whom I do abide,  
My heart and eyes are free from pride.  
I shun great matters, and I flee  
From things too marvellous for me.
2. But I have set my soul at rest.  
As, sheltered at its mother's breast,  
A child may linger quietly,  
My soul is quieted in me.
3. Hope in the LORD, O Israel;  
The just shall in His presence dwell;  
Trust in His mercy, Him adore  
From this time forth and evermore.

PSALM 132

1. Remember, LORD how war and strife  
And hardships burdened David's life;  
Recall his days with troubles rife;  
How to the LORD He swore aloud,  
To Jacob's Mighty One he vowed.
2. "I will not enter my own house,  
Or get into my bed, or drowse,  
Or sleep till I have paid my vows,  
Till I find for the LORD a place,  
For Jacob's God a dwelling-place."
3. In Ephrath the news we heard,  
In Jear's fields our hearts were stirred:  
We found the ark and spread the word,  
"Let us go to His dwelling-place  
And worship there before His face!"
4. O LORD, go to Thy place of rest,  
Thou and the ark, with power blessed,  
And let Thy faithful priests be dressed  
In holiness, and so proclaim  
Thy righteousness and wondrous fame.
5. Let shouts of praise the heavens shake,  
Thy saints their joyful anthems make;  
And for Thy servant David's sake,  
LORD, do not turn away Thy face  
From him, anointed by Thy grace.
6. The LORD has once to David sworn  
An oath He never will bemoan:  
"There will to you a child be born,  
A son shall from your body spring  
Whom on your throne I'll set as king.
7. "Your sons, if they My covenant hold  
And hear when I My law unfold  
Which I revealed in days of old,  
They also shall forever own  
Your kingdom and your glorious throne."
8. For Zion, by all men admired,  
The LORD has chosen and acquired  
And for His resting-place desired.  
"Jerusalem is founded well,  
For evermore I here will dwell.
9. "On her I will my blessings shed.  
Abundantly will she be fed;  
I'll satisfy her poor with bread.  
Her priests I'll with salvation dress;  
Her saints will shout in happiness.
10. "There I will cause, in David's line,  
A horn to sprout, a lamp to shine  
For My anointed as a sign.  
His enemies I'll clothe with shame,  
But deck his crown with lustrous fame."

PSALM 133

1. Behold, how good, how pleasant is the union,  
When brethren in the LORD have sweet communion!  
'Tis like the oil on Aaron's head,  
That, running down, upon his beard does spread,  
The oil that, flowing down his priestly dress,  
Anoints him unto holiness.
2. 'Tis as the dew on Hermon's brow descending,  
The dew that falls where Zion's slopes are bending,  
And makes their vintage overflow.  
So they who dwell in peace no want shall know,  
For there the LORD their God His blessing sends  
And grants the life that never ends.

PSALM 134

1. Come, bless the LORD with one accord,  
You faithful servants of the LORD,  
Who in His house do stand by night;  
And praise Him there with all your might.
2. Lift up your hands, in prayer draw nigh  
Unto His sanctuary high;  
O bless the LORD, kneel at His feet,  
And worship Him with reverence meet.
3. The LORD now bless you from above,  
From Zion in His boundless love;  
Our God, who heaven and earth did frame,  
Bless be His great and holy Name.

PSALM 135

1. Hallelujah! Praise the LORD  
And extol His holy Name.  
You that stand within His house,  
Praise His greatness, voice His fame.  
You His servants, shout His laud  
In the temple courts of God.
2. Praise the LORD, for He is good;  
Sing your praise to Him alone.  
He chose Jacob for Himself;  
Israel He made His own.  
Far above all gods is He,  
Great in power and majesty.
3. He does all that pleases Him;  
Heaven, earth, the deepest sea  
Do His bidding, heed His will;  
Clouds rise up at His decree.  
With the rain He lightning sends;  
Winds and tempests He commands.
4. Egypt's firstborn He destroyed;  
Man and beast He both did smite.  
He His signs and wonders sent  
And so humbled Egypt's might,  
Showing Pharaoh and his court  
That no man His will can thwart.



PSALM 135 cont'd

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| <p>5. Many nations He struck down,<br/>Kings and princes great in might;<br/>Og, the king of Bashan's hills,<br/>Sihon of the Amorites.<br/>He smote Canaan's kingdoms all,<br/>Gave their land to Israel.</p> <p>7. Idols are but precious ore,<br/>Fashioned by the hands of men.<br/>They have eyes but cannot see;<br/>Nations worship them in vain.<br/>They have mouths, but cannot speak.<br/>Why should men their favour seek?</p> <p>9. Come, O house of Israel,<br/>Sing the praises of the LORD.<br/>Come, O Aaron's priestly house,<br/>Bless His Name with one accord.<br/>Levi's house, your voices raise.<br/>You that fear Him, sing His praise.</p> | <p>6. Thy exalted Name, O LORD,<br/>Will stand firm for evermore;<br/>Thy great glory and renown<br/>Through all ages will endure.<br/>For the LORD will vindicate<br/>All who for His mercy wait.</p> <p>8. They have ears, but cannot hear;<br/>Nothing can they understand.<br/>In their mouths there is no breath,<br/>And their makers, in the end,<br/>Like their idols will become;<br/>So will all who trust in them.</p> <p>10. Blessed from Zion be the LORD,<br/>Who dwells in Jerusalem.<br/>Let His people all rejoice;<br/>Let them praise and worship Him.<br/>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD!<br/>Bless His Name with one accord.</p> |
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PSALM 136

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| <p>1. O give thanks unto the LORD,<br/>God of gods, with one accord.<br/>For His steadfast love is sure;<br/>It shall evermore endure.</p> <p>3. He by wisdom framed the skies,<br/>Made the earth from ocean rise;<br/>For His steadfast love is sure;<br/>It shall evermore endure.</p> <p>5. He made Egypt's greatness vain,<br/>Caused their firstborn to be slain;<br/>For His steadfast love is sure;<br/>It shall evermore endure.</p> <p>7. God divided the Red Sea,<br/>Led His people through it, free;<br/>For His steadfast love is sure;<br/>It shall evermore endure.</p> <p>9. Mighty kings of famous name<br/>He destroyed and put to shame;<br/>For His steadfast love is sure;<br/>It shall evermore endure.</p> <p>11. As a heritage, their land<br/>He gave into Israel's hand;<br/>For His steadfast love is sure;<br/>It shall evermore endure.</p> | <p>2. Praise the mighty King of kings<br/>Who alone does wondrous things;<br/>For His steadfast love is sure;<br/>It shall evermore endure.</p> <p>4. Gave the sun by day for light,<br/>Moon and stars to rule the night;<br/>For His steadfast love is sure;<br/>It shall evermore endure.</p> <p>6. He stretched out His mighty hand,<br/>Brought out Israel from that land;<br/>For His steadfast love is sure;<br/>It shall evermore endure.</p> <p>8. Pharaoh's host was overthrown,<br/>God through deserts led His own;<br/>For His steadfast love is sure;<br/>It shall evermore endure.</p> <p>10. Sihon, king of the Amorites,<br/>Og of Bashan by His might;<br/>For His steadfast love is sure;<br/>It shall evermore endure.</p> <p>12. He remembered all our woes<br/>And redeemed us from our foes;<br/>For His steadfast love is sure;<br/>It shall evermore endure.</p> |
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13. Food to all does He supply.  
Praise our God, enthroned on high;  
For His steadfast love is sure;  
It shall evermore endure.

PSALM 137

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| <p>1. Along the streams of Babylon, in sadness<br/>We sat and wept, remembering Zion's gladness,<br/>And on the willows there we hung our lyre,<br/>For there our captors did our songs require;<br/>While we lamented, joy and mirth they wanted.<br/>"Sing for us one of Zion's songs!" they taunted.</p> | <p>2. How shall we sing the LORD's song in our anguish<br/>When in a foreign land we mourn and languish?<br/>Jerusalem, for love of you I cry;<br/>My right hand wither if I you deny,<br/>My mouth be dumb if ever I forget you,<br/>If not above my highest joy I set you!</p> |
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PSALM 137 cont'd

3. Remember, LORD, how Edom showed no pity  
That day when Babylon razed Zion's city,  
How Esau's sons rejoiced and said to them,  
"Tear down, tear down all of Jerusalem.  
Destroy and raze it down to its foundations!"  
O God, do not forget their provocations.
4. O Babylon, destroyer, God shall smite you!  
How happy he, appointed to requite you  
With all the evil you to us have done!  
May all mankind your lonely ruins shun.  
How happy he who shall, devoid of pity,  
Dash on the rocks the children of your city!

PSALM 138

1. With all my heart will I record  
Thy praise, O LORD, and exaltation.  
Before the gods with joyful song  
Will I prolong my adoration.  
I bow down toward Thy holy place  
And for Thy grace and truth extol Thee.  
Thou like Thy Name, O LORD Most High,  
Didst magnify Thy Word so holy.
2. O God, whenever I cried to Thee  
Thou heardest me and didst deliver;  
For by Thy strength, when sore afraid,  
My soul was stayed, O gracious Giver.  
The kings of earth in one accord  
Shall thank Thee, LORD, with praise unbroken,  
When over all the earth is heard  
The wondrous Word which Thou hast spoken.
3. They all shall sing in joyful lays  
And laud Thy ways with jubilation,  
For great is God in majesty;  
The LORD is He of all creation.  
Our covenant God looks from on high  
With kindly eye upon the lowly,  
But He knows those from far who hide,  
In sinful pride, their ways unholy.
4. LORD, though I walk 'mid troubles sore,  
Thou wilt restore my faltering spirit;  
Though angry foes my soul alarm,  
Thy mighty arm will save and cheer it.  
Yes, Thou wilt finish perfectly  
What Thou for me hast undertaken;  
May not Thy works, in mercy wrought,  
E'er come to nought, or be forsaken.

PSALM 139

1. O LORD my God, Thou searchest me,  
My heart and mind are known to Thee!  
No things are hidden from Thy eyes  
When I sit down and when I rise,  
And from afar Thou art discerning  
My thoughts and hopes, my secret yearning.
2. Thou knowest all and Thou dost trace  
My journey and my resting-place.  
The ways I go are clear to Thee,  
And all my doings Thou dost see.  
My tongue, though silent, is revealing  
The inmost thoughts I am concealing.
3. Thou art before me and behind  
And Thou hast probed my heart and mind;  
Upon me Thou hast laid Thy hand.  
O LORD, how could I understand  
Thy wondrous knowledge or explain it,  
So high that I cannot attain it!
4. Where can I from Thy Spirit flee?  
Where do I find escape from Thee?  
If I to heaven's height ascend,  
Then I shall there before Thee stand.  
The grave can from Thy eyes not hide me,  
For even there Thou art beside me.
5. If at the break of dawn I wake  
And then the wings of morning take  
To fly into the farthest sea,  
And dwell there, far away from Thee,  
Then even there Thy hand shall lead me  
And Thy right hand shall hold and heed me.
6. If I say, "Let the gloom of night  
Surround me, hide me from Thy sight,"  
Then darkness is not dark to Thee;  
Through blackest night Thou seest me.  
With Thee the night is never lightless;  
Before Thy eyes the dark is brightness.
7. My inward parts were formed by Thee,  
For Thou, my God, didst fashion me  
When in my mother's womb I grew  
And neither light nor darkness knew.  
With awe, with reverent admiration,  
I praise Thy wonderful creation.
8. My frame was not concealed from Thee  
When I was fashioned secretly,  
Wrought in the hidden depths of earth.  
Before my mother gave me birth,  
Thy eyes did in the womb behold me,  
Thou didst with love and care enfold me.
9. My unformed substance Thou didst see,  
And all the days allotted me --  
When of them there as yet was none --  
Thou hast recorded, every one.  
Their number, LORD, Thou hast decided  
And in Thy book for me provided.
10. How precious are Thy thoughts to me,  
How vast their sum, their mystery.  
If I would count them they are more  
Than all the sand upon the shore.  
Thou art my God, Thy hand is with me;  
When I awake I still am with Thee.

PSALM 139 cont'd

11. O God, if only Thou wouldst slay  
The wicked, in their pride betray.  
O let them all from me depart  
Those men of blood and evil heart,  
Men who maliciously defy Thee,  
Who plan rebellion and deny Thee.

12. Do I not hate those who hate Thee?  
O LORD my God, Thou knowest me;  
Those who in pride against Thee rise,  
Thy enemies, I do despise.  
With perfect hatred do I hate them;  
May woes and misery await them!

13. Search me, O God, and know my heart,  
See if I from Thy ways depart.  
Try me and judge my inmost thought,  
And let me by Thy Word be taught.  
Keep me from wicked ways and heed me,  
In everlasting ways do lead me.

PSALM 140

1. LORD, rescue me from foes, I pray Thee;  
From all their fury, save my life.  
Their hearts plan evil to betray me;  
They daily stir up war and strife.

2. Their tongues are sharpened with their slender  
So that their words like serpents sting;  
Their poisoned lips to evil ponder,  
And they like vipers ruin bring.

3. LORD, from the hands of foes protect me  
And keep me safe from violent men,  
Those who are plotting to obstruct me.  
Grant me Thy help and grace again.

4. Men proud of deeds by Thee forbidden  
In stealth their traps for me prepare.  
To catch me they their net have hidden;  
They in my path have laid their snare.

5. Give ear, LORD, to my supplication.  
I say to Thee, Thou art my God.  
O LORD, my Helper, my salvation,  
Shield me in battle with Thy rod.

6. Grant not what foes may be desiring,  
Let not their evil plots succeed!  
Those who around me are conspiring  
Lift up their heads in pride and greed.

7. For all their misdeeds, proud and vicious,  
Grant their own mischief as reward.  
Let them be cast into abysses;  
With burning coals repay them, LORD.

8. Let slanderers not be established  
Where all the righteous honour Thee;  
Let men of violence all be banished  
And hunted down in infamy.

9. I know the LORD upholds the needy;  
With Him their cause will be secure.  
He saves them from the proud and greedy;  
Our God shows justice to the poor.

10. Surely the righteous will adore Thee  
And give their thanks to Thy great Name;  
The upright all will dwell before Thee  
And there Thy faithfulness proclaim.

PSALM 141

1. I call, beset by wicked scoffing,  
On Thee, O LORD, make haste to me!  
O let my prayer like incense be,  
My lifted hands like evening off'rings.

2. Set Thou a guard, O LORD, I pray Thee,  
To keep my mouth from evil's lure,  
The doorway of my lips secure.  
Hear Thou my voice and come to stay me.

3. Let none to evil deeds incite me.  
Keep Thou me from the company  
Of those who work iniquity,  
And let their dainties not delight me.

4. In kindness let a good man scold me  
Or strike me, but let not instead  
Oil of the wicked touch my head;  
Let not their evil deeds enfold me.

5. When to their judges they are given  
They shall, condemned, their misdeeds rue  
And learn, LORD, that Thy word is true.  
Against Thee they in vain have striven.

6. For as a rock, all cleft and broken,  
So shall their bones, O LORD, be strewn  
There where the grave for them is hewn,  
When Thou in Thy great wrath hast spoken.

7. O LORD my God, my eyes are toward Thee;  
I seek my refuge, LORD, in Thee,  
Make haste to come, to set me free,  
And let Thy might defend and guard me.

8. Destroy their trap, LORD, do not fail me,  
And of my perils be aware!  
Let them be caught in their own snare,  
While I escape, to praise and hail Thee.

PSALM 142

1. With all my voice to God I cry;  
I call upon the LORD Most High.  
Before His face my grief I show  
And tell my trouble and my woe.
2. To Thee I pour out my complaint,  
For I am weak, my spirit faint.  
When cares with gloom encompass me,  
The path I take is known to Thee.
3. They in my way have laid a snare.  
I look, but none sees my despair;  
I find no place of refuge near,  
No friend to whom my life is dear.
4. O LORD, my Saviour, unto Thee,  
Without a hope besides, I flee;  
Thou art my shelter from the strife,  
My portion in the land of life.
5. Be Thou my help when troubles throng,  
For I am weak and foes are strong;  
Thy servant out of prison bring,  
And thankful praises I will sing.
6. The righteous then shall gather round  
To share the blessings I have found,  
Their hearts made glad because they see  
How richly Thou hast dealt with me.

PSALM 143

1. Hear Thou, O LORD, my supplication,  
My fervent plea for Thy salvation;  
LORD, answer me with truth and right.  
Withhold from me Thy condemnation,  
For none is perfect in Thy sight.
2. My bitter foe has long pursued me;  
Unto the ground he has subdued me,  
And into darkness I've been led;  
He made me sit where light eludes me,  
Where I am left like those long dead.
3. My soul is drained of expectation;  
My heart is numb with consternation.  
When I remember former days  
I muse on all Thy preservation  
And ponder all Thy works and ways.
4. LORD, see my hands to Thee extending,  
My soul athirst for Thy defending.  
My spirit faints. O haste to save  
Lest I become as those descending  
Down to the darkness of the grave.
5. At dawn reveal to me Thy goodness,  
For I confide in Thee, my fortress.  
Cause me to see and know in full  
The way in which I should make progress,  
For, LORD, to Thee I lift my soul.
6. From all my foes me now deliver,  
For I have fled to Thee for cover.  
Teach me Thy will, I Thee entreat,  
For Thou hast been my God forever.  
Let Thy good Spirit guide my feet.
7. Revive me, LORD, to Thy Name's glory;  
In righteousness relieve my worry;  
In steadfast love, as with a sword  
Cut off my enemies before me,  
For I am still Thy servant, LORD.

PSALM 144

1. Blest be the LORD, my rock, He who sustains me.  
My hands are strong, my God for battle trains me;  
My fortress and my rock to whom I flee,  
He is my stronghold and delivers me.  
God is my shield when enemies surround me,  
And in Him I take refuge when they hound me.  
Praise Him who dwells between the cherubim,  
And who subdues the peoples under Him.
2. O LORD, what is a man that Thou dost heed him,  
The son of man that Thou wilt help and lead him,  
That Thou dost think of coming to his aid?  
Man is like breath, his days a passing shade.  
LORD, bow Thy heavens, see my foes assemble,  
Come, touch the mountains that they smoke and tremble!  
Flash forth Thy lightnings and fight Thou our fight,  
Send out Thy arrows, rout them in their flight!
3. Stretch from on high Thy hand toward those who hound  
And draw me from the waters all around me.  
O rescue me from my despair and woe,  
Deliver me from hands of alien foes,  
Whose mouths are filled with slander and with lying,  
Whose right hand carries falsehood. Hear my crying,  
See how their might will overpower me,  
Come to my help: whom have I, LORD, but Thee?
4. O God, to Thee a new song I'll be singing;  
My ten-stringed harp will with Thy praise be ringing,  
For to the kings Thou givest victory,  
Thy servant David Thou dost help and free.  
Save me from swords that for my life are vying,  
From alien foes, whose mouth is full of lying,  
Whose right hand is the right hand of deceit.  
Turn Thou their pride to shame and to defeat.
5. May in their youth our sons like saplings flourish,  
Like plants full-grown which Thou with rain dost nourish,  
Our daughters with their beauty us enthral  
Like graceful columns in a palace hall;  
And may our garners all be overflowing,  
On us their fruit of every kind bestowing.  
May in our fields our sheep so multiply  
That their ten thousands every count defy.
6. May all those blessings to Thy praise incite us,  
Our cattle, heavy with their young, delight us,  
Untimely birth and mischance not be known,  
No locusts raze the crops our hands have sown.  
Remember Thou Thy people's prayer and bless us.  
Remember Thou Thy people's prayer and bless us.  
How happy those who reap such rich reward!  
Yes, happy those whose king is God the LORD!

PSALM 145

1. I will exalt Thee, O my God and King,  
And bless Thy Name forever as I sing;  
Yea, daily blessing Thee, I will adore  
And praise Thy holy Name for evermore.  
Great is the LORD and worthy of all honour,  
His greatness is unsearchable for wonder.  
His acts are praised by every generation,  
His handiworks acclaimed with veneration.
2. LORD, the majestic glories of Thy state  
And all Thy doings I will contemplate;  
Yea, of Thy greatness I will tell at length  
And speak about Thy awesome acts of strength,  
Till men shall bring Thy goodness to remembrance,  
Sing of Thy righteousness with joyful reverence.  
Thou, LORD, art gracious, boundless in compassion;  
Slow is Thy wrath in dealing with transgression.
3. LORD, Thou art good to all that dwell below;  
Thou in Thy works Thy steadfast love dost show.  
They all present to Thee their thankful praises;  
Thy saints shall bless Thee to the end of days.  
They shall recount Thy kingdom's exaltation  
And praise Thy wondrous acts with veneration,  
That men may for Thy mighty deeds adore Thee,  
For they unfold Thy kingdom's radiant glory.
4. Thy kingdom shall continue without end,  
Thy sovereignty from age to age extend.  
Thou art a help and stay to those who fall;  
The lowly ones Thou liftest when they call.  
The eyes of all look unto Thee with reason  
For Thou preparest food for them in season;  
Thou openest Thy hand in gracious giving  
To satisfy the needs of all things living.
5. The LORD is just in all His will and way,  
And all His works His steadfast love portray.  
All men who seek His mercy find Him near;  
He satisfies all those who Him revere.  
He hears the cry of those who seek Him truly  
But shall destroy the wicked and unruly.  
My mouth to Him its praises shall deliver  
And all flesh bless His holy Name forever.

PSALM 146

1. Praise the LORD, who reigns forever!  
O my soul, bring Him your praise.  
I will bless my God and Maker  
And exalt Him all my days.  
Praises to my God I'll sing;  
While I live I laud my King.
2. Put no trust in prince or ruler,  
In a man however wise:  
In him is no help or power,  
When his breath departs he dies;  
Of his plans no trace he leaves  
When the earth his bones receives.
3. Blest is he who has as helper  
Him who listens to his pleas,  
Jacob's God, the LORD so faithful;  
He made heav'n and earth, the seas,  
And all creatures of the deep;  
He forever faith shall keep.
4. The oppressed will see God's justice,  
For the captives He sets free.  
He, the LORD, will feed the hungry  
And will make the blind to see.  
He lifts up all those bowed down;  
Them will He with mercy crown.
5. He, the LORD, protects the strangers;  
Wife and widows He sustains,  
Thwarting those whose way is evil.  
Praise Him who forever reigns.  
Zion's children, sing His laud.  
Hallelujah, praise your God.

PSALM 147

1. Come, praise the LORD! 'Tis good and pleasant  
To praise His mercy ever-present.  
Sing to the LORD, our God and Saviour,  
Who shows His steadfast love and favour.  
He builds Jerusalem's foundations  
And reunites His scattered nation.  
The LORD heals all the brokenhearted,  
For He binds up the wounds that smarted.
2. He counts the stars and knows their number;  
Each one He will by name remember.  
Our LORD is great, in power excelling,  
His understanding past all telling.  
The LORD lifts up the poor and humble,  
But causes wicked men to stumble.  
O come in thankfulness before Him,  
With harp and joyful song adore Him.
3. With clouds He covers all the heavens;  
Rain for the earth by Him is given.  
The LORD makes grass on hillsides flourish;  
All beasts and ravens He will nourish.  
His joy could never have its sources  
In warrior's legs or strength of horses:  
In those who fear Him He takes pleasure,  
Who make His steadfast love their treasure.
4. Jerusalem, now praise your Saviour!  
O Zion, thank Him for His favour!  
Your gates He strengthens by His power;  
His blessings on your sons He'll shower.  
Within your walls in peace He leads you  
And with the finest wheat He feeds you.  
He swiftly from His habitation  
Sends forth His word and proclamation.

PSALM 147 cont'd

5. When He the wintry cold increases,  
He spreads the snow like woolly fleeces;  
Like ashes He the hoarfrost scatters,  
And hailstones on the earth He clatters.  
Before His cold the water freezes  
Till He the icy bonds releases:  
He sends His word, and winds start blowing;  
He melts the ice, and streams are flowing!
6. By Him Jerusalem is guided;  
The LORD His statutes has provided,  
His steadfast love to Jacob showing,  
His word on Israel bestowing.  
He dealt thus with no other nation;  
They did not know His revelation.  
Praise then the LORD, your gladness voicing  
And in His steadfast love rejoicing!

PSALM 148

1. All praise the LORD, O sons of light!  
Extol Him in the highest height.  
Praise Him, His angels; from your post  
Praise God with all the heavenly host.  
You sun and moon, for seasons given,  
You shining stars aglow in heaven,  
You highest heights and cloudy sky,  
All praise the Name of God Most High.
2. Let them with praise before Him stand,  
For they came forth at His command.  
By His decree, which will endure,  
He fixed their place for evermore.  
On earth praise God with great devotion,  
You creatures of the deepest ocean,  
You frost and snow, you fire and hail,  
And stormwinds that perform His will.
3. Praise Him, you hills and mountains all,  
You fruit trees and you cedars tall;  
Wild beasts and cattle, creeping things,  
Praise Him with every bird that sings.  
Kings of the earth, with all its people,  
Princes and judges, strong and feeble,  
Young men and maidens, old and young,  
All praise the LORD with joyful song.
4. Let them extol and magnify  
The LORD, whose Name alone is high,  
Whose honour earth and skies adorn.  
He has raised up His people's horn  
And praise for Israel, His nation,  
Who worship Him with veneration,  
The flock He led from days of yore!  
Praise, praise the LORD for evermore!

PSALM 149

1. The LORD be praised, come and adore Him  
By singing your new song before Him;  
Let all the faithful with rejoicing  
His praises now be voicing!  
Be glad in Him, O Israel!  
Your mighty Maker's greatness tell.  
Let Zion's sons to God, their King,  
Their jubilant homage bring.
2. Let them proclaim His Name with dancing,  
With harp and song His praise advancing,  
For in His people God takes pleasure;  
They are His joy and treasure.  
The humble ones who to Him flee  
The LORD adorns with victory.  
Let all the just their glory voice  
And in their God rejoice.
3. Let them kneel down and sing God's praises  
While their right hand in vengeance raises  
A sword to end the profanations  
Of wayward heathen nations,  
To bring the peoples chastisement  
Because they God's command resent,  
To bind their kings with iron chains  
Until no foe remains.
4. Their kings and nobles will be smitten  
To execute the judgment written.  
God's enemies who scorn repentance  
Receive now their just sentence.  
The verdict which His hate stuns  
Is glory to His faithful ones.  
Sing, all you saints, with one accord  
God's greatness. Praise the LORD!

PSALM 150

1. Hallelujah! Praise the LORD!  
In His house, with one accord!  
Praise Him in the wide extent  
Of His spacious firmament,  
Sing His praise, sing it uprightly;  
His unbounded greatness praise  
And extol His wondrous ways;  
Praise Him for His deeds so mighty.
2. Praise Him with the trumpet sound,  
Let His glorious praise abound,  
Praise Him with the psaltery,  
With the harp His majesty,  
Praise Him with the pipe and timbrel;  
Praise Him with stringed instruments,  
With the flute His excellence,  
Praise Him with the sounding cymbal.
3. Let the clashing cymbals ring  
To the praise of God my King,  
Praise Him with a mighty sound,  
Let your voices shake the ground,  
Sing His praises with rejoicing;  
All that breathe, exult the LORD,  
Let all men His fame record:  
Sing His praises! HALLELUJAH!