

FILLMORE STUDY BIBLE

The Psalms

Metaphysically Interpreted



FILLMORE BIBLE SOCIETY

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Fillmore Bible Society

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Front cover image: Scottish Metrical Psalter, Psalm 16 (left), Psalm 19 (right). University of Edinburgh Image Collections. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 License.

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The Fillmore Bible Society

The Fillmore Bible Society are collaborators who comb through dozens of metaphysical books written by Charles Fillmore and his students as well as over 70 years of Fillmore articles and sermons for metaphysical insights into the Bible. They edit and submit these insights as short annotations which are then applied to the text of the text of the World English Bible, a contemporary-language update of the American Standard Version of the Bible, both online and in print.

This collaboration project is managed by TruthUnity Ministries, which is the publisher of The Fillmore Study Bible. In time the Fillmore Bible Society will become free-standing with its own board, Editorial staff and peer-review committee.

Members of the Fillmore Bible Society include:



Rev. Dan Beckett. Mark, Colossians.



Thomas Scheinler. Acts, Galatians.



Rev. Lisa Herklotz and Rev Jim Ernstsens.
Revelation to John.



Susan St John. Hebrews.



Rev. Mark Hicks. General Editor. John,
Acts, Romans, Corinthians 1.



Rev. Michelle Vargas. Luke.



Mary Salama. Matthew, Corinthians 2,
Thessalonians 1 & 2, Timothy 1 & 2,
Titus, Peter 1 & 2, Jude.

The Fillmore Study Bible

The Fillmore Study Bible provides the reader with an introduction to metaphysical Bible interpretation by offering annotations and commentary from the works of Charles Fillmore and his students. Many Bible students learn their theology by reading the annotations and commentary of study Bibles. Study Bibles have a theological point of view, typically Catholic, Evangelical or Mainline Protestant. The Fillmore Study Bible makes this method of study available to the Metaphysical Christian.

Metaphysical Christianity is an authentic and distinct expression of the historic Christian faith that acknowledges and embraces the influence of Platonic and Stoic Greek philosophy in the early development of Christian theology. Much of this influence has been suppressed in orthodox Bible commentaries because metaphysical interpretation relies on an inner knowingness as authority for spiritual matters. The annotations included here embrace inner knowingness as authority.

This study bible uses the *World English Bible* translation, which is a contemporary-language update of the bible used by Charles Fillmore, the American Standard Version. The language of the WEB is not American nor British, but *contemporary, world* English, making the text pleasant to read for the broadest possible audience of global English speakers. The WEB differs from several contemporary-language translations by not adopting gender neutral language but it has provided footnotes when gender neutral language would be appropriate.

We believe that our present day culture of information, science and technology is ready to restore to it's spiritual teachings the perspectives of original thinkers who gave us not only mathematics, ethics, democracy and medicine, but also deep insights into the inner world of soul and Divine mind—the Greek metaphysicians. We also believe that contemporary Christianity needs a contemporary, global interpretation applied to a contemporary, global biblical text. The Fillmore Study Bible is our offering for addressing these spiritual needs.

THE PSALMS



Scottish Metrical Psalter, Psalm 16 (left), Psalm 19 (right). University of Edinburgh Image Collections. Creative Commons Attribution 2.0 License.

INTRODUCTION TO THE PSALMS

Psalms (259-262)

<< Esther (256-259) • (LTBL Index) • Job (263-280) >>

The date 150 B.C. or shortly thereafter is generally given for the completion of the Psalter. This book belongs to the poetic literature of the Bible and is the noblest and undoubtedly the most beloved book of prayer for Jew and Christian alike. The Psalter is similar to The Proverbs in that it is a compilation, the one hundred and fifty psalms having been written over a period of hundreds of years beginning with the time of David.

Maccabean Kingdom (143-63 B.C.)

Simon, the last remaining brother of the Hasmonean leaders, succeeded Jonathan. Simon was a wise and noble sovereign, and the year 143 B.C. marked the beginning of real Jewish independence, which was to last for eighty years, or until 63 B.C. Simon was followed by

his son John Hyrcanus, a strong ruler who did much to enlarge the power and prestige of his kingdom.

When Hyrcanus died his eldest son Aristobulus I came to the throne, to be followed a year later by his brother Alexander Jannaeus. Jannaeus was the least religious and most unscrupulous of the Hasmonean kings. His was a despotic rule of twenty-six years, the influence of which was only partially offset by the more constructive reign of his widow Alexandra. At her death, after a reign of nine years, her two sons Hyrcanus II and Aristobulus II contended for the throne. This resulted in a vicious civil war. Hyrcanus allied himself with Antipater, the governor of Idumea, who was to play an important part in Jewish history.

In an effort to settle the contest for the throne, both Hyrcanus and Aristobulus sought to enlist the aid of Rome. Pompey, the Roman general, was in Syria at the time, and when approached by parties representing the contending factions, Pompey simply annexed the entire territory, making Judea a province of the Roman Empire. Thus, in the spring of 63 B.C., the Maccabean kingdom came to an end and with it Jewish independence.

Roman Rule (63-4 B.C.)

Pompey reinstated Hyrcanus II as high priest and administrator with the title of ethnarch, and appointed Antipater (the Idumean) as adviser to Hyrcanus. Antipater became the real power in Judea. The wily Idumean managed to keep Roman favor even after Julius Caesar deposed Pompey, and was made governor of Judea. He appointed one of his sons, Phasaël, governor of Jerusalem, and another, Herod, governor of Galilee.

Herod, like his father, was a clever statesman, and when Antony came to power in Rome, Herod was made king of all Judea. He came to be known as Herod the Great. He was an efficient administrator but utterly ruthless. The Jews despised him. To have a member of hated Idumea (formerly Edom) as “King of the Jews” (Matt. 27:37) caused them to spit at the very mention of his name.

Herod tried to win Jewish favor by rebuilding the Temple, making it a magnificent structure. The Jews were duly proud of it, though they continued to detest the man responsible for it. They knew he built it not for love of God but that Herod’s name might gain renown. In his later years, Herod became completely degenerate, and the Jews sighed with relief when he died in 4 B.C.

Earlier in that same year, or perhaps in 6 B.C., an event occurred that was to shake the foundations of the world and result in fulfilling the noblest ideals of the Hebrew prophets. Jesus Christ was born in the little town of Bethlehem.

[This Introduction continues in the Introduction to The Book of Job].

 Introduction to *The Psalms* by Elizabeth Sand Turner, *Let There Be Light* pp.259-262.

BOOK 1

PSALMS 1

The Happiness of Aligning With God

- ¹ Blessed¹ is the man who doesn't walk
in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stand on the path of sinners,
nor sit in the seat of scoffers;²
- ² but his delight is in Yahweh's* law.³
On his law he meditates day and
night.⁴
- ³ He will be like a tree planted by the
streams of water,
that produces its fruit in its season,
whose leaf also does not wither.
Whatever he does shall prosper.⁵
- ⁴ The wicked are not so,
but are like the chaff which the wind
drives away.
- ⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand in
the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the
righteous.
- ⁶ For Yahweh knows the way of the
righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall
perish.⁶

1. *Blessed*. The joy that comes from God to those whose thoughts are stayed on Him. "Everlasting joy shall be unto them" (Isa. 61:7) (RW/blessedness).

2. *wicked, sinners, scoffers*. The power of habit to determine character is here indicated. He who begins by walking "in the counsel of the wicked" (acting from unworthy motives) ends up sitting "in

the seat of scoffers" (having a consciousness of distrust, scorn, and contempt).

3. *Yahweh's law*. [The Hebrew term for law is torah, i.e., "instruction" or "teaching."] Metaphysically, divine law is the universal something in us of which we all are conscious, that tells us when we are doing right and when we are doing wrong. It may be defined as the innate knowing of right and wrong, and this knowing may be quickened, cultivated. This quickening does not come by the study of material things, but by concentrating the mind on the Christ. (MBD/judgment)

4. *On his law he meditates day and night*. Why is meditation on the divine law (good) beneficial to man? Because under the law man becomes the out picturing of his thoughts; also because meditation leads to understanding.

5. *Whatever he does shall prosper*. The wonderful thing about recognizing God as the Source of all riches, and taking Him into your financial affairs and into every department of your life, is that the more you do so, the more stabilized every phase of your life becomes. (Catherine Ponder, *The Dynamic Laws of Prosperity*, Ch. 1, *How to Stabilize Your Finances*)

6. *Yahweh knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall perish*. In what two ways is life considered in this lesson? It is considered first negatively, then constructively. The blessed man is he who does not conform to the ways of the world and who does not permit himself to be controlled by sense desires. Instead he follows the divine law, finding his joy in things of the Spirit.

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

World English Bible Footnotes:

- * 1:2. "Yahweh" is God's proper Name, sometimes rendered "LORD" (all caps) in other translations.

PSALMS 2

God's Promise to His Anointed

¹ Why do the nations rage,^①
 and the peoples plot a vain thing?
² The kings of the earth take a stand,
 and the rulers take counsel together,
 against Yahweh, and against his
 Anointed,*^② saying,
³ "Let's break their bonds apart,
 and cast their cords from us."
⁴ He who sits in the heavens will laugh.
 The Lord† will have them in derision.
⁵ Then he will speak to them in his anger,
 and terrify them in his wrath:
⁶ "Yet I have set my King on my holy hill
 of Zion."
⁷ I will tell of the decree:
 Yahweh said to me, "You are my son."^③
 Today I have become your father.
⁸ Ask of me, and I will give the nations for
 your inheritance,
 the uttermost parts of the earth for
 your possession.
⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron.
 You shall dash them in pieces like a
 potter's vessel."
¹⁰ Now therefore be wise, you kings.
 Be instructed, you judges of the
 earth.

¹¹ Serve Yahweh with fear,
 and rejoice with trembling.
¹² Give sincere homage to the Son,‡ lest
 he be angry, and you perish on the
 way,
 for his wrath will soon be kindled.
 Blessed^④ are all those who take
 refuge in him.

1. *Why do the nations rage?* [This passage was quoted by Peter in Acts 4:25-26 before the chief priests, scribes and elders in Jerusalem.]

2. *his Anointed.* You are the anointed of God, and don't waste your time looking for another; don't look back eighteen hundred or nineteen hundred years to Jesus Christ for your Savior. It is "Christ in you, the hope of glory". If you haven't got the Spirit of God at work in your own inner spiritual being, you will never be saved. Then, don't look for another; don't look for any theoretical system of religion; don't look for health from other Sources, but develop the Spirit in the man. (Charles Fillmore, *Look We For Another?*, Sermon given September 1, 1912)

3. *Yahweh said to me, "You are my son."* [The Anointed referenced in v.2 is here declared the child of God.]

4. *Blessed.* See Psalm 1:1. [The first and second Psalm introduce the main theme of the Book of Psalms.]

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 2:2. The word "Anointed" is the same as the word for "Messiah" or "Christ".

† 2:4. The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai".

‡ 2:12. or, Kiss the son.

PSALMS 3

I awakened; for Yahweh sustains me.

A Psalm by David, when he fled from

Absalom his son.


- ¹ Yahweh, how my adversaries have increased!
Many are those who rise up against me.
- ² Many there are who say of my soul,¹
“There is no help for him in God.”²
Selah.³
- ³ But you, Yahweh, are a shield around me,
my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.
- ⁴ I cry to Yahweh with my voice,
and he answers me out of his holy hill.
Selah.
- ⁵ I laid myself down and slept.
I awakened, for Yahweh sustains me.⁴
- ⁶ I will not be afraid of tens of thousands of people
who have set themselves against me on every side.
- ⁷ Arise, Yahweh!
Save me, my God!
For you have struck all of my enemies on the cheek bone.
You have broken the teeth of the wicked.
- ⁸ Salvation belongs to Yahweh.
May your blessing be on your people.
Selah.

1. *my soul*. [Hebrew, *Nephesh*.] Man is eternally one with the Father in His divine essence as the divine will, but when that will is sent forth to carry out the ideals of the Father, wisdom, a condition is set up, a state of consciousness called the soul, and its outer court called the body. (MBD/soul)

2. “*There is no help for him in God.*” “If you fully recognize that the God that dwells in you dwells in all men, you know that each one’s own Lord, the Christ within each one, will make no mistake. The greatest help that you can give to any man is to tell him silently, whenever you think of him: “The Holy Spirit lives within you; He cares for you, is working in you that which He would have you do, and is manifesting Himself through you.” Then let him alone. Be at perfect rest about him, and the result will be infinitely better than you could have asked.” (Emilie Cady, *Lessons in Truth*, Unity of the Spirit)

3. *Selah*. tranquil; secure; at rest; silence; pause; quiet; peaceful; serene; prosperous. Metaphysically, the state of mind in prayer in which we relax from our affirmation of Truth and thanksgiving for good received and to be received, and “wait” on God in the stillness, that the Holy Spirit may reveal more of its inspirations to us and that it may establish our thoughts and our heart more firmly in the divine harmony and good. (MBD/Selah)

4. *I laid myself down and slept. I awakened; for Yahweh sustains me.* David, in the midst of fear and uncertainty for his life, recorded, “I laid me down and slept, for the Lord sustained me.” Sleep is a time of recharging and infusing with divine power and can be a miraculous facet of our lives. When we retire we should lay all aside and put ourselves in the hands of the infinite. (Eric Butterworth *Speaks, A Mountain for a Pillow*)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 3:2. The Hebrew word rendered “God” is “אֱלֹהִים” (Elohim).

PSALMS 4

A Prayer to Lie Down and to Sleep in Peace

For the Chief Musician; on stringed instruments. A Psalm by David.

- ¹ Answer me when I call, God of my righteousness.
Give me relief from my distress.
Have mercy on me, and hear my prayer.

- ² You sons of men, how long shall my glory be turned into dishonor?
Will you love vanity and seek after falsehood?

Selah.

- ³ But know that Yahweh has set apart for himself him who is godly;
Yahweh will hear when I call to him.

- 4 Stand in awe, and don't sin.
Search your own heart on your bed,
and be still. Selah.
- 5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness.
Put your trust in Yahweh.
- 6 Many say, "Who will show us any
good?"¹
Yahweh, let the light of your face
shine on us.²
- 7 You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when their grain³ and
their new wine are increased.⁴
- 8 In peace I will both lay myself down and
sleep,
for you alone, Yahweh, make me live
in safety.

1. Who will show us any good? In what frame of

mind is the person who questions the good of living? In a negative frame of mind, in which zest for life is lacking. When we lose all expectation of the coming of good we see little left of life for.

2. *Yahweh, let the light of your face shine on us.* The light of Yahweh's countenance is the favor that comes to one who retains his zest for life, a lively interest in others, and a spirit of love, joy and wisdom.

3. *more than when their grain.* By what does man live besides bread? Chiefly by the spirit of good will toward others and reverence for the universal life, which leads him to believe in the reality of the good and look for its manifestation in his life and affairs. "Every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" is every active, vital expression of good.

4. *and their new wine are increased.* more satisfying than temporal prosperity is the gladness that comes from the heart as a result of the presence in it of quickened love and understanding, "Thou hast put gladness in my heart."

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 5

Trust in God for Deliverance from Enemies

**For the Chief Musician, with the flutes.
A Psalm by David.**

- 1 Give ear to my words, Yahweh.
Consider my meditation.
- 2 Listen to the voice of my cry, my King
and my God,
for I pray to you.
- 3 Yahweh, in the morning you will hear my
voice.
In the morning I will lay my requests
before you, and will watch
expectantly.
- 4 For you are not a God who has pleasure
in wickedness.
Evil can't live with you.
- 5 The arrogant will not stand in your
sight.
You hate all workers of iniquity.
- 6 You will destroy those who speak lies.
Yahweh abhors the bloodthirsty and
deceitful man.
- 7 But as for me, in the abundance of your

loving kindness I will come into
your house.

I will bow toward your holy temple in
reverence of you.

- 8 Lead me, Yahweh, in your righteousness
because of my enemies.
Make your way straight before my
face.

- 9 For there is no faithfulness in their
mouth.

Their heart is destruction.
Their throat is an open tomb.
They flatter with their tongue.

- 10 Hold them guilty, God.
Let them fall by their own counsels.
Thrust them out in the multitude of their
transgressions,
for they have rebelled against you.

- 11 But let all those who take refuge in you
rejoice.

Let them always shout for joy,
because you defend them.
Let them also who love your name be
joyful in you.

¹² For you will bless the righteous.
Yahweh, you will surround him with

favor as with a shield.

PSALMS 6

Prayer for Recovery from Grave Illness

**For the Chief Musician; on stringed instruments, upon the eight-stringed lyre.
A Psalm by David.**

¹ Yahweh, don't rebuke me in your anger,
neither discipline me in your wrath.
² Have mercy on me, Yahweh, for I am faint.
Yahweh, heal me, for my bones are troubled.
³ My soul is also in great anguish.
But you, Yahweh—how long?
⁴ Return, Yahweh. Deliver my soul,
and save me for your loving kindness' sake.
⁵ For in death there is no memory of you.
In Sheol,* who shall give you thanks?

⁶ I am weary with my groaning.
Every night I flood my bed.
I drench my couch with my tears.
⁷ My eye wastes away because of grief.
It grows old because of all my adversaries.
⁸ Depart from me, all you workers of iniquity,
for Yahweh has heard the voice of my weeping.
⁹ Yahweh has heard my supplication.
Yahweh accepts my prayer.
¹⁰ May all my enemies be ashamed and dismayed.
They shall turn back, they shall be disgraced suddenly.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 6:5. Sheol is the place of the dead.

PSALMS 7

Plea for Help against Persecutors

A meditation by David, which he sang to Yahweh, concerning the words of Cush, the Benjamite.

¹ Yahweh, my God, I take refuge in you.
Save me from all those who pursue me, and deliver me,
² lest they tear apart my soul like a lion,
ripping it in pieces, while there is no one to deliver.
³ Yahweh, my God, if I have done this,
if there is iniquity in my hands,

⁴ if I have rewarded evil to him who was at peace with me
(yes, I have delivered him who without cause was my adversary),
⁵ let the enemy pursue my soul, and overtake it;
yes, let him tread my life down to the earth,
and lay my glory in the dust. **Selah.**
⁶ Arise, Yahweh, in your anger.

- Lift up yourself against the rage of my adversaries.
 Awake for me. You have commanded judgment.
 7 Let the congregation of the peoples surround you.
 Rule over them on high.
 8 Yahweh administers judgment to the peoples.
 Judge me, Yahweh, according to my righteousness,
 and to my integrity that is in me.
 9 Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end,
 but establish the righteous;
 their minds and hearts are searched by the righteous God.
 10 My shield is with God,
 who saves the upright in heart.
 11 God is a righteous judge,
 yes, a God who has indignation every day.
- 12 If a man doesn't repent, he will sharpen his sword;
 he has bent and strung his bow.
 13 He has also prepared for himself the instruments of death.
 He makes ready his flaming arrows.
 14 Behold,* he travails with iniquity.
 Yes, he has conceived mischief,
 and brought out falsehood.
 15 He has dug a hole,
 and has fallen into the pit which he made.
 16 The trouble he causes shall return to his own head.
 His violence shall come down on the crown of his own head.
 17 I will give thanks to Yahweh according to his righteousness,
 and will sing praise to the name of Yahweh Most High.

World English Bible Footnotes:

- * 7:14. "Behold", from "הִנֵּה", means look at, take notice, observe, see, or gaze at. It is often used as an interjection.

PSALMS 8

The Greatness, Dignity, and Glory Of Human Beings¹

- For the Chief Musician; on an instrument of Gath. A Psalm by David.
- 1 Yahweh, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
 You have set your glory above the heavens!
- 2 From the lips of babes and infants² you have established strength,
 because of your adversaries, that you might silence the enemy and the avenger.
- 3 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
 the moon and the stars, which you have ordained,
- 4 what is man, that you think of him?
 What is the son of man, that you care for him?³
- 5 For you have made him a little lower than the angels,*⁴
 and crowned him with glory and honor.
- 6 You make him ruler over the works of your hands.
 You have put all things under his feet:⁵
- 7 All sheep and cattle,
 yes, and the animals of the field,
 the birds of the sky, the fish of the sea,
 and whatever passes through the paths of the seas.
- 9 Yahweh, our Lord,
 how majestic is your name in all the earth!

1. This Psalm is a beautiful, majestic portrayal of the greatness of God and also the greatness, dignity, and glory of human beings. The writer of this Psalm had a more noble vision of God and man. It has a depth of meaning that many have not perceived as yet. The barriers of human consciousness that depict human beings as weaklings must be broken if we are to be able to accept the truth about ourselves, our Real Self, and through this Real Self, the great potential of the human self. Jesus quoted from this Psalm trying to get his disciples to realize and accept a higher vision. (Jim Lewis, *Biblical Favorites*, Psalm 8)


2. *From the lips of babes and infants.* Quoted in Matthew 21:16. In the passage is a constructive statement is followed by a negative one as part of the same thought. In quoting the passage Jesus omitted the negative statement and gave a free rendering of the part he quoted.

3. *What is the son of man, that you care for him?* Jesus is referred to as both the Son of God (Luke 1:35; Mark 1:11) and the Son of man (Matt. 12:8, 40). The "Son of man" is the thought of this spiritual man, or idea of God, and like all thoughts is subject to the limitations of its own identity. By voluntarily casting off these limitations the man identity may

come into realization of its own universality as the only begotten of God. (Jim Lewis)

4. *a little lower than the angels.* Here, and in the The King James version, says that man is a little lower than the angels. But when we read the true translation it goes like this, "Yet thou had made him little less than God, and does crown him with glory and honor." The King James translators must have been very timid about proclaiming the truth about man. The Psalm was originally written in Hebrew and it specifically says "Elohim", meaning God. When the Hebrew Bible was translated into the Greek, the translators used "angelos", angels, instead of God, and this error was carried over into the English. So the true translation is "a little less than God" and not "a little lower than angels." (Jim Lewis)

5. *You have put all things under his feet.* All things under his feet means that control comes through spiritual understanding. It is an understanding that all manifestations must be in harmony with universal law. The human ego wants to do things its own way. It looks for ways around the law but it will never find the way around. The easy way is to obey the law. Obedience brings forth the greatest blessings. (Jim Lewis)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

World English Bible Footnotes:

- * 8:5. Hebrew: Elohim. The word Elohim, used here, usually means "God", but can also mean "gods", "princes", or "angels". The Septuagint reads "angels" here. See also the quote from the Septuagint in Hebrews 2:7.

PSALMS 9

God's Power and Justice

For the Chief Musician. Set to "The Death of the Son." A Psalm by David.

- ¹ I will give thanks to Yahweh with my whole heart.
I will tell of all your marvelous works.
² I will be glad and rejoice in you.
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.
³ When my enemies turn back,
they stumble and perish in your presence.
⁴ For you have maintained my just cause.
You sit on the throne judging righteously.

- ⁵ You have rebuked the nations.
You have destroyed the wicked.
You have blotted out their name forever and ever.
⁶ The enemy is overtaken by endless ruin.
The very memory of the cities which you have overthrown has perished.
⁷ But Yahweh reigns forever.
He has prepared his throne for judgment.
⁸ He will judge the world in righteousness.
He will administer judgment to the peoples in uprightness.

- 9 Yahweh will also be a high tower for the oppressed;
a high tower in times of trouble.
- 10 Those who know your name will put their trust in you,
for you, Yahweh, have not forsaken those who seek you.
- 11 Sing praises to Yahweh, who dwells in Zion,
and declare among the people what he has done.
- 12 For he who avenges blood remembers them.
He doesn't forget the cry of the afflicted.
- 13 Have mercy on me, Yahweh.
See my affliction by those who hate me,
and lift me up from the gates of death,
that I may show all of your praise.
I will rejoice in your salvation in the gates of the daughter of Zion.
- 14 The nations have sunk down in the pit that they made.
In the net which they hid, their own foot is taken.
- 16 Yahweh has made himself known.
He has executed judgment.
The wicked is snared by the work of his own hands.
Meditation. Selah.
- 17 The wicked shall be turned back to Sheol,*
even all the nations that forget God.
- 18 For the needy shall not always be forgotten,
nor the hope of the poor perish forever.
- 19 Arise, Yahweh! Don't let man prevail.
Let the nations be judged in your sight.
- 20 Put them in fear, Yahweh.
Let the nations know that they are only men.
Selah.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 9:17. Sheol is the place of the dead.

PSALMS 10

Prayer for Deliverance from Enemies

- 1 Why do you stand far off, Yahweh?
Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?
- 2 In arrogance, the wicked hunt down the weak.
They are caught in the schemes that they devise.
- 3 For the wicked boasts of his heart's cravings.
He blesses the greedy and condemns Yahweh.
- 4 The wicked, in the pride of his face,
has no room in his thoughts for God.
- 5 His ways are prosperous at all times.
He is arrogant, and your laws are far from his sight.
As for all his adversaries, he sneers at them.
- 6 He says in his heart, "I shall not be shaken.
For generations I shall have no trouble."
- 7 His mouth is full of cursing, deceit, and oppression.
Under his tongue is mischief and iniquity.
- 8 He lies in wait near the villages.
From ambushes, he murders the innocent.
His eyes are secretly set against the helpless.
- 9 He lurks in secret as a lion in his ambush.
He lies in wait to catch the helpless.
He catches the helpless when he draws him in his net.

- ¹⁰ The helpless are crushed.
 They collapse.
 They fall under his strength.
¹¹ He says in his heart, "God has
 forgotten.
 He hides his face.
 He will never see it."
¹² Arise, Yahweh!
 God, lift up your hand!
 Don't forget the helpless.
¹³ Why does the wicked person condemn
 God,
 and say in his heart, "God won't call ¹⁸
 me into account?"
¹⁴ But you do see trouble and grief.
 You consider it to take it into your
 hand.
- You help the victim and the
 fatherless.
¹⁵ Break the arm of the wicked.
 As for the evil man, seek out his
 wickedness until you find none.
¹⁶ Yahweh is King forever and ever!
 The nations will perish out of his
 land.
¹⁷ Yahweh, you have heard the desire of
 the humble.
 You will prepare their heart.
 You will cause your ear to hear,
 to judge the fatherless and the
 oppressed,
 that man who is of the earth may
 terrify no more.

PSALMS 11

Song of Trust in God

For the Chief Musician. By David.

- ¹ In Yahweh, I take refuge.
 How can you say to my soul, "Flee as
 a bird to your mountain"?
² For, behold, the wicked bend their
 bows.
 They set their arrows on the strings,
 that they may shoot in darkness at
 the upright in heart.
³ If the foundations are destroyed,
 what can the righteous do?
⁴ Yahweh is in his holy temple.
- Yahweh is on his throne in heaven.
 His eyes observe.
 His eyes examine the children of
 men.
⁵ Yahweh examines the righteous,
 but his soul hates the wicked and him
 who loves violence.
⁶ On the wicked he will rain blazing coals;
 fire, sulfur, and scorching wind shall
 be the portion of their cup.
⁷ For Yahweh is righteous.
 He loves righteousness.
 The upright shall see his face.

PSALMS 12

Plea for Help in Evil Times

For the Chief Musician; upon an eight-stringed lyre. A Psalm of David.

- ¹ Help, Yahweh; for the godly man ceases.
 For the faithful fail from among the
- children of men.
² Everyone lies to his neighbor.
 They speak with flattering lips, and
 with a double heart.
³ May Yahweh cut off all flattering lips,

and the tongue that boasts,
 4 who have said, "With our tongue we will prevail.
 Our lips are our own.
 Who is lord over us?"
 5 "Because of the oppression of the weak
 and because of the groaning of the needy,
 I will now arise," says Yahweh;
 "I will set him in safety from those who malign him."

6 Yahweh's words are flawless words,
 as silver refined in a clay furnace,
 purified seven times.
 7 You will keep them, Yahweh.
 You will preserve them from this generation forever.
 8 The wicked walk on every side,
 when what is vile is exalted among the sons of men.

PSALMS 13

Trusting and Resting in God

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.

1 How long, Yahweh?
 Will you forget me forever?
 How long will you hide your face from me?
 2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul,¹
 having sorrow in my heart every day?
 How long shall my enemy triumph over me?
 3 Behold, and answer me, Yahweh, my God.
 Give light to my eyes,² lest I sleep in death;
 4 lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed against him;"
 lest my adversaries rejoice when I fall.
 5 But I trust in your loving kindness.³
 My heart rejoices in your salvation.
 6 I will sing to Yahweh,
 because he has been good to me.⁴

1. *How long shall I take counsel in my soul?* NRSV: How long must I bear pain in my soul? [The psalmist is suffering from depression]

2. *Give light to my eyes.* [A plea to be raised to a higher state of consciousness]

3. *But I trust in your loving kindness.* We need

to rise above this state of tension, to one of living trust. There is such a thing as an indolent shifting of our responsibility upon an outside God, which means laziness, and which never brings anything into manifestation. But there is also a state of trustful passivity, which we must enter into to do the highest work. There are some things which we are to do ourselves, but there are others which God does not expect us to do. (When I speak of ourselves as something apart from, I simply mean our conscious selves. We are always one with God, but we do not always realize it consciously. I speak of ourselves as the conscious part of us.) They are His part, and our greatest trouble lies in our trying to do God's part, just because we have not learned how to trust Him to do it. We are, with our conscious thought, to speak the words of life, of trust, of abundant supply, and we are to act as though the words were true; but the "bringing it to pass" is the work of a Power that is higher than we - a Presence which we do not see with these mortal eyes, but which is Omnipotent, and which will always rush to our rescue when we trust it. (Emilie Cady, *Trusting and Resting In His Name*, 1892 tract.)

4. *I will sing to Yahweh, because he has been good to me.* Catherine Ponder writes "A college professor made a success map picturing the increased financial income he desired. As he daily looked at that financial map, the increased income came in the form of a new job. Later he looked at this success map to see what had brought results. [He discovered that] below the pictured money was a prayer of thanksgiving, which he had used daily—long before the money had appeared. His prayer had been the words of the Psalmist: "I will sing unto Jehovah, because He hath dealt bountifully with me." (Catherine Ponder Speaks)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 14

Denunciation of Godlessness

For the Chief Musician. By David.

- ¹ The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."
They are corrupt.
They have done abominable deeds.
There is no one who does good.
- ² Yahweh looked down from heaven on the children of men,
to see if there were any who understood,
who sought after God.
- ³ They have all gone aside.
They have together become corrupt.
There is no one who does good, no,
not one.

- ⁴ Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge,
who eat up my people as they eat bread,
and don't call on Yahweh?
- ⁵ There they were in great fear,
for God is in the generation of the righteous.
- ⁶ You frustrate the plan of the poor,
because Yahweh is his refuge.
- ⁷ Oh that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion!
When Yahweh restores the fortunes of his people,
then Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad.

PSALMS 15

Who Shall Abide in God's Sanctuary?

A Psalm by David.

shaken.⁴

- ¹ Yahweh, who shall dwell in your sanctuary?
Who shall live on your holy hill?¹
- ² He who walks blamelessly and does what is right,²
and speaks truth in his heart;
- ³ he who doesn't slander with his tongue,
nor does evil to his friend,
nor casts slurs against his fellow man;
- ⁴ in whose eyes a vile man is despised,
but who honors those who fear Yahweh;³
he who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and doesn't change;
- ⁵ he who doesn't lend out his money for usury,
nor take a bribe against the innocent.
He who does these things shall never be

1. *sanctuary, holy hill.* The sanctuary (ASV, *tabernacle*) represents the body, and "your holy hill" represents consciousness of God. See MBD/tabernacle.

2. *does what is right.* (ASV, *worketh righteousness*) A state of harmony established in consciousness through the right use of God-given attributes. It leads directly to eternal life. Truth working in consciousness brings forth the perfect salvation of the whole person—Spirit, soul, and body—and righteousness (right relation) is expressed in all our affairs. (RW/righteousness)

3. *fear Yahweh.* The word fear implies reverence or respect for the law of God (MBD/fear). [The word in Hebrew, *yârê*, means morally reverent.]

4. *He who does these things shall never be shaken.* What is essential to our gaining a consciousness of God? Uprightness, sincerity, truthfulness, loyalty, good will, integrity, liberal mindedness, and fairness are essential.

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 16

Safety for Body and Soul

A Poem by David.

- ¹ Preserve me, God, for I take refuge¹ in you.
² My soul, you have said to Yahweh, "You are my Lord.
 Apart from you I have no good thing."
³ As for the saints who are in the earth, they are the excellent ones in whom is all my delight.
⁴ Their sorrows shall be multiplied who give gifts to another god.
 Their drink offerings of blood I will not offer,
 nor take their names on my lips.
⁵ Yahweh assigned my portion and my cup.
 You made my lot secure.
⁶ The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places.
 Yes, I have a good inheritance.
⁷ I will bless Yahweh, who has given me counsel.
 Yes, my heart instructs me in the night seasons.
⁸ I have set Yahweh always before me.
 Because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
⁹ Therefore my heart² is glad, and my tongue³ rejoices.
 My body⁴ shall also dwell in safety.
¹⁰ For you will not leave my soul⁵ in

Sheol,*

neither will you allow your holy one to see corruption.

- ¹¹ You will show me the path of life.
 In your presence is fullness of joy.
 In your right hand there are pleasures forever more.


1. *take refuge*. A conscious centering of the mind in divine Principle within us by means of repeated affirmations of our faith and trust in Principle. (RW/abiding)

2. *heart*. As used in Scripture, the word heart represents the subconscious mind. "Out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh" (Luke 6:45). (RW/heart)

3. *tongue (glory, ASV; soul, NRSV)*. As interpreted in the ASV, glory is the realization of divine unity; the blending and merging of our mind with God-Mind (RW/glory).

4. *body (flesh, ASV)*. The outer expression of consciousness; the precipitation of the thinking part of human beings (RW/body).

5. *soul*. Soul is our consciousness—that which we have apprehended or developed out of Spirit; also the impressions that we have received from the outer world. Soul is both conscious and subconscious. Body is the form of expression of both spirit and soul. In its invisible forces it expresses Spirit, and in its seeming materiality it pictures the limitations of soul. When we put out of consciousness all limitations and realize the perfection of Spirit, our body will be perfect; in other words the salvation of the soul results in the redemption or spiritualization of the body. (MBD/soul)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 16:10. Sheol is the place of the dead.

PSALMS 17

Prayer for Deliverance from Persecutors

A Prayer by David.

- ¹ Hear, Yahweh, my righteous plea.
Give ear to my prayer that doesn't go
out of deceitful lips.
- ² Let my sentence come out of your
presence.
Let your eyes look on equity.
- ³ You have proved my heart.
You have visited me in the night.
You have tried me, and found
nothing.
I have resolved that my mouth shall
not disobey.
- ⁴ As for the deeds of men, by the word of
your lips,
I have kept myself from the ways of
the violent.
- ⁵ My steps have held fast to your paths. ¹⁴
My feet have not slipped.
- ⁶ I have called on you, for you will answer
me, God.
Turn your ear to me.
Hear my speech.
- ⁷ Show your marvelous loving kindness,
you who save those who take refuge
by your right hand from their
enemies.
- ⁸ Keep me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me under the shadow of your
wings,
- ⁹ from the wicked who oppress me,
my deadly enemies, who surround
me.
- ¹⁰ They close up their callous hearts.
With their mouth they speak proudly.
- ¹¹ They have now surrounded us in our
steps.
They set their eyes to cast us down to
the earth.
- ¹² He is like a lion that is greedy of his
prey,
as it were a young lion lurking in
secret places.
- ¹³ Arise, Yahweh, confront him.
Cast him down.
Deliver my soul from the wicked by your
sword,
- from men by your hand, Yahweh,
from men of the world, whose portion
is in this life.
You fill the belly of your cherished ones.
Your sons have plenty,
and they store up wealth for their
children.
- ¹⁵ As for me, I shall see your face in
righteousness.
I shall be satisfied, when I awake,
with seeing your form.

PSALMS 18

Royal Thanksgiving for Victory

- For the Chief Musician. By David the
servant of Yahweh, who spoke to Yahweh
the words of this song in the day that
Yahweh delivered him from the hand of
all his enemies, and from the hand of
Saul. He said,**
- ¹ I love you, Yahweh, my strength.
- ² Yahweh is my rock, my fortress, and my
deliverer;
my God, my rock, in whom I take
refuge;
my shield, and the horn of my
salvation, my high tower.
- ³ I call on Yahweh, who is worthy to be
praised;

and I am saved from my enemies.
 4 The cords of death surrounded me.
 The floods of ungodliness made me
 afraid.
 5 The cords of Sheol* were around me.
 The snares of death came on me.
 6 In my distress I called on Yahweh,
 and cried to my God.
 He heard my voice out of his temple.
 My cry before him came into his ears.
 7 Then the earth shook and trembled.
 The foundations also of the mountains
 quaked and were shaken,
 because he was angry.
 8 Smoke went out of his nostrils.
 Consuming fire came out of his
 mouth.
 Coals were kindled by it.
 9 He bowed the heavens also, and came
 down.
 Thick darkness was under his feet.
 10 He rode on a cherub, and flew.
 Yes, he soared on the wings of the
 wind.
 11 He made darkness his hiding place, his
 pavilion around him,
 darkness of waters, thick clouds of
 the skies.
 12 At the brightness before him his thick
 clouds passed,
 hailstones and coals of fire.
 13 Yahweh also thundered in the sky.
 The Most High uttered his voice:
 hailstones and coals of fire.
 14 He sent out his arrows, and scattered
 them.
 He routed them with great lightning
 bolts.
 15 Then the channels of waters appeared.
 The foundations of the world were
 laid bare at your rebuke, Yahweh,
 at the blast of the breath of your
 nostrils.
 16 He sent from on high.
 He took me.
 He drew me out of many waters.
 17 He delivered me from my strong enemy,
 from those who hated me; for they
 were too mighty for me.
 18 They came on me in the day of my
 calamity,
 but Yahweh was my support.
 19 He brought me out also into a large
 place.

He delivered me, because he
 delighted in me.
 20 Yahweh has rewarded me according to
 my righteousness.
 According to the cleanness of my
 hands, he has recompensed me.
 21 For I have kept the ways of Yahweh,
 and have not wickedly departed from
 my God.
 22 For all his ordinances were before me.
 I didn't put away his statutes from
 me.
 23 I was also blameless with him.
 I kept myself from my iniquity.
 24 Therefore Yahweh has rewarded me
 according to my righteousness,
 according to the cleanness of my
 hands in his eyesight.
 25 With the merciful you will show yourself
 merciful.
 With the perfect man, you will show
 yourself perfect.
 26 With the pure, you will show yourself
 pure.
 With the crooked you will show
 yourself shrewd.
 27 For you will save the afflicted people,
 but the arrogant eyes you will bring
 down.
 28 For you will light my lamp, Yahweh.
 My God will light up my darkness.
 29 For by you, I advance through a troop.
 By my God, I leap over a wall.
 30 As for God, his way is perfect.
 Yahweh's word is tried.
 He is a shield to all those who take
 refuge in him.
 31 For who is God, except Yahweh?
 Who is a rock, besides our God,
 the God who arms me with strength,
 and makes my way perfect?
 32 He makes my feet like deer's feet,
 and sets me on my high places.
 33 He teaches my hands to war,
 so that my arms bend a bow of
 bronze.
 34 You have also given me the shield of
 your salvation.
 Your right hand sustains me.
 Your gentleness has made me great.
 35 You have enlarged my steps under me,
 My feet have not slipped.
 36 I will pursue my enemies, and overtake
 them.
 I won't turn away until they are

consumed.⁴⁴

38 I will strike them through, so that they
will not be able to rise.
They shall fall under my feet.

39 For you have armed me with strength to
the battle.
You have subdued under me those
who rose up against me.

40 You have also made my enemies turn
their backs to me,
that I might cut off those who hate
me.

41 They cried, but there was no one to
save;
even to Yahweh, but he didn't answer
them.

42 Then I beat them small as the dust
before the wind.
I cast them out as the mire of the
streets.

43 You have delivered me from the
strivings of the people.
You have made me the head of the
nations.
A people whom I have not known shall
serve me.

As soon as they hear of me they shall
obey me.
The foreigners shall submit
themselves to me.

45 The foreigners shall fade away,
and shall come trembling out of their
strongholds.

46 Yahweh lives! Blessed be my rock.
Exalted be the God of my salvation,
47 even the God who executes vengeance
for me,
and subdues peoples under me.

48 He rescues me from my enemies.
Yes, you lift me up above those who
rise up against me.
You deliver me from the violent man.

49 Therefore I will give thanks to you,
Yahweh, among the nations,
and will sing praises to your name.

50 He gives great deliverance to his king,
and shows loving kindness to his
anointed,
to David and to his offspring,† forever
more.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 18:5. Sheol is the place of the dead.

† 18:50. or, seed.

PSALMS 19

God's Glory in Creation and the Law

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.⁵

1 The heavens declare the glory of God.
The expanse shows his handiwork.

2 Day after day they pour out speech,
and night after night they display
knowledge.

3 There is no speech nor language
where their voice is not heard.

4 Their voice has gone out through all the
earth,
their words to the end of the world.
In them he has set a tent for the sun,

which is as a bridegroom coming out
of his room,
like a strong man rejoicing to run his
course.

6 His going out is from the end of the
heavens,
his circuit to its ends.
There is nothing hidden from its heat.

7 Yahweh's law is perfect, restoring the
soul.
Yahweh's covenant is sure, making
wise the simple.

8 Yahweh's precepts are right, rejoicing
the heart.

- Yahweh's commandment is pure,
enlightening the eyes.
- ⁹ The fear of Yahweh is clean, enduring
forever.
Yahweh's ordinances are true, and
righteous altogether.
- ¹⁰ They are more to be desired than gold,
yes, than much fine gold,
sweeter also than honey and the
extract of the honeycomb.
- ¹¹ Moreover your servant is warned by
them.
In keeping them there is great
reward.
- ¹² Who can discern his errors?
Forgive me from hidden errors.
- ¹³ Keep back your servant also from
presumptuous sins.
Let them not have dominion over me.
Then I will be upright.
I will be blameless and innocent of
great transgression.
- ¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the
meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
Yahweh, my rock, and my redeemer.

PSALMS 20

Prayer for Victory

**For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by
David.**

- ¹ May Yahweh answer you in the day of
trouble.
May the name of the God of Jacob set
you up on high,
- ² send you help from the sanctuary,
grant you support from Zion,
- ³ remember all your offerings,
and accept your burned sacrifice.
Selah.
- ⁴ May he grant you your heart's desire,
and fulfill all your counsel.
- ⁵ We will triumph in your salvation.
In the name of our God, we will set
up our banners.
May Yahweh grant all your requests.
- ⁶ Now I know that Yahweh saves his
anointed.
He will answer him from his holy
heaven,
with the saving strength of his right
hand.
- ⁷ Some trust in chariots, and some in
horses,
but we trust in the name of Yahweh
our God.
- ⁸ They are bowed down and fallen,
but we rise up, and stand upright.
- ⁹ Save, Yahweh!
Let the King answer us when we call!

PSALMS 21

Thanksgiving for Victory

**For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by
David.**

- ¹ The king rejoices in your strength,
Yahweh!
How greatly he rejoices in your
salvation!
- ² You have given him his heart's desire,
and have not withheld the request of
his lips.
Selah.
- ³ For you meet him with the blessings of

goodness.
 You set a crown of fine gold on his
 head.
 4 He asked life of you and you gave it to
 him,
 even length of days forever and ever.
 5 His glory is great in your salvation.
 You lay honor and majesty on him.
 6 For you make him most blessed forever.
 You make him glad with joy in your
 presence.
 7 For the king trusts in Yahweh.
 Through the loving kindness of the
 Most High, he shall not be
 moved.
 8 Your hand will find out all of your
 enemies.
 Your right hand will find out those

who hate you.
 9 You will make them as a fiery furnace in
 the time of your anger.
 Yahweh will swallow them up in his
 wrath.
 The fire shall devour them.
 10 You will destroy their descendants from
 the earth,
 their posterity from among the
 children of men.
 11 For they intended evil against you.
 They plotted evil against you which
 cannot succeed.
 12 For you will make them turn their back,
 when you aim drawn bows at their
 face.
 13 Be exalted, Yahweh, in your strength,
 so we will sing and praise your power.

PSALMS 22

Plea for Deliverance from Suffering and Hostility

**For the Chief Musician; set to "The Doe
 of the Morning." A Psalm by David.**

1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken
 me?
 Why are you so far from helping me,
 and from the words of my
 groaning?
 2 My God, I cry in the daytime, but you
 don't answer;
 in the night season, and am not
 silent.
 3 But you are holy,
 you who inhabit the praises of Israel.
 4 Our fathers trusted in you.
 They trusted, and you delivered
 them.
 5 They cried to you, and were delivered.
 They trusted in you, and were not
 disappointed.
 6 But I am a worm, and no man;
 a reproach of men, and despised by
 the people.
 7 All those who see me mock me.
 They insult me with their lips. They
 shake their heads, saying,
 8 "He trusts in Yahweh.

Let him deliver him.

Let him rescue him, since he delights
 in him."

9 But you brought me out of the womb.
 You made me trust while at my
 mother's breasts.
 10 I was thrown on you from my mother's
 womb.
 You are my God since my mother bore
 me.
 11 Don't be far from me, for trouble is
 near.
 For there is no one to help.
 12 Many bulls have surrounded me.
 Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled
 me.
 13 They open their mouths wide against
 me,
 lions tearing prey and roaring.
 14 I am poured out like water.
 All my bones are out of joint.
 My heart is like wax.
 It is melted within me.
 15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd.
 My tongue sticks to the roof of my
 mouth.
 You have brought me into the dust of

death.
 16 For dogs have surrounded me.
 A company of evildoers have enclosed me.
 They have pierced my hands and feet.*
 17 I can count all of my bones.
 They look and stare at me.
 18 They divide my garments among them.
 They cast lots for my clothing.
 19 But don't be far off, Yahweh.
 You are my help. Hurry to help me!
 20 Deliver my soul from the sword,
 my precious life from the power of the dog.
 21 Save me from the lion's mouth!
 Yes, you have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen.
 22 I will declare your name to my brothers.
 Among the assembly, I will praise you.
 23 You who fear Yahweh, praise him!
 All you descendants of Jacob, glorify him!
 Stand in awe of him, all you descendants of Israel!
 24 For he has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted,
 neither has he hidden his face from

him;
 but when he cried to him, he heard.
 25 My praise of you comes in the great assembly.
 I will pay my vows before those who fear him.
 26 The humble shall eat and be satisfied.
 They shall praise Yahweh who seek after him.
 Let your hearts live forever.
 27 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to Yahweh.
 All the relatives of the nations shall worship before you.
 28 For the kingdom is Yahweh's.
 He is the ruler over the nations.
 29 All the rich ones of the earth shall eat and worship.
 All those who go down to the dust shall bow before him,
 even he who can't keep his soul alive.
 30 Posterity shall serve him.
 Future generations shall be told about the Lord.
 31 They shall come and shall declare his righteousness to a people that shall be born,
 for he has done it.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 22:16. So Dead Sea Scrolls. Masoretic Text reads, "Like a lion, they pin my hands and feet."

PSALMS 23

The Divine Shepherd

A Psalm by David.

1 Yahweh is my shepherd;^①
 I shall lack nothing.^②
 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures.
 He leads me beside still waters.^③
 3 He restores my soul.
 He guides me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.^④

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
 I will fear no evil,^⑤ for you are with me.
 Your rod and your staff,
 they comfort me.
 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
 You anoint my head with oil.
 My cup runs over.
 6 Surely goodness and loving kindness

shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in Yahweh's house
forever.⁶

1. *Yahweh is my shepherd.* David (Love) recognizes that Yahweh, Creator of all that is, and in whose invisible Hand rests the whole universe that ever moves in perfect rhythm and order, is his, David's, loving, faithful Shepherd also.

2. *I shall lack nothing.* These words bring out the utter impossibility of want when under the care and protection of the Divine Shepherd. When our hearts beat in unison with the Great Heart, we come into that clear, comprehensive understanding in which the Master lived, when he said, "All things whatsoever the Father hath are mine."

3. *He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside still waters.* From Truth's viewpoint, this signifies spiritual satisfaction. Desires which spring from the inner heart, like sheep, though they may be weary in their search, will go on, and on, and on, seeking that which satisfies their inner cravings. But when the fulfillment of the desire is accomplished, there follows a season of

relaxation, a season of rest in green pastures and beside still waters.

4. *He restores my soul, He guides me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.* Through the soul's appropriating and assimilating the living bread (substance), a redeeming, directive power is set into action in consciousness, which restores both soul and body and leads into the paths of illumination and righteousness.

5. *Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.* On the journey from the mortal to the spiritual consciousness, it is sometimes necessary to pass through what seems shadowy, dangerous experiences. However all one has to do is to know that the Hand of the Father is leading him, and that where God is there is always safety.

6. *Surely goodness and loving kindness shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in Yahweh's house forever.* The table of abundance is always spread. The oil of love is constantly poured out in blessings. The cup of living water is full to overflowing. Goodness and mercy are omnipresent. The redeemed soul lives in the "house of Yahweh", the glorified body, "forever."

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 24

Entrance into the Temple

A Psalm by David.

¹ The earth is Yahweh's, with its fullness;
the world, and those who dwell in it.
² For he has founded it on the seas,
and established it on the floods.
³ Who may ascend to Yahweh's hill?
Who may stand in his holy place?
⁴ He who has clean hands and a pure
heart;
who has not lifted up his soul to
falsehood,
and has not sworn deceitfully.
⁵ He shall receive a blessing from
Yahweh,
righteousness from the God of his
salvation.

⁶ This is the generation of those who seek
Him,
who seek your face—even Jacob. Selah.
⁷ Lift up your heads, you gates!
Be lifted up, you everlasting doors,
and the King of glory will come in.
⁸ Who is the King of glory?
Yahweh strong and mighty,
Yahweh mighty in battle.
⁹ Lift up your heads, you gates;
yes, lift them up, you everlasting
doors,
and the King of glory will come in.
¹⁰ Who is this King of glory?
Yahweh of Armies is the King of glory!
Selah.

PSALMS 25

Prayer for Guidance and for Deliverance

By David.

1 To you, Yahweh, I lift up my soul.
 2 My God, I have trusted in you.
 Don't let me be shamed.
 Don't let my enemies triumph over me.
 3 Yes, no one who waits for you will be shamed.
 They will be shamed who deal treacherously without cause.
 4 Show me your ways, Yahweh.
 Teach me your paths.
 5 Guide me in your truth, and teach me,
 for you are the God of my salvation.
 I wait for you all day long.
 6 Yahweh, remember your tender mercies
 and your loving kindness,
 for they are from old times.
 7 Don't remember the sins of my youth,
 nor my transgressions.
 Remember me according to your loving kindness,
 for your goodness' sake, Yahweh.
 8 Good and upright is Yahweh,
 therefore he will instruct sinners in the way.
 9 He will guide the humble in justice.
 He will teach the humble his way.
 10 All the paths of Yahweh are loving kindness and truth
 to such as keep his covenant and his

testimonies.

11 For your name's sake, Yahweh,
 pardon my iniquity, for it is great.
 12 What man is he who fears Yahweh?
 He shall instruct him in the way that he shall choose.
 13 His soul will dwell at ease.
 His offspring will inherit the land.
 14 The friendship of Yahweh is with those who fear him.
 He will show them his covenant.
 15 My eyes are ever on Yahweh,
 for he will pluck my feet out of the net.
 16 Turn to me, and have mercy on me,
 for I am desolate and afflicted.
 17 The troubles of my heart are enlarged.
 Oh bring me out of my distresses.
 18 Consider my affliction and my travail.
 Forgive all my sins.
 19 Consider my enemies, for they are many.
 They hate me with cruel hatred.
 20 Oh keep my soul, and deliver me.
 Let me not be disappointed, for I take refuge in you.
 21 Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,
 for I wait for you.
 22 God, redeem Israel
 out of all his troubles.

PSALMS 26

Plea for Justice and Declaration of Righteousness

By David.

1 Judge me, Yahweh, for I have walked in my integrity.
 I have trusted also in Yahweh without wavering.

2 Examine me, Yahweh, and prove me.
 Try my heart and my mind.
 3 For your loving kindness is before my eyes.
 I have walked in your truth.

4 I have not sat with deceitful men,
 neither will I go in with hypocrites.
 5 I hate the assembly of evildoers,
 and will not sit with the wicked.
 6 I will wash my hands in innocence,
 so I will go about your altar, Yahweh,
 7 that I may make the voice of
 thanksgiving to be heard
 and tell of all your wondrous deeds.
 8 Yahweh, I love the habitation of your
 house,
 9 the place where your glory dwells.
 Don't gather my soul with sinners,
 nor my life with bloodthirsty men
 10 in whose hands is wickedness;
 their right hand is full of bribes.
 11 But as for me, I will walk in my
 integrity.
 Redeem me, and be merciful to me.
 12 My foot stands in an even place.
 In the congregations I will bless
 Yahweh.

PSALMS 27

Confidence in Spirit, Soul and Body

By David.

1 Yahweh is my light and my salvation. ①
 Whom shall I fear?
 Yahweh is the strength of my life.
 Of whom shall I be afraid?
 2 When evildoers came at me to eat up
 my flesh,
 even my adversaries and my foes,
 they stumbled and fell.
 3 Though an army should encamp against
 me,
 my heart shall not fear.
 Though war should rise against me,
 even then I will be confident.
 4 One thing I have asked of Yahweh, ②
 that I will seek after:
 that I may dwell in Yahweh's house ③
 all the days of my life,
 to see Yahweh's beauty, ④
 and to inquire in his temple. ⑤
 5 For in the day of trouble, he will keep
 me secretly in his pavilion.
 In the secret place of his
 tabernacle, ⑥ he will hide me.
 He will lift me up on a rock.
 6 Now my head will be lifted up above my
 enemies around me.
 I will offer sacrifices of joy in his tent.
 I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to
 Yahweh.
 7 Hear, Yahweh, when I cry with my
 voice.
 Have mercy also on me, and answer
 me.
 8 When you said, "Seek my face,"
 my heart said to you, "I will seek your
 face, Yahweh."
 9 Don't hide your face from me.
 Don't put your servant away in anger.
 You have been my help.
 Don't abandon me,
 neither forsake me, God of my
 salvation.
 10 When my father and my mother forsake
 me,
 then Yahweh will take me up.
 11 Teach me your way, Yahweh.
 Lead me in a straight path, because
 of my enemies.
 12 Don't deliver me over to the desire of
 my adversaries, ⑦
 for false witnesses have risen up
 against me,
 such as breathe out cruelty.
 13 I am still confident of this:
 I will see the goodness of Yahweh ⑧ in
 the land of the living.
 14 Wait for Yahweh.
 Be strong, and let your heart take
 courage.
 Yes, wait for Yahweh.

1. *light, salvation.* Metaphysically, light is a symbol of intelligence (MBD/light). Salvation is the restitution to our spiritual birthright; the regaining conscious possession of our God-given attributes (RW/salvation). Yahweh is understanding (light)

and the deliverance (salvation) that understanding brings to humanity.

2. *One thing I have asked of Yahweh.* The one thing should we ask of Yahweh is the full realization that we are truly children of God, [as Spirit, soul and body].

3. *dwelt in Yahweh's house.* [Live in awareness of our *Spirit*, the higher dimensions of consciousness.]

4. *see Yahweh's beauty.* [The *soul* that] sees God as the foundation of all, the sources of all, and the substance of all. Seeing the good, the true, and the beautiful everywhere. In this manner is the eye single and vision perfected. (RW/vision)

5. *inquire in his temple.* Metaphysically, Solomon's Temple is a symbol of the *regenerated human body*, which when we attain it, we will never again leave. This enduring temple is built in the understanding of Spirit as the one and only cause of all things. (MBD/temple)

6. *In the secret place of his tabernacle.* The tabernacle represents the temporal body, as the Temple built by Solomon in Jerusalem represents the regenerated, permanent body. In the wilderness of sense, we worship God in a tent, or a temporary, transitory state of mind, which makes a perishable body. Yet in this flimsy structure are all the furnishings of the great temple that is to be built. (MBD/tabernacle)

7. *the desire of my adversaries.* The adversary is a state of mind formed by vain imagination that there could, in reality, be anything opposed to Divine Mind, or could be any separation from it (RW/adversary)

8. *the goodness of Yahweh.* There is always a saving grace in divine goodness; and if we have ever done a kind act, it has been preserved in the careful records of memory and will come forth when we most need it. (RW/goodness)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 28

Prayer for Help and Thanksgiving for It

By David.

1 To you, Yahweh, I call.
My rock, don't be deaf to me,
lest, if you are silent to me,
I would become like those who go
down into the pit.

2 Hear the voice of my petitions, when I
cry to you,
when I lift up my hands toward your
Most Holy Place.

3 Don't draw me away with the wicked,
with the workers of iniquity who
speak peace with their
neighbors,
but mischief is in their hearts.

4 Give them according to their work, and
according to the wickedness of
their doings.
Give them according to the operation
of their hands.
Bring back on them what they

deserve.

5 Because they don't respect the works of
Yahweh,
nor the operation of his hands,
he will break them down and not
build them up.

6 Blessed be Yahweh,
because he has heard the voice of my
petitions.

7 Yahweh is my strength and my shield.
My heart has trusted in him, and I am
helped.
Therefore my heart greatly rejoices.
With my song I will thank him.

8 Yahweh is their strength.
He is a stronghold of salvation to his
anointed.

9 Save your people,
and bless your inheritance.
Be their shepherd also,
and bear them up forever.

PSALMS 29

Yahweh's Voice Within You

A Psalm by David.

- 1 Ascribe to Yahweh,¹ you sons of the mighty,²
ascribe to Yahweh glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to Yahweh the glory due to his name.
Worship Yahweh in holy array.
- 3 Yahweh's voice is on the waters.
The God of glory thunders, even Yahweh on many waters.
- 4 Yahweh's voice is powerful.³
Yahweh's voice is full of majesty.
- 5 Yahweh's voice breaks the cedars.
Yes, Yahweh breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.
- 6 He makes them also to skip like a calf;
Lebanon and Sirion like a young, wild ox.
- 7 Yahweh's voice strikes with flashes of lightning.
- 8 Yahweh's voice shakes the wilderness.
Yahweh shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 9 Yahweh's voice makes the deer calve,
and strips the forests bare.
In his temple everything says,
"Glory!"
- 10 Yahweh sat enthroned at the Flood.
Yes, Yahweh sits as King forever.
- 11 Yahweh will give strength to his

people.⁴
Yahweh will bless his people with peace.⁵

1. *Ascribe to Yahweh.* The Hebrew Yahweh (*Jehovah*, ASV; *Lord*, NRSV) has been translated "Lord." Lord means an external ruler. Bible students say that Yahweh means the self-existent One. Then instead of reading "Lord" we should read I AM. It makes a great difference whether we think that I AM, self-existence, is within, or Lord, master, without. (MBD/Jehovah)

2. *you sons of the mighty.* (*Heavenly beings*, NRSV; *Sons of God*, Hebrew) [Divine beings, with Yahweh within them, are called to worship.]

3. *Yahweh's voice is powerful.* [Repeated seven times]. Voice is the "faculty or power of utterance" (Webster). The power center in the throat controls all the vibratory energies of this organism. It is the open door between the formless and the formed worlds of vibrations pertaining to the expression of sound. Every word that goes forth receives its specific character from the power faculty. Therefore, the voice is the most direct avenue of expression of consciousness. (RW/voice)

4. *Yahweh will give strength to his people.* All Scripture shows that Yahweh means just what God told Moses it meant, I AM. "This is my name forever, and this is my memorial unto all generations."

5. *Yahweh will bless his people with peace.* God was also known to the Israelites as *Jehovah-shalom*—"I AM peace." We can demonstrate peace of mind by holding the words, "I am peace." with the understanding that the real I AM is Jehovah within us.

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 30

A Psalm. A Song for the Dedication of the Temple. By David.

- 1 I will extol you, Yahweh, for you have raised me up,

and have not made my foes to rejoice over me.

- 2 Yahweh my God, I cried to you,
and you have healed me.

<p>3 Yahweh, you have brought up my soul from Sheol.* You have kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.</p> <p>4 Sing praise to Yahweh, you saints of his. Give thanks to his holy name.</p> <p>5 For his anger is but for a moment. His favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may stay for the night, but joy comes in the morning.</p> <p>6 As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."</p> <p>7 You, Yahweh, when you favored me, made my mountain stand strong; but when you hid your face, I was troubled.</p>	<p>8 I cried to you, Yahweh. I made supplication to the Lord:</p> <p>9 "What profit is there in my destruction, if I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise you? Shall it declare your truth?"</p> <p>10 Hear, Yahweh, and have mercy on me. Yahweh, be my helper."</p> <p>11 You have turned my mourning into dancing for me. You have removed my sackcloth, and clothed me with gladness, to the end that my heart may sing praise to you, and not be silent. Yahweh my God, I will give thanks to you forever!</p>
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World English Bible Footnotes:

* 30:3. Sheol is the place of the dead.

PSALMS 31

Trust in God's Protection

**For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by
David.**

<p>1 In you, Yahweh, I take refuge. Let me never be disappointed. Deliver me in your righteousness.</p> <p>2 Bow down your ear to me. Deliver me speedily. Be to me a strong rock, a house of defense to save me.</p> <p>3 For you are my rock and my fortress, therefore for your name's sake lead me and guide me. ❶</p> <p>4 Pluck me out of the net that they have laid secretly for me, for you are my stronghold.</p> <p>5 Into your hand I commend my spirit. ❷ You redeem me, Yahweh, God of truth.</p> <p>6 I hate those who regard lying vanities, but I trust in Yahweh.</p> <p>7 I will be glad and rejoice in your loving kindness, for you have seen my affliction. You have known my soul in</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">adversities.</p> <p>8 You have not shut me up into the hand of the enemy. You have set my feet in a large place.</p> <p>9 Have mercy on me, Yahweh, for I am in distress. My eye, my soul, and my body waste away with grief.</p> <p>10 For my life is spent with sorrow, my years with sighing. My strength fails because of my iniquity. My bones are wasted away.</p> <p>11 Because of all my adversaries I have become utterly contemptible to my neighbors, a horror to my acquaintances. Those who saw me on the street fled from me.</p> <p>12 I am forgotten from their hearts like a dead man. I am like broken pottery.</p> <p>13 For I have heard the slander of many, terror on every side, while they conspire together against me,</p>
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they plot to take away my life.
¹⁴ But I trust in you, Yahweh.
 I said, "You are my God."
¹⁵ My times are in your hand.
 Deliver me from the hand of my
 enemies, and from those who
 persecute me.
¹⁶ Make your face to shine on your servant.
 Save me in your loving kindness.
¹⁷ Let me not be disappointed, Yahweh, for
 I have called on you.
 Let the wicked be disappointed.
 Let them be silent in Sheol.*
¹⁸ Let the lying lips be mute,
 which speak against the righteous
 insolently, with pride and
 contempt.
¹⁹ Oh how great is your goodness,
 which you have laid up for those who
 fear you,
 which you have worked for those who
 take refuge in you,
 before the sons of men!
²⁰ In the shelter of your presence you will
 hide them from the plotting of
 man.
 You will keep them secretly in a
 dwelling away from the strife of
 tongues.³
²¹ Praise be to Yahweh,
 for he has shown me his marvelous
 loving kindness in a strong city.
²² As for me, I said in my haste, "I am cut
 off from before your eyes."
 Nevertheless you heard the voice of
 my petitions when I cried to
 you.
²³ Oh love Yahweh, all you his saints!
 Yahweh preserves the faithful,
 and fully recompenses him who behaves


arrogantly.
²⁴ Be strong, and let your heart take
 courage,⁴
 all you who hope in Yahweh.

1. *for your name's sake lead me and guide me.* When through right mental processes we have departed from the wilderness of intellectual concepts we will come into a higher state of consciousness, a consciousness of this inner knowing faculty. Intuition has to be cultivated. It is so shy and indefinite in our first acquaintance with it that we are not sure whether we are guided by the Spirit within, or whether it is our own imagination. By trusting this inner prompter it comes more and more into consciousness, and each time we catch aright and act upon its flash-light thought we strengthen both it and the outer self in the Lord. (Unity, July 1902, p.27.)

2. *Into your hand I commend my spirit.* Jesus' final words (Luke 23:46) are from Psalms 31:5. Jesus lived with the great thoughts of the prophets and psalmists, and they were so thoroughly His own that His life expressed them. When we in our turn meditate on these high thoughts until we live with them, our expression will more nearly approximate His. (Unity, August 1940, p20.)

3. *You will keep them secretly in a dwelling away from the strife of tongues.* Oh, the awfully paralyzing effect of fear and evil! It makes us helpless as babes. It makes us pygmies, whereas we might be giants were we only free from it. It is at the root of all our failures, of nearly all sickness, poverty, and distress. But we have the promise of deliverance from even the fear and evil when we are in the "secret place." (Emilie Cady, Lessons in Truth, The Secret Place of the Most High. 4)

4. *Be strong (ASV, Be of good courage), and let your heart take courage.* The command, "Be of good courage," implies that man has the power within himself to obey. It rests with him whether he will be courageous all the way through to a perfect demonstration of Truth, or become so frightened and hopeless at the appearance of opposition that he will give up before he reaches the victory. (Unity, August 1908, pp.89-90.)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 31:17. Sheol is the place of the dead.

PSALMS 32

The Joy of Forgiveness

By David. A contemplative psalm.

- ¹ Blessed is he whose disobedience is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.
- ² Blessed is the man to whom Yahweh
doesn't impute iniquity,
in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- ³ When I kept silence, my bones wasted
away¹ through my groaning all day
long.
- ⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy
on me.
My strength was sapped in the heat of
summer.
- Selah.
- ⁵ I acknowledged my sin to you.²
I didn't hide my iniquity.
I said, I will confess my transgressions to
Yahweh,
and you forgive the iniquity of my
sin.
- Selah.
- ⁶ For this, let everyone who is godly pray
to you in a time when you may be
found.
Surely when the great waters
overflow, they shall not reach
to him.
- ⁷ You are my hiding place.
You will preserve me from trouble.³
You will surround me with songs of
deliverance.
- Selah.
- ⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the
way which you shall go.
I will counsel you with my eye on you.
- ⁹ Don't be like the horse, or like the
mule,⁴ which have no
understanding,
who are controlled by bit and bridle,
or else they will not come near
to you.
- ¹⁰ Many sorrows come to the wicked,

but loving kindness shall surround him
who trusts in Yahweh.

- ¹¹ Be glad in Yahweh, and rejoice, you
righteous!
Shout for joy, all you who are upright
in heart!⁵

1. *my bones wasted away.* When David "kept silent," and allowed remorse to gnaw at his brain, his "bones waxed old." The inference here is that he felt the presence of the Spirit, but resisted it. He was not only suffering from what he knew was sin, but he was also obstinate. He knew the law of spiritual forgiveness, but would not yield to it. Obstinacy is a resisting state of mind, and its tendency is to make the muscles, nerves, and, in fact, the whole body tense and brittle.

2. *I acknowledged my sin to you.* The value of confession is not appreciated as it deserves by the majority of people, especially those who have been influenced largely by the so-called rational view of life. Yet the fact is patent to all who have observed that the confession does a marvelous work for the devotees.

3. *You will preserve me from trouble.* [With confession,] the remorse that secretly eats at the vitals of one who has done a wrong is cast out, and light-hearted freedom fills the soul. The mind accepts the authority of the representative of God, regardless of his or her character, and this forms in the mind a battery of strong spiritual ideas, that prevents the inflow of the mortal thought floods with which we are surrounded. When these "great waters overflow" they cannot reach such an one. Instruction and willing obedience to the light of Truth is what the soul craves.

4. *Don't be like the horse, or like the mule.* Some people think the Lord should drive men into righteousness as beasts are driven, with bridle and goad. It is the "eye" of spiritual discernment of Truth that leads to a willing obedience.

5. *Shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart!* The orthodox believer says that Jesus Christ bore our sins, taking upon himself the sins of the whole world; yet Jesus could say, "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full." Without joy no one can realize forgiveness or be made aware of the loving-kindness of God.

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 33

The Greatness and Goodness of God

- ¹ Rejoice in Yahweh, you righteous!
 Praise¹ is fitting for the upright.²
² Give thanks to Yahweh with the lyre.
 Sing praises to him with the harp of
 ten strings.
³ Sing to him a new song.
 Play skillfully with a shout of joy!
⁴ For Yahweh's word is right.
 All his work is done in faithfulness.
⁵ He loves righteousness³ and justice.⁴
 The earth is full of the loving kindness
 of Yahweh.
⁶ By Yahweh's word, the heavens were
 made:
 all their army by the breath of his
 mouth.
⁷ He gathers the waters of the sea
 together as a heap.
 He lays up the deeps in storehouses.
⁸ Let all the earth fear Yahweh.
 Let all the inhabitants of the world
 stand in awe of him.
⁹ For he spoke, and it was done.
 He commanded, and it stood firm.
¹⁰ Yahweh brings the counsel of the
 nations to nothing.
 He makes the thoughts of the peoples
 to be of no effect.
¹¹ The counsel of Yahweh stands fast
 forever,
 the thoughts of his heart to all
 generations.
¹² Blessed is the nation whose God is
 Yahweh,⁵
 the people whom he has chosen for
 his own inheritance.
¹³ Yahweh looks from heaven.
 He sees all the sons of men.
¹⁴ From the place of his habitation he
 looks out on all the inhabitants of
 the earth,
¹⁵ he who fashions all of their hearts;
 and he considers all of their works.
¹⁶ There is no king saved by the multitude
 of an army.
 A mighty man is not delivered by
 great strength.
- ¹⁷ A horse is a vain thing for safety,
 neither does he deliver any by his
 great power.
¹⁸ Behold, Yahweh's eye is on those who
 fear him,
 on those who hope in his loving
 kindness,
¹⁹ to deliver their soul from death,
 to keep them alive in famine.
²⁰ Our soul⁶ has waited for Yahweh.
 He is our help and our shield.
²¹ For our heart⁷ rejoices in him,
 because we have trusted in his holy
 name.
²² Let your loving kindness be on us,
 Yahweh,
 since we have hoped in you.

1. *Praise* The quality of mind that eulogizes the good; one of the avenues through which spirituality expresses. Through an inherent law of mind action we increase whatever we praise. The whole creation responds to praise, and is glad. (RW/praise)

2. *is fitting for the upright.* The purpose of praise is to awaken in ourselves a higher realization of the omnipresence and power of God. Prayer and praise change man, not God. The mental attitude that praise sets up stimulates, quickens, whirls into action, and finally establishes in character the ideals of which they are the vehicle.

3. *Righteousness.* A state of harmony established in consciousness through the right use of God-given attributes. It leads directly to eternal life. Truth working in consciousness brings forth the perfect salvation of the whole man--Spirit, soul, and body--and righteousness (right relation) is expressed in all his affairs. (RW/righteousness)


4. *Justice.* When we are just toward another person, we attract justice from others. When we are just in our thoughts, words, and deeds, we are making right use of God's harmonious, loving, good justice and mercy. When we practice God's love and justice, we actually enter into the halls of His justice. (Lowell Fillmore, Justice Is an Expression of God's Love)

5. *Blessed is the nation whose God is Yahweh.* The nation that chooses Jehovah for its God is in turn chosen by Jehovah as his people. God's people are open and receptive to the Divine Law. Living under the Divine Law always leads to health, freedom, and prosperity. Such a nation is greatly blessed.

6. *Soul.* Soul is man's consciousness—that which he

has apprehended or developed out of Spirit; also the impressions that he has received from the outer world. Soul is both conscious and subconscious. Body is the form of expression of both spirit and soul. In its invisible forces it expresses Spirit, and in its seeming materiality it pictures the limitations of soul. When man puts out of consciousness all limitations and realizes the perfection of Spirit, his body will be perfect; in other words the salvation of the soul results in the redemption or spiritualization of the body. (RW/soul)

7. *Heart.* The heart is love, the affectional consciousness in man. It is the faculty through which man receives love from Being. The heart, however, is but the visible expression of an invisible center of consciousness. It is the center from which the divine substance is poured forth. Everyone uses his heart center when he sends forth a loving thought. (RW/heart)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 34

Praise for Deliverance from Trouble

By David; when he pretended to be insane before Abimelech, who drove him away, and he departed.

1 * I will bless Yahweh at all times.
His praise will always be in my mouth.

2 My soul shall boast in Yahweh.
The humble shall hear of it and be glad.

3 Oh magnify Yahweh with me.
Let's exalt his name together.

4 I sought Yahweh, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.

5 They looked to him, and were radiant.
Their faces shall never be covered with shame.

6 This poor man cried, and Yahweh heard him,
and saved him out of all his troubles.

7 Yahweh's angel encamps around those who fear him,
and delivers them.

8 Oh taste and see that Yahweh is good.
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.

9 Oh fear Yahweh, you his saints,
for there is no lack with those who fear him.

10 The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger,
but those who seek Yahweh shall not lack any good thing.

11 Come, you children, listen to me.
I will teach you the fear of Yahweh.

12 Who is someone who desires life,
and loves many days, that he may see good?

13 Keep your tongue from evil,
and your lips from speaking lies.

14 Depart from evil, and do good.
Seek peace, and pursue it.

15 Yahweh's eyes are toward the righteous.
His ears listen to their cry.

16 Yahweh's face is against those who do evil,
to cut off their memory from the earth.

17 The righteous cry, and Yahweh hears,
and delivers them out of all their troubles.

18 Yahweh is near to those who have a broken heart,
and saves those who have a crushed spirit.

19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but Yahweh delivers him out of them all.

20 He protects all of his bones.
Not one of them is broken.

21 Evil shall kill the wicked.
Those who hate the righteous shall be condemned.

22 Yahweh redeems the soul of his servants.
None of those who take refuge in him shall be condemned.

World English Bible Footnotes:

- * 34:1. Psalm 34 is an acrostic poem, with each verse starting with a letter of the alphabet (ordered from Alef to Tav).

PSALMS 35**Prayer for Deliverance from Enemies****By David.**

- ¹ Contend, Yahweh, with those who contend with me.
Fight against those who fight against me.
- ² Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for my help.
- ³ Brandish the spear and block those who pursue me.
Tell my soul, "I am your salvation."
- ⁴ Let those who seek after my soul be disappointed and brought to dishonor.
Let those who plot my ruin be turned back and confounded.
- ⁵ Let them be as chaff before the wind, Yahweh's angel driving them on.
- ⁶ Let their way be dark and slippery, Yahweh's angel pursuing them.
- ⁷ For without cause they have hidden their net in a pit for me.
Without cause they have dug a pit for my soul.
- ⁸ Let destruction come on him unawares.
Let his net that he has hidden catch himself.
Let him fall into that destruction.
- ⁹ My soul shall be joyful in Yahweh.
It shall rejoice in his salvation.
- ¹⁰ All my bones shall say, "Yahweh, who is like you,
who delivers the poor from him who is too strong for him;
yes, the poor and the needy from him who robs him?"
- ¹¹ Unrighteous witnesses rise up.
They ask me about things that I don't know about.
- ¹² They reward me evil for good,
to the bereaving of my soul.
- ¹³ But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth.
I afflicted my soul with fasting.
My prayer returned into my own bosom.
- ¹⁴ I behaved myself as though it had been my friend or my brother.
I bowed down mourning, as one who mourns his mother.
- ¹⁵ But in my adversity, they rejoiced, and gathered themselves together.
The attackers gathered themselves together against me, and I didn't know it.
They tore at me, and didn't cease.
- ¹⁶ Like the profane mockers in feasts, they gnashed their teeth at me.
- ¹⁷ Lord, how long will you look on?
Rescue my soul from their destruction,
my precious life from the lions.
- ¹⁸ I will give you thanks in the great assembly.
I will praise you among many people.
- ¹⁹ Don't let those who are my enemies wrongfully rejoice over me;
neither let those who hate me without a cause wink their eyes.
- ²⁰ For they don't speak peace,
but they devise deceitful words against those who are quiet in the land.
- ²¹ Yes, they opened their mouth wide against me.
They said, "Aha! Aha! Our eye has seen it!"
- ²² You have seen it, Yahweh. Don't keep silent.
Lord, don't be far from me.
- ²³ Wake up! Rise up to defend me, my

God!
 My Lord, contend for me!
 24 Vindicate me, Yahweh my God,
 according to your righteousness.
 Don't let them gloat over me.
 25 Don't let them say in their heart, "Aha!
 That's the way we want it!"
 Don't let them say, "We have
 swallowed him up!"
 26 Let them be disappointed and
 confounded together who rejoice
 at my calamity.

Let them be clothed with shame and
 dishonor who magnify
 themselves against me.
 27 Let those who favor my righteous cause
 shout for joy and be glad.
 Yes, let them say continually, "May
 Yahweh be magnified,
 who has pleasure in the prosperity of
 his servant!"
 28 My tongue shall talk about your
 righteousness and about your
 praise all day long.

PSALMS 36

Human Wickedness and Divine Goodness

**For the Chief Musician. By David, the
 servant of Yahweh.**

1 A revelation is within my heart about
 the disobedience of the wicked:
 There is no fear of God before his
 eyes.
 2 For he flatters himself in his own eyes,
 too much to detect and hate his sin.
 3 The words of his mouth are iniquity and
 deceit.
 He has ceased to be wise and to do
 good.
 4 He plots iniquity on his bed.
 He sets himself in a way that is not
 good.
 He doesn't abhor evil.
 5 Your loving kindness, Yahweh, is in the
 heavens.
 Your faithfulness reaches to the skies.
 6 Your righteousness is like the mountains
 of God.
 Your judgments are like a great deep.
 Yahweh, you preserve man and

animal.
 7 How precious is your loving kindness,
 God!
 The children of men take refuge
 under the shadow of your
 wings.
 8 They shall be abundantly satisfied with
 the abundance of your house.
 You will make them drink of the river
 of your pleasures.
 9 For with you is the spring of life.
 In your light we will see light.
 10 Oh continue your loving kindness to
 those who know you,
 your righteousness to the upright in
 heart.
 11 Don't let the foot of pride come against
 me.
 Don't let the hand of the wicked
 drive me away.
 12 There the workers of iniquity are fallen.
 They are thrust down, and shall not
 be able to rise.

PSALMS 37

Exhortation to Patience and Trust

By David.

¹ Don't fret because of evildoers,
 neither be envious against those who
 work unrighteousness.
² For they shall soon be cut down like the
 grass,
 and wither like the green herb.
³ Trust in Yahweh, and do good.
 Dwell in the land, and enjoy safe
 pasture.
⁴ Also delight yourself in Yahweh,
 and he will give you the desires of
 your heart.
⁵ Commit your way to Yahweh.
 Trust also in him, and he will do this:
⁶ he will make your righteousness shine
 out like light,
 and your justice as the noon day sun.
⁷ Rest in Yahweh, and wait patiently for
 him.
 Don't fret because of him who
 prospers in his way,
 because of the man who makes
 wicked plots happen.
⁸ Cease from anger, and forsake wrath.
 Don't fret; it leads only to evildoing.
⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off,
 but those who wait for Yahweh shall
 inherit the land.
¹⁰ For yet a little while, and the wicked
 will be no more.
 Yes, though you look for his place, he
 isn't there.
¹¹ But the humble shall inherit the land,
 and shall delight themselves in the
 abundance of peace.
¹² The wicked plots against the just,
 and gnashes at him with his teeth.
¹³ The Lord will laugh at him,
 for he sees that his day is coming.
¹⁴ The wicked have drawn out the sword,
 and have bent their bow,
 to cast down the poor and needy,
 to kill those who are upright on the
 path.
¹⁵ Their sword shall enter into their own

heart.
 Their bows shall be broken.
¹⁶ Better is a little that the righteous has,
 than the abundance of many wicked.
¹⁷ For the arms of the wicked shall be
 broken,
 but Yahweh upholds the righteous.
¹⁸ Yahweh knows the days of the perfect.
 Their inheritance shall be forever.
¹⁹ They shall not be disappointed in the
 time of evil.
 In the days of famine they shall be
 satisfied.
²⁰ But the wicked shall perish.
 The enemies of Yahweh shall be like
 the beauty of the fields.
 They will vanish—
 vanish like smoke.
²¹ The wicked borrow, and don't pay back,
 but the righteous give generously.
²² For such as are blessed by him shall
 inherit the land.
 Those who are cursed by him shall be
 cut off.
²³ A man's steps are established by
 Yahweh.
 He delights in his way.
²⁴ Though he stumble, he shall not fall,
 for Yahweh holds him up with his
 hand.
²⁵ I have been young, and now am old,
 yet I have not seen the righteous
 forsaken,
 nor his children begging for bread.
²⁶ All day long he deals graciously, and
 lends.
 His offspring is blessed.
²⁷ Depart from evil, and do good.
 Live securely forever.
²⁸ For Yahweh loves justice,
 and doesn't forsake his saints.
 They are preserved forever,
 but the children of the wicked shall
 be cut off.
²⁹ The righteous shall inherit the land,
 and live in it forever.
³⁰ The mouth of the righteous talks of
 wisdom.

His tongue speaks justice.
³¹ The law of his God is in his heart.
 None of his steps shall slide.
³² The wicked watch the righteous,
 and seek to kill him.
³³ Yahweh will not leave him in his hand,
 nor condemn him when he is judged.
³⁴ Wait for Yahweh, and keep his way,
 and he will exalt you to inherit the
 land.
 When the wicked are cut off, you
 shall see it.
³⁵ I have seen the wicked in great power,
 spreading himself like a green tree in
 its native soil.
³⁶ But he passed away, and behold, he was
 not.
 Yes, I sought him, but he could not be

found.
³⁷ Mark the perfect man, and see the
 upright,
 for there is a future for the man of
 peace.
³⁸ As for transgressors, they shall be
 destroyed together.
 The future of the wicked shall be cut
 off.
³⁹ But the salvation of the righteous is
 from Yahweh.
 He is their stronghold in the time of
 trouble.
⁴⁰ Yahweh helps them and rescues them.
 He rescues them from the wicked and
 saves them,
 because they have taken refuge in
 him.

PSALMS 38

A Penitent Sufferer's Plea for Healing

A Psalm by David, for a memorial.

¹ Yahweh, don't rebuke me in your wrath,
 neither chasten me in your hot
 displeasure.
² For your arrows have pierced me,
 your hand presses hard on me.
³ There is no soundness in my flesh
 because of your indignation,
 neither is there any health in my
 bones because of my sin.
⁴ For my iniquities have gone over my
 head.
 As a heavy burden, they are too
 heavy for me.
⁵ My wounds are loathsome and corrupt
 because of my foolishness.
⁶ I am in pain and bowed down greatly.
 I go mourning all day long.
⁷ For my waist is filled with burning.
 There is no soundness in my flesh.
⁸ I am faint and severely bruised.
 I have groaned by reason of the
 anguish of my heart.
⁹ Lord, all my desire is before you.
 My groaning is not hidden from you.

¹⁰ My heart throbs.
 My strength fails me.
 As for the light of my eyes, it has also
 left me.
¹¹ My lovers and my friends stand aloof
 from my plague.
 My kinsmen stand far away.
¹² They also who seek after my life lay
 snares.
 Those who seek my hurt speak
 mischievous things,
 and meditate deceits all day long.
¹³ But I, as a deaf man, don't hear.
 I am as a mute man who doesn't open
 his mouth.
¹⁴ Yes, I am as a man who doesn't hear,
 in whose mouth are no reproofs.
¹⁵ For I hope in you, Yahweh.
 You will answer, Lord my God.
¹⁶ For I said, "Don't let them gloat over
 me,
 or exalt themselves over me when my
 foot slips."
¹⁷ For I am ready to fall.
 My pain is continually before me.
¹⁸ For I will declare my iniquity.
 I will be sorry for my sin.

- 19 But my enemies are vigorous and many.
Those who hate me without reason
are numerous.
- 20 They who render evil for good are also
adversaries to me,
- because I follow what is good.
- 21 Don't forsake me, Yahweh.
My God, don't be far from me.
- 22 Hurry to help me,
Lord, my salvation.

PSALMS 39

Prayer for Wisdom and Forgiveness

**For the Chief Musician. For Jeduthun.
A Psalm by David.**

- 1 I said, "I will watch my ways, so that I
don't sin with my tongue.
I will keep my mouth with a bridle
while the wicked is before me."
- 2 I was mute with silence.
I held my peace, even from good.
My sorrow was stirred.
- 3 My heart was hot within me.
While I meditated, the fire burned.
I spoke with my tongue:
- 4 "Yahweh, show me my end,
what is the measure of my days.
Let me know how frail I am.
- 5 Behold, you have made my days hand
widths.
My lifetime is as nothing before you.
Surely every man stands as a breath." Selah.
- 6 "Surely every man walks like a shadow.
Surely they busy themselves in vain.
He heaps up, and doesn't know who
shall gather.
- 7 Now, Lord, what do I wait for?
My hope is in you.
- 8 Deliver me from all my transgressions.
Don't make me the reproach of the
foolish.
- 9 I was mute.
I didn't open my mouth,
because you did it.
- 10 Remove your scourge away from me.
I am overcome by the blow of your
hand.
- 11 When you rebuke and correct man for
iniquity,
you consume his wealth like a moth.
Surely every man is but a breath." Selah.
- 12 "Hear my prayer, Yahweh, and give ear
to my cry.
Don't be silent at my tears.
For I am a stranger with you,
a foreigner, as all my fathers were.
- 13 Oh spare me, that I may recover
strength,
before I go away and exist no more."

PSALMS 40

Salvation by the Ordering of Our Thoughts

**For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by
David.**

- 1 I waited patiently for Yahweh.
He turned to me, and heard my cry.
- 2 He brought me up also out of a horrible
pit,
out of the miry clay.
He set my feet on a rock,
and gave me a firm place to stand.

- ³ He has put a new song² in my mouth,
even praise to our God.
Many shall see it, and fear, and shall
trust in Yahweh.
- ⁴ Blessed is the man who makes Yahweh
his trust,
and doesn't respect the proud, nor
such as turn away to lies.
- ⁵ Many, Yahweh, my God, are the
wonderful works which you have
done,
and your thoughts which are toward
us.³
- They can't be declared back to you.⁴
If I would declare and speak of them,
they are more than can be
counted.
- ⁶ Sacrifice and offering you didn't
desire.⁵
You have opened my ears.
You have not required burnt offering
and sin offering.
- ⁷ Then I said, "Behold, I have come.
It is written about me in the book in
the scroll.
- ⁸ I delight to do your will, my God.
Yes, your law is within my heart."
- ⁹ I have proclaimed glad news of
righteousness in the great
assembly.
Behold, I will not seal my lips,
Yahweh, you know.
- ¹⁰ I have not hidden your righteousness
within my heart.
I have declared your faithfulness and
your salvation.
I have not concealed your loving
kindness and your truth from
the great assembly.
- ¹¹ Don't withhold your tender mercies
from me, Yahweh.
Let your loving kindness and your
truth continually preserve me.
- ¹² For innumerable evils have surrounded
me.
My iniquities have overtaken me, so
that I am not able to look up.
They are more than the hairs of my
head.
My heart has failed me.
- ¹³ Be pleased, Yahweh, to deliver me.

- Hurry to help me, Yahweh.
- ¹⁴ Let them be disappointed and
confounded together who seek
after my soul to destroy it.
Let them be turned backward and
brought to dishonor who delight
in my hurt.
- ¹⁵ Let them be desolate by reason of their
shame that tell me, "Aha! Aha!"
- ¹⁶ Let all those who seek you rejoice and
be glad in you.
Let such as love your salvation say
continually, "Let Yahweh be
exalted!"
- ¹⁷ But I am poor and needy.
May the Lord think about me.
You are my help and my deliverer.
Don't delay, my God.

1. *feet*. Metaphysically, that phase of our understanding which comes into contact with substance. Consequently we can take possession of all substance that we comprehend and understand, in the name of I AM. This is the meaning of Joshua 1:3: "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, to you have I given it, as I spake unto Moses." The feet are the most willing and patient servants of the body. They go all day at the bidding of the mind, and upon them rests the burden of the thought of materiality. The more we believe in matter, the greater the burden laid upon the feet and the more tired they become. The denial of materiality is illustrated in the washing of the disciples' feet by Jesus (John 13:5-10). (MBD/feet)

2. *new song*. Singing, praising, and thanksgiving are the great building impulses of man. Never repress the desire to give thanks through happy songs and words of praise. Singing restores harmony to tense nerves because its vibrations stir them to action, thus making it possible for the ever-waiting, healing Spirit to get in. (RW/singing)

3. *your thoughts which are toward us*. [My Mind is One with the Mind of God (Hypatia Hasbrouck, *Handbook of Positive Prayer*, p.25) Our task as Metaphysical Christians, is to align our thinking with God Mind.]

4. *They can't be declared back to you*. (ASV, *They cannot be set in order unto thee*). The divine idea of order is the idea of adjustment, and as this is established in our thought, our mind and affairs will be at one with the universal harmony. (RW/order)

5. *Sacrifice and offering you didn't desire*. [It makes no sense to offer sacrifice if our thoughts are disordered and not aligned with God Mind.]

PSALMS 41

Assurance of God's Help and a Plea for Healing

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.

- ¹ Blessed is he who considers the poor.
Yahweh will deliver him in the day of evil.
- ² Yahweh will preserve him, and keep him alive.
He shall be blessed on the earth,
and he will not surrender him to the will of his enemies.
- ³ Yahweh will sustain him on his sickbed,
and restore him from his bed of illness.
- ⁴ I said, "Yahweh, have mercy on me!
Heal me, for I have sinned against you."
- ⁵ My enemies speak evil against me:
"When will he die, and his name perish?"
- ⁶ If he comes to see me, he speaks falsehood.
His heart gathers iniquity to itself.
When he goes abroad, he tells it.
- ⁷ All who hate me whisper together against me.
They imagine the worst for me.
- ⁸ "An evil disease", they say, "has afflicted him.
Now that he lies he shall rise up no more."
- ⁹ Yes, my own familiar friend, in whom I trusted,
who ate bread with me,
has lifted up his heel against me.
- ¹⁰ But you, Yahweh, have mercy on me,
and raise me up,
that I may repay them.
- ¹¹ By this I know that you delight in me,
because my enemy doesn't triumph over me.
- ¹² As for me, you uphold me in my integrity,
and set me in your presence forever.
- ¹³ Blessed be Yahweh, the God of Israel,
from everlasting and to everlasting!
Amen and amen.

BOOK 2

PSALMS 42

Longing for God and His Help in Distress

For the Chief Musician. A contemplation by the sons of Korah.

- ¹ As the deer pants for the water brooks,
so my soul pants after you, God.*
- ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When shall I come and appear before God?
- ³ My tears have been my food day and night,
while they continually ask me,
"Where is your God?"
- ⁴ These things I remember, and pour out my soul within me,
how I used to go with the crowd, and led them to God's house,
with the voice of joy and praise, a multitude keeping a holy day.
- ⁵ Why are you in despair, my soul?
Why are you disturbed within me?
Hope in God!

For I shall still praise him for the
saving help of his presence.
6 My God, my soul is in despair within me.
Therefore I remember you from the
land of the Jordan,
the heights of Hermon, from the hill
Mizar.
7 Deep calls to deep at the noise of your
waterfalls.
All your waves and your billows have
swept over me.
8 Yahweh† will command his loving
kindness in the daytime.
In the night his song shall be with me:

a prayer to the God of my life.
9 I will ask God, my rock, “Why have you
forgotten me?
Why do I go mourning because of the
oppression of the enemy?”
10 As with a sword in my bones, my
adversaries reproach me,
while they continually ask me,
“Where is your God?”
11 Why are you in despair, my soul?
Why are you disturbed within me?
Hope in God! For I shall still praise him,
the saving help of my countenance,
and my God.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 42:1. The Hebrew word rendered “God” is “אֱלֹהִים” (Elohim).

† 42:8. “Yahweh” is God’s proper Name, sometimes rendered “LORD” (all caps) in other translations.

PSALMS 43

Prayer to God in Time of Trouble

1 Vindicate me, God, and plead my cause
against an ungodly nation.
Oh, deliver me from deceitful and
wicked men.
2 For you are the God of my strength.
Why have you rejected me?
Why do I go mourning because of the
oppression of the enemy?
3 Oh, send out your light and your truth.
Let them lead me.
Let them bring me to your holy hill,

to your tents.
4 Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God, my exceeding joy.
I will praise you on the harp, God, my
God.
5 Why are you in despair, my soul?
Why are you disturbed within me?
Hope in God!
For I shall still praise him:
my Savior, my helper, and my God.

PSALMS 44

National Lament and Prayer for Help

**For the Chief Musician. By the sons of
Korah. A contemplative psalm.**

1 We have heard with our ears, God;

our fathers have told us what work
you did in their days,
in the days of old.

2 You drove out the nations with your

- hand,
but you planted them.
You afflicted the peoples,
but you spread them abroad.
- ³ For they didn't get the land in
possession by their own sword,
neither did their own arm save them;¹⁶
but your right hand, your arm, and the
light of your face,
because you were favorable to them.
- ⁴ God, you are my King.
Command victories for Jacob!
- ⁵ Through you, we will push down our
adversaries.
Through your name, we will tread
down those who rise up against
us.
- ⁶ For I will not trust in my bow,
neither will my sword save me.
- ⁷ But you have saved us from our
adversaries,
and have shamed those who hate us.
- ⁸ In God we have made our boast all day
long.
We will give thanks to your name
forever.
- ²¹ Selah.
- ⁹ But now you rejected us, and brought us
to dishonor,
and don't go out with our armies.
- ¹⁰ You make us turn back from the
adversary.
Those who hate us take plunder for
themselves.
- ¹¹ You have made us like sheep for food,
and have scattered us among the
nations.
- ¹² You sell your people for nothing,
and have gained nothing from their
sale.
- ¹³ You make us a reproach to our
neighbors,
a scoffing and a derision to those who
are around us.
- ¹⁴ You make us a byword among the
nations,
a shaking of the head among the
peoples.
- ¹⁵ All day long my dishonor is before me,
and shame covers my face,
at the taunt of one who reproaches
and verbally abuses,
because of the enemy and the
avenger.
- ¹⁷ All this has come on us,
yet we haven't forgotten you.
We haven't been false to your
covenant.
- ¹⁸ Our heart has not turned back,
neither have our steps strayed from
your path,
though you have crushed us in the
haunt of jackals,
and covered us with the shadow of
death.
- ²⁰ If we have forgotten the name of our
God,
or spread out our hands to a strange
god,
won't God search this out?
For he knows the secrets of the heart.
- ²² Yes, for your sake we are killed all day
long.
We are regarded as sheep for the
slaughter.
- ²³ Wake up!
Why do you sleep, Lord?*
- Arise!
Don't reject us forever.
- ²⁴ Why do you hide your face,
and forget our affliction and our
oppression?
- ²⁵ For our soul is bowed down to the dust.
Our body clings to the earth.
- ²⁶ Rise up to help us.
Redeem us for your loving kindness'
sake.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 44:23. The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

PSALMS 45

Ode for a Royal Wedding

For the Chief Musician. Set to "The Lilies." A contemplation by the sons of Korah. A wedding song.

- ¹ My heart overflows with a noble theme.
I recite my verses for the king.
My tongue is like the pen of a skillful writer.
- ² You are the most excellent of the sons of men.
Grace has anointed your lips,
therefore God has blessed you forever.
- ³ Strap your sword on your thigh, O mighty one,
in your splendor and your majesty.
- ⁴ In your majesty ride on victoriously on behalf of truth, humility, and righteousness.
Let your right hand display awesome deeds.
- ⁵ Your arrows are sharp.
The nations fall under you, with arrows in the heart of the king's enemies.
- ⁶ Your throne, God, is forever and ever.
A scepter of equity is the scepter of your kingdom.
- ⁷ You have loved righteousness, and hated wickedness.
Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows.
- ⁸ All your garments smell like myrrh, aloes, and cassia.

- Out of ivory palaces strung instruments have made you glad.
- ⁹ Kings' daughters are among your honorable women.
At your right hand the queen stands in gold of Ophir.
- ¹⁰ Listen, daughter, consider, and turn your ear.
Forget your own people, and also your father's house.
So the king will desire your beauty, honor him, for he is your lord.
- ¹¹ The daughter of Tyre comes with a gift.
The rich among the people entreat your favor.
- ¹² The princess inside is all glorious.
Her clothing is interwoven with gold.
- ¹³ She shall be led to the king in embroidered work.
The virgins, her companions who follow her, shall be brought to you.
- ¹⁴ With gladness and rejoicing they shall be led.
They shall enter into the king's palace.
- ¹⁵ Your sons will take the place of your fathers.
You shall make them princes in all the earth.
- ¹⁶ I will make your name to be remembered in all generations.
Therefore the peoples shall give you thanks forever and ever.

PSALMS 46

God's Defense of His City and People

For the Chief Musician. By the sons of Korah. According to Alamoth.*

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we won't be afraid, though

the earth changes,
 though the mountains are shaken into
 the heart of the seas;
 3 though its waters roar and are
 troubled,
 though the mountains tremble with
 their swelling.
 Selah.
 4 There is a river, the streams of which
 make the city of God glad,
 the holy place of the tents of the
 Most High.
 5 God is within her. She shall not be
 moved.
 God will help her at dawn.
 6 The nations raged. The kingdoms were
 moved.
 He lifted his voice and the earth
 melted.

7 Yahweh of Armies is with us.
 The God of Jacob is our refuge.
 Selah.
 8 Come, see Yahweh's works,
 what desolations he has made in the
 earth.
 9 He makes wars cease to the end of the
 earth.
 He breaks the bow, and shatters the
 spear.
 He burns the chariots in the fire.
 10 "Be still, and know that I am God.
 I will be exalted among the nations.
 I will be exalted in the earth."
 11 Yahweh of Armies is with us.
 The God of Jacob is our refuge.
 Selah.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* ^ . Alamo is a musical term.

PSALMS 47

God's Rule over the Consciousness and Thoughts¹

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by the
 sons of Korah.

1 Oh clap your hands, all you nations.
 Shout to God with the voice of
 triumph!
 2 For Yahweh Most High is awesome.
 He is a great King over all the earth.
 3 He subdues nations under us,
 and peoples under our feet.²
 4 He chooses our inheritance for us,
 the glory of Jacob whom he loved.
 Selah.
 5 God has gone up with a shout,
 Yahweh with the sound of a trumpet.
 6 Sing praises to God! Sing praises!
 Sing praises to our King! Sing
 praises!³
 7 For God is the King of all the earth.⁴
 Sing praises with understanding.
 8 God reigns over the nations.
 God sits on his holy throne.

9 The princes of the peoples are gathered
 together,
 the people of the God of Abraham.
 For the shields of the earth belong to
 God.
 He is greatly exalted!

1. Psalms 47:1-9, Psalms 67:1-7, and Psalms 100:1-5 can be read together because praise is the central thought in these three psalms. We are to praise God for victory over error. We are to praise God for the manifold blessings which we already have received, and which we are continuing to realize daily. We also must praise God for unmanifest good—that which we expect to receive. (*Unity*, October 1923, pp. 359-61)


2. *He subdues nations under us, and peoples under our feet.* Metaphysically, nations are states of consciousness, or aggregations of thoughts in the mind, that are to be instructed through the faculties (RW/nation). People are our thoughts (MBD/people)

3. *Sing praises to God! Sing praises!* We should we praise God and sing for joy because the all-knowing, all-loving, all-powerful Judge dwells in us, and

he will establish equity, justice, and right relationship throughout the entire being. When divine order has thus been established, it brings to us abiding peace, within and without.

4. *For God is the King of all the earth.* The earth, metaphysically interpreted, means our bodies [or the consciousness of our physical bodies]. Our bod-

ies respond to praise and blessing. If we want our bodies to manifest increased strength, life, health, and perfection, we must see God in them; we must praise his Spirit which is expressing through them. Our bodies can be praised out of their fleshly seeming, into spiritual manifestation.

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 48

The Glory and Strength of Zion

A Song. A Psalm by the sons of Korah.

- ¹ Great is Yahweh, and greatly to be praised,
in the city of our God, in his holy mountain.
- ² Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth,
is Mount Zion, on the north sides,
the city of the great King.
- ³ God has shown himself in her citadels as a refuge.
- ⁴ For, behold, the kings assembled themselves,
they passed by together.
- ⁵ They saw it, then they were amazed.
They were dismayed.
They hurried away.
- ⁶ Trembling took hold of them there,
pain, as of a woman in travail.
- ⁷ With the east wind, you break the ships
of Tarshish.
- ⁸ As we have heard, so we have seen,
in the city of Yahweh of Armies, in

- the city of our God.
God will establish it forever. Selah.
- ⁹ We have thought about your loving kindness, God,
in the middle of your temple.
 - ¹⁰ As is your name, God,
so is your praise to the ends of the earth.
Your right hand is full of righteousness.
 - ¹¹ Let Mount Zion be glad!
Let the daughters of Judah rejoice
because of your judgments.
 - ¹² Walk about Zion, and go around her.
Number its towers.
 - ¹³ Notice her bulwarks.
Consider her palaces,
that you may tell it to the next generation.
 - ¹⁴ For this God is our God forever and ever.
He will be our guide even to death.

PSALMS 49

The Folly of Trust in Riches

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by the sons of Korah.

- ¹ Hear this, all you peoples.
Listen, all you inhabitants of the

2 world,
 both low and high,
 rich and poor together.
 3 My mouth will speak words of wisdom.
 My heart will utter understanding.
 4 I will incline my ear to a proverb.
 I will solve my riddle on the harp.
 5 Why should I fear in the days of evil,
 when iniquity at my heels surrounds
 me?
 6 Those who trust in their wealth,
 and boast in the multitude of their
 riches—
 7 none of them can by any means
 redeem his brother,
 nor give God a ransom for him.
 8 For the redemption of their life is
 costly,
 no payment is ever enough,
 9 that he should live on forever,
 that he should not see corruption.
 10 For he sees that wise men die;
 likewise the fool and the senseless
 perish,
 and leave their wealth to others.
 11 Their inward thought is that their
 houses will endure forever,
 and their dwelling places to all
 generations.
 They name their lands after
 themselves.
 12 But man, despite his riches, doesn't
 endure.
 He is like the animals that perish.

13 This is the destiny of those who are
 foolish,
 and of those who approve their
 sayings. Selah.
 14 They are appointed as a flock for
 Sheol.*
 Death shall be their shepherd.
 The upright shall have dominion over
 them in the morning.
 Their beauty shall decay in Sheol,†
 far from their mansion.
 15 But God will redeem my soul from the
 power of Sheol,‡
 for he will receive me. Selah.
 16 Don't be afraid when a man is made
 rich,
 when the glory of his house is
 increased;
 17 for when he dies he will carry nothing
 away.
 His glory won't descend after him.
 18 Though while he lived he blessed his
 soul—
 and men praise you when you do well
 for yourself—
 19 he shall go to the generation of his
 fathers.
 They shall never see the light.
 20 A man who has riches without
 understanding,
 is like the animals that perish.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 49:14. Sheol is the place of the dead.

† 49:14. Sheol is the place of the dead. .

‡ 49:15. Sheol is the place of the dead.

PSALMS 50

Thanksgiving is the Acceptable Sacrifice

A Psalm by Asaph.

1 The Mighty One, God, Yahweh, speaks,
 and calls the earth from sunrise to
 sunset.
 2 Out of Zion,¹ the perfection of beauty,²
 God shines out.³
 3 Our God comes, and does not keep

silent.
 A fire devours before him.
 It is very stormy around him.
 4 He calls to the heavens above,
 to the earth, that he may judge his
 people:
 5 "Gather my saints together to me,
 those who have made a covenant with
 me by sacrifice."
 6 The heavens shall declare his
 righteousness,
 for God himself is judge. Selah.
 7 "Hear, my people, and I will speak.
 Israel, I will testify against you.
 I am God, your God.
 8 I don't rebuke you for your sacrifices.
 Your burnt offerings are continually
 before me.
 9 I have no need for a bull from your stall,
 nor male goats from your pens.
 10 For every animal of the forest is mine,
 and the livestock on a thousand hills.
 11 I know all the birds of the mountains.
 The wild animals of the field are
 mine.
 12 If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
 for the world is mine, and all that is
 in it.
 13 Will I eat the meat of bulls,
 or drink the blood of goats?
 14 Offer to God the sacrifice of
 thanksgiving.⁴
 Pay your vows to the Most High.
 15 Call on me in the day of trouble.
 I will deliver you, and you will honor
 me."
 16 But to the wicked God says,
 "What right do you have to declare
 my statutes,
 that you have taken my covenant on
 your lips,
 17 since you hate instruction,
 and throw my words behind you?
 18 When you saw a thief, you consented
 with him,
 and have participated with
 adulterers.

19 "You give your mouth to evil.
 Your tongue frames deceit.
 20 You sit and speak against your brother.
 You slander your own mother's son.
 21 You have done these things, and I kept
 silent.
 You thought that I was just like you.
 I will rebuke you, and accuse you in
 front of your eyes.
 22 "Now consider this, you who forget God,
 lest I tear you into pieces, and there
 be no one to deliver.
 23 Whoever offers the sacrifice of
 thanksgiving glorifies me,⁵
 and prepares his way⁶ so that I will
 show God's salvation to him."

1. *Out of Zion* Zion is love's abode in the phase of the subjective consciousness where high, holy thoughts and ideals abide (MBD/Zion).

2. *the perfection of beauty.* Perfection is a state of consciousness completely free from any shadow of negation (RW/perfection). Beauty is the loveliness of God beheld in His creations by the eye of human beings. Spiritual humans behold this divine loveliness everywhere (RW/beauty).

3. *God shines out.* Creation originates and exists in Divine Mind, God. In the creative process Divine Mind first ideates itself. In the Scripture this ideal is named Jehovah, meaning I AM the ever living—He who is eternal. The creation is carried forward through the activity of the Holy Spirit. (MBD/Jehovah)

4. *Offer unto God the sacrifice of thanksgiving.* Sacrifice: a refining process that is constantly going on in consciousness; the renunciation of old beliefs that seem good for new ideas that are more of the nature of Christ. (RW/sacrifice). Thanksgiving: Rendering our grateful thoughts to God for His manifold blessings. Thanksgiving will keep the heart fresh; for true thanksgiving may be likened to rain falling upon ready soil, refreshing it and increasing its productivity. (RW/thanksgiving)

5. *glorifies me.* Glorify: to magnify with praise; to enhance with spiritual splendor; to adorn. Glorification is the highest spiritual state of consciousness attainable by man. (RW/glorify). Glory is the realization of divine unity; the blending and merging of our mind with God-Mind. (RW/glory)

6. *prepares his way.* Way is the I AM in man, the open door to the kingdom of God (RW/way).

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 51

Prayer for Cleansing and Pardon

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David, when Nathan the prophet came to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

- ¹ Have mercy on me, God, according to
your loving kindness.
According to the multitude of your
tender mercies, blot out my
transgressions.
- ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity.
Cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my transgressions.
My sin is constantly before me.
- ⁴ Against you, and you only, I have sinned,
and done that which is evil in your
sight,
so you may be proved right when you
speak,
and justified when you judge.
- ⁵ Behold, I was born in iniquity.
My mother conceived me in sin.
- ⁶ Behold, you desire truth in the inward
parts.
You teach me wisdom in the inmost
place.
- ⁷ Purify me with hyssop, and I will be
clean.
Wash me, and I will be whiter than
snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness,
that the bones which you have broken
may rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins,

- and blot out all of my iniquities.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Renew a right spirit within me.
- ¹¹ Don't throw me from your presence,
and don't take your Holy Spirit from
me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation.
Uphold me with a willing spirit.
- ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your
ways.
Sinners will be converted to you.
- ¹⁴ Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed,
O God, the God of my salvation.
My tongue will sing aloud of your
righteousness.
- ¹⁵ Lord, open my lips.
My mouth will declare your praise.
- ¹⁶ For you don't delight in sacrifice, or
else I would give it.
You have no pleasure in burnt
offering.
- ¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken
spirit.
O God, you will not despise a broken
and contrite heart.
- ¹⁸ Do well in your good pleasure to Zion.
Build the walls of Jerusalem.
- ¹⁹ Then you will delight in the sacrifices of
righteousness,
in burnt offerings and in whole burnt
offerings.
Then they will offer bulls on your altar.

PSALMS 52

Judgment on the Deceitful

For the Chief Musician. A contemplation by David, when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul, "David has come to Ahimelech's house."

- ¹ Why do you boast of mischief, mighty
man?
God's loving kindness endures
continually.
- ² Your tongue plots destruction,

like a sharp razor, working
deceitfully.
³ You love evil more than good,
lying rather than speaking the truth.
Selah.
⁴ You love all devouring words,
you deceitful tongue.
⁵ God will likewise destroy you forever.
He will take you up, and pluck you
out of your tent,
and root you out of the land of the
living.
Selah.
⁶ The righteous also will see it, and fear,
and laugh at him, saying,

⁷ “Behold, this is the man who didn’t
make God his strength,
but trusted in the abundance of his
riches,
and strengthened himself in his
wickedness.”
⁸ But as for me, I am like a green olive
tree in God’s house.
I trust in God’s loving kindness
forever and ever.
⁹ I will give you thanks forever, because
you have done it.
I will hope in your name, for it is
good,
in the presence of your saints.

PSALMS 53

Denunciation of Godlessness

**For the Chief Musician. To the tune of
“Mahalath.” A contemplation by David.**

¹ The fool has said in his heart, “There is
no God.”
They are corrupt, and have done
abominable iniquity.
There is no one who does good.
² God looks down from heaven on the
children of men,
to see if there are any who
understood,
who seek after God.
³ Every one of them has gone back.
They have become filthy together.
There is no one who does good, no,
not one.

⁴ Have the workers of iniquity no
knowledge,
who eat up my people as they eat
bread,
and don’t call on God?
⁵ There they were in great fear, where no
fear was,
for God has scattered the bones of
him who encamps against you.
You have put them to shame,
because God has rejected them.
⁶ Oh that the salvation of Israel would
come out of Zion!
When God brings back his people
from captivity,
then Jacob shall rejoice,
and Israel shall be glad.

PSALMS 54

Prayer for Vindication

**For the Chief Musician. On stringed
instruments. A contemplation by David,
when the Ziphites came and said to Saul,**

“Isn’t David hiding himself among us?”

¹ Save me, God, by your name.

- Vindicate me in your might.
² Hear my prayer, God.
 Listen to the words of my mouth.
³ For strangers have risen up against me.
 Violent men have sought after my
 soul.
 They haven't set God before them.
 Selah.
⁴ Behold, God is my helper.
 The Lord is the one who sustains my
 soul.
- ⁵ He will repay the evil to my enemies.
 Destroy them in your truth.
⁶ With a free will offering, I will sacrifice
 to you.
 I will give thanks to your name,
 Yahweh, for it is good.
⁷ For he has delivered me out of all
 trouble.
 My eye has seen triumph over my
 enemies.

PSALMS 55

Complaint about a Friend's Treachery

For the Chief Musician. On stringed instruments. A contemplation by David.

- ¹ Listen to my prayer, God.
 Don't hide yourself from my
 supplication.
² Attend to me, and answer me.
 I am restless in my complaint,
 and moan because of the voice of the
 enemy,
 because of the oppression of the
 wicked.
 For they bring suffering on me.
 In anger they hold a grudge against
 me.
⁴ My heart is severely pained within me.
 The terrors of death have fallen on
 me.
⁵ Fearfulness and trembling have come on
 me.
 Horror has overwhelmed me.
⁶ I said, "Oh that I had wings like a dove!
 Then I would fly away, and be at rest.
⁷ Behold, then I would wander far off.
 I would lodge in the wilderness."
 Selah.
⁸ "I would hurry to a shelter from the
 stormy wind and storm."
⁹ Confuse them, Lord, and confound their
 language,
 for I have seen violence and strife in
 the city.
¹⁰ Day and night they prowl around on its
 walls.
- Malice and abuse are also within her.
¹¹ Destructive forces are within her.
 Threats and lies don't depart from
 her streets.
¹² For it was not an enemy who insulted
 me,
 then I could have endured it.
 Neither was it he who hated me who
 raised himself up against me,
 then I would have hidden myself from
 him.
¹³ But it was you, a man like me,
 my companion, and my familiar
 friend.
¹⁴ We took sweet fellowship together.
 We walked in God's house with
 company.
¹⁵ Let death come suddenly on them.
 Let them go down alive into Sheol.*
 For wickedness is among them, in
 their dwelling.
¹⁶ As for me, I will call on God.
 Yahweh will save me.
¹⁷ Evening, morning, and at noon, I will cry
 out in distress.
 He will hear my voice.
¹⁸ He has redeemed my soul in peace from
 the battle that was against me,
 although there are many who oppose
 me.
¹⁹ God, who is enthroned forever,
 will hear and answer them.
 Selah.
 They never change

and don't fear God.
²⁰ He raises his hands against his friends.
 He has violated his covenant.
²¹ His mouth was smooth as butter,
 but his heart was war.
 His words were softer than oil,
 yet they were drawn swords.
²² Cast your burden on Yahweh and he will

sustain you.
 He will never allow the righteous to
 be moved.
²³ But you, God, will bring them down into
 the pit of destruction.
 Bloodthirsty and deceitful men shall
 not live out half their days,
 but I will trust in you.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 55:15. Sheol is the place of the dead. .

PSALMS 56

Trust in God under Persecution

**For the Chief Musician. To the tune of
 "Silent Dove in Distant Lands." A poem by
 David, when the Philistines seized him in
 Gath.**

¹ Be merciful to me, God, for man wants
 to swallow me up.
 All day long, he attacks and oppresses
 me.
² My enemies want to swallow me up all
 day long,
 for they are many who fight proudly
 against me.
³ When I am afraid,
 I will put my trust in you.
⁴ In God, I praise his word.
 In God, I put my trust.
 I will not be afraid.
 What can flesh do to me?
⁵ All day long they twist my words.
 All their thoughts are against me for
 evil.
⁶ They conspire and lurk,

watching my steps.
 They are eager to take my life.
⁷ Shall they escape by iniquity?
 In anger cast down the peoples, God.
⁸ You count my wanderings.
 You put my tears into your container.
 Aren't they in your book?
⁹ Then my enemies shall turn back in the
 day that I call.
 I know this: that God is for me.
¹⁰ In God, I will praise his word.
 In Yahweh, I will praise his word.
¹¹ I have put my trust in God.
 I will not be afraid.
 What can man do to me?
¹² Your vows are on me, God.
 I will give thank offerings to you.
¹³ For you have delivered my soul from
 death,
 and prevented my feet from falling,
 that I may walk before God in the
 light of the living.

PSALMS 57

Praise and Assurance under Persecution

**For the Chief Musician. To the tune of
“Do Not Destroy.” A poem by David, when
he fled from Saul, in the cave.**

- ¹ Be merciful to me, God, be merciful to me,
for my soul takes refuge in you.
Yes, in the shadow of your wings, I will
take refuge,
until disaster has passed.
- ² I cry out to God Most High,
to God who accomplishes my requests
for me.
- ³ He will send from heaven, and save me,
he rebukes the one who is pursuing
me.
- Selah.
- God will send out his loving kindness and
his truth.
- ⁴ My soul is among lions.
I lie among those who are set on fire,
even the sons of men, whose teeth
are spears and arrows,
and their tongue a sharp sword.

- ⁵ Be exalted, God, above the heavens!
Let your glory be above all the earth!
- ⁶ They have prepared a net for my steps.
My soul is bowed down.
They dig a pit before me.
They fall into the middle of it
themselves.
- Selah.
- ⁷ My heart is steadfast, God.
My heart is steadfast.
I will sing, yes, I will sing praises.
- ⁸ Wake up, my glory! Wake up, lute and
harp!
I will wake up the dawn.
- ⁹ I will give thanks to you, Lord, among
the peoples.
I will sing praises to you among the
nations.
- ¹⁰ For your great loving kindness reaches
to the heavens,
and your truth to the skies.
- ¹¹ Be exalted, God, above the heavens.
Let your glory be over all the earth.

PSALMS 58

Prayer for Vengeance

**For the Chief Musician. To the tune of
“Do Not Destroy.” A poem by David.**

- ¹ Do you indeed speak righteousness,
silent ones?
Do you judge blamelessly, you sons of
men?
- ² No, in your heart you plot injustice.
You measure out the violence of your
hands in the earth.
- ³ The wicked go astray from the womb.
They are wayward as soon as they are
born, speaking lies.
- ⁴ Their poison is like the poison of a
snake,
like a deaf cobra that stops its ear,
⁵ which doesn't listen to the voice of
charmners,
no matter how skillful the charmer
may be.
- ⁶ Break their teeth, God, in their mouth.

- Break out the great teeth of the
young lions, Yahweh.
- ⁷ Let them vanish like water that flows
away.
When they draw the bow, let their
arrows be made blunt.
- ⁸ Let them be like a snail which melts and
passes away,
like the stillborn child, who has not
seen the sun.
- ⁹ Before your pots can feel the heat of the
thorns,
he will sweep away the green and the
burning alike.
- ¹⁰ The righteous shall rejoice when he sees
the vengeance.
He shall wash his feet in the blood of
the wicked,
- ¹¹ so that men shall say, “Most certainly
there is a reward for the
righteous.
Most certainly there is a God who

judges the earth.”

PSALMS 59

Prayer for Deliverance from Enemies

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of “Do Not Destroy.” A poem by David, when Saul sent, and they watched the house to kill him.

- ¹ Deliver me from my enemies, my God.
Set me on high from those who rise
up against me.
- ² Deliver me from the workers of iniquity.
Save me from the bloodthirsty men.
- ³ For, behold, they lie in wait for my
soul.
The mighty gather themselves
together against me,
not for my disobedience, nor for my
sin, Yahweh.
- ⁴ I have done no wrong, yet they are
ready to attack me.
Rise up, behold, and help me!
- ⁵ You, Yahweh God of Armies, the God of
Israel,
rouse yourself to punish the nations.
Show no mercy to the wicked traitors.
Selah.
- ⁶ They return at evening, howling like
dogs,
and prowl around the city.
- ⁷ Behold, they spew with their mouth.
Swords are in their lips,
“For”, they say, “who hears us?”
- ⁸ But you, Yahweh, laugh at them.
You scoff at all the nations.
- ⁹ Oh, my Strength, I watch for you,
for God is my high tower.
- ¹⁰ My God will go before me with his loving

kindness.

God will let me look at my enemies in
triumph.

- ¹¹ Don’t kill them, or my people may
forget.
Scatter them by your power, and
bring them down, Lord our
shield.
- ¹² For the sin of their mouth, and the
words of their lips,
let them be caught in their pride,
for the curses and lies which they
utter.
- ¹³ Consume them in wrath.
Consume them, and they will be no
more.
Let them know that God rules in Jacob,
to the ends of the earth.
Selah.
- ¹⁴ At evening let them return.
Let them howl like a dog, and go
around the city.
- ¹⁵ They shall wander up and down for
food,
and wait all night if they aren’t
satisfied.
- ¹⁶ But I will sing of your strength.
Yes, I will sing aloud of your loving
kindness in the morning.
For you have been my high tower,
a refuge in the day of my distress.
- ¹⁷ To you, my strength, I will sing praises.
For God is my high tower, the God of
my mercy.

PSALMS 60

Prayer for National Victory after Defeat

For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "The Lily of the Covenant." A teaching poem by David, when he fought with Aram Naharaim and with Aram Zobah, and Joab returned, and killed twelve thousand of Edom in the Valley of Salt.

- ¹ God, you have rejected us.
You have broken us down.
You have been angry.
Restore us, again.
- ² You have made the land tremble.
You have torn it.
Mend its fractures,
for it quakes.
- ³ You have shown your people hard things.
You have made us drink the wine that makes us stagger.
- ⁴ You have given a banner to those who fear you,
that it may be displayed because of the truth.
- Selah.
- ⁵ So that your beloved may be delivered,

save with your right hand, and answer us.

- ⁶ God has spoken from his sanctuary:
"I will triumph.
I will divide Shechem,
and measure out the valley of Succoth.
- ⁷ Gilead is mine, and Manasseh is mine.
Ephraim also is the defense of my head.
Judah is my scepter.
- ⁸ Moab is my wash basin.
I will throw my sandal on Edom.
I shout in triumph over Philistia."
- ⁹ Who will bring me into the strong city?
Who has led me to Edom?
- ¹⁰ Haven't you, God, rejected us?
You don't go out with our armies,
God.
- ¹¹ Give us help against the adversary,
for the help of man is vain.
- ¹² Through God we will do valiantly,
for it is he who will tread down our adversaries.

PSALMS 61

Assurance of God's Protection

For the Chief Musician. For a stringed instrument. By David.

- ¹ Hear my cry, God.
Listen to my prayer.
- ² From the end of the earth, I will call to you when my heart is overwhelmed.
Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.
- ³ For you have been a refuge for me,
a strong tower from the enemy.
- ⁴ I will dwell in your tent forever.

I will take refuge in the shelter of your wings.

Selah.

- ⁵ For you, God, have heard my vows.
You have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.
- ⁶ You will prolong the king's life.
His years will be for generations.
- ⁷ He shall be enthroned in God's presence forever.
Appoint your loving kindness and truth, that they may preserve him.

⁸ So I will sing praise to your name
forever,

that I may fulfill my vows daily.

PSALMS 62

Song of Trust in God Alone

For the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A Psalm by David.

¹ My soul rests in God alone.
My salvation is from him.
² He alone is my rock, my salvation, and
my fortress.
I will never be greatly shaken.
³ How long will you assault a man?
Would all of you throw him down,
like a leaning wall, like a tottering
fence?
⁴ They fully intend to throw him down
from his lofty place.
They delight in lies.
They bless with their mouth, but they
curse inwardly.
Selah.
⁵ My soul, wait in silence for God alone,
for my expectation is from him.
⁶ He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress.
I will not be shaken.
⁷ My salvation and my honor is with God.

The rock of my strength, and my
refuge, is in God.

⁸ Trust in him at all times, you people.
Pour out your heart before him.
God is a refuge for us.
Selah.
⁹ Surely men of low degree are just a
breath,
and men of high degree are a lie.
In the balances they will go up.
They are together lighter than a
breath.
¹⁰ Don't trust in oppression.
Don't become vain in robbery.
If riches increase,
don't set your heart on them.
¹¹ God has spoken once;
twice I have heard this,
that power belongs to God.
¹² Also to you, Lord, belongs loving
kindness,
for you reward every man according
to his work.

PSALMS 63

Comfort and Assurance in God's Presence

**A Psalm by David, when he was in the
desert of Judah.**

¹ God, you are my God.
I will earnestly seek you.
My soul thirsts for you.
My flesh longs for you,
in a dry and weary land, where there
is no water.

² So I have seen you in the sanctuary,
watching your power and your glory.
³ Because your loving kindness is better
than life,
my lips shall praise you.
⁴ So I will bless you while I live.
I will lift up my hands in your name.
⁵ My soul shall be satisfied as with the

- richest food.
My mouth shall praise you with joyful lips,
6 when I remember you on my bed,
and think about you in the night watches.
7 For you have been my help.
I will rejoice in the shadow of your wings.
8 My soul stays close to you.
Your right hand holds me up.
- 9 But those who seek my soul to destroy it
shall go into the lower parts of the earth.
10 They shall be given over to the power of the sword.
They shall be jackal food.
11 But the king shall rejoice in God.
Everyone who swears by him will praise him,
for the mouth of those who speak lies shall be silenced.

PSALMS 64

Prayer for Protection from Enemies

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.

- 1 Hear my voice, God, in my complaint.
Preserve my life from fear of the enemy.
2 Hide me from the conspiracy of the wicked,
from the noisy crowd of the ones doing evil;
3 who sharpen their tongue like a sword,
and aim their arrows, deadly words,
4 to shoot innocent men from ambushes.
They shoot at him suddenly and fearlessly.
5 They encourage themselves in evil plans.
They talk about laying snares secretly.
- They say, "Who will see them?"
6 They plot injustice, saying, "We have made a perfect plan!"
Surely man's mind and heart are cunning.
7 But God will shoot at them.
They will be suddenly struck down with an arrow.
8 Their own tongues shall ruin them.
All who see them will shake their heads.
9 All mankind shall be afraid.
They shall declare the work of God,
and shall wisely ponder what he has done.
10 The righteous shall be glad in Yahweh,
and shall take refuge in him.
All the upright in heart shall praise him!

PSALMS 65

Thanksgiving for Earth's Bounty

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David. A song.

- 1 Praise waits for you, God, in Zion.
- Vows shall be performed to you.
2 You who hear prayer,
all men will come to you.
3 Sins overwhelmed me,

but you atoned for our transgressions.
4 Blessed is the one whom you choose and
cause to come near,
that he may live in your courts.
We will be filled with the goodness of
your house,
5 your holy temple.
By awesome deeds of righteousness, you
answer us,
God of our salvation.
You who are the hope of all the ends of
the earth,
6 of those who are far away on the sea.
By your power, you form the mountains,
7 having armed yourself with strength.
You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
and the turmoil of the nations.
8 They also who dwell in faraway places
are afraid at your wonders.

You call the morning's dawn and the evening with songs of joy.

9 You visit the earth, and water it.
You greatly enrich it.
The river of God is full of water.
You provide them grain, for so you have ordained it.

10 You drench its furrows.
You level its ridges.
You soften it with showers.
You bless it with a crop.

11 You crown the year with your bounty.
Your carts overflow with abundance.

12 The wilderness grasslands overflow.
The hills are clothed with gladness.

13 The pastures are covered with flocks.
The valleys also are clothed with grain.

They shout for joy!
They also sing.

PSALMS 66

God's Providential Deliverance

For the Chief Musician. A song. A Psalm.

1 Make a joyful shout to God, all the
earth!

2 Sing to the glory¹ of his name!
Offer glory and praise!

3 Tell God, “How awesome are your
deeds!”²

Through the greatness of your power,
your enemies submit
themselves to you.

4 All the earth will worship you,
and will sing to you;
they will sing to your name.”

Selah.³

5 Come, and see God’s deeds—
awesome work on behalf of the
children of men.

6 He turned the sea into dry land.
They went through the river on foot.
There, we rejoiced in him.

7 He rules by his might forever.
His eyes watch the nations.
Don’t let the rebellious rise up

against him.

Selah.

8 Praise our God, you peoples! 4
9 Make the sound of his praise heard,
who preserves our life among the living,
and doesn't allow our feet to be
moved.
10 For you, God, have tested us.
You have refined us, as silver is
refined.
11 You brought us into prison.
You laid a burden on our backs.
12 You allowed men to ride over our heads.
We went through fire and through
water,
but you brought us to the place of
abundance.
13 I will come into your temple with burnt
offerings. 5
I will pay my vows to you,
14 which my lips promised,
and my mouth spoke, when I was in
distress.
15 I will offer to you burnt offerings of fat
animals.

- with the offering of rams,
I will offer bulls with goats. **Selah.**
- 16 Come and hear, all you who fear God. ⑥
I will declare what he has done for
my soul.
- 17 I cried to him with my mouth.
He was extolled with my tongue.
- 18 If I cherished sin in my heart,
the Lord wouldn't have listened.
- 19 But most certainly, God has listened.
He has heard the voice of my prayer.
- 20 Blessed be God, who has not turned
away my prayer,
nor his loving kindness from me.

1. *glory*. Realization of divine unity; the blending and merging of our mind with God-Mind (RW/glory).
2. *How awesome are your deeds!* (ASV, How terrible are thy works). Better translated, "How sublime are thy works."
3. *Selah*. tranquil; secure; at rest; silence; pause; quiet; peaceful; serene; prosperous. A word that occurs many times in the Psalms. Metaphysically, the state of mind in prayer in which we relax from

our affirmation of Truth and thanksgiving for good received and to be received, and "wait" on God in the stillness, that the Holy Spirit may reveal more of its inspirations to us and that it may establish our thoughts and our heart more firmly in the divine harmony and good. (MBD/Selah)

4. *you peoples!* Metaphysically, our thoughts (MBD/people).

5. *burnt offerings*. Metaphysically, the burnt offerings of bullocks and sheep on the altar (I Kings 3:4; II Chron. 30:24) represent the transmutation of the physical forces to the next higher plane of action. This is a process of body refinement to be accomplished by those who follow Jesus in the regeneration. (MBD/offering).

6. *Come and hear, all you who fear God*. We find, by consulting independent Bible interpreters that many mistakes have been made in translating from the Hebrew and Greek to the English. This verse should be more truly rendered: "Come, hear me relate what I say, And what God has done for my soul." There should be no element of fear in our hearts toward God, when we pray and give thanks. We should always think of God as a loving, tender, merciful Father, who is always more willing to give of his abundant kindness than we are to receive.

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 67

The Nations Called to Praise God

For the Chief Musician. With stringed instruments. A Psalm. A song.

- 1 May God be merciful to us, bless us,
and cause his face to shine on us. **Selah.**
- 2 That your way may be known on earth,
and your salvation among all nations,
- 3 let the peoples praise you, God.
Let all the peoples praise you.
- 4 Oh let the nations be glad and sing for
joy,

for you will judge the peoples with
equity,
and govern the nations on earth.

Selah.

- 5 Let the peoples praise you, God.
Let all the peoples praise you.
- 6 The earth has yielded its increase.
God, even our own God, will bless us.
- 7 God will bless us.
All the ends of the earth shall fear
him.

PSALMS 68

The Many Names for God¹

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David. A song. ¹³

¹ Let God arise!²
 Let his enemies be scattered!
 Let them who hate him also flee
 before him.

² As smoke is driven away,
 so drive them away.
 As wax melts before the fire,
 so let the wicked perish at the
 presence of God.

³ But let the righteous be glad.
 Let them rejoice before God.
 Yes, let them rejoice with gladness.

⁴ Sing to God! Sing praises to his name!
 Extol him who rides on the clouds:
 to Yah, his name!³
 Rejoice before him!

⁵ A father of the fatherless, and a
 defender of the widows,
 is God in his holy habitation.

⁶ God sets the lonely in families.
 He brings out the prisoners with singing,
 but the rebellious dwell in a sun-
 scorched land.

⁷ God, when you went out before your
 people,
 when you marched through the
 wilderness...

Selah.

⁸ The earth trembled.
 The sky also poured down rain at the
 presence of the God of Sinai—
 at the presence of God, the God of
 Israel.

⁹ You, God, sent a plentiful rain.
 You confirmed your inheritance when
 it was weary.

¹⁰ Your congregation lived therein.
 You, God, prepared your goodness for
 the poor.

¹¹ The Lord announced the word.
 The ones who proclaim it are a great
 company.

¹² “Kings of armies flee! They flee!”
 She who waits at home divides the
 plunder,

while you sleep among the camp
 fires,
 the wings of a dove sheathed with
 silver,
 her feathers with shining gold.

¹⁴ When the Almighty scattered kings in
 her,⁴
 it snowed on Zalmon.

¹⁵ The mountains of Bashan are majestic
 mountains.
 The mountains of Bashan are rugged.

¹⁶ Why do you look in envy, you rugged
 mountains,
 at the mountain where God chooses
 to reign?
 Yes, Yahweh will dwell there
 forever.⁵

¹⁷ The chariots of God are tens of
 thousands and thousands of
 thousands.
 The Lord is among them, from Sinai,
 into the sanctuary.

¹⁸ You have ascended on high.
 You have led away captives.
 You have received gifts among people,
 yes, among the rebellious also, that
 Yah God might dwell there.⁶

¹⁹ Blessed be the Lord,⁷ who daily bears
 our burdens,
 even the God who is our salvation.
 Selah.

²⁰ God is to us a God of deliverance.
 To Yahweh, the Lord, belongs escape
 from death.

²¹ But God will strike through the head of
 his enemies,
 the hairy scalp of such a one as still
 continues in his guiltiness.

²² The Lord said, “I will bring you again
 from Bashan,
 I will bring you again from the depths
 of the sea,

²³ that you may crush them, dipping your
 foot in blood,
 that the tongues of your dogs may
 have their portion from your
 enemies.”

²⁴ They have seen your processions, God,

- even the processions of my God, my King, into the sanctuary.
- 25 The singers went before, the minstrels followed after,
among the ladies playing with tambourines,
- 26 "Bless God in the congregations,
even the Lord in the assembly of Israel!"
- 27 There is little Benjamin, their ruler,
the princes of Judah, their council,
the princes of Zebulun, and the princes of Naphtali.
- 28 Your God has commanded your strength.
Strengthen, God, that which you have done for us.
- 29 Because of your temple at Jerusalem,
kings shall bring presents to you.
- 30 Rebuke the wild animal of the reeds,
the multitude of the bulls with the calves of the peoples.
Trample under foot the bars of silver.
Scatter the nations who delight in war.
- 31 Princes shall come out of Egypt.
Ethiopia shall hurry to stretch out her hands to God.
- 32 Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth!
Sing praises to the Lord—
- Selah—
- 33 to him who rides on the heaven of heavens, which are of old;
behold, he utters his voice, a mighty voice.
- 34 Ascribe strength to God!
His excellency is over Israel,
his strength is in the skies.
- 35 You are awesome, God, in your sanctuaries.
The God of Israel gives strength and power to his people.
Praise be to God!

1. *The Many Names for God.* The three primary names for God are found in Genesis and revealed in their proper order. "Elohim" in the first chapter of Genesis is a uni-plural noun formed from "El," meaning "the strong or great ONE" and combined with "Allah," meaning to swear or "bind" with an inevitable oath. Being in a sense plural the whole Trinity is latent in Elohim. The name "Jehovah" introduced in the second chapter of Genesis, means literally "the self-existent One" or "He who IS." Elohim is Pure Being, the Absolute, while Jehovah is Being in expression or action. Jehovah is the "Father within me" of Jesus, the Christ or indwelling Divinity that connects man with his true Being. Thus "Jehovah" and "Christ" are often, and correctly in-

terpreted to mean "I Am." The third primary name for God used in the Old Testament is Adon or Adonai, which means simply "Lord" or "Master." It is the term used by a servant when speaking of his master and by a woman in speaking of her husband. It has an implication of "law" or authority, referring to the highest power at the head of a house, a tribe, or even a nation. Naturally it would be applied to the idea of God when thinking in terms of authority or law. Thus it can readily be translated as "Law" wherever it occurs in the Old Testament. In brief, when we think of God in terms of law we can say "Adonai." When we think of Him in terms of person we call Him "Jehovah." When we think of Him as the all inclusive Principle of Being, we say "Elohim." In the English translations much of this distinction is lost. The general term "God" is used without discrimination, often with more or less confusion. For example in Exodus 4th chapter the English uses the word "Lord" twice in one sentence, "the Lord said unto the Lord," thus missing the fine shade of meaning altogether. The King James version uses the word Lord, while the American Revised prefers the name Jehovah in many cases. King James starts the 23rd Psalm with "The Lord is my shepherd," while the American Revised says, "Jehovah is my shepherd." (Ralph O'Day, Outline of Bible History, p7 of the PDF)

2. *Let God arise! Elohim*, translated as God except as described below—The original Mind in creative action. El means "the strong and ever-sustaining one," and Alah, "to swear or formulate by the power of the Word." Elohim thus represents the universal Principle of Being that designed all creation (RW/Elohim)

3. *to Yah, his name! Jah*, often translated as Lord (NRSV)—unchangeable; eternal; everlasting; Lord; Jehovah; A shortened or poetical form of Jehovah (Psalms 68:4, margin). While Jah is accepted as a contraction of Jehovah, it is really one of the most ancient expressions attached to Deity. (MBD/Jah)

4. *When the Almighty scattered kings in her.* Almighty, El Shaddai (Hebrew)—See Almighty (RW/Shaddai): All-powerful; having all power or force to accomplish anything. All things are possible with God, because He is infinitely all-mighty. All the power, all the force, all the might of the universe are God's; He is, in truth, almighty God. "Jehovah appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am God Almighty" (Gen. 17:1).

5. *Yahweh will dwell there forever.* Yahweh, (Heb.)—He-who-is—who-was—who-will-be manifest; the self-existent One; Ipseity; He who is eternal. In "I AM THAT I AM," the absolute verb remains the same. but the prefix changes from manifestation to power, "he" to "I." The word-for-word rendering of the original would be: "I-am—I-was—I-will-be because I-am—I-was—I-will-be the power to be eternally I." Jehovah is one of God's names as given in the Bible. In the Authorized Version it is improperly translated "the Lord." In the American Standard Version the name Jehovah is given where Jah occurs in the Hebrew text (see Exodus 6:2, 3 and Psalms 83:18). (MBD/Jehovah)

6. *that Yah God might dwell there.* See Jah and God above.

7. *Blessed be the Lord.* Adonai. See footnote 1 above.

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 69

Overwhelming Waters

**For the Chief Musician. To the tune of
“Lilies.” By David.**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Save me, God,
for the waters have come up to my
neck!</p> <p>2 I sink in deep mire, where there is no
foothold.
I have come into deep waters, where
the floods overflow me. ¹</p> <p>3 I am weary with my crying.
My throat is dry.
My eyes fail looking for my God.</p> <p>4 Those who hate me without a cause are
more than the hairs of my head.
Those who want to cut me off, being
my enemies wrongfully, are
mighty.
I have to restore what I didn't take
away.</p> <p>5 God, you know my foolishness.
My sins aren't hidden from you.</p> <p>6 Don't let those who wait for you be
shamed through me, Lord Yahweh
of Armies.
Don't let those who seek you be
brought to dishonor through
me, God of Israel.</p> <p>7 Because for your sake, I have borne
reproach.
Shame has covered my face.</p> <p>8 I have become a stranger to my
brothers, ²
an alien to my mother's children.</p> <p>9 For the zeal of your house consumes
me. ³
The reproaches of those who
reproach you have fallen on
me.</p> <p>10 When I wept and I fasted,
that was to my reproach.</p> | <p>11 When I made sackcloth my clothing,
I became a byword to them.</p> <p>12 Those who sit in the gate talk about me.
I am the song of the drunkards.</p> <p>13 But as for me, my prayer is to you,
Yahweh, in an acceptable time. ⁴
God, in the abundance of your loving
kindness, answer me in the
truth of your salvation.</p> <p>14 Deliver me out of the mire, and don't let
me sink.
Let me be delivered from those who
hate me, and out of the deep
waters.</p> <p>15 Don't let the flood waters overwhelm
me,
neither let the deep swallow me up.
Don't let the pit shut its mouth on
me.</p> <p>16 Answer me, Yahweh, for your loving
kindness is good.
According to the multitude of your
tender mercies, turn to me.</p> <p>17 Don't hide your face from your servant,
for I am in distress.
Answer me speedily!</p> <p>18 Draw near to my soul and redeem it. ⁵
Ransom me because of my enemies.</p> <p>19 You know my reproach, my shame, and
my dishonor.
My adversaries are all before you.</p> <p>20 Reproach has broken my heart, and I am
full of heaviness.
I looked for some to take pity, but
there was none;
for comforters, but I found none.</p> <p>21 They also gave me poison for my food.
In my thirst, they gave me vinegar to
drink.</p> <p>22 Let their table before them become a</p> |
|--|---|

- snare.
 May it become a retribution and a trap.
- 23 Let their eyes be darkened, so that they can't see.
 Let their backs be continually bent.
- 24 Pour out your indignation on them.
 Let the fierceness of your anger overtake them.
- 25 Let their habitation be desolate.
 Let no one dwell in their tents.
- 26 For they persecute him whom you have wounded.
 They tell of the sorrow of those whom you have hurt.
- 27 Charge them with crime upon crime.
 Don't let them come into your righteousness.
- 28 Let them be blotted out of the book of life,
 and not be written with the righteous.
- 29 But I am in pain and distress.
 Let your salvation, God, protect me.
- 30 I will praise the name of God with a song,
 and will magnify him with thanksgiving.
- 31 It will please Yahweh better than an ox,
 or a bull that has horns and hoofs.
- 32 The humble have seen it, and are glad.
 You who seek after God, let your heart live.
- 33 For Yahweh hears the needy,⁶
 and doesn't despise his captive people.
- 34 Let heaven and earth praise him;
 the seas, and everything that moves therein!
- 35 For God will save Zion, and build the cities of Judah.
 They shall settle there, and own it.
- 36 The children also of his servants shall inherit it.
 Those who love his name shall dwell therein.

1. *I have come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me.* Metaphysically, water in its different aspects represents weakness and negativeness, cleansing, mental potentiality, and in some cases life, or vital energy. Water, in this case, represents

negativeness. The individual who allows himself to become negative to the good finds himself uncertain and unstable in his mind, and often his body becomes so submerged in the waters of negation that his physical condition is low. (MBD/water)

2. *I have become a stranger to my brothers.* ASV: brethren. Metaphysically, brethren are the five seemingly material avenues of sense expression (MBD/brethren).

3. *For the zeal of your house consumes me.* This verse means the zeal faculty has become so active intellectually that it has consumed the vitality and left nothing for spiritual growth (RW/zeal). The manner of presenting Truth rests with each individual. Jesus said, "Be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." Those who want to continue as ministers of Truth and make a lasting impression on their hearers should be wise and should not stir up antagonism in the friends they are seeking to convert. In this day and age the old method of employing accusations, condemnations, and common scoldings is not effective in getting the attention of others. Such methods have always ended in tragedies, of which the stoning of Stephen is an outstanding example. His zeal destroyed him. See Acts 7:54 commentary.

4. *But as for me, my prayer is to you, Yahweh, in an acceptable time.* God is substance: *sub*, under; *stare*, to stand. He is the underlying principle of the universe, upholding all things by His word of power, by the omnipresent energy that permeates all creation. An understanding of God in His true character establishes the mind firmly in faith and causes the feet to walk safely over the sea of the mixed, negative thoughts of the race. (MBD/water)

5. *Draw near to my soul and redeem it.* God is our Father, and it is His place to instruct and discipline us in righteousness. Those who will not learn their lessons in easy ways will have to learn them in hard ways, and we should not be sentimentally sympathetic with those who make severe corrections necessary. Weak, teary sympathy is just one of the ways in which we bring floods upon ourselves. Water often breaks up and dissolves old error states of consciousness in the individual, just as the Flood dissolved and washed away from the race the old conditions that the combined error force of individuals had formed. (MBD/water)

6. *For Yahweh hears the needy, and doesn't despise his captive people.* The majority of men try to sail the ocean of life without the sustaining power of Spirit, but eventually they always go down in a troubled sea. Even those who have been taught of the Master are still filled with doubts and fears when storms arise, and instead of a reality they see an apparition. But the Christ mind is not an apparition; it is a mighty power, and when we have faith in it all the discordant elements of our life are quieted and we reduce to harmony and wholeness everything that our peace-giving thoughts touch. (MBD/water)

PSALMS 70

Prayer for Deliverance from Enemies

For the Chief Musician. By David. A reminder.

- ¹ Hurry, God, to deliver me.
Come quickly to help me, Yahweh.
- ² Let them be disappointed and
confounded who seek my soul.
Let those who desire my ruin be
turned back in disgrace.
- ³ Let them be turned because of their
shame
- ⁴ who say, "Aha! Aha!"
Let all those who seek you rejoice and
be glad in you.
Let those who love your salvation
continually say,
"Let God be exalted!"
- ⁵ But I am poor and needy.
Come to me quickly, God.
You are my help and my deliverer.
Yahweh, don't delay.

PSALMS 71

Prayer for Lifelong Protection and Help

- ¹ In you, Yahweh, I take refuge.
Never let me be disappointed.
- ² Deliver me in your righteousness, and
rescue me.
- Turn your ear to me, and save me.
- ³ Be to me a rock of refuge to which I
may always go.
Give the command to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.
- ⁴ Rescue me, my God, from the hand of
the wicked,
from the hand of the unrighteous and
cruel man.
- ⁵ For you are my hope, Lord Yahweh,
my confidence from my youth.
- ⁶ I have relied on you from the womb.
You are he who took me out of my
mother's womb.
I will always praise you.
- ⁷ I am a marvel to many,
but you are my strong refuge.
- ⁸ My mouth shall be filled with your
praise,
with your honor all day long.
- ⁹ Don't reject me in my old age.
Don't forsake me when my strength
- fails.
- ¹⁰ For my enemies talk about me.
Those who watch for my soul conspire
together,
saying, "God has forsaken him.
Pursue and take him, for no one will
rescue him."
- ¹¹
- ¹² God, don't be far from me.
My God, hurry to help me.
- ¹³ Let my accusers be disappointed and
consumed.
Let them be covered with disgrace
and scorn who want to harm
me.
- ¹⁴ But I will always hope,
and will add to all of your praise.
- ¹⁵ My mouth will tell about your
righteousness,
and of your salvation all day,
though I don't know its full measure.
- ¹⁶ I will come with the mighty acts of the
Lord Yahweh.
I will make mention of your
righteousness, even of yours
alone.
- ¹⁷ God, you have taught me from my
youth.

- Until now, I have declared your
wondrous works.
- 18 Yes, even when I am old and gray-
haired, God, don't forsake me,
until I have declared your strength to
the next generation,
your might to everyone who is to
come.
- 19 God, your righteousness also reaches to
the heavens.
You have done great things.
God, who is like you?
- 20 You, who have shown us many and
bitter troubles,
you will let me live.
You will bring us up again from the
depths of the earth.
- 21 Increase my honor
and comfort me again.
- 22 I will also praise you with the harp for
your faithfulness, my God.
I sing praises to you with the lyre,
Holy One of Israel.
- 23 My lips shall shout for joy!
My soul, which you have redeemed,
sings praises to you!
- 24 My tongue will also talk about your
righteousness all day long,
for they are disappointed, and they
are confounded,
who want to harm me.

PSALMS 72

Prayer for Guidance and Support for the King

By Solomon.

- 1 God, give the king your justice;
your righteousness to the royal son.
- 2 He will judge your people with
righteousness,
and your poor with justice.
- 3 The mountains shall bring prosperity to
the people.
The hills bring the fruit of
righteousness.
- 4 He will judge the poor of the people.
He will save the children of the
needy,
and will break the oppressor in
pieces.
- 5 They shall fear you while the sun
endures;
and as long as the moon, throughout
all generations.
- 6 He will come down like rain on the
mown grass,
as showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his days, the righteous shall flourish,
and abundance of peace, until the
moon is no more.
- 8 He shall have dominion also from sea to
sea,
from the River to the ends of the
earth.
- 9 Those who dwell in the wilderness shall
bow before him.
His enemies shall lick the dust.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the islands
will bring tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba shall
offer gifts.
- 11 Yes, all kings shall fall down before him.
All nations shall serve him.
- 12 For he will deliver the needy when he
cries;
the poor, who has no helper.
- 13 He will have pity on the poor and
needy.
He will save the souls of the needy.
- 14 He will redeem their soul from
oppression and violence.
Their blood will be precious in his
sight.
- 15 He will live; and Sheba's gold will be
given to him.
Men will pray for him continually.
They will bless him all day long.
- 16 Abundance of grain shall be throughout
the land.
Its fruit sways like Lebanon.
Let it flourish, thriving like the grass
of the field.

- ¹⁷ His name endures forever.
His name continues as long as the
sun.
Men shall be blessed by him.
All nations will call him blessed.
- ¹⁸ Praise be to Yahweh God, the God of
Israel,
who alone does marvelous deeds.

- ¹⁹ Blessed be his glorious name forever!
Let the whole earth be filled with his
glory!
Amen and amen.

²⁰This ends the prayers by David, the son
of Jesse.

BOOK 3

PSALMS 73

Plea for Relief from Oppressors

A Psalm by Asaph.

- ¹ Surely God* is good to Israel,
to those who are pure in heart.
- ² But as for me, my feet were almost
gone.
My steps had nearly slipped.
- ³ For I was envious of the arrogant,
when I saw the prosperity of the
wicked.
- ⁴ For there are no struggles in their
death,
but their strength is firm.
- ⁵ They are free from burdens of men,
neither are they plagued like other
men.
- ⁶ Therefore pride is like a chain around
their neck.
Violence covers them like a garment.
- ⁷ Their eyes bulge with fat.
Their minds pass the limits of
conceit.
- ⁸ They scoff and speak with malice.
In arrogance, they threaten
oppression.
- ⁹ They have set their mouth in the
heavens.
Their tongue walks through the earth.
- ¹⁰ Therefore their people return to them,
and they drink up waters of
abundance.
- ¹¹ They say, "How does God know?
Is there knowledge in the Most High?"
- ¹² Behold, these are the wicked.

Being always at ease, they increase in
riches.

- ¹³ Surely I have cleansed my heart in vain,
and washed my hands in innocence,
- ¹⁴ For all day long I have been plagued,
and punished every morning.
- ¹⁵ If I had said, "I will speak thus",
behold, I would have betrayed the
generation of your children.
- ¹⁶ When I tried to understand this,
it was too painful for me—
- ¹⁷ until I entered God's sanctuary,
and considered their latter end.
- ¹⁸ Surely you set them in slippery places.
You throw them down to destruction.
- ¹⁹ How they are suddenly destroyed!
They are completely swept away with
terrors.
- ²⁰ As a dream when one wakes up,
so, Lord,† when you awake, you will
despise their fantasies.
- ²¹ For my soul was grieved.
I was embittered in my heart.
- ²² I was so senseless and ignorant.
I was a brute beast before you.
- ²³ Nevertheless, I am continually with you.
You have held my right hand.
- ²⁴ You will guide me with your counsel,
and afterward receive me to glory.
- ²⁵ Whom do I have in heaven?
There is no one on earth whom I
desire besides you.
- ²⁶ My flesh and my heart fails,

but God is the strength of my heart
and my portion forever.
27 For, behold, those who are far from you
shall perish.
You have destroyed all those who are
unfaithful to you.

28 But it is good for me to come close to
God.
I have made the Lord Yahweh† my
refuge,
that I may tell of all your works.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 73:1. The Hebrew word rendered “God” is “אֱלֹהִים” (Elohim).

† 73:20. The word translated “Lord” is “Adonai.”

‡ 73:28. “Yahweh” is God’s proper Name, sometimes rendered “LORD” (all caps) in other translations.

PSALMS 74

Plea for Help in Time of National Humiliation

A contemplation by Asaph.

1 God, why have you rejected us forever?
Why does your anger smolder against
the sheep of your pasture?
2 Remember your congregation, which
you purchased of old,
which you have redeemed to be the
tribe of your inheritance:
Mount Zion, in which you have lived.
3 Lift up your feet to the perpetual ruins,
all the evil that the enemy has done
in the sanctuary.
4 Your adversaries have roared in the
middle of your assembly.
They have set up their standards as
signs.
5 They behaved like men wielding axes,
cutting through a thicket of trees.
6 Now they break all its carved work
down with hatchet and hammers.
7 They have burned your sanctuary to
the ground.
They have profaned the dwelling
place of your Name.
8 They said in their heart, “We will crush
them completely.”
They have burned up all the places in
the land where God was
worshiped.
9 We see no miraculous signs.

There is no longer any prophet,
neither is there among us anyone who
knows how long.
10 How long, God, shall the adversary
reproach?
Shall the enemy blaspheme your
name forever?
11 Why do you draw back your hand, even
your right hand?
Take it from your chest and consume
them!
12 Yet God is my King of old,
working salvation throughout the
earth.
13 You divided the sea by your strength.
You broke the heads of the sea
monsters in the waters.
14 You broke the heads of Leviathan in
pieces.
You gave him as food to people and
desert creatures.
15 You opened up spring and stream.
You dried up mighty rivers.
16 The day is yours, the night is also yours.
You have prepared the light and the
sun.
17 You have set all the boundaries of the
earth.
You have made summer and winter.
18 Remember this, that the enemy has
mocked you, Yahweh.

- Foolish people have blasphemed your name.
- 19 Don't deliver the soul of your dove to wild beasts.
Don't forget the life of your poor forever.
- 20 Honor your covenant,
for haunts of violence fill the dark places of the earth.
- 21 Don't let the oppressed return
ashamed.
Let the poor and needy praise your name.
- 22 Arise, God! Plead your own cause.
Remember how the foolish man mocks you all day.
- 23 Don't forget the voice of your adversaries.
The tumult of those who rise up against you ascends continually.

PSALMS 75

Thanksgiving for God's Wondrous Deeds

- For the Chief Musician. To the tune of "Do Not Destroy." A Psalm by Asaph. A song.**
- 1 We give thanks to you, God.
We give thanks, for your Name is near.
Men tell about your wondrous works.
- 2 When I choose the appointed time,
I will judge blamelessly.
- 3 The earth and all its inhabitants quake.
I firmly hold its pillars. Selah.
- 4 I said to the arrogant, "Don't boast!"
I said to the wicked, "Don't lift up the horn."
- 5 Don't lift up your horn on high.
Don't speak with a stiff neck."
- 6 For neither from the east, nor from the west,
nor yet from the south, comes exaltation.
- 7 But God is the judge.
He puts down one, and lifts up another.
- 8 For in Yahweh's hand there is a cup,
full of foaming wine mixed with spices.
He pours it out.
Indeed the wicked of the earth drink
and drink it to its very dregs.
- 9 But I will declare this forever:
I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.
- 10 I will cut off all the horns of the wicked,
but the horns of the righteous shall be lifted up.

PSALMS 76

Israel's God—Judge of All the Earth

- For the Chief Musician. On stringed instruments. A Psalm by Asaph. A song.**
- 1 In Judah, God is known.
His name is great in Israel.
- 2 His tabernacle is also in Salem.
His dwelling place in Zion.
- 3 There he broke the flaming arrows of the bow,
the shield, and the sword, and the weapons of war. Selah.
- 4 Glorious are you, and excellent,
more than mountains of game.

- 5 Valiant men lie plundered,
they have slept their last sleep.
None of the men of war can lift their
hands.
- 6 At your rebuke, God of Jacob,
both chariot and horse are cast into a
dead sleep.
- 7 You, even you, are to be feared.
Who can stand in your sight when you
are angry?
- 8 You pronounced judgment from heaven.
The earth feared, and was silent,
9 when God arose to judgment,
- to save all the afflicted ones of the
earth.
- Selah.
- 10 Surely the wrath of man praises you.
The survivors of your wrath are
restrained.
- 11 Make vows to Yahweh your God, and
fulfill them!
Let all of his neighbors bring presents
to him who is to be feared.
- 12 He will cut off the spirit of princes.
He is feared by the kings of the earth.

PSALMS 77

God's Mighty Deeds Recalled

**For the Chief Musician. To Jeduthun. A
Psalm by Asaph.**

- 1 My cry goes to God!
Indeed, I cry to God for help,
and for him to listen to me.
- 2 In the day of my trouble I sought the
Lord.
My hand was stretched out in the
night, and didn't get tired.
My soul refused to be comforted.
- 3 I remember God, and I groan.
I complain, and my spirit is
overwhelmed.
- Selah.
- 4 You hold my eyelids open.
I am so troubled that I can't speak.
- 5 I have considered the days of old,
the years of ancient times.
- 6 I remember my song in the night.
I consider in my own heart;
my spirit diligently inquires:
- 7 "Will the Lord reject us forever?
Will he be favorable no more?
- 8 Has his loving kindness vanished
forever?
Does his promise fail for generations?
- 9 Has God forgotten to be gracious?
Has he, in anger, withheld his
compassion?"
- Selah.
- 10 Then I thought, "I will appeal to this:
the years of the right hand of the
Most High."
- 11 I will remember Yah's deeds;
for I will remember your wonders of
old.
- 12 I will also meditate on all your work,
and consider your doings.
- 13 Your way, God, is in the sanctuary.
What god is great like God?
- 14 You are the God who does wonders.
You have made your strength known
among the peoples.
- 15 You have redeemed your people with
your arm,
the sons of Jacob and Joseph.
- Selah.
- 16 The waters saw you, God.
The waters saw you, and they
writhed.
The depths also convulsed.
- 17 The clouds poured out water.
The skies resounded with thunder.
Your arrows also flashed around.
- 18 The voice of your thunder was in the
whirlwind.
The lightnings lit up the world.
The earth trembled and shook.
- 19 Your way was through the sea,
your paths through the great waters.
Your footsteps were not known.

²⁰ You led your people like a flock,

by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

PSALMS 78

God's Goodness and Israel's Ingratitude

A contemplation by Asaph.

¹ Hear my teaching, my people.
 Turn your ears to the words of my mouth.
² I will open my mouth in a parable.
 I will utter dark sayings of old,
³ which we have heard and known,
 and our fathers have told us.
⁴ We will not hide them from their children,
 telling to the generation to come the praises of Yahweh,
 his strength, and his wondrous deeds that he has done.
⁵ For he established a covenant in Jacob,
 and appointed a teaching in Israel,
 which he commanded our fathers,
 that they should make them known to their children;
⁶ that the generation to come might know,
 even the children who should be born;
 who should arise and tell their children,
⁷ that they might set their hope in God,
 and not forget God's deeds,
 but keep his commandments,
⁸ and might not be as their fathers—
 a stubborn and rebellious generation,
 a generation that didn't make their hearts loyal,
 whose spirit was not steadfast with God.
⁹ The children of Ephraim, being armed
 and carrying bows,
 turned back in the day of battle.
¹⁰ They didn't keep God's covenant,
 and refused to walk in his law.
¹¹ They forgot his doings,
 his wondrous deeds that he had shown them.
¹² He did marvelous things in the sight of
 their fathers,

in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
¹³ He split the sea, and caused them to pass through.
 He made the waters stand as a heap.
¹⁴ In the daytime he also led them with a cloud,
 and all night with a light of fire.
¹⁵ He split rocks in the wilderness,
 and gave them drink abundantly as out of the depths.
¹⁶ He brought streams also out of the rock,
 and caused waters to run down like rivers.
¹⁷ Yet they still went on to sin against him,
 to rebel against the Most High in the desert.
¹⁸ They tempted God in their heart
 by asking food according to their desire.
¹⁹ Yes, they spoke against God.
 They said, "Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?"
²⁰ Behold, he struck the rock, so that waters gushed out,
 and streams overflowed.
 Can he give bread also?
 Will he provide meat for his people?"
²¹ Therefore Yahweh heard, and was angry.
 A fire was kindled against Jacob,
 anger also went up against Israel,
²² because they didn't believe in God,
 and didn't trust in his salvation.
²³ Yet he commanded the skies above,
 and opened the doors of heaven.
²⁴ He rained down manna on them to eat,
 and gave them food from the sky.
²⁵ Man ate the bread of angels.
 He sent them food to the full.
²⁶ He caused the east wind to blow in the sky.
 By his power he guided the south wind.

27 He also rained meat on them as the
 dust,
 winged birds as the sand of the seas.
 28 He let them fall in the middle of their
 camp,
 around their habitations.
 29 So they ate, and were well filled.
 He gave them their own desire.
 30 They didn't turn from their cravings.
 Their food was yet in their mouths,
 31 when the anger of God went up
 against them,
 killed some of their strongest,
 and struck down the young men of
 Israel.
 32 For all this they still sinned,
 and didn't believe in his wondrous
 works.
 33 Therefore he consumed their days in
 vanity,
 and their years in terror.
 34 When he killed them, then they inquired
 after him.
 They returned and sought God
 earnestly.
 35 They remembered that God was their
 rock,
 the Most High God, their redeemer.
 36 But they flattered him with their mouth,
 and lied to him with their tongue.
 37 For their heart was not right with him,
 neither were they faithful in his
 covenant.
 38 But he, being merciful, forgave iniquity,
 and didn't destroy them.
 Yes, many times he turned his anger
 away,
 and didn't stir up all his wrath.
 39 He remembered that they were but
 flesh,
 a wind that passes away, and doesn't
 come again.
 40 How often they rebelled against him in
 the wilderness,
 and grieved him in the desert!
 41 They turned again and tempted God,
 and provoked the Holy One of Israel.
 42 They didn't remember his hand,
 nor the day when he redeemed them
 from the adversary;
 43 how he set his signs in Egypt,
 his wonders in the field of Zoan,
 44 he turned their rivers into blood,
 and their streams, so that they could
 not drink.

45 He sent among them swarms of flies,
 which devoured them;
 and frogs, which destroyed them.
 46 He also gave their increase to the
 caterpillar,
 and their labor to the locust.
 47 He destroyed their vines with hail,
 their sycamore fig trees with frost.
 48 He also gave over their livestock to the
 hail,
 and their flocks to hot thunderbolts.
 49 He threw on them the fierceness of his
 anger,
 wrath, indignation, and trouble,
 and a band of angels of evil.
 50 He made a path for his anger.
 He didn't spare their soul from death,
 but gave their life over to the
 pestilence,
 51 and struck all the firstborn in Egypt,
 the chief of their strength in the
 tents of Ham.
 52 But he led out his own people like
 sheep,
 and guided them in the wilderness
 like a flock.
 53 He led them safely, so that they
 weren't afraid,
 but the sea overwhelmed their
 enemies.
 54 He brought them to the border of his
 sanctuary,
 to this mountain, which his right hand
 had taken.
 55 He also drove out the nations before
 them,
 allotted them for an inheritance by
 line,
 and made the tribes of Israel to dwell
 in their tents.
 56 Yet they tempted and rebelled against
 the Most High God,
 and didn't keep his testimonies,
 57 but turned back, and dealt treacherously
 like their fathers.
 They were twisted like a deceitful
 bow.
 58 For they provoked him to anger with
 their high places,
 and moved him to jealousy with their
 engraved images.
 59 When God heard this, he was angry,
 and greatly abhorred Israel,
 60 so that he abandoned the tent of Shiloh,
 the tent which he placed among men,

61 and delivered his strength into
 captivity,
 his glory into the adversary's hand.
 62 He also gave his people over to the
 sword,
 and was angry with his inheritance.
 63 Fire devoured their young men.
 Their virgins had no wedding song.
 64 Their priests fell by the sword,
 and their widows couldn't weep.
 65 Then the Lord awakened as one out of
 sleep,
 like a mighty man who shouts by
 reason of wine.
 66 He struck his adversaries backward.
 He put them to a perpetual reproach.
 67 Moreover he rejected the tent of
 Joseph,

and didn't choose the tribe of
 Ephraim,
 68 But chose the tribe of Judah,
 Mount Zion which he loved.
 69 He built his sanctuary like the heights,
 like the earth which he has
 established forever.
 70 He also chose David his servant,
 and took him from the sheepfolds;
 71 from following the ewes that have their
 young,
 he brought him to be the shepherd of
 Jacob, his people,
 and Israel, his inheritance.
 72 So he was their shepherd according to
 the integrity of his heart,
 and guided them by the skillfulness of
 his hands.

PSALMS 79

Plea for Mercy for Jerusalem

A Psalm by Asaph.

1 God, the nations have come into your
 inheritance.
 They have defiled your holy temple.
 They have laid Jerusalem in heaps.
 2 They have given the dead bodies of your
 servants to be food for the birds of
 the sky,
 the flesh of your saints to the animals
 of the earth.
 3 They have shed their blood like water
 around Jerusalem.
 There was no one to bury them.
 4 We have become a reproach to our
 neighbors,
 a scoffing and derision to those who
 are around us.
 5 How long, Yahweh?
 Will you be angry forever?
 Will your jealousy burn like fire?
 6 Pour out your wrath on the nations that
 don't know you,
 on the kingdoms that don't call on
 your name,
 7 for they have devoured Jacob,
 and destroyed his homeland.

8 Don't hold the iniquities of our
 forefathers against us.
 Let your tender mercies speedily
 meet us,
 for we are in desperate need.
 9 Help us, God of our salvation, for the
 glory of your name.
 Deliver us, and forgive our sins, for
 your name's sake.
 10 Why should the nations say, "Where is
 their God?"
 Let it be known among the nations,
 before our eyes,
 that vengeance for your servants'
 blood is being poured out.
 11 Let the sighing of the prisoner come
 before you.
 According to the greatness of your
 power, preserve those who are
 sentenced to death.
 12 Pay back to our neighbors seven times
 into their bosom
 their reproach with which they have
 reproached you, Lord.
 13 So we, your people and sheep of your
 pasture,
 will give you thanks forever.

We will praise you forever, to all

generations.

PSALMS 80

Prayer for Spiritual Strength

**For the Chief Musician. To the tune of
“The Lilies of the Covenant.” A Psalm by
Asaph.**

- ¹ Hear us, Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock,¹
you who sit above the cherubim,
shine out.
- ² Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and
Manasseh,² stir up your might!
Come to save us!
- ³ Turn us again, God.
Cause your face to shine,
and we will be saved.
- ⁴ Yahweh God of Armies,
how long will you be angry against
the prayer of your people?
- ⁵ You have fed them with the bread of
tears,
and given them tears to drink in large
measure.
- ⁶ You make us a source of contention to
our neighbors.
Our enemies laugh among
themselves.
- ⁷ Turn us again, God of Armies.
Cause your face to shine,
and we will be saved.
- ⁸ You brought a vine³ out of Egypt.⁴
You drove out the nations, and
planted it.
- ⁹ You cleared the ground for it.
It took deep root, and filled the land.
- ¹⁰ The mountains were covered with its
shadow.
Its boughs were like God’s cedars.
- ¹¹ It sent out its branches to the sea,
its shoots to the River.
- ¹² Why have you broken down its walls,
so that all those who pass by the way
pluck it?
- ¹³ The boar out of the wood ravages it.
The wild animals of the field feed on
it.

- ¹⁴ Turn again, we beg you, God of Armies.
Look down from heaven, and see, and
visit this vine,
- ¹⁵ the stock which your right hand
planted,
the branch that you made strong for
yourself.
- ¹⁶ It’s burned with fire.
It’s cut down.
They perish at your rebuke.
- ¹⁷ Let your hand be on the man of your
right hand,
on the son of man whom you made
strong for yourself.
- ¹⁸ So we will not turn away from you.
Revive us, and we will call on your
name.
- ¹⁹ Turn us again, Yahweh God of Armies.⁵
Cause your face to shine, and we will
be saved.

1. *you who lead Joseph like a flock.* Joseph is the elder son of Jacob, borne to him by Rachel. Metaphysically, he is the state of consciousness in which we increase in character along all lines; we not only grow into a broader understanding but there is an increase of vitality and substance. Joseph is especially representative of the realm of forms. (MBD/Joseph)

2. *Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.* *Manasseh* means the thought of forgetfulness, or denial, and *Ephraim* means the thought of adding to, or affirmation. These two sons of Joseph, the understanding and the will, are to be especially active in the one who would overcome and master the sensations of the body. (MBD/Ephraim and MBD/Manasseh) *Benjamin*, the younger of the two sons of Rachel and Jacob, is Faith—an active, accomplishing faith—in our consciousness. (MBD/Benjamin)

3. *You brought a vine.* Metaphysically, the I AM within us is the vine, our faculties are the branches, and the perfect body is the fruit (John 15). The life current as it comes from the Universal is one in vine, branches, and fruit, and it is on this free-flowing inner force that we fix our attention when we demonstrate the power of Spirit. (MBD/vine)

4. *out of Egypt.* Egypt is the realm of substance and life in the depths of the body consciousness. To

the unregenerate soul it is the land of darkness and mystery, yet it is essential to the perpetuation of the body. (MBD/Egypt)

5. *Turn us again, Yahweh God of Armies.* [In September 1939, when many thought world war was on the horizon, Unity quoted this verse and commented on II Chron. 30:13-22. Unity said,] “when Hezekiah (power of Jehovah) gave himself to the work of purifying and reforming the national wor-

ship, and he kept at it until he accomplished his purpose. His letter to all the people not only in Judah, over which he ruled, but to all the tribes from Dan to Beersheba, among whom his word had no authority except a moral one, exhorted them to return to the worship of Jehovah for the sake of their brethren who were in captivity in Assyria. In this appeal we see a sharp contrast with the policy of material force some times followed at the present day.”

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 81

God's Appeal to Stubborn Israel

For the Chief Musician. On an instrument of Gath. By Asaph.

¹ Sing aloud to God, our strength!
Make a joyful shout to the God of Jacob!

² Raise a song, and bring here the
tambourine,
the pleasant lyre with the harp.

³ Blow the trumpet at the New Moon,
at the full moon, on our feast day.

⁴ For it is a statute for Israel,
an ordinance of the God of Jacob.

⁵ He appointed it in Joseph for a
covenant,
when he went out over the land of Egypt,
I heard a language that I didn't know.

⁶ “I removed his shoulder from the
burden.
His hands were freed from the
basket.

⁷ You called in trouble, and I delivered
you.
I answered you in the secret place of
thunder.
I tested you at the waters of
Meribah.”

Selah.

⁸ “Hear, my people, and I will testify to

you,
Israel, if you would listen to me!

⁹ There shall be no strange god in you,
neither shall you worship any foreign
god.

¹⁰ I am Yahweh, your God,
who brought you up out of the land of
Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill
it.

¹¹ But my people didn't listen to my voice.
Israel desired none of me.

¹² So I let them go after the stubbornness
of their hearts,
that they might walk in their own
counsels.

¹³ Oh that my people would listen to me,
that Israel would walk in my ways!

¹⁴ I would soon subdue their enemies,
and turn my hand against their
adversaries.

¹⁵ The haters of Yahweh would cringe
before him,
and their punishment would last
forever.

¹⁶ But he would have also fed them with
the finest of the wheat.
I will satisfy you with honey out of
the rock.”

PSALMS 82

A Plea for Justice

A Psalm by Asaph.

¹ God presides in the great assembly.
He judges among the gods.
² “How long will you judge unjustly,
and show partiality to the wicked?”
Selah.
³ “Defend the weak, the poor, and the
fatherless.
Maintain the rights of the poor and
oppressed.
⁴ Rescue the weak and needy.
Deliver them out of the hand of the

wicked.”
⁵ They don’t know, neither do they
understand.
They walk back and forth in darkness.
All the foundations of the earth are
shaken.
⁶ I said, “You are gods,
all of you are sons of the Most High.
⁷ Nevertheless you shall die like men,
and fall like one of the rulers.”
⁸ Arise, God, judge the earth,
for you inherit all of the nations.

PSALMS 83

Prayer for Judgment on Israel’s Foes

A song. A Psalm by Asaph.

¹ God, don’t keep silent.
Don’t keep silent,
and don’t be still, God.
² For, behold, your enemies are stirred
up.
Those who hate you have lifted up
their heads.
³ They conspire with cunning against your
people.
They plot against your cherished
ones.
⁴ “Come,” they say, “let’s destroy them
as a nation,
that the name of Israel may be
remembered no more.”
⁵ For they have conspired together with
one mind.
They form an alliance against you.
⁶ The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites;
Moab, and the Hagrites;
⁷ Gebal, Ammon, and Amalek;
Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre;

⁸ Assyria also is joined with them.
They have helped the children of Lot.
Selah.
⁹ Do to them as you did to Midian,
as to Sisera, as to Jabin, at the river
Kishon;
¹⁰ who perished at Endor,
who became as dung for the earth.
¹¹ Make their nobles like Oreb and Zeeb,
yes, all their princes like Zebah and
Zalmunna,
¹² who said, “Let’s take possession of
God’s pasture lands.”
¹³ My God, make them like tumbleweed,
like chaff before the wind.
¹⁴ As the fire that burns the forest,
as the flame that sets the mountains
on fire,
¹⁵ so pursue them with your tempest,
and terrify them with your storm.
¹⁶ Fill their faces with confusion,
that they may seek your name,
Yahweh.
¹⁷ Let them be disappointed and dismayed

forever.
Yes, let them be confounded and
perish;

¹⁸ that they may know that you alone,
whose name is Yahweh,
are the Most High over all the earth.

PSALMS 84

The Joy of Worship in the Temple

**For the Chief Musician. On an
instrument of Gath. A Psalm by the sons
of Korah.**

¹ How lovely are your dwellings,
Yahweh of Armies!
² My soul longs, and even faints for the
courts of Yahweh.
My heart and my flesh cry out for the
living God.
³ Yes, the sparrow has found a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may have her young,
near your altars, Yahweh of Armies,
my King, and my God.
⁴ Blessed are those who dwell in your
house.
They are always praising you. Selah.
⁵ Blessed are those whose strength is in
you,
who have set their hearts on a
pilgrimage.
⁶ Passing through the valley of Weeping,

they make it a place of springs.
Yes, the autumn rain covers it with
blessings.
⁷ They go from strength to strength.
Every one of them appears before
God in Zion.
⁸ Yahweh, God of Armies, hear my prayer.
Listen, God of Jacob. Selah.
⁹ Behold, God our shield,
look at the face of your anointed.
¹⁰ For a day in your courts is better than a
thousand.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the
house of my God,
than to dwell in the tents of
wickedness.
¹¹ For Yahweh God is a sun and a shield.
Yahweh will give grace and glory.
He withholds no good thing from
those who walk blamelessly.
¹² Yahweh of Armies,
blessed is the man who trusts in you.

PSALMS 85

Let No Negative Idea Weaken Your Positive Affirmations of Good

**For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by the
sons of Korah.**

¹ Yahweh, you have been favorable to
your land. ¹
You have restored the fortunes of
Jacob.
² You have forgiven the iniquity of your

people.
You have covered all their sin. Selah.
³ You have taken away all your wrath.
You have turned from the fierceness
of your anger.
⁴ Turn us, God of our salvation,
and cause your indignation toward us

- to cease.
- 5 Will you be angry with us forever?²
Will you draw out your anger to all generations?
- 6 Won't you revive us again,
that your people may rejoice in you?
- 7 Show us your loving kindness, Yahweh.
Grant us your salvation.
- 8 I will hear what God, Yahweh, will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
his saints;
but let them not turn again to folly.
- 9 Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth meet together.
Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.³
- 11 Truth springs out of the earth.
Righteousness has looked down from heaven.
- 12 Yes, Yahweh will give that which is good.
Our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness goes before him,
and prepares the way for his steps.

1. *Yahweh, you have been favorable to your land.* This is a song of rejoicing of the children of Israel, who have returned to Jerusalem after their long exile in Babylon. All the children of God who have returned to the Father's house, have come up out of the Babylon of error, should rejoice often after this manner.

2. *Will you be angry with us forever?* The first three verses in this lesson are an acknowledgment of freedom from all evil; then in the fourth verse begins a wail, "Cause thine indignation toward us to cease; wilt thou be angry with us forever?" In the light of our present understanding of the formative power of thought, we plainly see why such a diversity of good and evil came into the lives of God's chosen people. This diversity is not at all necessary.

3. *Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.* There is a wonderful mental law that produces firmness and fixity of good in the consciousness through rejoicing in it. Never repress the tendency to be thankful in happy songs or words of praise. It is the angel in you singing hosannas to the Lord. But let no negative idea weaken your positive affirmations of good. It was this double consciousness that made the children of Israel have such hard experiences. They praised the Lord for his goodness to them one minute, and the next begged that he withdraw his anger.

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 86

A Prayer for Healing

A Prayer by David.

- 1 Hear, Yahweh, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.
- 2 Preserve my soul,¹ for I am godly.
You, my God, save your servant who trusts in you.
- 3 Be merciful to me, Lord,
for I call to you all day long.
- 4 Bring joy to the soul of your servant,
for to you, Lord, do I lift up my soul.
- 5 For you, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive,
abundant in loving kindness to all
those who call on you.
- 6 Hear, Yahweh, my prayer.

- 7 Listen to the voice of my petitions.
In the day of my trouble I will call on you,
for you will answer me.
- 8 There is no one like you among the gods, Lord,
nor any deeds like your deeds.
- 9 All nations you have made will come
and worship before you, Lord.
They shall glorify your name.²
- 10 For you are great, and do wondrous things.
You are God alone.
- 11 Teach me your way,³ Yahweh.
I will walk in your truth.⁴
Make my heart undivided to fear your name.

- ¹² I will praise you, Lord my God, with my whole heart.
I will glorify your name forever more.
- ¹³ For your loving kindness is great toward me.
You have delivered my soul from the lowest Sheol.*
- ¹⁴ God, the proud have risen up against me.
A company of violent men have sought after my soul,
and they don't hold regard for you before them.
- ¹⁵ But you, Lord, are a merciful and gracious God,
slow to anger, and abundant in loving kindness and truth.
- ¹⁶ Turn to me, and have mercy on me!
Give your strength to your servant.
Save the son of your servant.⁵
- ¹⁷ Show me a sign of your goodness,
that those who hate me may see it,
and be shamed,
because you, Yahweh, have helped

me, and comforted me.


1. *I am poor and needy. Preserve my soul.* Soul, translated life (NRSV). Part of healing is the individual's readiness to express the need for it (NIB commentary).

2. *All nations you ... shall glorify your name.* Metaphysically, nations are aggregations of thoughts in the mind that are to be instructed through the faculties (RW/nation). Glorification is to magnify with praise; to enhance with spiritual splendor; to adorn. Glorification is the highest spiritual state of consciousness attainable by people (RW/glorify) It leads to realization of divine unity; the blending and merging of man's mind with God-Mind (RW/glory).

3. *Teach me your way.* Way is the I AM in us, the open door to the kingdom of God (RW/way)

4. *I will walk in your truth.* The basic principle of Truth is that the mind of each individual may be consciously unified with Divine Mind through the indwelling Christ. By affirming at-one-ment with God-Mind, we eventually realize that perfect mind which was in Christ Jesus. (RW/Truth)

5. *Save the son of your servant.* NRSV translates *save the child of your serving girl.*

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 86:13. Sheol is the place of the dead.

PSALMS 87

The Joy of Living in Zion

A Psalm by the sons of Korah; a Song.

- ¹ His foundation is in the holy mountains.
² Yahweh loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
- ³ Glorious things are spoken about you,
city of God.
Selah.
- ⁴ I will record Rahab* and Babylon among those who acknowledge me.
Behold, Philistia, Tyre, and also Ethiopia:

- “This one was born there.”
⁵ Yes, of Zion it will be said, “This one and that one was born in her;”
the Most High himself will establish her.
- ⁶ Yahweh will count, when he writes up the peoples,
“This one was born there.”
Selah.
- ⁷ Those who sing as well as those who dance say,
“All my springs are in you.”

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 87:4. Rahab is a reference to Egypt.

PSALMS 88

Prayer for Help in Despondency

**A Song. A Psalm by the sons of Korah.
For the Chief Musician. To the tune of
“The Suffering of Affliction.” A
contemplation by Heman, the Ezrahite.**

¹ Yahweh, the God of my salvation,
I have cried day and night before you.
² Let my prayer enter into your presence.
Turn your ear to my cry.
³ For my soul is full of troubles.
My life draws near to Sheol.*
⁴ I am counted among those who go down
into the pit.
⁵ I am like a man who has no help,
set apart among the dead,
like the slain who lie in the grave,
whom you remember no more.
They are cut off from your hand.
⁶ You have laid me in the lowest pit,
in the darkest depths.
⁷ Your wrath lies heavily on me.
You have afflicted me with all your
waves.
Selah.
⁸ You have taken my friends from me.
You have made me an abomination to
them.
I am confined, and I can't escape.
⁹ My eyes are dim from grief.
I have called on you daily, Yahweh.

I have spread out my hands to you.
¹⁰ Do you show wonders to the dead?
Do the departed spirits rise up and
praise you?
Selah.
¹¹ Is your loving kindness declared in the
grave?
Or your faithfulness in Destruction?
¹² Are your wonders made known in the
dark?
Or your righteousness in the land of
forgetfulness?
¹³ But to you, Yahweh, I have cried.
In the morning, my prayer comes
before you.
¹⁴ Yahweh, why do you reject my soul?
Why do you hide your face from me?
¹⁵ I am afflicted and ready to die from my
youth up.
While I suffer your terrors, I am
distracted.
¹⁶ Your fierce wrath has gone over me.
Your terrors have cut me off.
¹⁷ They came around me like water all day
long.
They completely engulfed me.
¹⁸ You have put lover and friend far from
me,
and my friends into darkness.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 88:3. Sheol is the place of the dead.

PSALMS 89

God's Covenant with Humanity

**A contemplation by Ethan, the
Ezrahite.**

¹ I will sing of the loving kindness of
Yahweh forever.
With my mouth, I will make known
your faithfulness to all
generations.

² I indeed declare, "Love stands firm
forever.
You established the heavens.
Your faithfulness is in them."¹

³ "I have made a covenant with my chosen
one,
I have sworn to David, my servant,
⁴ 'I will establish your offspring forever,
and build up your throne to all
generations.' "

Selah.

⁵ The heavens will praise your wonders,
Yahweh,
your faithfulness also in the assembly
of the holy ones.

⁶ For who in the skies can be compared to
Yahweh?
Who among the sons of the heavenly
beings is like Yahweh,
⁷ a very awesome God in the council of
the holy ones,
to be feared above all those who are
around him?

⁸ Yahweh, God of Armies, who is a mighty
one, like you?
Yah, your faithfulness is around you.

⁹ You rule the pride of the sea.
When its waves rise up, you calm
them.

¹⁰ You have broken Rahab in pieces, like
one of the slain.
You have scattered your enemies with
your mighty arm.

¹¹ The heavens are yours.
The earth also is yours,
the world and its fullness.
You have founded them.

¹² You have created the north and the
south.
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in your
name.

¹³ You have a mighty arm.
Your hand is strong, and your right
hand is exalted.

¹⁴ Righteousness² and justice³ are the
foundation of your throne.⁴
Loving kindness and truth go before

your face.

¹⁵ Blessed are the people who learn to
acclaim you.⁵
They walk in the light of your
presence, Yahweh.

¹⁶ In your name they rejoice all day.
In your righteousness, they are
exalted.

¹⁷ For you are the glory of their strength.
In your favor, our horn will be
exalted.

¹⁸ For our shield belongs to Yahweh,
our king to the Holy One of Israel.

¹⁹ Then you spoke in vision to your saints,
and said, "I have given strength to
the warrior.
I have exalted a young man from the
people.

²⁰ I have found David, my servant.
I have anointed him with my holy oil,
²¹ with whom my hand shall be
established.
My arm will also strengthen him.

²² No enemy will tax him.
No wicked man will oppress him.

²³ I will beat down his adversaries before
him,
and strike those who hate him.

²⁴ But my faithfulness and my loving
kindness will be with him.
In my name, his horn will be exalted.

²⁵ I will set his hand also on the sea,
and his right hand on the rivers.

²⁶ He will call to me, 'You are my Father,
my God, and the rock of my
salvation!'

²⁷ I will also appoint him my firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.

²⁸ I will keep my loving kindness for him
forever more.
My covenant will stand firm with him.

²⁹ I will also make his offspring endure
forever,
and his throne as the days of heaven.

³⁰ If his children forsake my law,
and don't walk in my ordinances;
³¹ if they break my statutes,
and don't keep my commandments;
³² then I will punish their sin with the rod,
and their iniquity with stripes.

³³ But I will not completely take my loving
kindness from him,
nor allow my faithfulness to fail.

³⁴ I will not break my covenant,

nor alter what my lips have uttered.³⁵ Once I have sworn by my holiness,
I will not lie to David.

36 His offspring will endure forever,
his throne like the sun before me.
37 It will be established forever like the
moon,
the faithful witness in the sky.”
Selah.

38 But you have rejected and spurned.
You have been angry with your
anointed.

39 You have renounced the covenant of
your servant.
You have defiled his crown in the
dust.

40 You have broken down all his hedges.
You have brought his strongholds to
ruin.

41 All who pass by the way rob him.
He has become a reproach to his
neighbors.

42 You have exalted the right hand of his
adversaries.
You have made all of his enemies
rejoice.

43 Yes, you turn back the edge of his sword,
and haven't supported him in battle.

44 You have ended his splendor,
and thrown his throne down to the ground.

45 You have shortened the days of his youth.
You have covered him with shame.
Selah. 6

46 How long, Yahweh?
Will you hide yourself forever?
Will your wrath burn like fire?

47 Remember how short my time is,
for what vanity you have created all
the children of men!

48 What man is he who shall live and not
see death,
who shall deliver his soul from the
power of Sheol?*

49 Lord, where are your former loving
kindnesses,
which you swore to David in your
faithfulness?

50 Remember, Lord, the reproach of your
servants,
how I bear in my heart the taunts of
all the mighty peoples,

51 With which your enemies have mocked,
Yahweh,
with which they have mocked the
footsteps of your anointed one.

52 Blessed be Yahweh forever more.
Amen, and Amen.

1. *“Love stands firm forever. You established the heavens. Your faithfulness is in them.”* Heaven is a condition, to be brought about in the affairs of men, here on the earth. It is to grow from small beginnings, like the mustard seed or the yeast cake. His disciples were sent forth to sow the seed in a definite way, by carrying into the midst of men the signs that evidence the power of Spirit, through which the kingdom of heaven is to be established, right here on this planet. (Charles Fillmore, *The Kingdom of Heaven Is At Hand*)

2. **Righteousness** A state of harmony established in consciousness through the right use of God-given attributes. It leads directly to eternal life. Truth working in consciousness brings forth the perfect salvation of the whole man—Spirit, soul, and body—and righteousness (right relation) is expressed in all his affairs. (RW/righteousness)

3. *Justice.* The word justice is associated with law. It is the divine law of balance, the equalizing law of good in action, brought about by righteousness. Justice is often represented by the figure of a blindfolded woman holding in her hand a balance scale. It thus suggests that justice is impersonal and impartial. May we not say that it also suggests that the eyes must be turned inward, where true spiritual principles are at work, and not outward, toward appearances? True spiritual principles express impartiality. (Unity Correspondence School Course, Lesson 11, Judgment and Justice)

4. *are the foundation of your throne.* THE PROMISE that the Garden of Eden will be restored on earth is older than the Bible. Other bibles of other peoples far antedating the Hebrews prophesy a time when man shall possess the earth in peace and plenty; a time when the elements shall be subdued, disease and death eliminated, and immortal life in the body again set up. They also agree that this condition of peace and happiness will be brought about through causes originating largely with man and his acts. In other words, its consummation will depend upon the wisdom and the energy with which men act at certain crises in history. These prophets, both ancient and modern, say that we are now at one of the most vital turning points in our experience. The rights of men are no longer theories; they are about to become real conditions in the world of affairs. Something is happening. All along the line are evidences of the birth of the Prince of Peace. A higher state of consciousness is bursting full-blown upon the whole race. It is everywhere, and those who are most open to its influx are being rewarded. The power is abroad in the earth, and it calls to men and to nations, "Come up higher." (Charles Fillmore, Talks on Truth pp.122-125)

5. *Blessed are the people who learn to acclaim you.* [Heaven is when our minds are so well aligned

with the divine thoughts of God that we manifest God's will on earth, thereby establishing on earth what Jesus called the kingdom of heaven. Emmet Fox says nearly the same thing in his essay on The Lord's Prayer, which is often published with his longer essay The Sermon on the Mount. Fox writes,] it is the nature of God to be in heaven, and of man to be on earth, because God is Cause, and man is manifestation. Cause cannot be expression, and expression cannot be Cause, and we must be careful not to confuse the two things. ... The word "earth" means manifestation, and man's function is to manifest or express God, or Cause ... Man's destiny is to express God in all sorts of glorious and wonderful ways. [Both of these passages indicate that heaven is the Cause and the kingdom of heaven is the ex-

pression. Jesus put it succinctly when he taught us to pray "Our Father, who is in heaven ... thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven." So, in summary, heaven and kingdom are two ends of a unified metaphysical process—Cause and manifestation.]

6. *Selah*. A word that occurs many times in the Psalms. Metaphysically, the state of mind in prayer in which we relax from our affirmation of Truth and thanksgiving for good received and to be received, and "wait" on God in the stillness, that the Holy Spirit may reveal more of its inspirations to us and that it may establish our thoughts and our heart more firmly in the divine harmony and good. (MBD/Selah)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 89:48. Sheol is the place of the dead.

BOOK 4

PSALMS 90

God's Eternity and Human Frailty

A Prayer by Moses, the man of God.*

¹ Lord,[†] you have been our dwelling place
for all generations.
² Before the mountains were born,
before you had formed the earth and
the world,
even from everlasting to everlasting,
you are God.
³ You turn man to destruction, saying,
"Return, you children of men."
⁴ For a thousand years in your sight are
just like yesterday when it is past,
like a watch in the night.
⁵ You sweep them away as they sleep.
In the morning they sprout like new
grass.
⁶ In the morning it sprouts and springs up.
By evening, it is withered and dry.
⁷ For we are consumed in your anger.
We are troubled in your wrath.
⁸ You have set our iniquities before you,

our secret sins in the light of your
presence.
⁹ For all our days have passed away in
your wrath.
We bring our years to an end as a
sigh.
¹⁰ The days of our years are seventy,
or even by reason of strength eighty
years;
yet their pride is but labor and
sorrow,
for it passes quickly, and we fly away.
¹¹ Who knows the power of your anger,
your wrath according to the fear that
is due to you?
¹² So teach us to count our days,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.
¹³ Relent, Yahweh![‡]
How long?
Have compassion on your servants!
¹⁴ Satisfy us in the morning with your
loving kindness,
that we may rejoice and be glad all

our days.
¹⁵ Make us glad for as many days as you
 have afflicted us,
 for as many years as we have seen
 evil.
¹⁶ Let your work appear to your servants,

your glory to their children.
¹⁷ Let the favor of the Lord our God be on
 us.
 Establish the work of our hands for
 us.
 Yes, establish the work of our hands.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* ^ . The Hebrew word rendered “God” is “אֱלֹהִים” (Elohim).

† 90:1. The word translated “Lord” is “Adonai.”.

‡ 90:13. “Yahweh” is God’s proper Name, sometimes rendered “LORD” (all caps) in other translations.

PSALMS 91

Assurance of God’s Protection

<p>¹ He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. ² I will say of Yahweh, “He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.” ³ For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler, and from the deadly pestilence. ⁴ He will cover you with his feathers. Under his wings you will take refuge. His faithfulness is your shield and rampart. ⁵ You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, ⁶ nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that wastes at noonday. ⁷ A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it will not come near you. ⁸ You will only look with your eyes, and see the recompense of the wicked.</p>	<p>⁹ Because you have made Yahweh your refuge, and the Most High your dwelling place, ¹⁰ no evil shall happen to you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling. ¹¹ For he will put his angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways. ¹² They will bear you up in their hands, so that you won’t dash your foot against a stone. ¹³ You will tread on the lion and cobra. You will trample the young lion and the serpent underfoot. ¹⁴ “Because he has set his love on me, therefore I will deliver him. I will set him on high, because he has known my name. ¹⁵ He will call on me, and I will answer him. I will be with him in trouble. I will deliver him, and honor him. ¹⁶ I will satisfy him with long life, and show him my salvation.”</p>
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PSALMS 92

Thanksgiving for Vindication

A Psalm. A song for the Sabbath day.

¹ It is a good thing to give thanks to
Yahweh,
to sing praises to your name, Most
High,
² to proclaim your loving kindness in the
morning,
and your faithfulness every night,
³ with the ten-stringed lute, with the
harp,
and with the melody of the lyre.
⁴ For you, Yahweh, have made me glad
through your work.
I will triumph in the works of your
hands.
⁵ How great are your works, Yahweh!
Your thoughts are very deep.
⁶ A senseless man doesn't know,
neither does a fool understand this: ¹⁵
⁷ though the wicked spring up as the
grass,
and all the evildoers flourish,
they will be destroyed forever.

⁸ But you, Yahweh, are on high forever
more.
⁹ For behold, your enemies, Yahweh,
for behold, your enemies shall perish.
All the evildoers will be scattered.
¹⁰ But you have exalted my horn like that
of the wild ox.
I am anointed with fresh oil.
¹¹ My eye has also seen my enemies.
My ears have heard of the wicked
enemies who rise up against
me.
¹² The righteous shall flourish like the
palm tree.
He will grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
¹³ They are planted in Yahweh's house.
They will flourish in our God's courts.
¹⁴ They will still produce fruit in old age.
They will be full of sap and green,
to show that Yahweh is upright.
He is my rock,
and there is no unrighteousness in
him.

PSALMS 93

Yahweh Reigns, Above and Below

¹ Yahweh reigns! ^①
He is clothed with majesty!
Yahweh is armed with strength. ^②
The world also is established.
It can't be moved.
² Your throne is established from long
ago.
You are from everlasting.
³ The floods have lifted up, Yahweh,
the floods have lifted up their voice.
The floods lift up their waves.
⁴ Above the voices of many waters,
the mighty breakers of the sea,
Yahweh on high is mighty.

⁵ Your statutes stand firm. ^③
Holiness adorns your house,
Yahweh, forever more.

1. *Yahweh reigns!* Somewhere on this journey, the human consciousness or intellect comes to a place where it gladly bows to and confesses that its spiritual Self, its Christ, is highest and is Lord. Here and forever after, not with sense of bondage but with joyful freedom the soul cries out "The Lord reigneth." Everyone must, sooner or later come to this point of experience. (Emilie Cady, *Lessons in Truth, Liberty or Bondage, Which?*, paragraph 7)

2. *Yahweh is armed with strength.* If God is omnipresent, this same irresistible moving Spirit is

available to all men, because it is in us, through us and above us as the sustaining element in our lives. To get the full benefit of it, we must consciously contact it until we realize of its sustaining, life-giving activity in us—until we realize that God is our strength. (*Unity*, February 1920, pp. 124-25)

3. *Above the voices of many waters ... Your statutes stand firm.* Metaphysically, water in its different aspects represents weakness and nega-

tiveness, cleansing, mental potentiality, and in some cases life, or vital energy ... In every mental proposition we have an above and a below. Above the firmament are the unexpressed capacities (waters) of the conscious mind resting in faith in Divine Mind. Below the firmament are the unexpressed capacities (waters) of the subconscious mind. (MBD/water)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 94

God the Avenger of the Righteo

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| <p>¹ Yahweh, you God to whom vengeance belongs,
you God to whom vengeance belongs, shine out.</p> <p>² Rise up, you judge of the earth.
Pay back the proud what they deserve.</p> <p>³ Yahweh, how long will the wicked,
how long will the wicked triumph?</p> <p>⁴ They pour out arrogant words.
All the evildoers boast.</p> <p>⁵ They break your people in pieces,
Yahweh,
and afflict your heritage.</p> <p>⁶ They kill the widow and the alien,
and murder the fatherless.</p> <p>⁷ They say, "Yah will not see,
neither will Jacob's God consider."</p> <p>⁸ Consider, you senseless among the people;
you fools, when will you be wise?</p> <p>⁹ He who implanted the ear, won't he hear?
He who formed the eye, won't he see?</p> <p>¹⁰ He who disciplines the nations, won't he punish?
He who teaches man knows.</p> <p>¹¹ Yahweh knows the thoughts of man,
that they are futile.</p> <p>¹² Blessed is the man whom you discipline,
Yah,
and teach out of your law,</p> <p>¹³ that you may give him rest from the</p> | <p>days of adversity,
until the pit is dug for the wicked.</p> <p>¹⁴ For Yahweh won't reject his people,
neither will he forsake his inheritance.</p> <p>¹⁵ For judgment will return to righteousness.
All the upright in heart shall follow it.</p> <p>¹⁶ Who will rise up for me against the wicked?
Who will stand up for me against the evildoers?</p> <p>¹⁷ Unless Yahweh had been my help,
my soul would have soon lived in silence.</p> <p>¹⁸ When I said, "My foot is slipping!"
Your loving kindness, Yahweh, held me up.</p> <p>¹⁹ In the multitude of my thoughts within me,
your comforts delight my soul.</p> <p>²⁰ Shall the throne of wickedness have fellowship with you,
which brings about mischief by statute?</p> <p>²¹ They gather themselves together
against the soul of the righteous,
and condemn the innocent blood.</p> <p>²² But Yahweh has been my high tower,
my God, the rock of my refuge.</p> <p>²³ He has brought on them their own iniquity,
and will cut them off in their own wickedness.</p> |
|---|--|

Yahweh, our God, will cut them off.

PSALMS 95

Faith Overcomes Complaining and Temptation

¹ Oh come, let's sing to Yahweh.
Let's shout aloud to the rock of our
salvation!^①

² Let's come before his presence with
thanksgiving.
Let's extol him with songs!

³ For Yahweh is a great God,
a great King above all gods.

⁴ In his hand are the deep places of the
earth.
The heights of the mountains are also
his.

⁵ The sea is his, and he made it.
His hands formed the dry land.

⁶ Oh come, let's worship and bow down.
Let's kneel before Yahweh, our
Maker,

⁷ for he is our God.
We are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep in his care.^②

⁸ Today, oh that you would hear his voice!
Don't harden your heart, as at
Meribah,^③
as in the day of Massah^④ in the
wilderness,

⁹ when your fathers tempted me,
tested me, and saw my work.

¹⁰ Forty long years I was grieved with that
generation,
and said, "They are a people who err
in their heart.
They have not known my ways."


¹¹ Therefore I swore in my wrath,
"They won't enter into my rest."

1. *the rock of our salvation* What is "the rock of our salvation"? It is a firm, lasting faith in God as the source of all our well-being. In it we may rest securely.

2. *people of his pasture, the sheep in his care.* What are "the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his care"? They are the thoughts of the Infinite that are constantly being combined to form patterns of beauty and permanence in our individual life and in the composite life of the world.

3. *Meribah.* A place in the wilderness where there was no water to drink, and the people "strove with Moses, and said, Give us water that we may drink." It was there that Moses smote the rock, at the command of Yahweh, and water came out of it for the people to drink (Exodus 17:7; Num. 27:14). Metaphysically, the seemingly ever present tendency in the carnal of us to murmur, complain, and doubt God every time we have an opportunity to prove Him true and to overcome some error in ourselves... The tendency to complain diminishes as we progress in our understanding of Truth (MBD/Meribah).

4. *Massah.* Metaphysically, the trial of faith, the temptation, that so often overtakes us at the beginning of our awakening to the deeper truths of Spirit, at the beginning of our attempt to trust God fully for health, for supply, for all things. This temptation is to doubt God's guiding, protecting, restoring, sustaining, all-providing, all-sufficient, all-satisfying presence and power and willingness when we come face to face with the seeming lack and hard conditions that are the result of our former ignorant beliefs and thoughts. (MBD/Massah)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 96

Praise to God Who Comes in Judgment

¹ Sing to Yahweh a new song!¹
 Sing to Yahweh, all the earth.²
² Sing to Yahweh!
 Bless his name!
 Proclaim his salvation from day to day!
³ Declare his glory among the nations,³
 his marvelous works among all the peoples.
⁴ For Yahweh is great, and greatly to be praised!
 He is to be feared above all gods.
⁵ For all the gods of the peoples are idols,⁴
 but Yahweh made the heavens.
⁶ Honor and majesty are before him.
 Strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
⁷ Ascribe to Yahweh,⁵ you families of nations,
 ascribe to Yahweh glory and strength.
⁸ Ascribe to Yahweh the glory due to his name.
 Bring an offering, and come into his courts.
⁹ Worship Yahweh in holy array.
 Tremble before him, all the earth.
¹⁰ Say among the nations, "Yahweh reigns."
 The world is also established.
 It can't be moved.
 He will judge the peoples with equity.
¹¹ Let the heavens⁶ be glad, and let the earth rejoice.
 Let the sea roar, and its fullness!
¹² Let the field and all that is in it exult!
 Then all the trees of the woods shall sing for joy

¹³ before Yahweh; for he comes,
 for he comes to judge the earth.
 He will judge the world with
 righteousness,⁷
 the peoples with his truth.⁸

1. *Sing to Yahweh a new song!* The new song is the joy we express when we realize that our faith in God is meant to help us over the rough places in our daily path, or "show forth his [Yahweh's] salvation from day to day."

2. *Sing to Yahweh, all the earth.* The words "all the earth" refer to the various departments of man's being, such as his physical body, his mental or intellectual equipment, and his spiritual or highest life energies.

3. *Declare his glory among the nations.* The nations are the aggregations of thought in man, all of which are to be brought into harmony with Truth. Harmony is represented in this lesson by singing.

4. *all the gods of the peoples are idols.* The ruling impulses of the various departments of man's being are the "gods," and where these ruling impulses are of a low order, as in self-seeking, the "gods of the peoples are idols"; that is, they lack the essence of life.

5. *Ascribe to Yahweh.* The repetition of "ascribe to Yahweh" imply that our body, soul, and spirit are to be included in the regenerating process of uplift.

6. *Heavens, earth, field, sea, trees.* Forces of nature that represent Omnipresence, the presence of life in all things, intended to be understood by the *glad* heavens, the *rejoicing* earth, the *exulting* field, the *roaring* sea, the *singing, joyful* trees. All things have the power to express life and good.

7. *He will judge the world with righteousness.* Yahweh or the Spirit of righteousness lifts up and reclaims all that it touches. This Spirit is latent in the world, and our work is to make it active.

8. *the peoples with his truth.* The people judged with "his truth" when they live according to the standard of Truth and they are able to be judged by it.

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 97

The Glory of God's Reign

- ¹ Yahweh reigns!
 Let the earth rejoice!
 Let the multitude of islands be glad!
² Clouds and darkness are around him.
 Righteousness and justice are the
 foundation of his throne.
³ A fire goes before him,
 and burns up his adversaries on every
 side.
⁴ His lightning lights up the world.
 The earth sees, and trembles.
⁵ The mountains melt like wax at the
 presence of Yahweh,
 at the presence of the Lord of the
 whole earth.
⁶ The heavens declare his righteousness.
 All the peoples have seen his glory.
⁷ Let all them be shamed who serve
 engraved images,
 who boast in their idols.
 Worship him, all you gods! *
⁸ Zion heard and was glad.
 The daughters of Judah rejoiced
 because of your judgments, Yahweh.
⁹ For you, Yahweh, are most high above
 all the earth.
 You are exalted far above all gods.
¹⁰ You who love Yahweh, hate evil!
 He preserves the souls of his saints.
 He delivers them out of the hand of
 the wicked.
¹¹ Light is sown for the righteous,
 and gladness for the upright in heart.
¹² Be glad in Yahweh, you righteous
 people!
 Give thanks to his holy Name.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 97:7. LXX reads "angels" instead of "gods".

PSALMS 98

Praise the Judge of the World

A Psalm.

- ¹ Sing to Yahweh a new song,
 for he has done marvelous things!
 His right hand and his holy arm have
 worked salvation for him.
² Yahweh has made known his salvation.
 He has openly shown his righteousness
 in the sight of the nations.
³ He has remembered his loving kindness
 and his faithfulness toward the
 house of Israel.
 All the ends of the earth have seen
 the salvation of our God.
⁴ Make a joyful noise to Yahweh, all the
 earth!
 Burst out and sing for joy, yes, sing
 praises!
⁵ Sing praises to Yahweh with the harp,
 with the harp and the voice of
 melody.
⁶ With trumpets and sound of the ram's
 horn,
 make a joyful noise before the King,
 Yahweh.
⁷ Let the sea roar with its fullness;
 the world, and those who dwell
 therein.
⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands.
 Let the mountains sing for joy
 together.

- ⁹ Let them sing before Yahweh,
for he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with
righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

PSALMS 99


Consciousness of the All-Pervading Glory of God.

- ¹ Yahweh reigns! Let the peoples
tremble.
He sits enthroned among the
cherubim.^①
Let the earth be moved.
- ² Yahweh is great in Zion.
He is high above all the peoples.
- ³ Let them praise your great and awesome
name.
He is Holy!
- ⁴ The King's strength also loves justice.
You establish equity.
You execute justice and righteousness
in Jacob.
- ⁵ Exalt Yahweh our God.
Worship at his footstool.
He is Holy!^②
- ⁶ Moses and Aaron were among his
priests,
Samuel was among those who call on
his name.
They called on Yahweh, and he
answered them.
- ⁷ He spoke to them in the pillar of
cloud.^③
They kept his testimonies,
- ⁸ the statute that he gave them.
You answered them, Yahweh our God.
You are a God who forgave them,
although you took vengeance for their
doings.
- ⁹ Exalt Yahweh, our God.
Worship at his holy hill,
for Yahweh, our God, is holy!

1. *cherubim*. The "cherubim" of I Kings 8:6-8 were symbolic figures representing the attributes and majesty of God. They stand for the unfettered truths of Being, which must always be present in the holy of holies within us. If we do not have this higher realization before us constantly, we shall drop down to the physical plane and our religion will become a mere phenomenal display. We are told that the cherubim spread their wings over the place of the Ark and covered it and its staves, yet they were "not seen without: and there they are unto this day." Here is a true description of the omnipresence of the principle of Being in the whole spiritual life of man. (MBD/Cherubim)

2. *Holy!* Holiness is wholeness in Spirit, mind, and body. In this state of consciousness man is aware of the all-pervading glory of God. (RW/holy)

3. *pillar of cloud*. Light of spiritual understanding to guide us. (RW/pillar)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 100

We Praise Our Life and Existence

A Psalm of thanksgiving.

Come before his presence with
singing.

- ¹ Shout for joy to Yahweh, all you lands!
² Serve Yahweh with gladness.
- ³ Know that Yahweh, he is God.^①
It is he who has made us, and we are

- his.²
 We are his people, and the sheep of
 his pasture.
- 4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,
 and into his courts with praise.³
 Give thanks to him, and bless his
 name.
- 5 For Yahweh is good.⁴
 His loving kindness endures forever,
 his faithfulness to all generations.


1. *Know that Yahweh, he is God.* The Hebrew Yahweh has been translated "Lord." Lord means an external ruler. Bible students say that Yahweh means the self-existent One. Then instead of reading "Lord" we should read I AM. It makes a great difference whether we think that I AM, self-existence, is within, or Lord, master, without. All Scripture

shows that Yahweh means just what God told Moses it meant, I AM. (MBD/Jehovah)

2. *It is he who has made us, and we are his.* Explain how we learn to recognize the Spirit of truth as indwelling. Through meditating on the Spirit of truth, believing in it as the fundamental reality of our being, expecting its guidance, directing toward it the desire of our heart, and focusing our thought upon it, we learn to recognize it as indwelling.

3. *into his courts with praise.* Do praise and rejoicing help to make one conscious of the Spirit of truth? Both these acts exalt the mind and heart, and exaltation puts one in touch with the Spirit of truth.

4. *For Yahweh is good.* How do we come to know God, the good? This knowledge comes as we learn to express active goodness. Praise, thanksgiving, loving-kindness, and faithfulness, each in degree reveals God to us, as we give it active expression.

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 101

A Sovereign's Pledge of Integrity and Justice

A Psalm by David.

- 1 I will sing of loving kindness and justice.
 To you, Yahweh, I will sing praises.
- 2 I will be careful to live a blameless life.
 When will you come to me?
 I will walk within my house with a
 blameless heart.
- 3 I will set no vile thing before my eyes.
 I hate the deeds of faithless men.
 They will not cling to me.
- 4 A perverse heart will be far from me.
 I will have nothing to do with evil.
- 5 I will silence whoever secretly slanders
 his neighbor.

- I won't tolerate one who is arrogant
 and conceited.
- 6 My eyes will be on the faithful of the
 land,
 that they may dwell with me.
 He who walks in a perfect way,
 he will serve me.
- 7 He who practices deceit won't dwell
 within my house.
 He who speaks falsehood won't be
 established before my eyes.
- 8 Morning by morning, I will destroy all
 the wicked of the land,
 to cut off all the workers of iniquity
 from Yahweh's city.

PSALMS 102

Prayer to the Eternal King for Help

**A Prayer of the afflicted, when he is
overwhelmed and pours out his complaint
before Yahweh.**

1 Hear my prayer, Yahweh!
Let my cry come to you.
2 Don't hide your face from me in the day
of my distress.
Turn your ear to me.
Answer me quickly in the day when I
call.
3 For my days consume away like smoke.
My bones are burned as a torch.
4 My heart is blighted like grass, and
withered,
for I forget to eat my bread.
5 By reason of the voice of my groaning,
my bones stick to my skin.
6 I am like a pelican of the wilderness.
I have become as an owl of the waste
places.
7 I watch, and have become like a
sparrow that is alone on the
housetop.
8 My enemies reproach me all day.
Those who are mad at me use my
name as a curse.
9 For I have eaten ashes like bread,
and mixed my drink with tears,
10 because of your indignation and your
wrath;
for you have taken me up and thrown
me away.
11 My days are like a long shadow.
I have withered like grass.
12 But you, Yahweh, will remain forever;
your renown endures to all
generations.
13 You will arise and have mercy on Zion,
for it is time to have pity on her.
Yes, the set time has come.
14 For your servants take pleasure in her
stones,
and have pity on her dust.
15 So the nations will fear Yahweh's name,

all the kings of the earth your glory.
16 For Yahweh has built up Zion.
He has appeared in his glory.
17 He has responded to the prayer of the
destitute,
and has not despised their prayer.
18 This will be written for the generation to
come.
A people which will be created will
praise Yah,
19 for he has looked down from the height
of his sanctuary.
From heaven, Yahweh saw the earth,
20 to hear the groans of the prisoner,
to free those who are condemned to
death,
21 that men may declare Yahweh's name
in Zion,
and his praise in Jerusalem,
22 when the peoples are gathered
together,
the kingdoms, to serve Yahweh.
23 He weakened my strength along the
course.
He shortened my days.
24 I said, "My God, don't take me away in
the middle of my days.
Your years are throughout all
generations.
25 Of old, you laid the foundation of the
earth.
The heavens are the work of your
hands.
26 They will perish, but you will endure.
Yes, all of them will wear out like a
garment.
You will change them like a cloak,
and they will be changed.
27 But you are the same.
Your years will have no end.
28 The children of your servants will
continue.
Their offspring will be established
before you."

PSALMS 103

Why We Should Bless and Praise God

By David.

1 Praise Yahweh, my soul!¹
 All that is within me, praise his holy name!

2 Praise Yahweh, my soul,
 and don't forget all his benefits,²
 3 who forgives all your sins,
 who heals all your diseases,
 4 who redeems your life from
 destruction,³
 who crowns you with loving kindness
 and tender mercies,
 5 who satisfies your desire with good
 things,
 so that your youth is renewed like the
 eagle's.⁴

6 Yahweh executes righteous acts,
 and justice for all who are oppressed.
 7 He made known his ways to Moses,
 his deeds to the children of Israel.⁵
 8 Yahweh is merciful and gracious,
 slow to anger, and abundant in loving
 kindness.⁶

9 He will not always accuse;
 neither will he stay angry forever.
 10 He has not dealt with us according to
 our sins,
 nor repaid us for our iniquities.⁷

11 For as the heavens are high above the
 earth,
 so great is his loving kindness toward
 those who fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west,
 so far has he removed our
 transgressions from us.

13 Like a father has compassion on his
 children,
 so Yahweh has compassion on those
 who fear him.

14 For he knows how we are made.
 He remembers that we are dust.

15 As for man, his days are like grass.⁸
 As a flower of the field, so he
 flourishes.

16 For the wind passes over it, and it is
 gone.

Its place remembers it no more.
 17 But Yahweh's loving kindness is from
 everlasting to everlasting⁹ with
 those who fear him,
 his righteousness to children's
 children,
 18 to those who keep his covenant,
 to those who remember to obey his
 precepts.

19 Yahweh has established his throne in
 the heavens.
 His kingdom rules over all.

20 Praise Yahweh, you angels of his,
 who are mighty in strength, who
 fulfill his word,
 obeying the voice of his word.

21 Praise Yahweh, all you armies of his,
 you servants of his, who do his
 pleasure.

22 Praise Yahweh, all you works of his,
 in all places of his dominion.
 Praise Yahweh, my soul!

1. *Praise Yahweh, my soul!* (Bless, NRSV, ASV) To bless means to consecrate or hallow. Our soul is consciousness; the underlying idea back of any expression. In us, the soul is the many accumulated ideas back of our present expression. In its original and true sense, our soul is the expressed idea of human beings in Divine Mind (RW/soul). When our soul is consecrated to Yahweh and hallows His name, all the attributes of Yahweh are magnified and glorified in our consciousness. Thus our whole being is exalted and lifted up and new channels are opened so that additional blessings may flow to us. See RW/ bless, RW/blessing, RW/praise. See Psalms 104:1.

2. *don't forget all his benefits.* Yahweh is self-existent life in eternal activity, bringing good into manifestation. Our continuous recognition of this divine fount of supply keeps our consciousness open to the source of our good and increases our soul's capacity to receive greater good. This understanding of the law makes one alert and always willing to acknowledge every favor received of God.

3. *sins, diseases, destruction.* Yahweh is God mind in action, the great healing, redeeming power back of all nature. Yahweh as health, life, perfection, is not conscious of sickness or disease of any kind; God mind set into action. Yahweh can no more help wiping away iniquity, healing disease and redeeming life from destruction, than the sun can help shining. Just as we must stay out in the sunshine to receive the full benefit of the sun's rays, so we must

keep ourselves open and receptive to God mind in order that we may be made perfect.

4. *your desire with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.* Every desire that stirs in our soul is Yahweh's desire within us. However, when we are functioning in sense consciousness, spiritual desire is not always rightly interpreted and often works out destructively. But when we listen to the inner voice, until we get its real spiritual import, our whole being unifies with the recreating, rejuvenating law of Spirit, and we let go all thought of age. Our youth is renewed "like the eagle."

5. *He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the children of Israel.* The law of unfoldment in Being is as exact as the progressive steps in a mathematical problem in which no error is made. This law is revealed to all who seek to do the will of God and thereby to fulfill the law of life. The meaning of the word "Moses," the lawgiver, is "drawn forth." Moses extracted or drew forth from Omnipresence an intellectual understanding of spiritual law, and presented it to the children of Israel.

6. *slow to anger, and abundant in loving kindness.*

All things come about according to law. Through the divine law of forgiveness we do not always have to reap the results of our error ways. Forgiveness wipes the slate clean. The assumption that Yahweh gets angry is not presented in a careful translation of this psalm. The Ferrar-Fenton translation reads: Gentle and kind is the Lord, With great Mercy forbearing from wrath. He is not reproving for ever, Nor will He eternally chide. He does not to us, like our sins; Nor like vices, return on ourselves.

7. *He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us for our iniquities.* When divine love takes possession of our heart, it lifts us above the law of cause and effect and redeems our life from "destruction" (the consequences of the law of cause and effect).

8. *As for man, his days are like grass.* Physical human beings are transitory.

9. *Yahweh's loving kindness is from everlasting to everlasting.* Our spiritual self is quickened to awareness of divine love and knows God as love. As such, we make ourself one with Yahweh, who is "from everlasting to everlasting."

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 104

Creation and Wisdom

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>¹ Bless Yahweh, my soul. ❶
Yahweh, my God, you are very great.
You are clothed with honor and
majesty.</p> <p>² He covers himself with light as with a
garment.
He stretches out the heavens like a
curtain.</p> <p>³ He lays the beams of his rooms in the
waters.
He makes the clouds his chariot.
He walks on the wings of the wind.</p> <p>⁴ He makes his messengers* winds,
and his servants flames of fire.</p> <p>⁵ He laid the foundations of the earth, ❷
that it should not be moved forever.</p> <p>⁶ You covered it with the deep as with a
cloak.
The waters stood above the
mountains.</p> <p>⁷ At your rebuke they fled.
At the voice of your thunder they</p> | <p>hurried away.</p> <p>⁸ The mountains rose,
the valleys sank down,
to the place which you had assigned
to them.</p> <p>⁹ You have set a boundary that they may
not pass over,
that they don't turn again to cover
the earth.</p> <p>¹⁰ He sends springs into the valleys.
They run among the mountains.</p> <p>¹¹ They give drink to every animal of the
field.
The wild donkeys quench their thirst.</p> <p>¹² The birds of the sky nest by them.
They sing among the branches.</p> <p>¹³ He waters the mountains from his
rooms.
The earth is filled with the fruit of
your works.</p> <p>¹⁴ He causes the grass to grow for the
livestock,</p> |
|---|--|

and plants for man to cultivate,
that he may produce food out of the
earth:³

15 wine that makes the heart of man glad,
oil to make his face to shine,
and bread that strengthens man's
heart.

16 Yahweh's trees are well watered,
the cedars of Lebanon, which he has
planted,

17 where the birds make their nests.
The stork makes its home in the
cypress trees.

18 The high mountains are for the wild
goats.
The rocks are a refuge for the rock
badgers.

19 He appointed the moon for seasons.
The sun knows when to set.

20 You make darkness, and it is night,
in which all the animals of the forest
prowl.

21 The young lions roar after their prey,
and seek their food from God.

22 The sun rises, and they steal away,
and lie down in their dens.

23 Man goes out to his work,
to his labor until the evening.

24 Yahweh, how many are your works!
In wisdom, you have made them all.⁴
The earth is full of your riches.⁵

25 There is the sea, great and wide,
in which are innumerable living
things,
both small and large animals.

26 There the ships go,
and leviathan, whom you formed to
play there.

27 These all wait for you,
that you may give them their food in
due season.

28 You give to them; they gather.
You open your hand; they are
satisfied with good.

29 You hide your face; they are troubled.
You take away their breath; they die
and return to the dust.

30 You send out your Spirit and they are
created.⁶
You renew the face of the ground.

31 Let Yahweh's glory endure forever.
Let Yahweh rejoice in his works.

32 He looks at the earth, and it trembles.
He touches the mountains, and they
smoke.

33 I will sing to Yahweh as long as I live.
I will sing praise to my God while I
have any being.

34 Let my meditation be sweet to him.
I will rejoice in Yahweh.

35 Let sinners be consumed out of the
earth.
Let the wicked be no more.
Bless Yahweh, my soul.
Praise Yah!

1. *Bless Yahweh, my soul.* See Psalms 103:1. Many Truth students find difficulty in understanding exactly what is meant by soul. One of the reasons for this confusion is that different schools of thought use different terms in defining the soul. In spite of these differences, there need not be difficulty in dealing with the word "soul" because in Unity terminology it is simply the name given to the entire area of awareness in us. We are not yet certain of its full potential, nor of its limitations, but any part of our being which includes any sort of awareness is referred to as our soul. (Ed Rabel, *Metaphysics 1, The Trinity in Man*)

2. *He laid the foundations of the earth.* A pre-scientific cosmology shared by all of the ancient origin stories. God creates all things by a loving brooding over the elements. The truths are greater than the facts: in God we live and move and have our being. [Use this as a supplement to the creation stories in Genesis.] ("Religious Education for New Thought Children," Helen Rhodes-Wallace, quoted in *Unity* magazine, October 1912, p.312)

3. *He causes the grass to grow for the livestock, and plants for man to cultivate, that he may produce food out of the earth.* We have mention of the goodness of God in giving herbs to man for food. No mention is here made of eating animals. (H.R. Walmsley, *Does the Bible Justify Flesh-Eating?*, *Unity* magazine, January 1905, p.37)

4. *Yahweh, how many are your works! In wisdom, you have made them all.* [Wisdom and creation are related.] Besides omnipotence, the divine attribute of wisdom of Omniscience or divine wisdom is most evident in creation (*Unity* commentary, August 1949). Because the supreme intention for man is that he shall create, like his heavenly Father, the progressive races have been imbued with the idea of the necessity of education, the bringing forth of intelligence from within (Annie Rix Militz, *Unity* magazine, May 1905, p.400).

5. *The earth is full of your riches.* An acknowledgement of the omnipresence of substance.

6. *You send out your Spirit and they are created.* The Holy Spirit in Divine Mind corresponds to our thought in our minds. God is Mind; God's idea of His creation is His Son, and this Son (idea), executing the plans of God (the original Mind) corresponds to our thinking in its work of devising plans. We may ideate without restriction, but when we come to the execution of our ideas we have to respect certain laws, which we sometimes consider restrictions. So we can ideate the unlimited Divine Mind,

but when this Mind is brought into our world or consciousness it is limited to our conception of it.

(Charles Fillmore, *Atom-Smashing Power of Mind*, p.99)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 104:4. or, angels.

PSALMS 105

God's Faithfulness to Israel

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>¹ Give thanks to Yahweh! Call on his name!
Make his doings known among the peoples.</p> <p>² Sing to him, sing praises to him!
Tell of all his marvelous works.</p> <p>³ Glory in his holy name.
Let the heart of those who seek Yahweh rejoice.</p> <p>⁴ Seek Yahweh and his strength.
Seek his face forever more.</p> <p>⁵ Remember his marvelous works that he has done:
his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth,</p> <p>⁶ you offspring of Abraham, his servant,
you children of Jacob, his chosen ones.</p> <p>⁷ He is Yahweh, our God.
His judgments are in all the earth.</p> <p>⁸ He has remembered his covenant forever,
the word which he commanded to a thousand generations,</p> <p>⁹ the covenant which he made with Abraham,
his oath to Isaac,</p> <p>¹⁰ and confirmed it to Jacob for a statute;
to Israel for an everlasting covenant,</p> <p>¹¹ saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan,
the lot of your inheritance,"</p> <p>¹² when they were but a few men in number,
yes, very few, and foreigners in it.</p> <p>¹³ They went about from nation to nation,</p> | <p>from one kingdom to another people.</p> <p>¹⁴ He allowed no one to do them wrong.
Yes, he reproved kings for their sakes,</p> <p>¹⁵ "Don't touch my anointed ones!
Do my prophets no harm!"</p> <p>¹⁶ He called for a famine on the land.
He destroyed the food supplies.</p> <p>¹⁷ He sent a man before them.
Joseph was sold for a slave.</p> <p>¹⁸ They bruised his feet with shackles.
His neck was locked in irons,</p> <p>¹⁹ until the time that his word happened,
and Yahweh's word proved him true.</p> <p>²⁰ The king sent and freed him,
even the ruler of peoples, and let him go free.</p> <p>²¹ He made him lord of his house,
and ruler of all of his possessions,</p> <p>²² to discipline his princes at his pleasure,
and to teach his elders wisdom.</p> <p>²³ Israel also came into Egypt.
Jacob lived in the land of Ham.</p> <p>²⁴ He increased his people greatly,
and made them stronger than their adversaries.</p> <p>²⁵ He turned their heart to hate his people,
to conspire against his servants.</p> <p>²⁶ He sent Moses, his servant,
and Aaron, whom he had chosen.</p> <p>²⁷ They performed miracles among them,
and wonders in the land of Ham.</p> <p>²⁸ He sent darkness, and made it dark.
They didn't rebel against his words.</p> |
|---|---|

- 29 He turned their waters into blood,
and killed their fish.
- 30 Their land swarmed with frogs,
even in the rooms of their kings.
- 31 He spoke, and swarms of flies came,
and lice in all their borders.
- 32 He gave them hail for rain,
with lightning in their land.
- 33 He struck their vines and also their fig
trees,
and shattered the trees of their
country.
- 34 He spoke, and the locusts came
with the grasshoppers, without
number.
- 35 They ate up every plant in their land,
and ate up the fruit of their ground.
- 36 He struck also all the firstborn in their
land,
the first fruits of all their manhood.
- 37 He brought them out with silver and
gold.
There was not one feeble person
among his tribes.
- 38 Egypt was glad when they departed,
for the fear of them had fallen on
them.
- 39 He spread a cloud for a covering,
fire to give light in the night.
- 40 They asked, and he brought quails,
and satisfied them with the bread of
the sky.
- 41 He opened the rock, and waters gushed
out.
They ran as a river in the dry places.
- 42 For he remembered his holy word,
and Abraham, his servant.
- 43 He brought his people out with joy,
his chosen with singing.
- 44 He gave them the lands of the nations.
They took the labor of the peoples in
possession,
- 45 that they might keep his statutes,
and observe his laws.
Praise Yah!

PSALMS 106

A Confession of Israel's Sins

- 1 Praise Yahweh!
Give thanks to Yahweh, for he is
good,
for his loving kindness endures
forever.
- 2 Who can utter the mighty acts of
Yahweh,
or fully declare all his praise?
- 3 Blessed are those who keep justice.
Blessed is one who does what is right
at all times.
- 4 Remember me, Yahweh, with the favor
that you show to your people.
Visit me with your salvation,
that I may see the prosperity of your
chosen,
that I may rejoice in the gladness of
your nation,
that I may glory with your
inheritance.
- 6 We have sinned with our fathers.
We have committed iniquity.
- 7 We have done wickedly.
Our fathers didn't understand your
wonders in Egypt.
They didn't remember the multitude
of your loving kindnesses,
but were rebellious at the sea, even
at the Red Sea.
- 8 Nevertheless he saved them for his
name's sake,
that he might make his mighty power
known.
- 9 He rebuked the Red Sea also, and it was
dried up;
so he led them through the depths, as
through a desert.
- 10 He saved them from the hand of him
who hated them,
and redeemed them from the hand of
the enemy.
- 11 The waters covered their adversaries.
There was not one of them left.
- 12 Then they believed his words.

They sang his praise.
 13 They soon forgot his works.
 They didn't wait for his counsel,
 14 but gave in to craving in the desert,
 and tested God in the wasteland.
 15 He gave them their request,
 but sent leanness into their soul.
 16 They envied Moses also in the camp,
 and Aaron, Yahweh's saint.
 17 The earth opened and swallowed up
 Dathan,
 and covered the company of Abiram.
 18 A fire was kindled in their company.
 The flame burned up the wicked.
 19 They made a calf in Horeb,
 and worshiped a molten image.
 20 Thus they exchanged their glory
 for an image of a bull that eats grass.
 21 They forgot God, their Savior,
 who had done great things in Egypt,
 22 wondrous works in the land of Ham,
 and awesome things by the Red Sea.
 23 Therefore he said that he would destroy
 them,
 had Moses, his chosen, not stood
 before him in the breach,
 to turn away his wrath, so that he
 wouldn't destroy them.
 24 Yes, they despised the pleasant land.
 They didn't believe his word,
 25 but murmured in their tents,
 and didn't listen to Yahweh's voice.
 26 Therefore he swore to them
 that he would overthrow them in the
 wilderness,
 27 that he would overthrow their
 offspring among the nations,
 and scatter them in the lands.
 28 They joined themselves also to Baal
 Peor,
 and ate the sacrifices of the dead.
 29 Thus they provoked him to anger with
 their deeds.
 The plague broke in on them.
 30 Then Phinehas stood up and executed
 judgment,
 so the plague was stopped.
 31 That was credited to him for
 righteousness,
 for all generations to come.
 32 They angered him also at the waters of
 Meribah,
 so that Moses was troubled for their
 sakes;
 33 because they were rebellious against his
 spirit,
 he spoke rashly with his lips.
 34 They didn't destroy the peoples,
 as Yahweh commanded them,
 35 but mixed themselves with the
 nations,
 and learned their works.
 36 They served their idols,
 which became a snare to them.
 37 Yes, they sacrificed their sons and their
 daughters to demons.
 38 They shed innocent blood,
 even the blood of their sons and of
 their daughters,
 whom they sacrificed to the idols of
 Canaan.
 The land was polluted with blood.
 39 Thus they were defiled with their works,
 and prostituted themselves in their
 deeds.
 40 Therefore Yahweh burned with anger
 against his people.
 He abhorred his inheritance.
 41 He gave them into the hand of the
 nations.
 Those who hated them ruled over
 them.
 42 Their enemies also oppressed them.
 They were brought into subjection
 under their hand.
 43 He rescued them many times,
 but they were rebellious in their
 counsel,
 and were brought low in their
 iniquity.
 44 Nevertheless he regarded their distress,
 when he heard their cry.
 45 He remembered for them his covenant,
 and repented according to the
 multitude of his loving
 kindnesses.
 46 He made them also to be pitied
 by all those who carried them
 captive.
 47 Save us, Yahweh, our God,
 gather us from among the nations,
 to give thanks to your holy name,
 to triumph in your praise!
 48 Blessed be Yahweh, the God of Israel,
 from everlasting even to everlasting!
 Let all the people say, "Amen."
 Praise Yah!

BOOK 5

PSALMS 107

Thanksgiving for Deliverance from Many Troubles

- ¹ Give thanks to Yahweh,* for he is good,
for his loving kindness endures
forever.
- ² Let the redeemed by Yahweh say so,
whom he has redeemed from the
hand of the adversary,
- ³ and gathered out of the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
- ⁴ They wandered in the wilderness in a
desert way.
They found no city to live in.
- ⁵ Hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted in them.
- ⁶ Then they cried to Yahweh in their
trouble,
and he delivered them out of their
distresses.
- ⁷ He led them also by a straight way,
that they might go to a city to live in.
- ⁸ Let them praise Yahweh for his loving
kindness,
for his wonderful deeds to the
children of men!
- ⁹ For he satisfies the longing soul.
He fills the hungry soul with good.
- ¹⁰ Some sat in darkness and in the shadow
of death,
being bound in affliction and iron,
- ¹¹ because they rebelled against the
words of God,[†]
and condemned the counsel of the
Most High.
- ¹² Therefore he brought down their heart
with labor.
They fell down, and there was no one
to help.
- ¹³ Then they cried to Yahweh in their
trouble,
and he saved them out of their
distresses.
- ¹⁴ He brought them out of darkness and
the shadow of death,
- and broke away their chains.
- ¹⁵ Let them praise Yahweh for his loving
kindness,
for his wonderful deeds to the
children of men!
- ¹⁶ For he has broken the gates of bronze,
and cut through bars of iron.
- ¹⁷ Fools are afflicted because of their
disobedience,
and because of their iniquities.
- ¹⁸ Their soul abhors all kinds of food.
They draw near to the gates of death.
- ¹⁹ Then they cry to Yahweh in their
trouble,
and he saves them out of their
distresses.
- ²⁰ He sends his word, and heals them,
and delivers them from their graves.
- ²¹ Let them praise Yahweh for his loving
kindness,
for his wonderful deeds to the
children of men!
- ²² Let them offer the sacrifices of
thanksgiving,
and declare his deeds with singing.
- ²³ Those who go down to the sea in ships,
who do business in great waters,
these see Yahweh's deeds,
and his wonders in the deep.
- ²⁴ For he commands, and raises the stormy
wind,
which lifts up its waves.
- ²⁵ They mount up to the sky; they go down
again to the depths.
Their soul melts away because of
trouble.
- ²⁶ They reel back and forth, and stagger
like a drunken man,
and are at their wits' end.
- ²⁷ Then they cry to Yahweh in their
trouble,
and he brings them out of their
distress.

29 He makes the storm a calm,
 so that its waves are still.
 30 Then they are glad because it is calm,
 so he brings them to their desired
 haven.
 31 Let them praise Yahweh for his loving
 kindness,
 for his wonderful deeds for the
 children of men!
 32 Let them exalt him also in the assembly
 of the people,
 and praise him in the seat of the
 elders.
 33 He turns rivers into a desert,
 water springs into a thirsty ground,
 34 and a fruitful land into a salt waste,
 for the wickedness of those who dwell
 in it.
 35 He turns a desert into a pool of water,
 and a dry land into water springs.
 36 There he makes the hungry live,
 that they may prepare a city to live
 in,
 37 sow fields, plant vineyards,
 and reap the fruits of increase.
 38 He blesses them also, so that they are
 multiplied greatly.
 He doesn't allow their livestock to
 decrease.
 39 Again, they are diminished and bowed
 down
 through oppression, trouble, and
 sorrow.
 40 He pours contempt on princes,
 and causes them to wander in a
 trackless waste.
 41 Yet he lifts the needy out of their
 affliction,
 and increases their families like a
 flock.
 42 The upright will see it, and be glad.
 All the wicked will shut their mouths.
 43 Whoever is wise will pay attention to
 these things.
 They will consider the loving
 kindnesses of Yahweh.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 107:1. "Yahweh" is God's proper Name, sometimes rendered "LORD" (all caps) in other translations.

† 107:11. The Hebrew word rendered "God" is "אֱלֹהִים" (Elohim).

PSALMS 108

Praise and Prayer for Victory

A Song. A Psalm by David.

1 My heart is steadfast, God.
 I will sing and I will make music with
 my soul.
 2 Wake up, harp and lyre!
 I will wake up the dawn.
 3 I will give thanks to you, Yahweh,
 among the nations.
 I will sing praises to you among the
 peoples.
 4 For your loving kindness is great above
 the heavens.
 Your faithfulness reaches to the skies.
 5 Be exalted, God, above the heavens!
 Let your glory be over all the earth.
 6 That your beloved may be delivered,
 save with your right hand, and answer
 us.
 7 God has spoken from his sanctuary: "In
 triumph,
 I will divide Shechem, and measure
 out the valley of Succoth.
 8 Gilead is mine. Manasseh is mine.
 Ephraim also is my helmet.
 Judah is my scepter.
 9 Moab is my wash pot.
 I will toss my sandal on Edom.
 I will shout over Philistia."
 10 Who will bring me into the fortified city?

Who will lead me to Edom?
 11 Haven't you rejected us, God?
 You don't go out, God, with our
 armies.
 12 Give us help against the enemy,

for the help of man is vain.
 13 Through God, we will do valiantly,
 for it is he who will tread down our
 enemies.

PSALMS 109

Prayer for Vindication and Vengeance

**For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by
 David.**

1 God of my praise, don't remain silent,
 2 for they have opened the mouth of
 the wicked and the mouth of
 deceit against me.
 They have spoken to me with a lying
 tongue.
 3 They have also surrounded me with
 words of hatred,
 and fought against me without a
 cause.
 4 In return for my love, they are my
 adversaries;
 but I am in prayer.
 5 They have rewarded me evil for good,
 and hatred for my love.
 6 Set a wicked man over him.
 Let an adversary stand at his right
 hand.
 7 When he is judged, let him come out
 guilty.
 Let his prayer be turned into sin.
 8 Let his days be few.
 Let another take his office.
 9 Let his children be fatherless,
 and his wife a widow.
 10 Let his children be wandering beggars.
 Let them be sought from their ruins.
 11 Let the creditor seize all that he has.
 Let strangers plunder the fruit of his
 labor.
 12 Let there be no one to extend kindness 22
 to him,
 neither let there be anyone to have
 pity on his fatherless children.
 13 Let his posterity be cut off.
 In the generation following let their

name be blotted out.
 14 Let the iniquity of his fathers be
 remembered by Yahweh.
 Don't let the sin of his mother be
 blotted out.
 15 Let them be before Yahweh continually,
 that he may cut off their memory
 from the earth;
 16 because he didn't remember to show
 kindness,
 but persecuted the poor and needy
 man,
 the broken in heart, to kill them.
 17 Yes, he loved cursing, and it came to
 him.
 He didn't delight in blessing, and it
 was far from him.
 18 He clothed himself also with cursing as
 with his garment.
 It came into his inward parts like
 water,
 like oil into his bones.
 19 Let it be to him as the clothing with
 which he covers himself,
 for the belt that is always around
 him.
 20 This is the reward of my adversaries
 from Yahweh,
 of those who speak evil against my
 soul.
 21 But deal with me, Yahweh the Lord,* for
 your name's sake,
 because your loving kindness is good,
 deliver me;
 for I am poor and needy.
 My heart is wounded within me.
 23 I fade away like an evening shadow.
 I am shaken off like a locust.
 24 My knees are weak through fasting.
 My body is thin and lacks fat.

- 25 I have also become a reproach to them.
When they see me, they shake their head.
- 26 Help me, Yahweh, my God.
Save me according to your loving kindness;
- 27 that they may know that this is your hand;
that you, Yahweh, have done it.
- 28 They may curse, but you bless.
When they arise, they will be shamed,
but your servant shall rejoice.
- 29 Let my adversaries be clothed with dishonor.
Let them cover themselves with their own shame as with a robe.
- 30 I will give great thanks to Yahweh with my mouth.
Yes, I will praise him among the multitude.
- 31 For he will stand at the right hand of the needy,
to save him from those who judge his soul.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 109:21. The word translated "Lord" is "Adonai."

PSALMS 110¹

Assurance of Victory for God's Priest-King

A Psalm by David.²

- 1 Yahweh says to my Lord,³ "Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool for your feet."
- 2 Yahweh will send out the rod of your strength out of Zion.
Rule among your enemies.
- 3 Your people offer themselves willingly in the day of your power, in holy array.
Out of the womb of the morning, you have the dew of your youth.
- 4 Yahweh has sworn, and will not change his mind:
"You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek."⁴
- 5 The Lord is at your right hand.
He will crush kings in the day of his wrath.
- 6 He will judge among the nations.
He will heap up dead bodies.
He will crush the ruler of the whole earth.
- 7 He will drink of the brook on the way;
therefore he will lift up his head.

1. Psalm 110 is quoted in the NT frequently (14 times), such as Matthew 22:42-45, and Hebrews 4:14-7:28.

2. *A Psalm by David.* Metaphysically, David represents divine love individualized in human consciousness. Love in Being (God) is the idea of perfect unity in all existence. When this divine idea is focused in man it is the Christ love on its inner side and the Jesus love on its outer. When David in his youth and purity daily communed with God, he closely reflected divine love. When he developed his human character, as a king in dominion over men, he manifested the limitations of the human in larger degree. (MBD/David)

3. *Yahweh says to my Lord.* "Yahweh" is God and "my Lord" is the Christ. The Christ is the Son of God, or the divine idea, man. As the only-begotten Son of God the Christ is the embodiment not of love (David) alone but of all divine ideas, including intelligence, life, substance, and strength.

4. *"You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek."* Metaphysically, Melchizedek is the divine will established in man in righteousness, justice, and peace (king of righteousness, king of justice, king of Salem, Salem meaning peace). Melchizedek really refers to the Christ mind or superconsciousness, that which when ruling in man's consciousness establishes and maintains right doing, perfect adjustment, peace, and perfection (MBD/Melchizedek). [An early metaphysical interpretation of this passage is from] the writer of Hebrews who quotes this verse to use Melchizedek as symbolizing the perpetual priesthood of Jesus,

in contrast with the many changes in the Jewish priestly system. Melchizedek “is without father or mother or genealogy, and has neither beginning of days nor end of life”; whereas “the former priests ... were prevented by death from continuing in office”. Thus, argues the writer of Hebrews, Jesus “has become a priest, not according to legal re-

quirement concerning bodily descent but by the power of an indestructible life” (Hebrews 7:3, 23). (*A Study of the New Testament*, Herbert Hunt, Epistle To the Hebrews)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 111

Praise for God’s Wonderful Works

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|---|--|
| <p>¹ Praise Yah!*</p> <p>I will give thanks to Yahweh with my whole heart,
in the council of the upright, and in the congregation.</p> <p>² Yahweh’s works are great,
pondered by all those who delight in them.</p> <p>³ His work is honor and majesty.
His righteousness endures forever.</p> <p>⁴ He has caused his wonderful works to be remembered.
Yahweh is gracious and merciful.</p> <p>⁵ He has given food to those who fear him.
He always remembers his covenant.</p> <p>⁶ He has shown his people the power of</p> | <p>his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.</p> <p>⁷ The works of his hands are truth and justice.
All his precepts are sure.</p> <p>⁸ They are established forever and ever.
They are done in truth and uprightness.</p> <p>⁹ He has sent redemption to his people.
He has ordained his covenant forever.
His name is holy and awesome!</p> <p>¹⁰ The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of wisdom.
All those who do his work have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!</p> |
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World English Bible Footnotes:

- * 111:1. Psalm 111 is an acrostic poem, with each verse after the initial “Praise Yah!” starting with a letter of the alphabet (ordered from Alef to Tav).

PSALMS 112

A Heart Established in Righteous Living

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| <p>¹ Praise Yah!*</p> <p>Blessed is the man who fears Yahweh,^①
who delights greatly in his</p> | <p>commandments.</p> <p>² His offspring will be mighty in the land.
The generation of the upright will be blessed.</p> |
|--|---|

3 Wealth and riches² are in his house.
His righteousness endures forever.³
4 Light dawns in the darkness⁴ for the
upright,
gracious, merciful, and righteous.
5 It is well with the man who deals
graciously and lends.
He will maintain his cause in
judgment.
6 For he will never be shaken.
The righteous will be remembered
forever.
7 He will not be afraid of evil news.
His heart is steadfast, trusting in
Yahweh.
8 His heart is established.⁵
He will not be afraid in the end when
he sees his adversaries.
9 He has dispersed, he has given to the
poor.
His righteousness endures forever.
His horn will be exalted with honor.
10 The wicked will see it, and be grieved.
He shall gnash with his teeth, and
melt away.
The desire of the wicked will perish.

1. *who fears Yahweh.* The word fear implies reverence or respect for the law of God (MBD/fear). [The word in Hebrew, *yârê*, means morally reverent.]
2. *Wealth and riches.* True wealth is a state of consciousness, the consciousness of God as our supply. Spiritual wealth expresses itself as faith, love, wisdom, substance, joy, and so on. Material wealth expresses as worldly riches, possessions of an earthly nature. (RW/wealth)
3. *His righteousness endures forever.* Righteousness is a state of harmony established in consciousness through the right use of God-given attributes. It leads directly to eternal life. Truth working in consciousness brings forth the perfect salvation of the whole person—Spirit, soul, and body—and righteousness (right relation) is expressed in all our affairs. (RW/righteousness)
4. *Light dawns in the darkness.* Spiritual perception as a dawning light in consciousness, increasing as one turns steadily toward Truth (RW/dawn).
5. *His heart is established.* Each dawning of a new day is in a sense an entirely new experience to you. At this morning's dawn a strange thing happened in your life. The curtains of night that had seemingly hid you in a vestibule of darkness were opened wide and you looked upon a new world. Frank B. Whitney, *The Challenge of the Dawn*

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 112:1. Psalm 112 is an acrostic poem, with each verse after the initial "Praise Yah!" starting with a letter of the alphabet (ordered from Alef to Tav).

PSALMS 113

God the Helper of the Needy

<p>1 Praise Yah! Praise, you servants of Yahweh, praise Yahweh's name. 2 Blessed be Yahweh's name, from this time forward and forever more. 3 From the rising of the sun to its going down, Yahweh's name is to be praised. 4 Yahweh is high above all nations, his glory above the heavens. 5 Who is like Yahweh, our God,</p>	<p>6 who has his seat on high, who stoops down to see in heaven and in the earth? 7 He raises up the poor out of the dust, and lifts up the needy from the ash heap, 8 that he may set him with princes, even with the princes of his people. 9 He settles the barren woman in her home as a joyful mother of children. Praise Yah!</p>
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PSALMS 114

God's Wonders at the Exodus

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| <p>1 When Israel went out of Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of
foreign language,</p> <p>2 Judah became his sanctuary,
Israel his dominion.</p> <p>3 The sea saw it, and fled.
The Jordan was driven back.</p> <p>4 The mountains skipped like rams,
the little hills like lambs.</p> <p>5 What was it, you sea, that you fled?</p> | <p>6 You Jordan, that you turned back?
You mountains, that you skipped like
rams?</p> <p>7 You little hills, like lambs?
Tremble, you earth, at the presence of
the Lord,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
8 who turned the rock into a pool of
water,
the flint into a spring of waters.</p> |
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PSALMS 115

The Impotence of Idols and the Greatness of God

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| <p>1 Not to us, Yahweh, not to us,
but to your name give glory,
for your loving kindness, and for your
truth's sake.</p> <p>2 Why should the nations say,
"Where is their God, now?"</p> <p>3 But our God is in the heavens.
He does whatever he pleases.</p> <p>4 Their idols are silver and gold,
the work of men's hands.</p> <p>5 They have mouths, but they don't
speak.
They have eyes, but they don't see.</p> <p>6 They have ears, but they don't hear.
They have noses, but they don't
smell.</p> <p>7 They have hands, but they don't feel.
They have feet, but they don't walk,
neither do they speak through their
throat.</p> <p>8 Those who make them will be like
them;
yes, everyone who trusts in them.</p> <p>9 Israel, trust in Yahweh!</p> | <p>He is their help and their shield.</p> <p>10 House of Aaron, trust in Yahweh!
He is their help and their shield.</p> <p>11 You who fear Yahweh, trust in Yahweh!
He is their help and their shield.</p> <p>12 Yahweh remembers us. He will bless us.
He will bless the house of Israel.
He will bless the house of Aaron.</p> <p>13 He will bless those who fear Yahweh,
both small and great.</p> <p>14 May Yahweh increase you more and
more,
you and your children.</p> <p>15 Blessed are you by Yahweh,
who made heaven and earth.</p> <p>16 The heavens are Yahweh's heavens,
but he has given the earth to the
children of men.</p> <p>17 The dead don't praise Yah,
nor any who go down into silence,
18 but we will bless Yah,
from this time forward and forever
more.
Praise Yah!</p> |
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PSALMS 116

Spiritual Healing

¹ I love Yahweh, because he listens to my voice,
and my cries for mercy.
² Because he has turned his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.
³ The cords of death surrounded me,
the pains of Sheol* got a hold of me.
I found trouble and sorrow.
⁴ Then I called on Yahweh's name:
"Yahweh, I beg you, deliver my soul."¹
⁵ Yahweh is gracious and righteous.
Yes, our God is merciful.
⁶ Yahweh preserves the simple.²
I was brought low, and he saved me.
⁷ Return to your rest, my soul,
for Yahweh has dealt bountifully with you.
⁸ For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears,
and my feet from falling.
⁹ I will walk before Yahweh in the land of the living.
¹⁰ I believed, therefore I said,
"I was greatly afflicted."
¹¹ I said in my haste,
"All people are liars."
¹² What will I give to Yahweh for all his benefits toward me?
¹³ I will take the cup of salvation, and
call on Yahweh's name.
¹⁴ I will pay my vows to Yahweh,
yes, in the presence of all his people.
¹⁵ Precious³ in Yahweh's sight is the death
of his saints.
¹⁶ Yahweh, truly I am your servant.⁴

I am your servant, the son of your servant girl.
You have freed me from my chains.
¹⁷ I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and will call on Yahweh's name.
¹⁸ I will pay my vows to Yahweh,
yes, in the presence of all his people,
¹⁹ in the courts of Yahweh's house,
in the middle of you, Jerusalem.
Praise Yah!

1. *deliver my soul.* [Soul, in Hebrew, is *nephesh*. A breathing creature, i.e. animal of (abstractly) vitality; used very widely in a literal, accommodated or figurative sense (bodily or mental). Translated in NRSV as "save my life!"]

2. *Yahweh preserves the simple.* Anyone can do spiritual healing who will use the simple rules of denial and affirmation here set forth. If you wish to heal another, hold him in mind and mentally repeat the denials and affirmations; this will raise your consciousness to spiritual reality, where all healing power originates. Charles Fillmore, *Christian Healing*, p3.

3. *Precious.* Psalm 116:15 is an example of misquoted Bible. According to Leeser's translation of the Old Testament, this reads "Grievous in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." The Leeser translation was made by a Hebrew who thoroughly understood his own language, and no doubt the word "grievous" better expresses the meaning in this case than does "precious," for God is "not willing that any should perish." (Unity Correspondence School Course, Series 1, Lesson 6, Demonstration. Original document. See also *Unity* June 1917, p.595.)

4. *I am thy servant.* See Isaiah 49:3. A successful servant is one who enters into the mind and plans of the master. He gives himself wholly over to the interests and activities of his superior and has no schemes or intentions of his own ("Thou art my servant" commentary by Ella Pomeroy).

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 116:3. Sheol is the place of the dead.

PSALMS 117

Universal Call to Worship

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>¹ Praise Yahweh, all you nations!
Extol him, all you peoples!</p> <p>² For his loving kindness is great toward
us.</p> | <p>Yahweh's faithfulness endures
forever.</p> <p>Praise Yah!</p> |
|---|--|

PSALMS 118

The Cornerstone Of Our Faith¹

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>¹ Give thanks to Yahweh, for he is good,
for his loving kindness endures
forever.²</p> <p>² Let Israel now say
that his loving kindness endures
forever.</p> <p>³ Let the house of Aaron now say
that his loving kindness endures
forever.</p> <p>⁴ Now let those who fear Yahweh say
that his loving kindness endures
forever.</p> <p>⁵ Out of my distress, I called on Yah.³
Yah answered me with freedom.</p> <p>⁶ Yahweh is on my side. I will not be
afraid.
What can man do to me?</p> <p>⁷ Yahweh is on my side among those who
help me.
Therefore I will look in triumph at
those who hate me.</p> <p>⁸ It is better to take refuge in Yahweh,
than to put confidence in man.</p> <p>⁹ It is better to take refuge in Yahweh,
than to put confidence in princes.</p> <p>¹⁰ All the nations surrounded me,
but in Yahweh's name I cut them off.</p> <p>¹¹ They surrounded me, yes, they
surrounded me.
In Yahweh's name I indeed cut them
off.</p> <p>¹² They surrounded me like bees.
They are quenched like the burning</p> | <p>thorns.
In Yahweh's name I cut them off.</p> <p>¹³ You pushed me back hard, to make me
fall,
but Yahweh helped me.</p> <p>¹⁴ Yah is my strength and song.
He has become my salvation.</p> <p>¹⁵ The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in
the tents of the righteous.
"The right hand of Yahweh does
valiantly.</p> <p>¹⁶ The right hand of Yahweh is exalted!
The right hand of Yahweh does
valiantly!"</p> <p>¹⁷ I will not die, but live,
and declare Yah's works.</p> <p>¹⁸ Yah has punished me severely,
but he has not given me over to
death.</p> <p>¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness.
I will enter into them.
I will give thanks to Yah.</p> <p>²⁰ This is the gate of Yahweh;
the righteous will enter into it.</p> <p>²¹ I will give thanks to you, for you have
answered me,
and have become my salvation.</p> <p>²² The stone which the builders rejected⁴
has become the cornerstone.*⁵</p> <p>²³ This is Yahweh's doing.
It is marvelous in our eyes.</p> <p>²⁴ This is the day that Yahweh has made.⁶
We will rejoice and be glad in it!</p> |
|---|--|

- 25 Save us now, we beg you, Yahweh!
Yahweh, we beg you, send prosperity
now.
- 26 Blessed is he who comes in Yahweh's
name!
We have blessed you out of Yahweh's
house.
- 27 Yahweh is God, and he has given us
light.
Bind the sacrifice with cords, even to
the horns of the altar.
- 28 You are my God, and I will give thanks
to you.
You are my God, I will exalt you.
- 29 Oh give thanks to Yahweh, for he is
good,
for his loving kindness endures
forever.

1. See Matthew 21:42, Acts 4:11, Ephesians 2:20, 1 Peter 2:7

2. *for his loving kindness endures forever.* Yahweh is sometimes regarded as a God of wrath and vengeance and sometimes as a God of loving-kindness and tender mercy, depending on the consciousness and the outpictured circumstances of the one writing or speaking about Yahweh. Yahweh (The Lord), as Judge, was thought sometimes to punish His children, sometimes to defend, vindicate, and, deliver them. Man has looked to Yahweh as God or law outside himself, as giving the law through His holy men, such as Moses. When man

does not recognize the law of God as being the law within himself, he considers it according to the "mental law of cause and effect," as a form of punishment. The same thing occurs in reverse: if all is well and good, man thinks God has changed to loving-kindness and tender mercy. The idea of God as love is important to the Truth seeker and to all who would come into the consciousness of themselves as "overcomers." With the idea of love being God, and God being love, comes the thought of being approved of God and blessed by Him for conforming not to some outer ritual but to the Christ righteousness that is man's nature and destiny. (Unity Correspondence School Lesson 11, annotation 2)

3. I called on Yah. A shortened or poetical form of Yahweh (Psalms 68:4, margin). While Yah is accepted as a contraction of Yahweh, it is really one of the most ancient expressions attached to Deity (MBD/Jah).

4. *The stone which the builders rejected.* What is "the stone which the builders rejected"? It is the Christ, which is the cornerstone of happy, successful living.

5. *has become the cornerstone.* Of what is the cornerstone a symbol? It is a symbol of the union of the religious and the worldly thoughts of man in one consciousness of practical, working Truth. The Christ who, though rejected as a "cornerstone" by those who are bound by custom and tradition, became the binding element between our religious nature (the Jews) and our secular thoughts (the Gentiles).

6. *This is the day that Yahweh has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it!* We can realize happy, successful living now.

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 118:22. Literally, head of the corner.

PSALMS 119

The Happiness of God's Law¹

ALEPH

- 1 Blessed are those whose ways are
blameless,
who walk according to Yahweh's law.
- 2 Blessed are those who keep his
statutes,²
who seek him with their whole heart.

- 3 Yes, they do nothing wrong.
They walk in his ways.
- 4 You have commanded your precepts,
that we should fully obey them.
- 5 Oh that my ways were steadfast
to obey your statutes!
- 6 Then I wouldn't be disappointed,
when I consider all of your

commandments.

7 I will give thanks to you with uprightness
of heart,
when I learn your righteous
judgments.

8 I will observe your statutes.
Don't utterly forsake me.

BETH

9 How can a young man keep his way
pure?³

By living according to your word.
10 With my whole heart I have sought you.
Don't let me wander from your
commandments.

11 I have hidden your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.

12 Blessed are you, Yahweh.
Teach me your statutes.

13 With my lips,
I have declared all the ordinances of
your mouth.

14 I have rejoiced in the way of your
testimonies,
as much as in all riches.

15 I will meditate on your precepts,
and consider your ways.

16 I will delight myself in your statutes.
I will not forget your word.

GIMEL

17 Do good to your servant.⁴
I will live and I will obey your word.

18 Open my eyes,
that I may see wondrous things out of
your law.

19 I am a stranger on the earth.
Don't hide your commandments from
me.

20 My soul is consumed with longing for
your ordinances at all times.

21 You have rebuked the proud who are
cursed,
who wander from your
commandments.

22 Take reproach and contempt away from
me,
for I have kept your statutes.

23 Though princes sit and slander me,
your servant will meditate on your
statutes.

24 Indeed your statutes are my delight,

and my counselors.

DALETH

25 My soul is laid low in the dust.

Revive me according to your word!⁵

26 I declared my ways, and you answered
me.

Teach me your statutes.

27 Let me understand the teaching of your
precepts!

Then I will meditate on your
wondrous works.

28 My soul is weary with sorrow;
strengthen me according to your
word.

29 Keep me from the way of deceit.
Grant me your law graciously!

30 I have chosen the way of truth.
I have set your ordinances before me.

31 I cling to your statutes, Yahweh.
Don't let me be disappointed.

32 I run in the path of your
commandments,
for you have set my heart free.

HE

33 Teach me, Yahweh, the way of your
statutes.⁶

I will keep them to the end.

34 Give me understanding, and I will keep
your law.

Yes, I will obey it with my whole
heart.

35 Direct me in the path of your
commandments,
for I delight in them.

36 Turn my heart toward your statutes,
not toward selfish gain.

37 Turn my eyes away from looking at
worthless things.

Revive me in your ways.

38 Fulfill your promise to your servant,
that you may be feared.

39 Take away my disgrace that I dread,
for your ordinances are good.

40 Behold, I long for your precepts!
Revive me in your righteousness.

VAV

41 Let your loving kindness also come to
me, Yahweh,⁷

your salvation, according to your word.
 42 So I will have an answer for him who reproaches me,
 for I trust in your word.
 43 Don't snatch the word of truth out of my mouth,
 for I put my hope in your ordinances.
 44 So I will obey your law continually,
 forever and ever.
 45 I will walk in liberty,
 for I have sought your precepts.
 46 I will also speak of your statutes before kings,
 and will not be disappointed.
 47 I will delight myself in your commandments,
 because I love them.
 48 I reach out my hands for your commandments, which I love.
 I will meditate on your statutes.

ZAYIN

49 Remember your word to your servant,
 because you gave me hope.⁸
 50 This is my comfort in my affliction,
 for your word has revived me.
 51 The arrogant mock me excessively,
 but I don't swerve from your law.
 52 I remember your ordinances of old,
 Yahweh,
 and have comforted myself.
 53 Indignation has taken hold on me,
 because of the wicked who forsake your law.
 54 Your statutes have been my songs
 in the house where I live.
 55 I have remembered your name, Yahweh,
 in the night,
 and I obey your law.
 56 This is my way,
 that I keep your precepts.

HETH

57 Yahweh is my portion.⁹
 I promised to obey your words.
 58 I sought your favor with my whole heart.
 Be merciful to me according to your word.
 59 I considered my ways,
 and turned my steps to your statutes.

60 I will hurry, and not delay,
 to obey your commandments.
 61 The ropes of the wicked bind me,
 but I won't forget your law.
 62 At midnight I will rise to give thanks to you,
 because of your righteous ordinances.
 63 I am a friend of all those who fear you,
 of those who observe your precepts.
 64 The earth is full of your loving kindness,
 Yahweh.
 Teach me your statutes.

TETH

65 You have treated your servant well,
 according to your word, Yahweh.
 66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge,
 for I believe in your commandments.
 67 Before I was afflicted, I went astray;
 but now I observe your word.
 68 You are good, and do good.
 Teach me your statutes.
 69 The proud have smeared a lie upon me.
 With my whole heart, I will keep your precepts.
 70 Their heart is as callous as the fat,
 but I delight in your law.
 71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted,¹⁰
 that I may learn your statutes.
 72 The law of your mouth is better to me
 than thousands of pieces of gold
 and silver.

YODH

73 Your hands have made me and formed me.¹¹
 Give me understanding, that I may learn your commandments.
 74 Those who fear you will see me and be glad,
 because I have put my hope in your word.
 75 Yahweh, I know that your judgments are righteous,
 that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.
 76 Please let your loving kindness be for my comfort,
 according to your word to your servant.

77 Let your tender mercies come to me,
that I may live;
for your law is my delight.
78 Let the proud be disappointed, for they
have overthrown me wrongfully.
I will meditate on your precepts.
79 Let those who fear you turn to me.
They will know your statutes.
80 Let my heart be blameless toward your
decrees,
that I may not be disappointed.

KAPF

81 My soul faints for your salvation.
I hope in your word.
82 My eyes fail for your word.
I say, "When will you comfort me?"
83 For I have become like a wineskin in the
smoke.
I don't forget your statutes.
84 How many are the days of your servant?
When will you execute judgment on
those who persecute me?
85 The proud have dug pits for me,
contrary to your law.
86 All of your commandments are faithful.
They persecute me wrongfully.
Help me!¹²
87 They had almost wiped me from the
earth,
but I didn't forsake your precepts.
88 Preserve my life according to your
loving kindness,
so I will obey the statutes of your
mouth.

LAMEDH

89 Yahweh, your word is settled in heaven
forever.¹³
90 Your faithfulness is to all generations.
You have established the earth, and it
remains.
91 Your laws remain to this day,
for all things serve you.
92 Unless your law had been my delight,
I would have perished in my
affliction.
93 I will never forget your precepts,
for with them, you have revived me.
94 I am yours.
Save me, for I have sought your
precepts.

95 The wicked have waited for me, to
destroy me.
I will consider your statutes.
96 I have seen a limit to all perfection,
but your commands are boundless.

MEM

97 How I love your law!¹⁴
It is my meditation all day.
98 Your commandments make me wiser
than my enemies,
for your commandments are always
with me.
99 I have more understanding than all my
teachers,
for your testimonies are my
meditation.
100 I understand more than the aged,
because I have kept your precepts.
101 I have kept my feet from every evil
way,
that I might observe your word.
102 I have not turned away from your
ordinances,
for you have taught me.
103 How sweet are your promises to my
taste,
more than honey to my mouth!
104 Through your precepts, I get
understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.

NUN

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet,¹⁵
and a light for my path.
106 I have sworn, and have confirmed it,
that I will obey your righteous
ordinances.
107 I am afflicted very much.
Revive me, Yahweh, according to
your word.
108 Accept, I beg you, the willing offerings
of my mouth.
Yahweh, teach me your ordinances.
109 My soul is continually in my hand,
yet I won't forget your law.
110 The wicked have laid a snare for me,
yet I haven't gone astray from your
precepts.
111 I have taken your testimonies as a
heritage forever,
for they are the joy of my heart.

112 I have set my heart to perform your
statutes forever,
even to the end.

SAMEKH

113 I hate double-minded men, ¹⁶
but I love your law.
114 You are my hiding place and my shield.
I hope in your word.
115 Depart from me, you evildoers,
that I may keep the commandments
of my God.
116 Uphold me according to your word, that
I may live.
Let me not be ashamed of my hope.
117 Hold me up, and I will be safe,
and will have respect for your
statutes continually.
118 You reject all those who stray from your
statutes,
for their deceit is in vain.
119 You put away all the wicked of the
earth like dross.
Therefore I love your testimonies.
120 My flesh trembles for fear of you.
I am afraid of your judgments.

AYIN

121 I have done what is just and righteous.
Don't leave me to my oppressors. ¹⁷
122 Ensure your servant's well-being.
Don't let the proud oppress me.
123 My eyes fail looking for your salvation,
for your righteous word.
124 Deal with your servant according to your
loving kindness.
Teach me your statutes.
125 I am your servant. Give me
understanding,
that I may know your testimonies.
126 It is time to act, Yahweh,
for they break your law.
127 Therefore I love your commandments
more than gold,
yes, more than pure gold.
128 Therefore I consider all of your precepts
to be right.
I hate every false way.

PE

129 Your testimonies are wonderful,

therefore my soul keeps them.
130 The entrance of your words gives
light. ¹⁸
It gives understanding to the simple.
131 I opened my mouth wide and panted,
for I longed for your commandments.
132 Turn to me, and have mercy on me,
as you always do to those who love
your name.
133 Establish my footsteps in your word.
Don't let any iniquity have dominion
over me.
134 Redeem me from the oppression of
man,
so I will observe your precepts.
135 Make your face shine on your servant.
Teach me your statutes.
136 Streams of tears run down my eyes,
because they don't observe your law.

TZADHE

137 You are righteous, Yahweh. ¹⁹
Your judgments are upright.
138 You have commanded your statutes in
righteousness.
They are fully trustworthy.
139 My zeal wears me out,
because my enemies ignore your
words.
140 Your promises have been thoroughly
tested,
and your servant loves them.
141 I am small and despised.
I don't forget your precepts.
142 Your righteousness is an everlasting
righteousness.
Your law is truth.
143 Trouble and anguish have taken hold of
me.
Your commandments are my delight.
144 Your testimonies are righteous forever.
Give me understanding, that I may
live.

QOPH

145 I have called with my whole heart. ²⁰
Answer me, Yahweh!
I will keep your statutes.
146 I have called to you. Save me!
I will obey your statutes.
147 I rise before dawn and cry for help.
I put my hope in your words.

¹⁴⁸ My eyes stay open through the night
 watches,
 that I might meditate on your word.
¹⁴⁹ Hear my voice according to your loving
 kindness.
 Revive me, Yahweh, according to
 your ordinances.
¹⁵⁰ They draw near who follow after
 wickedness.
 They are far from your law.
¹⁵¹ You are near, Yahweh.
 All your commandments are truth.
¹⁵² Of old I have known from your
 testimonies,
 that you have founded them forever.

RESH

¹⁵³ Consider my affliction, and deliver me,
 for I don't forget your law.
¹⁵⁴ Plead my cause, and redeem me!
 Revive me according to your promise.
¹⁵⁵ Salvation is far from the wicked,
 for they don't seek your statutes.
¹⁵⁶ Great are your tender mercies,
 Yahweh. ²¹
 Revive me according to your
 ordinances.
¹⁵⁷ Many are my persecutors and my
 adversaries.
 I haven't swerved from your
 testimonies.
¹⁵⁸ I look at the faithless with loathing,
 because they don't observe your
 word.
¹⁵⁹ Consider how I love your precepts.
 Revive me, Yahweh, according to
 your loving kindness.
¹⁶⁰ All of your words are truth.
 Every one of your righteous
 ordinances endures forever.

SIN AND SHIN

¹⁶¹ Princes have persecuted me without a
 cause,
 but my heart stands in awe of your
 words.
¹⁶² I rejoice at your word,
 as one who finds great plunder.
¹⁶³ I hate and abhor falsehood.
 I love your law.
¹⁶⁴ Seven times a day, I praise you, ²²
 because of your righteous ordinances.

¹⁶⁵ Those who love your law have great
 peace.
 Nothing causes them to stumble.
¹⁶⁶ I have hoped for your salvation,
 Yahweh.
 I have done your commandments.
¹⁶⁷ My soul has observed your testimonies.
 I love them exceedingly.
¹⁶⁸ I have obeyed your precepts and your
 testimonies,
 for all my ways are before you.

TAV

¹⁶⁹ Let my cry come before you, Yahweh.
 Give me understanding according to
 your word.
¹⁷⁰ Let my supplication come before you.
 Deliver me according to your word.
¹⁷¹ Let my lips utter praise,
 for you teach me your statutes.
¹⁷² Let my tongue sing of your word,
 for all your commandments are
 righteousness.
¹⁷³ Let your hand be ready to help me,
 for I have chosen your precepts.
¹⁷⁴ I have longed for your salvation,
 Yahweh. ²³
 Your law is my delight.
¹⁷⁵ Let my soul live, that I may praise you.
 Let your ordinances help me.
¹⁷⁶ I have gone astray like a lost sheep.
 Seek your servant, for I don't forget
 your commandments.

1. *God's law.* What is God's law? It is the law of life, for God is life. Through giving full and unre-served obedience to the divine law governing the expression of life we demonstrate eternal life.

2. *Blessed are those who keep his statutes.* We are blessed (NRSV, happy) when we keep the law of Yahweh, including the testimonies, precepts, statutes, commandments, ordinances, and judgments, as outlined in the verses from Psalm 119.

3. *How can a young man keep his way pure?* Is it helpful for us to compare our conduct at every point with the divine law and by this means seek to choose the right course to follow? It is, especially for the young, whose habits have not been fully formed.

4. *Do good to your servant.* Metaphysically, the elemental forces of Being, ever at hand to carry out one's demands. (MBD/servants)

5. *Revive me according to your word!* "Your word" is the agency by which God reveals Himself in some measure to all people, but to greater degree to highly developed souls; the thought of God or the

sum total of God's creative power. The Word gives order and regularity to the movement of things and is the divine dynamic, the energy and self-revelation of God. (RW/word)

6. *Teach me, Yahweh, the way of your statutes.* The way of Yahweh's statutes is Love. It is not possible for us to love God without having first learned to love other people. Love is the first of the divine laws, and we have no other way of learning to keep the law except as we keep it in relation to others like ourselves. The thought of God divorced from life is an abstraction difficult to realize, but the Godlike life is definite and understandable. We express it better in our relations with others than in the solitude of our own soul.

7. *Let your loving kindness also come to me, Yahweh.* Lovingkindness (Hebrew: *hesed*): kindness, mercy. We can love by keeping our thoughts stayed on divine love and holding the same consciousness with respect to all who are the objects of our thought, we can love friend and foe alike.

8. *you gave me hope.* How does the keeping of the law affect our inner self? It brings us wisdom and understanding, because as we keep the law and live the Truth, it is expressed toward us as well as by us.

9. *Yahweh is my portion.* By complete consecration of this inner power, the intuitional faculty is able to perform its true function and to bring home to us the fact that our entire life is amenable to spiritual law. See Hilkiah, the priest, "my portion is Yahweh." (MBI/2 Kings 22:8)

10. *It is good for me that I have been afflicted.* The law of Being is always working for our ultimate good, though in the process, because of our ignorance and disobedience, we sometimes pass through bitter experiences. Then we think that God afflicts us (affliction of Jah), when the truth of the matter is that we have brought our troubles upon ourself by living out of harmony with, and often in direct opposition to, the law of existence—God's law. Thus the very law that was intended to give life and peace is an afflicting and disintegrating power to those who work against it. (MBD/Athlai)

11. *Give me understanding.* That in human beings which comprehends is understanding; it knows and comprehends in wisdom. Its comparisons are not made in the realm of form, but in the realm of ideas. It knows how to accomplish things. Spiritual discernment reveals that knowledge and intelligence are auxiliary to understanding. (RW/understanding)

12. *Help me!* "God is my help in every need; God does my every hunger feed; God walks beside me, guides my way Through every moment of this day." Hannah More Kohaus, *The Prayer of Faith*.

13. *Yahweh, your word is settled in heaven forever.* How can the divine commandments be ever with us? By being held habitually in mind the divine commandments become part of our consciousness. As long as we are conscious of them, they are ever with us.

14. *How I love your law!* How does meditation on the divine law make us love it? When we medi-

tate on a subject we fix our thoughts on it and explore its implications. When we fix our thoughts on what is for our highest good - the divine law, the law of love, or the expression of the power and love of God - we put ourselves in harmony with the thoughts of God or Truth, which causes us to love the law by which we demonstrate perfection.

15. *Your word is a lamp to my feet.* What is the "lamp unto my feet"? Whatever shows me unerringly the course I should follow. The creative Word or idea of God, spiritual man, is instinct with understanding and discernment of the right. This is the ever-burning lamp.

16. *I hate double-minded men.* How can we cause love of our enemies to become genuine or actual instead of assumed? By praying for them. The sincerest motives of the soul are expressed in prayer, and a sense of communion with God is the most genuine feeling we can know. Therefore we learn to love our enemies by praying for them.

17. *Don't leave me to my oppressors.* Metaphysically, oppressors are thoughts actively on guard at the gate or door of the consciousness. This thought activity is of the old-established religious thoughts and is not open to the real Christ Truth, since it is of a tyrannical and violent character. This tends to keep us in bondage to old ideas and conditions instead of aiding us to become truly free from limited beliefs and their results in the outer world. "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." (MBD/Talmon)

18. *The entrance of your words gives light.* In metaphysical terms what is "light"? It is understanding, also whatever gives an increase in understanding. "Whatsoever doth make manifest is light." The Christ is "the true light, even the light which lighteth every man, coming into the world."

19. *You are righteous, Yahweh.* Righteousness is a state of harmony established in consciousness through the right use of God-given attributes. It leads directly to eternal life. Truth working in consciousness brings forth the perfect salvation of the whole person—Spirit, soul, and body—and righteousness (right relation) is expressed in all our affairs. (RW/righteousness)


20. *I have called with my whole heart.* See Deuteronomy 6:4-9. God is always endeavoring to express through people. Love is a magnet which draws to us whatever we set our love upon. To love God with the whole heart draws into consciousness the full expression of God's love. (MBI/Deut.-6)

21. *Great are your tender mercies, Yahweh.* (NRSV, *compassion*) In Hebrew, tender mercies are *raham*, such as from the womb. Metaphysically, divine compassion is an eternal tenderness and mercy for God's children. Human compassion is a characteristic of love and mercy prompted by an understanding heart. A compassionate mind sees the error, but does not condemn. (RW/compassion)

22. *Seven times a day, I praise you.* Metaphysically, seven is the number representing fullness in the world of phenomena; seven always refers to the divine law of perfection for the divine-natural human being. (MBD/seven)

23. *I have longed for your salvation, Yahweh.* Salvation is the restitution of human beings to their spiritual birthright; regaining conscious possession of their God-given attributes. It comes as the result of redemption; the change from sin to righteousness. Salvation comes to us as a free gift from God.

It embodies a knowledge of God that frees one from all limitations and points the way by which mind and body may be lifted up to the spiritual place of consciousness. (RW/salvation)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 120

Prayer for Deliverance from Slanderers

A Song of Ascents.^①

- ¹ In my distress, I cried to Yahweh.
He answered me.
- ² Deliver my soul, Yahweh, from lying
lips,
from a deceitful tongue.
- ³ What will be given to you, and what will
be done more to you,
you deceitful tongue?
- ⁴ Sharp arrows of the mighty,
with coals of juniper.
- ⁵ Woe is me, that I live in Meshech,
that I dwell among the tents of
Kedar!
- ⁶ My soul has had her dwelling too long
with him who hates peace.
- ⁷ I am for peace,
but when I speak, they are for war.

1. *A Song of Ascents.* Song of Ascents is a title given to fifteen of the Psalms, 120-134, each start-

ing with the superscription "Song of the Ascents"), or, in the case of Psalm 121, "a song for [or, regarding] the ascents"). Many scholars believe the title indicates that these psalms were sung by worshippers as they ascended the road to Jerusalem to attend the three pilgrim festivals (Deuteronomy 16:16). Others think they were sung by the Levite singers as they ascended the fifteen steps to minister at the Temple in Jerusalem. One view says the Levites first sang the Songs at the dedication of Solomon's temple during the night of the fifteenth of Tishri 959 BC. Another study suggests that they were composed for a celebration after Nehemiah's rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls in 445 BC. Others consider that they may originally have been individual poems which were later collected together and given the title linking them to pilgrimage after the Babylonian captivity. They were well suited for being sung by their poetic form and the sentiments they express. "They are characterized by brevity, by a key-word, by epanaphora [i.e., repetition], and by their epigrammatic style.... More than half of them are cheerful, and all of them hopeful." [6] As a collection, they contain a number of repeated formulaic phrases, as well as an emphasis on Zion. (Wikipedia, Song of Ascents)

PSALMS 121

The High Place Of Spiritual Understanding

A Song of Ascents.^①

- ¹ I will lift up my eyes to the hills.^②
Where does my help come from?

- ² My help comes from Yahweh,
who made heaven and earth.
- ³ He will not allow your foot to be moved.
He who keeps you will not slumber.

- 4 Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
5 Yahweh is your keeper.
Yahweh is your shade on your right
hand.³
6 The sun will not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.
7 Yahweh will keep you from all evil.
He will keep your soul.
8 Yahweh will keep your going out and
your coming in,⁴
from this time forward, and forever
more.

1. *A Song of Ascents.* See annotation in Psalm 120.
2. *I will lift up my eyes to the hills.* The high place of spiritual understanding, for it is from this high consciousness that comes our help, our power and ability to overcome limitation, to rise triumphantly over every adverse condition and situation. The

top of the head (the I AM center) is symbolical of the place in consciousness where man makes his first conscious unity with God. Looking up in prayer, entering the "inner chamber," going up "into the mountain," the gathering of the disciples in the upper room, rising mentally into the spiritual realm, dwelling "in the secret place of the Most High"—these all testify in symbolism to the highest place in consciousness—the Christ consciousness—which man can conceive and to which he can ascend. *Unity Correspondence Course*, Series 2, Lesson 7, Annotation 8)

3. *your right hand.* The "right side" (John 21:6) is always on the side of Truth, the side of power. Whenever we are there, our nets are filled with ideas, because we are in touch with the infinite storehouse of wisdom.

4. *Yahweh will keep your going out and your coming in.* Oh, if we could only realize that this mighty power to save and to perfect, to deliver and to make alive, lives forever within us, and so cease now and forever looking away to others! (Emilie Cady, *Lessons In Truth*, Chapter 12, Liberty or Bondage, Which?)

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 122

Song of Praise and Prayer for Jerusalem

A Song of Ascents.¹ By David.

God,
I will seek your good.

- 1 I was glad when they said to me,
"Let's go to Yahweh's house!"
2 Our feet are standing within your gates,
Jerusalem!
3 Jerusalem is built as a city that is
compact together,
4 where the tribes go up, even Yah's
tribes,
according to an ordinance for Israel,
to give thanks to Yahweh's name.
5 For there are set thrones for judgment,
the thrones of David's house.
6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.
Those who love you will prosper.
7 Peace be within your walls,²
and prosperity within your palaces.
8 For my brothers' and companions'
sakes,
I will now say, "Peace be within you."
9 For the sake of the house of Yahweh our

1. *A Song of Ascents.* See annotation in Psalm 120.
2. *Peace within your walls.* When you want peace of mind get away from things counseled Emmet Fox, and dwell upon the Presence of God instead.

Your palace is your own consciousness. The walls spoken of in this Bible verse are invisible, but just as real as any stone wall. Your walls are your convictions of Truth which protect you from the negative suggestions that are broadcast all around you. Have a conviction of peace, entertain ideas of peace, seek to be a peace-giver to your world.


God does not withhold your good, but neither does [God] force any good upon you. Instead, you must cultivate within yourself the equivalent of what you desire to be made manifest in your life, whether it is peace, joy, prosperity, health, advancement, or whatever good you seek.

First, know that it is your birthright to claim your good.
Second, prepare for that good by building the

equivalent of the good you seek into your own consciousness.
Third, be grateful for the good you seek even before you receive it.

As you practice these steps, you will have peace and prosperity within the walls of your own con-

sciousness.
Affirm now with feeling: I prepare for my good by being grateful for it now.
Author Unknown

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 123

Supplication for Mercy

A Song of Ascents.¹

¹ I lift up my eyes to you,
you who sit in the heavens.
² Behold, as the eyes of servants look to
the hand of their master,
as the eyes of a maid to the hand of
her mistress,
so our eyes look to Yahweh, our God,
until he has mercy on us.

³ Have mercy on us, Yahweh, have mercy
on us,
for we have endured much contempt.
⁴ Our soul is exceedingly filled with the
scoffing of those who are at ease,
with the contempt of the proud.

1. *A Song of Ascents.* See annotation in Psalm 120.

PSALMS 124

Thanksgiving for Israel's Deliverance

A Song of Ascents.¹ By David.

¹ If it had not been Yahweh who was on
our side,
let Israel now say,
² if it had not been Yahweh who was on
our side,
when men rose up against us,
³ then they would have swallowed us up
alive,
when their wrath was kindled against
us,
⁴ then the waters would have
overwhelmed us,
the stream would have gone over our

soul.
⁵ Then the proud waters would have gone
over our soul.
⁶ Blessed be Yahweh,
who has not given us as a prey to
their teeth.
⁷ Our soul has escaped like a bird out of
the fowler's snare.
The snare is broken, and we have
escaped.
⁸ Our help is in Yahweh's name,
who made heaven and earth.

1. *A Song of Ascents.* See annotation in Psalm 120.

PSALMS 125

The Security of God's People

A Song of Ascents.¹

- ¹ Those who trust in Yahweh are as Mount Zion,
which can't be moved, but remains forever.
- ² As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so Yahweh surrounds his people from this time forward and forever more.
- ³ For the scepter of wickedness won't remain over the allotment of the righteous,
so that the righteous won't use their

hands to do evil.

- ⁴ Do good, Yahweh, to those who are good,
to those who are upright in their hearts.
- ⁵ But as for those who turn away to their crooked ways,
Yahweh will lead them away with the workers of iniquity.
Peace be on Israel.

1. *A Song of Ascents.* See annotation in Psalm 120.

PSALMS 126

A Harvest of Joy

A Song of Ascents.¹

- ¹ When Yahweh brought back those who returned to Zion,²
we were like those who dream.³
- ² Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with singing.⁴
Then they said among the nations,
"Yahweh has done great things for them."
- ³ Yahweh has done great things for us,
and we are glad.
- ⁴ Restore our fortunes again, Yahweh,⁵
like the streams in the Negev.
- ⁵ Those who sow in tears will reap in joy.
- ⁶ He who goes out weeping, carrying seed for sowing,
will certainly come again with joy,
carrying his sheaves.

2. *When Yahweh brought back those who returned to Zion.* Those who have been in bondage to sense return at last to spiritual consciousness and learn the worth of praise as an aid to constructive thinking.

3. *we were like those who dream.* In the beginning the journey back to God seems as unreal as a dream. As our realization of Truth deepens on the way, we are filled with a joy that makes our ascent easy.

4. *our tongue with singing.* Singing restores harmony to tense nerves because its vibrations stir them to action, thus making it possible for the ever-waiting, healing Spirit to get in. The organ of the human voice is located right between the thyroid glands, the accelerators of certain important body functions. To a greater or lesser degree every word one speaks vibrates the cells up and down the body, from front brain to abdomen. (RW/singing)

5. *Restore our fortunes again, Yahweh.* Hardships may come to man as he works out his destiny, but as he learns to look more steadily to the Christ within him for light, he gains more and more the consciousness of the overcomer, and leaves hardships behind.

1. *A Song of Ascents.* See annotation in Psalm 120.

PSALMS 127

God's Blessings in the Home

A Song of Ascents. ¹ By Solomon.

- ¹ Unless Yahweh builds the house,
they who build it labor in vain.
Unless Yahweh watches over the city,
the watchman guards it in vain.
- ² It is vain for you to rise up early,
to stay up late,
eating the bread of toil,
for he gives sleep to his loved ones.
- ³ Behold, children are a heritage of
Yahweh.

- ⁴ The fruit of the womb is his reward.
As arrows in the hand of a mighty man,
so are the children of youth.
- ⁵ Happy is the man who has his quiver full
of them.
They won't be disappointed when
they speak with their enemies
in the gate.

1. A Song of Ascents. See annotation in Psalm 120.

PSALMS 128

The Happy Home of the Faithful

A Song of Ascents. ¹

- ¹ Blessed is everyone who fears Yahweh,
who walks in his ways.
- ² For you will eat the labor of your hands.
You will be happy, and it will be well
with you.
- ³ Your wife will be as a fruitful vine in the
innermost parts of your house,
your children like olive shoots around
your table.
- ⁴ Behold, this is how the man who fears

- ⁵ Yahweh is blessed.
May Yahweh bless you out of Zion,
and may you see the good of
Jerusalem all the days of your
life.
- ⁶ Yes, may you see your children's
children.
Peace be upon Israel.

1. A Song of Ascents. See annotation in Psalm 120.

PSALMS 129

Prayer for the Downfall of Israel's Enemies

A Song of Ascents.¹

¹ Many times they have afflicted me from
 my youth up.
 Let Israel now say:
² many times they have afflicted me from
 my youth up,
 yet they have not prevailed against
 me.
³ The plowers plowed on my back.
 They made their furrows long.
⁴ Yahweh is righteous.
 He has cut apart the cords of the
 wicked.
⁵ Let them be disappointed and turned

backward,
 all those who hate Zion.
⁶ Let them be as the grass on the
 housetops,
 which withers before it grows up,
⁷ with which the reaper doesn't fill his
 hand,
 nor he who binds sheaves, his bosom.
⁸ Neither do those who go by say,
 "The blessing of Yahweh be on you.
 We bless you in Yahweh's name."

1. *A Song of Ascents.* See annotation in Psalm 120.

PSALMS 130

Forgiveness and Hope

A Song of Ascents.¹

¹ Out of the depths I have cried to you,
 Yahweh.
² Lord, hear my voice.²
 Let your ears be attentive to the
 voice of my petitions.
³ If you, Yah, kept a record of sins,
 Lord, who could stand?
⁴ But there is forgiveness with you,³
 therefore you are feared.
⁵ I wait for Yahweh.
 My soul waits.⁴
 I hope in his word.
⁶ My soul longs for the Lord more than
 watchmen long for the morning,
 more than watchmen for the
 morning.
⁷ Israel, hope in Yahweh,⁵
 for there is loving kindness with
 Yahweh.
 Abundant redemption is with him.
⁸ He will redeem Israel from all their sins.

1. *A Song of Ascents.* See annotation in Psalm 120.

2. *Lord, hear my voice.* The Lord hears us and answers our prayers when we are unified with Spirit

and Spirit unified with us. We are unified when we are able to live close to God consciously, when we become so earnest in our prayers that our desires are indelibly registered in the invisible spiritual realms. When our prayers do not bring forth as we think they should, it is because this inner union is not securely made.

3. *But there is forgiveness with you.* The law of forgiveness erases ignorant, destructive thoughts from consciousness, and in their places, puts thoughts of dynamic love and trust; forgiveness dismisses displeasure and resentment from the heart. It sets free the loving-kindness and tender mercies of Spirit. The law of forgiveness becomes active in our lives by our forgiveness of those who trespass against us.

4. *My soul waits.* We, in consciousness, have lived in the outer so long, that our inner spiritual faculties have become inactive from lack of exercise. When our soul waits on the Lord, all the forces of being are concentrated within; then we absolutely feel and know that God is working in our souls. In this way, the faculties are unfolded, and they become fit instruments for Spirit.

5. *Israel, hope in Yahweh.* Outer kingdoms may rise and fall; heaven and earth may pass away, but when we hope in Yahweh the spiritual word holds fast in consciousness; a new heaven and a new earth (new mind and new body). The whole person is redeemed.

PSALMS 131

Song of Quiet Trust

A Song of Ascents. ① By David.

- ¹ Yahweh, my heart isn't arrogant, nor
my eyes lofty;
nor do I concern myself with great
matters,
or things too wonderful for me.
² Surely I have stilled and quieted my
soul,

like a weaned child with his mother,
like a weaned child is my soul within
me.

- ³ Israel, hope in Yahweh,
from this time forward and forever
more.

1. A Song of Ascents. See annotation in Psalm 120.

PSALMS 132

The Eternal Dwelling of God in ZionThe Eternal Dwelling of God in Zion

A Song of Ascents. ①

- ¹ Yahweh, remember David and all his
affliction,
² how he swore to Yahweh,
and vowed to the Mighty One of
Jacob:
³ "Surely I will not come into the structure
of my house,
nor go up into my bed;
⁴ I will not give sleep to my eyes,
or slumber to my eyelids,
⁵ until I find out a place for Yahweh,
a dwelling for the Mighty One of
Jacob."
⁶ Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah.
We found it in the field of Jaar.
⁷ "We will go into his dwelling place.
We will worship at his footstool."
⁸ Arise, Yahweh, into your resting place,
you, and the ark of your strength.
⁹ Let your priests be clothed with
righteousness.
Let your saints shout for joy!
¹⁰ For your servant David's sake,
don't turn away the face of your
anointed one.

- ¹¹ Yahweh has sworn to David in truth.
He will not turn from it:
"I will set the fruit of your body on
your throne."
¹² If your children will keep my covenant,
my testimony that I will teach them,
their children also will sit on your
throne forever more."
¹³ For Yahweh has chosen Zion.
He has desired it for his habitation.
¹⁴ "This is my resting place forever.
I will live here, for I have desired it.
¹⁵ I will abundantly bless her provision.
I will satisfy her poor with bread.
¹⁶ I will also clothe her priests with
salvation.
Her saints will shout aloud for joy.
¹⁷ I will make the horn of David to bud
there.
I have ordained a lamp for my
anointed.
¹⁸ I will clothe his enemies with shame,
but on himself, his crown will shine."

1. A Song of Ascents. See annotation in Psalm 120.

PSALMS 133

The Blessedness of Unity

A Song of Ascents. ① By David.

- ¹ See how good and how pleasant it is
for brothers to live together in unity!
- ² It is like the precious oil on the head,
that ran down on the beard,
even Aaron's beard,
that came down on the edge of his

- robes,
- ³ like the dew of Hermon,
that comes down on the hills of Zion;
for there Yahweh gives the blessing,
even life forever more.

1. A Song of Ascents. See annotation in Psalm 120.

PSALMS 134

Praise in the Night

A Song of Ascents. ①

- ¹ Look! Praise Yahweh, all you servants of
Yahweh,
who stand by night in Yahweh's
house!
- ² Lift up your hands in the sanctuary.

- Praise Yahweh!
- ³ May Yahweh bless you from Zion,
even he who made heaven and earth.

1. A Song of Ascents. See annotation in Psalm 120.

PSALMS 135

Praise for God's Goodness and Might

- ¹ Praise Yah!
Praise Yahweh's name!
Praise him, you servants of Yahweh,
- ² you who stand in Yahweh's house,
in the courts of our God's house.
- ³ Praise Yah, for Yahweh is good.
Sing praises to his name, for that is
pleasant.
- ⁴ For Yah has chosen Jacob for himself,
Israel for his own possession.
- ⁵ For I know that Yahweh is great,
that our Lord is above all gods.

- ⁶ Whatever Yahweh pleased, that he has
done,
in heaven and in earth, in the seas
and in all deeps.
- ⁷ He causes the clouds to rise from the
ends of the earth.
He makes lightnings with the rain.
He brings the wind out of his
treasuries.
- ⁸ He struck the firstborn of Egypt,
both of man and animal.
- ⁹ He sent signs and wonders into the

middle of you, Egypt,
 on Pharaoh, and on all his servants.
 10 He struck many nations,
 and killed mighty kings—
 11 Sihon king of the Amorites,
 Og king of Bashan,
 and all the kingdoms of Canaan—
 12 and gave their land for a heritage,
 a heritage to Israel, his people.
 13 Your name, Yahweh, endures forever;
 your renown, Yahweh, throughout all
 generations.
 14 For Yahweh will judge his people
 and have compassion on his servants.
 15 The idols of the nations are silver and
 gold,
 the work of men's hands.

16 They have mouths, but they can't
 speak.
 They have eyes, but they can't see.
 17 They have ears, but they can't hear,
 neither is there any breath in their
 mouths.
 18 Those who make them will be like
 them,
 yes, everyone who trusts in them.
 19 House of Israel, praise Yahweh!
 House of Aaron, praise Yahweh!
 20 House of Levi, praise Yahweh!
 You who fear Yahweh, praise Yahweh!
 21 Blessed be Yahweh from Zion,
 who dwells in Jerusalem.
 Praise Yah!

PSALMS 136

God's Work in Creation and in History

1 Give thanks to Yahweh, for he is good,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever.
 2 Give thanks to the God of gods,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever.
 3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
 4 to him who alone does great wonders,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
 5 to him who by understanding made the
 heavens,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
 6 to him who spread out the earth above
 the waters,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
 7 to him who made the great lights,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
 8 the sun to rule by day,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
 9 the moon and stars to rule by night,
 for his loving kindness endures

forever;
 10 to him who struck down the Egyptian
 firstborn,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
 11 and brought out Israel from among
 them,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
 12 with a strong hand, and with an
 outstretched arm,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
 13 to him who divided the Red Sea apart,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
 14 and made Israel to pass through the
 middle of it,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
 15 but overthrew Pharaoh and his army in
 the Red Sea,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
 16 to him who led his people through the
 wilderness,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;

- ¹⁷ to him who struck great kings,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
¹⁸ and killed mighty kings,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
¹⁹ Sihon king of the Amorites,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
²⁰ Og king of Bashan,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
²¹ and gave their land as an inheritance,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
²² even a heritage to Israel his servant,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
²³ who remembered us in our low estate,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
²⁴ and has delivered us from our
 adversaries,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever;
²⁵ who gives food to every creature,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever.
²⁶ Oh give thanks to the God of heaven,
 for his loving kindness endures
 forever.

PSALMS 137

Lament over the Destruction of Jerusalem

- ¹ By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat
 down.
 Yes, we wept, when we remembered
 Zion.
² On the willows in that land,
 we hung up our harps.
³ For there, those who led us captive
 asked us for songs.
 Those who tormented us demanded
 songs of joy:
 "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"
⁴ How can we sing Yahweh's song in a
 foreign land?
⁵ If I forget you, Jerusalem,
 let my right hand forget its skill.
⁶ Let my tongue stick to the roof of my
 mouth if I don't remember you,
 if I don't prefer Jerusalem above my
 chief joy.
⁷ Remember, Yahweh, against the
 children of Edom in the day of
 Jerusalem,
 who said, "Raze it!
 Raze it even to its foundation!"
⁸ Daughter of Babylon, doomed to
 destruction,
 he will be happy who repays you,
 as you have done to us.
⁹ Happy shall he be,
 who takes and dashes your little ones
 against the rock.

PSALMS 138

Thanksgiving and Praise

By David.

- ¹ I will give you thanks with my whole
 heart.

- Before the gods,* I will sing praises to you.
 2 I will bow down toward your holy temple,
 and give thanks to your Name for your loving kindness and for your truth;
 for you have exalted your Name and your Word above all.
 3 In the day that I called, you answered me.
 You encouraged me with strength in my soul.
 4 All the kings of the earth will give you thanks, Yahweh,
 for they have heard the words of your mouth.
- 5 Yes, they will sing of the ways of Yahweh,
 for Yahweh's glory is great!
 6 For though Yahweh is high, yet he looks after the lowly;
 but he knows the proud from afar.
 7 Though I walk in the middle of trouble,
 you will revive me.
 You will stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies.
 Your right hand will save me.
 8 Yahweh will fulfill that which concerns me.
 Your loving kindness, Yahweh,
 endures forever.
 Don't forsake the works of your own hands.

World English Bible Footnotes:

- * 138:1. The word *elohim*, used here, usually means "God" but can also mean "gods", "princes", or "angels".

PSALMS 139

The Inescapable God

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.

- 1 Yahweh, you have searched me,
 and you know me.
 2 You know my sitting down and my rising up.
 You perceive my thoughts from afar.
 3 You search out my path and my lying down,
 and are acquainted with all my ways.
 4 For there is not a word on my tongue,
 but behold, Yahweh, you know it altogether.
 5 You hem me in behind and before.
 You laid your hand on me.
 6 This knowledge is beyond me.
 It's lofty.
 I can't attain it.
 7 Where could I go from your Spirit?
 Or where could I flee from your presence?
 8 If I ascend up into heaven, you are there.
 If I make my bed in Sheol,* behold,
 you are there!
- 9 If I take the wings of the dawn,
 and settle in the uttermost parts of the sea,
 10 even there your hand will lead me,
 and your right hand will hold me.
 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me.
 The light around me will be night,"
 12 even the darkness doesn't hide from you,
 but the night shines as the day.
 The darkness is like light to you.
 13 For you formed my inmost being.
 You knit me together in my mother's womb.
 14 I will give thanks to you,
 for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
 Your works are wonderful.
 My soul knows that very well.

15 My frame wasn't hidden from you,
 when I was made in secret,
 woven together in the depths of the
 earth.
 16 Your eyes saw my body.
 In your book they were all written,
 the days that were ordained for me,
 when as yet there were none of
 them.
 17 How precious to me are your thoughts,
 God!
 How vast is their sum!
 18 If I would count them, they are more in
 number than the sand.
 When I wake up, I am still with you.
 19 If only you, God, would kill the wicked.

Get away from me, you bloodthirsty
 men!
 20 For they speak against you wickedly.
 Your enemies take your name in vain.
 21 Yahweh, don't I hate those who hate
 you?
 Am I not grieved with those who rise
 up against you?
 22 I hate them with perfect hatred.
 They have become my enemies.
 23 Search me, God, and know my heart.
 Try me, and know my thoughts.
 24 See if there is any wicked way in me,
 and lead me in the everlasting way.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 139:8. Sheol is the place of the dead.

PSALMS 140

Prayer for Deliverance from Enemies

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David.

1 Deliver me, Yahweh, from evil men.
 Preserve me from violent men:
 2 those who devise mischief in their
 hearts.
 They continually gather themselves
 together for war.
 3 They have sharpened their tongues like
 a serpent.
 Viper's poison is under their lips.
 Selah.
 4 Yahweh, keep me from the hands of the
 wicked.
 Preserve me from the violent men
 who have determined to trip
 my feet.
 5 The proud have hidden a snare for me,
 they have spread the cords of a net
 by the path.
 They have set traps for me.
 Selah.
 6 I said to Yahweh, "You are my God."
 Listen to the cry of my petitions,

Yahweh.
 7 Yahweh, the Lord, the strength of my
 salvation,
 you have covered my head in the day
 of battle.
 8 Yahweh, don't grant the desires of the
 wicked.
 Don't let their evil plans succeed, or
 they will become proud.
 Selah.
 9 As for the head of those who surround
 me,
 let the mischief of their own lips
 cover them.
 10 Let burning coals fall on them.
 Let them be thrown into the fire,
 into miry pits, from where they never
 rise.
 11 An evil speaker won't be established in
 the earth.
 Evil will hunt the violent man to
 overthrow him.
 12 I know that Yahweh will maintain the
 cause of the afflicted,
 and justice for the needy.

¹³ Surely the righteous will give thanks to
your name.

The upright will dwell in your
presence.

PSALMS 141

Prayer for Preservation from Evil

A Psalm by David.

¹ Yahweh, I have called on you.
Come to me quickly!
Listen to my voice when I call to you.
² Let my prayer be set before you like
incense;
the lifting up of my hands like the
evening sacrifice.
³ Set a watch, Yahweh, before my mouth.
Keep the door of my lips.
⁴ Don't incline my heart to any evil thing,
to practice deeds of wickedness with
men who work iniquity.
Don't let me eat of their delicacies.
⁵ Let the righteous strike me, it is
kindness;
let him reprove me, it is like oil on
the head;
don't let my head refuse it;
Yet my prayer is always against evil

deeds.

⁶ Their judges are thrown down by the
sides of the rock.
They will hear my words, for they are
well spoken.
⁷ "As when one plows and breaks up the
earth,
our bones are scattered at the mouth
of Sheol."*
⁸ For my eyes are on you, Yahweh, the
Lord.
I take refuge in you.
Don't leave my soul destitute.
⁹ Keep me from the snare which they
have laid for me,
from the traps of the workers of
iniquity.
¹⁰ Let the wicked fall together into their
own nets
while I pass by.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* 141:7. Sheol is the place of the dead.

PSALMS 142

Prayer for Deliverance from Persecutors

A contemplation by David, when he was in the cave. A Prayer.

¹ I cry with my voice to Yahweh.
With my voice, I ask Yahweh for
mercy.
² I pour out my complaint before him.
I tell him my troubles.

³ When my spirit was overwhelmed within
me,
you knew my route.
On the path in which I walk,
they have hidden a snare for me.
⁴ Look on my right, and see;
for there is no one who is concerned
for me.

Refuge has fled from me.
 No one cares for my soul.
⁵ I cried to you, Yahweh.
 I said, "You are my refuge,
 my portion in the land of the living."
⁶ Listen to my cry,
 for I am in desperate need.

Deliver me from my persecutors,
 for they are too strong for me.
⁷ Bring my soul out of prison,
 that I may give thanks to your name.
 The righteous will surround me,
 for you will be good to me.

PSALMS 143

Prayer for Deliverance from Enemies

A Psalm by David.

¹ Hear my prayer, Yahweh.
 Listen to my petitions.
 In your faithfulness and
 righteousness, relieve me.
² Don't enter into judgment with your
 servant,
 for in your sight no man living is
 righteous.
³ For the enemy pursues my soul.
 He has struck my life down to the
 ground.
 He has made me live in dark places,
 as those who have been long
 dead.
⁴ Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed
 within me.
 My heart within me is desolate.
⁵ I remember the days of old.
 I meditate on all your doings.
 I contemplate the work of your
 hands.
⁶ I spread out my hands to you.
 My soul thirsts for you, like a parched
 land.

Selah.

⁷ Hurry to answer me, Yahweh.
 My spirit fails.
 Don't hide your face from me,
 so that I don't become like those who
 go down into the pit.
⁸ Cause me to hear your loving kindness in
 the morning,
 for I trust in you.
 Cause me to know the way in which I
 should walk,
 for I lift up my soul to you.
⁹ Deliver me, Yahweh, from my enemies.
 I flee to you to hide me.
¹⁰ Teach me to do your will,
 for you are my God.
 Your Spirit is good.
 Lead me in the land of uprightness.
¹¹ Revive me, Yahweh, for your name's
 sake.
 In your righteousness, bring my soul
 out of trouble.
¹² In your loving kindness, cut off my
 enemies,
 and destroy all those who afflict my
 soul,
 for I am your servant.

PSALMS 144

Prayer for National Deliverance and Security

By David.

¹ Blessed be Yahweh, my rock,

<p>who trains my hands to war, and my fingers to battle—</p> <p>2 my loving kindness, my fortress, my high tower, my deliverer, my shield, and he in whom I take refuge, who subdues my people under me.</p> <p>3 Yahweh, what is man, that you care for him? Or the son of man, that you think of him?</p> <p>4 Man is like a breath. His days are like a shadow that passes away.</p> <p>5 Part your heavens, Yahweh, and come down. Touch the mountains, and they will smoke.</p> <p>6 Throw out lightning, and scatter them. Send out your arrows, and rout them.</p> <p>7 Stretch out your hand from above, rescue me, and deliver me out of great waters, out of the hands of foreigners, whose mouths speak deceit, whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.</p>	<p>9 I will sing a new song to you, God. On a ten-stringed lyre, I will sing praises to you.</p> <p>10 You are he who gives salvation to kings, who rescues David, his servant, from the deadly sword.</p> <p>11 Rescue me, and deliver me out of the hands of foreigners, whose mouths speak deceit, whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.</p> <p>12 Then our sons will be like well-nurtured plants, our daughters like pillars carved to adorn a palace.</p> <p>13 Our barns are full, filled with all kinds of provision. Our sheep produce thousands and ten thousands in our fields.</p> <p>14 Our oxen will pull heavy loads. There is no breaking in, and no going away, and no outcry in our streets.</p> <p>15 Happy are the people who are in such a situation. Happy are the people whose God is Yahweh.</p>
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PSALMS 145

The Greatness and the Goodness of God

A praise psalm by David.*

<p>1 I will exalt you, my God, the King. I will praise your name forever and ever.</p> <p>2 Every day I will praise you. I will extol your name forever and ever.</p> <p>3 Great is Yahweh, and greatly to be praised! His greatness is unsearchable.</p> <p>4 One generation will commend your works to another, and will declare your mighty acts.</p> <p>5 I will meditate on the glorious majesty of your honor, on your wondrous works.</p> <p>6 Men will speak of the might of your</p>	<p>awesome acts. I will declare your greatness.</p> <p>7 They will utter the memory of your great goodness, and will sing of your righteousness.</p> <p>8 Yahweh is gracious, merciful, slow to anger, and of great loving kindness.</p> <p>9 Yahweh is good to all. His tender mercies are over all his works.</p> <p>10 All your works will give thanks to you, Yahweh. Your saints will extol you.</p> <p>11 They will speak of the glory of your kingdom, and talk about your power, to make known to the sons of men his</p>
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- mighty acts,
the glory of the majesty of his
kingdom.
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom.
Your dominion endures throughout all
generations.
Yahweh is faithful in all his words,
and loving in all his deeds.†
- 14 Yahweh upholds all who fall,
and raises up all those who are bowed
down.
- 15 The eyes of all wait for you.
You give them their food in due
season.
- 16 You open your hand,
and satisfy the desire of every living
thing.
- 17 Yahweh is righteous in all his ways,
and gracious in all his works.
- 18 Yahweh is near to all those who call on
him,
to all who call on him in truth.
- 19 He will fulfill the desire of those who
fear him.
He also will hear their cry, and will
save them.
- 20 Yahweh preserves all those who love
him,
but he will destroy all the wicked.
- 21 My mouth will speak the praise of
Yahweh.
Let all flesh bless his holy name
forever and ever.

World English Bible Footnotes:

* ^. This is an acrostic psalm, with every verse (including the second half of verse 13) starting with a consecutive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

† 145:13. Some manuscripts omit these last two lines.

PSALMS 146

Praise for God's Help

- 1 Praise Yah!
Praise Yahweh, my soul.
- 2 While I live, I will praise Yahweh.
I will sing praises to my God as long as
I exist.
- 3 Don't put your trust in princes,
in a son of man in whom there is no
help.
- 4 His spirit departs, and he returns to the
earth.
In that very day, his thoughts perish.
- 5 Happy is he who has the God of Jacob
for his help,
whose hope is in Yahweh, his God,
- 6 who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
- 7 who keeps truth forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.
Yahweh frees the prisoners.
Yahweh opens the eyes of the blind.
Yahweh raises up those who are
bowed down.
Yahweh loves the righteous.
- 9 Yahweh preserves the foreigners.
He upholds the fatherless and widow,
but he turns the way of the wicked
upside down.
- 10 Yahweh will reign forever;
your God, O Zion, to all generations.
Praise Yah!

PSALMS 147

Praise for God's Care for Jerusalem

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>¹ Praise Yah,
for it is good to sing praises to our
God;
for it is pleasant and fitting to praise
him.</p> <p>² Yahweh builds up Jerusalem.
He gathers together the outcasts of
Israel.</p> <p>³ He heals the broken in heart,
and binds up their wounds.</p> <p>⁴ He counts the number of the stars.
He calls them all by their names.</p> <p>⁵ Great is our Lord, and mighty in power.
His understanding is infinite.</p> <p>⁶ Yahweh upholds the humble.
He brings the wicked down to the
ground.</p> <p>⁷ Sing to Yahweh with thanksgiving.
Sing praises on the harp to our God,
⁸ who covers the sky with clouds,
who prepares rain for the earth,
who makes grass grow on the
mountains.</p> <p>⁹ He provides food for the livestock,
and for the young ravens when they
call.</p> <p>¹⁰ He doesn't delight in the strength of the
horse.
He takes no pleasure in the legs of a
man.</p> | <p>¹¹ Yahweh takes pleasure in those who
fear him,
in those who hope in his loving
kindness.</p> <p>¹² Praise Yahweh, Jerusalem!
Praise your God, Zion!</p> <p>¹³ For he has strengthened the bars of your
gates.
He has blessed your children within
you.</p> <p>¹⁴ He makes peace in your borders.
He fills you with the finest of the
wheat.</p> <p>¹⁵ He sends out his commandment to the
earth.
His word runs very swiftly.</p> <p>¹⁶ He gives snow like wool,
and scatters frost like ashes.</p> <p>¹⁷ He hurls down his hail like pebbles.
Who can stand before his cold?</p> <p>¹⁸ He sends out his word, and melts them.
He causes his wind to blow, and the
waters flow.</p> <p>¹⁹ He shows his word to Jacob,
his statutes and his ordinances to
Israel.</p> <p>²⁰ He has not done this for just any nation.
They don't know his ordinances.
Praise Yah!</p> |
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PSALMS 148

A Cosmic Call to Praise Yahweh¹

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>¹ Praise Yah!
Praise Yahweh² from the heavens!³
Praise him in the heights!</p> <p>² Praise him, all his angels!
Praise him, all his army!</p> <p>³ Praise him, sun and moon!
Praise him, all you shining stars!</p> | <p>⁴ Praise him, you heavens of heavens,
you waters that are above the
heavens.</p> <p>⁵ Let them praise Yahweh's name,
for he commanded, and they were
created.</p> <p>⁶ He has also established them forever</p> |
|---|---|

and ever.
 He has made a decree which will not
 pass away.
 7 Praise Yahweh from the earth,⁴
 you great sea creatures, and all
 depths,
 8 lightning and hail, snow and clouds,⁵
 stormy wind, fulfilling his word,
 9 mountains and all hills,
 fruit trees and all cedars,
 10 wild animals and all livestock,
 small creatures and flying birds,
 11 kings of the earth and all peoples,⁶
 princes and all judges of the earth,
 12 both young men and maidens,
 old men and children.⁷
 13 Let them praise Yahweh's name,
 for his name alone is exalted.
 His glory is above the earth and the
 heavens.
 14 He has lifted up the horn of his
 people,⁸
 the praise of all his saints,
 even of the children of Israel, a
 people near to him.
 Praise Yah!

1. [A call to praise God in all states of consciousness, all our body, all conditions, all stages of life.]
 2. *Praise Yahweh.* Why does the Psalmist exhort us to praise Yahweh? Our ultimate purpose is to comprehend and attain oneness with the I AM, the divine nature, the ideal or perfect-man idea that indwells within us. Praise stirs into activity the higher powers and spiritual energies of our being. It exalts our spirit and clears our vision to perceive the I AM, the only-begotten Son of God, the cause and the fulfillment of our existence.
 3. *heaven.* The Christ consciousness; the realm of Divine Mind; a state of consciousness in harmony with the thoughts of God. Heaven is everywhere present. It is the orderly, lawful adjustment of God's kingdom in man's mind, body, and affairs. (MBD/heaven)
 4. *earth.* Metaphysically speaking, the earth represents the consciousness of the physical body. (RW/earth)
 5. *Lightning and hail, snow and clouds.* [All conditions.]
 6. *people.* Metaphysically, our thoughts. (MBD/people)
 7. *young men, maidens, old men, children:* [All stages of human life.]
 8. *He has lifted up the horn of his people.* [Often a reference to God's anointed ruler (the inner Christ has been raised up in humanity).]

 Fillmore Study Bible annotations by Rev. Mark Hicks.

PSALMS 149

Praise for God's Goodness to Israel

<p>1 Praise Yahweh! Sing to Yahweh a new song, his praise in the assembly of the saints. 2 Let Israel rejoice in him who made them. Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King. 3 Let them praise his name in the dance! Let them sing praises to him with tambourine and harp! 4 For Yahweh takes pleasure in his people. He crowns the humble with salvation.</p>	<p>5 Let the saints rejoice in honor. Let them sing for joy on their beds. 6 May the high praises of God be in their mouths, and a two-edged sword in their hand, 7 to execute vengeance on the nations, and punishments on the peoples; 8 to bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron; 9 to execute on them the written judgment. All his saints have this honor. Praise Yah!</p>
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PSALMS 150

Praise for God's Surpassing Greatness

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|---|---|
| ¹ Praise Yah!
Praise God in his sanctuary!
Praise him in his heavens for his acts
of power! | ⁴ Praise him with tambourine and
dancing!
Praise him with stringed instruments
and flute! |
| ² Praise him for his mighty acts!
Praise him according to his excellent
greatness! | ⁵ Praise him with loud cymbals!
Praise him with resounding cymbals! |
| ³ Praise him with the sounding of the
trumpet!
Praise him with harp and lyre! | ⁶ Let everything that has breath praise
Yah!
Praise Yah! |

APPENDICES

**FILLMORE
STUDY
BIBLE**

The Psalms

Metaphysically Interpreted

The Fillmore Study Bible provides the reader with an introduction to metaphysical Bible interpretation by offering annotations and commentary from the works of Charles Fillmore and other metaphysical Christians that were published between 1895 and 1965.

Many Bible students learn their theology by reading the annotations and commentary of study Bibles. These study Bibles have a theological point of view, typically Catholic, Evangelical or Mainline Protestant. The Fillmore Study Bible makes this method of study available to the Metaphysical Christian.

The Fillmore Bible Society are collaborators who comb through dozens of metaphysical books written by Charles Fillmore and his students as well as over 70 years of Fillmore articles and sermons for metaphysical insights into the Bible.

Nearly all the New Testament writings are available online. Print editions of individual books, like this one, are being released as they become available. The society's focus in 2023 is publishing a complete New Testament edition and the start of selected Old Testament books. The society welcomes new collaborators in this ongoing project.



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