# PSALMS READER

# Metrical Version of the Psalms

Selections from 1650 Scottish Psalter

For Teaching Twenty-First Century Children to Read Fluently and Worship Their Creator

This Divided-Syllable Edition Copyright © 2010, 2012 by Donald L. Potter www.donpotter.net

Reproduction Permitted

# Book I: Psalms 1 - 41

- Nor sit-teth in the scor-ner's chair:

  But pla-ceth his de-light
  Up-on God's law, and med-i-tates
  on his law day and night.
- 3 He shall be like a tree that grows near plant-ed by a riv-er, Which in his sea-son yields his fruit, and his leaf fad-eth nev-er:
- And all he doth shall pros-per well

  The wick-ed are not so;

  But like they are un-to the chaff,

  which wind drives to and fro.
- In judg-ment there-fore shall not stand such as un-god-ly are;

  Nor in th' as-sem-bly of the just shall wick-ed men ap-pear.
- For why? the way of god-ly men un-to the Lord is known:
  Where-as the way of wick-ed men shall quite be o-ver-thrown.

- 1 Why rage the hea-then? and vain things why do the peo-ple mind?
- 2 Kings of the earth do set them-selves, and prin-ces are com-bined,
  - To plot a-gainst the Lord, and his A-noin-ted, say-ing thus,
- 3 Let us a-sund-er break their bands, and cast their cords from us.
- 4 He that in hea-ven sits shall laugh; the Lord shall scorn them all.
- 5 Then shall he speak to them in wrath, in rage he vex them shall.
- 6 Yet, not-with-stand-ing, I have him
   to be my King ap-point-ed;
  And o-ver Zi-on, my ho-ly hill,
   I have him King a-noin-ted.
- 7 The sure de-cree I will de-clare:
  The Lord hath said to me,
  Thou art mine on-ly Son; this day
  I have be-got-ten thee.
- 8 Ask of me, and for he-ri-tage the hea-then I'll make thine; And, for pos-ses-sion, I to thee will give earth's ut-most line.
- 9 Thou shalt, as with a weight-y rod
   of i-ron, break them all;
  And, as a pot-ter's sherd, thou shalt
   them dash in pie-ces small.
- 10 Now there-fore, kings, be wise; be taught, ye judg-es of the earth:
- Serve God in fear, and see that ye join tremb-ling with your mirth.
- 12 Kiss ye the Son, lest in his ire ye per-ish from the way, If once his wrath be-gin to burn: bles-sed all that on him stay.

- O ye the sons of men! how long will ye love van-i-ties?

  How long my glor-y turn to shame, and will ye fol-low lies?
- 3 But know, that for him-self the Lord the god-ly man doth choose:

  The Lord, when I on him do call, to hear will not re-fuse.
- 4 Fear, and sin not; talk with your heart on bed, and si-lent be.
- Off 'rings pre-sent of right-eous-ness, and in the Lord trust ye.
- O who will shew us an-y good?

  is that which man-y say:

  But of thy coun-tena-nce the light,

  Lord, lift on us al-way.
- 7 Up-on my heart, be-stow'd by thee, more glad-ness I have found Than they, ev'n then, when corn and wine did most with them a-bound.
- 8 I will both lay me down in peace, and qui-et sleep will take; Be-cause thou on-ly me to dwell in safe-ty, Lord, dost make.

- When I look up un-to the heav'ns, which thine own fin-gers fram'd, Un-to the moon, and to the stars, which were by thee or-dain'd;
- Then say I, What is man, that he re-member'd is by thee?
  Or what the son of man, that thou so kind to him should'st be?
- For thou a lit-tle low-er hast him than the an-gels made; With glor-y and with dig-ni-ty thou crown-ed hast his head.
- 6 Of thy hands' works thou mad'st him lord, all un-der's feet didst lay;
- 7 All sheep and ox-en, yea, and beasts that in the field do stray;
- Fowls of the air, fish of the sea, all that pass through the same.
- 9 How ex-cel-lent in all the earth, Lord, our Lord, is thy name!

- 1 I in the Lord do put my trust:
   how is it then that ye
   Say to my soul, Flee, as a bird,
   un-to your moun-tain high?
- For, lo, the wick-ed bend their bow, their shafts on string they fit, That those who up-right are in heart they priv-i-ly may hit.
- 3 If the foun-da-tions be de-stroy'd, what hath the right-eous done?
- His eyes do see, his eye-lids try
  men's sons. The just he proves:
  But his soul hates the wick-ed man,
  and him that vi'lence loves.
- Snares, fire and brim-stone, fur-ious storms, on sin-ners he shall rain:
  This, as the por-tion of their cup, doth un-to them per-tain.

- 3 God shall cut off all flat-t'ring lips, tongues that speak proud-ly thus,
- We'll with our tongue pre-vail, our lips are ours: who's lord o'er us?
- For poor op-press'd, and for the sighs of need-y, rise will I, Saith God, and him in safe-ty set from such as him de-fy.
- The words of God are words most pure; they be like sil-ver try'd In ear-then fur-nace, sev-en times that hath been pur-i-fy'd.
- 7 Lord, thou shalt them pre-serve and keep for ev-er from this race.
- On each side walk the wick-ed, when vile men are high in place

- They al-to-ge-ther filth-y are,
  they all a-side are gone;
  And there is none that do-eth good,
  yea, sure there is not one.
- These wor-kers of in-i-qui-ty do they not know at all,
  That they my peo-ple eat as bread, and on God do not call?
- 5 There fear'd they much; for God is with the whole race of the just.
- 6 You shame the coun-sel of the poor, be-cause God is his trust.
- 7 Let Isr'el's help from Si-on come:
  when back the Lord shall bring
  His cap-tives, Ja-cob shall re-joice,
  and Is-ra-el shall sing.

- The man that walk-eth up-right-ly, and work-eth right-eous-ness, And as he think-eth in his heart, so doth he truth ex-press.
- Who doth not slan-der with his tongue, nor to his friend doth hurt; Nor yet ag-ainst his neigh-bour doth take up an ill re-port.
- In whose eyes vile men are des-pis'd; but those that God do fear He hon-our-eth; and chang-eth not, though to his hurt he swear.
- 5 His coin puts not to u-sur-y,
  nor take re-ward will he
  A-gainst the guilt-less. Who doth thus
  shall nev-er mov-ed be.

- 2 Day ut-ters speech to day, and night to night doth know-ledge teach.
- 3 There is no speech nor tongue to which their voice doth not ex-tend:
- 4 Their line is gone through all the earth, their words to the world's end.
- In them he set the sun a tent;

  Who, bride-groom-like, forth goes
  From's cham-ber, as a strong man doth
  to run his race re-joice.

- The sta-tutes of the Lord are right, and do re-joice the heart:
  The Lord's com-mand is pure, and doth light to the eyes im-part.
- 9 Un-spotted is the fear of God, and doth en-dure for ev-er: The judg-ments of the Lord are true and right-eous al-toge-ther.

- 11 More-o-ver, they thy ser-vant warn how he his life should frame:
  A great rew-ard pro-vi-ded is for them that keep the same.
- 12 Who can his er-rors under-stand?
  O cleanse thou me with-in
- 13 From se-cret faults. Thy ser-vant keep from all pre-sumpt-uous sin:
  - And do not suf-fer them to have do-min-ion o-ver me:
    Then, right-eous and in-no-cent,
    I from much sin shall be.
- 14 The words which from my mouth pro-ceed, the thoughts sent from my heart, Ac-cept, O Lord, for thou my strength and my Re-deem-er art.

- 4 Grant thee thine heart's wish, and ful-fil thy thoughts and coun-sel wise.
- 5 In thy sal-va-tion we will joy; in our God's name we will Dis-play our ban-ners: and the Lord thy pray-ers all ful-fil.
- Now know I God his king doth save:

  he from his ho-ly heav'n

  Will hear him, with the sa-ving strength
  by his own right hand giv'n.
- We rise, and up-right stand, when they are bow-ed down, and fall.
- 9 De-liver, Lord; and let the King us hear, when we do call.

#### A Psalm about David and Christ

- 1 My God, my God, why hast thou me for-saken? why so far Art thou from help-ing me, and from my words that roar-ing are?
- All day, my God, to thee I cry, yet am not heard by thee; And in the sea-son of the night I can-not si-lent be.
- 3 But thou art ho-ly, thou that dost in-hab-it Isr'el's praise.
- 4 Our fa-thers hop'd in thee, they hop'd and thou didst them re-lease.
- 5 When un-to thee they sent their cry, to them de-liv'rance came: Be-cause they put their trust in thee, they were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, a worm I am, and as no man am priz'd: Re-proach of men I am, and by the peo-ple am des-pis'd.
- 7 All that me see laugh me to scorn; shoot out the lip do they; They nod and shake their heads at me, and, mock-ing, thus do say,
- 8 This man did trust in God, that he would free him by his might:
  Let him de-liver him, sith he had in him such de-light.
- 9 But thou art he out of the womb that didst me safe-ly take; When I was on my mo-ther's breasts thou me to hope didst make.
- 10 And I was cast up-on thy care, ev'n from the womb till now; And from my mo-ther's bel-ly, Lord, my God and quide art thou.

- 11 Be not far off, for grief is near, and none to help is found.
- Bulls man-y com-pass me, strong bulls of Ba-shan me sur-round.

- 15 My strength is like a pot-sherd dry'd; my tongue it cleave-th fast Un-to my jaws; and to the dust of death thou brought me hast.
- 17 I all my bones may tell; they do up-on me look and stare.
- 18 Up-on my ves-ture lots they cast, and clothes among them share.
- 19 But be not far, O Lord, my strength; haste to give help to me.
- 20 From sword my soul, from pow'r of dogs my dar-ling set thou free.
- Out of the roar-ing li-on's mouth do thou me shield and save:

  For from the horns of u-ni-corns an ear to me thou gave.
- I will shew forth thy name un-to those that my bre-thren are;
  A-midst the con-gre-ga-tion thy praise I will de-clare.
- 23 Praise ye the Lord, who do him fear; him glo-ri-fy all ye The seed of Ja-cob: fear him all that Isr'el's chil-dren be.

- 24 For he des-pis'd not nor ab-horr'd th' af-flic-ted's mis-er-y;
  Nor from him hid his face, but heard when he to him did cry.
- 25 With-in the con-gre-ga-tion great my praise shall be of thee; My vows be-fore them that him fear shall be per-form'd by me.
- 26 The meek shall eat, and shall be fill'd;
   they al-so praise shall give
   Un-to the Lord that do him seek:
   your heart shall ev-er live.
- 27 All ends of th' earth rem-em-ber shall, and turn the Lord un-to;
  All kin-dreds of the na-tions to him shall hom-age do:
- 28 Be-cause the king-dom to the Lord doth ap-per-tain as his;
  Like-wise a-mong the na-tions the Gov-er-nor he is.
- 29 Earth's fat ones eat, and wor-ship shall: all who to dust de-scend Shall bow to him; none of them can his soul from death de-fend.
- 30 A seed shall ser-vice do to him; un-to the Lord it shall Be for a gen-er-a-tion reck-on'd in a-ges all.
- 31 They shall come, and they shall de-clare
   his truth and right-eous-ness
  Un-to a peo-ple yet un-born,
   and that he hath done this.

- 1 The Lord's my shep-herd, I'll not want.
- 2 He makes me down to lie
  In past-ures green: he lead-eth me
  the qui-et wat-ers by.
- Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear none ill:

  For thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me com-fort still.
- My ta-ble thou hast fur-nish-ed in pres-ence of my foes; My head thou dost with oil a-noint, and my cup ov-er-flows.
- 6 Good-ness and mer-cy all my life shall sure-ly fol-low me: And in God's house for ev-er-more my dwell-ing-place shall be.

- For the foun-da-tions there-of he on the seas did lay, And he hath it es-tab-lish-ed up-on the floods to stay.
- Whose hands are clean, whose heart is pure, and un-to van-i-ty
  Who hath not lift-ed up his soul, nor sworn de-ceit-ful-ly.
- 5 He from th' Eternal shall re-ceive the bless-ing him up-on,
  And right-eous-ness, ev'n from the God of his sal-va-tion.
- Ye gates, lift up your heads on high; ye doors that last for aye, Be lift-ed up, that so the King of glor-y en-ter may.
- 8 But who of glor-y is the King? The migh-ty Lord is this; Ev'n that same Lord, that great in might and strong in bat-tle is.

- Ye gates, lift up your heads; ye doors, doors that do last for aye, Be lif-ted up, that so the King of glor-y en-ter may.
- 10 But who is he that is the King of glor-y? who is this?

  The Lord of hosts, and none but he, the King of glor-y is.

- 1 To thee I lift my soul:
- O Lord, I trust in thee:

  My God, let me not be a-sham'd,

  nor foes tri-umph o'er me.
- 3 Let none that wait on thee
   be put to shame at all;
  But those that with-out cause trans-gress,
   let shame up-on them fall.
- 4 Shew me thy ways, O Lord; thy paths, O teach thou me:
- 5 And do thou lead me in thy truth, there-in my tea-cher be:
  - For thou art God that dost to me sal-va-tion send, And I up-on thee all the day ex-pect-ing do at-tend.
- Thy ten-der merc-ies, Lord,

  I pray thee to re-memb-er,

  And loving-kind-nesses; for they
  have been of old for ev-er.
- 7 My sins and faults of youth do thou, O Lord, for-get:
  Af-ter thy mer-cy think on me, and for thy good-ness great.
- 9 The meek in judg-ment he will guide, and make his path to know.

- 11 Now, for thine own name's sake,
  O Lord, I thee en-treat
  To par-don mine i-ni-qui-ty;
  for it is ve-ry great.
- 12 What man is he that fears the Lord, and doth him serve?
  Him shall he teach the way that he shall choose, and still ob-serve.
- 13 His soul shall dwell at ease; and his pos-ter-i-ty Shall flour-ish still, and of the earth in-her-i-tors shall be.
- 14 With those that fear him is the se-cret of the Lord;
  The know-ledge of his co-ve-nant he will to them af-ford.
- 15 Mine eyes up-on the Lord con-tin-ual-ly are set:
  For he it is that shall bring forth my feet out of the net.
- 16 Turn un-to me thy face, and to me mer-cy show; Be-cause that I am de-so-late, and am brought very low.
- 17 My heart's griefs are in-creas'd: me from dis-tress re-lieve.
- 18 See mine af-flic-tion and my pain, and all my sins for-give.
- 19 Con-sider thou my foes, be-cause they man-y are; And it a cru-el ha-tred is which they a-gainst me bear.

- O do thou keep my soul, do thou de-liver me: And let me nev-er be a-sham'd, be-cause I trust in thee.
- 22 Re-demp-tion, Lord, to Is-ra-el from all his trou-bles send.

- 2 He took me from a fear-ful pit, and from the mir-y clay, And on a rock he set my feet, es-tab-lish-ing my way.
- 3 He put a new song in my mouth, our God to mag-ni-fy: Man-y shall see it, and shall fear, and on the Lord re-ly.
- O bles-sed is the man whose trust up-on the Lord re-lies;
  Re-spect-ing not the proud, nor such as turn a-side to lies.
- 5 O Lord my God, full man-y are the wonders thou hast done; Thy gra-cious thoughts to us-ward far a-bove all thoughts are gone:
  - In order none can reck-on them
     to thee: if them de-clare,
    And speak of them I would, they more
     than can be num-ber'd are.
- 7 Then to the Lord these were my words, I come, be-hold and see; With-in the vol-ume of the book it writ-ten is of me:

- 8 To do thy will I take de-light,
  O thou my God that art;
  Yea, that most ho-ly law of thine
  I have with-in my heart.
- 9 With-in the con-gre-ga-tion great I right-eous-ness did preach: Lo, thou dost know, O Lord, that I re-frain-ed not my speech.
- - Thy kind-ness, which most lov-ing is, con-cealed have not I,
    Nor from the con-gre-ga-tion great have hid thy ver-it-y.
- 11 Thy ten-der mer-cies, Lord, from me
  O do thou not re-strain;
  Thy lov-ing-kind-ness, and thy truth,
  let them me still main-tain.
- 12 For ills past reck'ning com-pass me, and mine i-ni-qui-ties

  Such hold up-on me ta-ken have,

  I can-not lift mine eyes:
  - They more than hairs are on mine head, thence is my heart dis-may'd.
- Be pleas-ed, Lord, to re-scue me; Lord, has-ten to mine aid.
- 14 Sham'd and con-found-ed be they all that seek my soul to kill;
  Yea, let them back-ward dri-ven be, and sham'd, that wish me ill.
- 15 For a re-ward of this their shame con-found-ed let them be.

  That in this man-ner scoff-fing say, Aha, aha! to me.

- 16 In thee let all be glad, and joy,
   who seek-ing thee a-bide;
   Who thy sal-va-tion love, say still,
   The Lord be mag-ni-fy'd.
- 17 I'm poor and need-y, yet the Lord
   of me a care doth take:
   Thou art my help and sa-viour,
   my God, no tarry-ing make.

# Book II: Psalms 42 - 72

- Though hills a-midst the seas be cast;

  Though wa-ters roar-ing make,

  And troubl-ed be; yea, though the hills,

  by swell-ling seas do shake.
- A riv-er is, whose streams do glad the cit-y of our God; The ho-ly place, where-in the Lord most high hath his a-bode.
- 5 God in the midst of her doth dwell; no-thing shall her re-move: The Lord to her an help-er will, and that right ear-ly, prove.
- The hea-then rag'd tu-mul-tuous-ly, the king-doms mov-ed were: The Lord God ut-ter-ed his voice, the earth did melt for fear.
- 8 Come, and be-hold what won-drous works have by the Lord been wrought;
  Come, see what des-o-la-tions
  he on the earth hath brought.

- 10 Be still, and know that I am God; a-mong the hea-then I
  Will be ex-al-ted; I on earth will be ex-al-ted high.
- Our God, who is the Lord of hosts, is still up-on our side;
  The God of Ja-cob our ref-uge for ev-er will a-bide.

- 1 Lord, thee my God, I'll ear-ly seek:
   my soul doth thirst for thee;
   My flesh longs in a dry parch'd land,
   where-in no wa-ters be:
- 2 That I thy pow-er may be-hold, and bright-ness of thy face, As I have seen thee here-to-fore with-in thy ho-ly place.
- 3 Since bet-ter is thy love than life, my lips thee praise shall give.
- I in thy name will lift my hands, and bless thee while I live.
- 5 Ev'n as with mar-row and with fat my soul shall fill-ed be; Then shall my mouth with joyful lips sing prais-es un-to thee:
- When I do thee up-on my bed re-mem-ber with de-light, And when on thee I me-di-tate in wa-tches of the night.
- 7 In sha-dow of thy wings I'll joy; for thou mine help hast been.
- 8 My soul thee fol-lows hard; and me thy right hand doth sus-tain.
- 9 Who seek my soul to spill shall sink down to earth's low-est room.
- They by the sword shall be cut off, and foxes' prey be-come.
- 11 Yet shall the king in God re-joice, and each one glor-y shall That swear by him: but stopp'd shall be the mouth of li-ars all.

- But as for me, my steps near slipp'd, my feet were al-most gone.
- 4 For still their strength con-tin-ueth firm; their death of bands is free.
- 5 They are not toil'd like other men, nor plaqu'd, as o-thers be.
- There-fore their pride, like to a chain, them com-pass-eth a-bout;

  And, as a gar-ment, vi-o-lence doth cov-er them through-out.
- 7 Their eyes stand out with fat; they have more than their hearts could wish.
- 8 They are cor-rupt; their talk of wrong both lewd and lof-ty is.
- 9 They set their mouth a-gainst the heav'ns in their blas-phe-mous talk; And their re-proa-ching tongue through-out the earth at large doth walk.
- 10 His people often-times for this look back, and turn a-bout; Sith wa-ters of so full a cup to these are pour-ed out.
- 11 And thus they say, How can it be that God these things doth know?
  Or, Can there in the High-est be know-ledge of things be-low?

- 12 Be-hold, these are the wick-ed ones, yet pros-per at their will In world-ly things; they do in-crease in wealth and ri-ches still.
- 14 For dai-ly, and all day through-out, great plagues I suf-fer'd have;
  Yea, ev'ry morn-ing I of new did chas-ti-sement re-ceive.
- 15 If in this man-ner fool-ish-ly to speak I would in-tend, Thy child-ren's gen-er-a-tion, be-hold, I should of-fend.
- When I this thought to know, it was too hard a thing for me;
- 17 Till to God's sanc-tu-a-ry I went, then I their end did see.
- 18 As-sur-ed-ly thou didst them set a slip-p'ry place up-on;
  Them sud-den-ly thou cast-edst down in-to de-struc-tion.
- 19 How in a mo-ment sud-den-ly to ruin brought are they!
  With fear-ful ter-rors ut-ter-ly they are con-sum'd a-way.

- 21 Thus griev-ed was my heart in me, and me my reins op-prest:
- 22 So rude was I, and ig-nor-ant, and in thy sight a beast.
- 23 Nev-er-the-less con-tin-u-ally,
  O Lord, I am with thee:
  Thou dost me hold by my right hand,
  and still up-hold-est me.
- 25 Whom have I in the heav-ens high but thee, O Lord, a-lone?

  And in the earth whom I de-sire be-sides thee there is none.
- 27 For, lo, they that are far from thee for ev-er per-ish shall;
  Them that a whor-ing from thee go thou hast de-story-ed all.
- 28 But sure-ly it is good for me that I draw near to God:
  In God I trust, that all thy works
  I may de-clare a-broad.

### **Book III: Psalms 73-89**

#### Psalm 73

# A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 Yet God is good to Is-ra-el,
   to each pure-heart-ed one.
- 2 But as for me, my steps near slipped, my feet were al-most gone.
- 3 For I en-vious was, and grudg-ed
   the fool-ish folk to see,
  When I per-ceived the wick-ed sort
   en-joy pros-per-i-ty.
- 4 For still their strength con-tin-u-eth firm; their death of bands is free.
- 5 They are not toiled like o-ther men, nor plagued, as o-thers be.
- 7 Their eyes stand out with fat; they have more than their hearts could wish.
- 8 They are cor-rupt; their talk of wrong both lewd and lof-ty is.
- 9 They set their mouth a-gainst the heav'ns in their blas-phe-mous talk; And their re-proaching tongue through-out the earth at large doth walk.
- 10 His people often-times for this look back, and turn about;
  Sith wa-ters of so full a cup to these are pour-èd out.

- 11 And thus they say, How can it be that God these things doth know?
  Or, Can there in the High-est be know-ledge of things be-low?
- 12 Be-hold, these are the wick-ed ones, yet pros-per at their will In world-ly things; they do in-crease in wealth and rich-es still.
- 13 I ver-i-ly have done in vain
   my heart to pur-i-fy;
  To no ef-fect in in-no-cence
   Wash-ed my hands have I.
- 14 For dai-ly, and all day through-out, great plagues I suf-fered have;
  Yea, ev'ry morn-ing I of new did chas-tise-ment re-ceive.
- 15 If in this man-ner fool-ish-ly to speak I would in-tend,
  Thy child-ren's gen-er-a-tion,
  Be-hold, I should of-fend.
- 16 When I this thought to know, it was too hard a thing for me;
- 17 Till to God's sanc-tu-ar-y I went, then I their end did see.
- 18 As-sur-ed-y thou didst them set a slip-p'ry place up-on;
  Them sud-den-ly thou cast-edst down in-to de-struc-tion.
- 19 How in a moment sud-den-ly to ruin brought are they!
  With fear-ful ter-rors ut-ter-ly they are con-sumed a-way.

- 20 Ev'n like un-to a dream, when one
   from sleep-ing doth a-rise;
  So thou, O Lord, when thou a-wa-k'st,
   their im-age shalt des-pise.
- 21 Thus griev-ed was my heart in me, and me my reins op-press-ed:
- 22 So rude was I, and ig-nor-ant, and in thy sight a beast.
- 23 Nev-er-the-less con-tin-ual-ly,
  O Lord, I am with thee:
  Thou dost me hold by my right hand,
  and still up-hold-est me.
- 24 Thou, with thy coun-sel, while I live,
   wilt me con-duct and guide;
  And to thy glor-y after-ward
   re-ceive me to a-bide.
- 25 Whom have I in the hea-vens high
   but thee, O Lord, a-lone?
  And in the earth whom I de-sire
   be-sides thee there is none.
- 26 My flesh and heart doth faint and fail,
   but God doth fail me nev-er:
   For of my heart God is the strength
   and por-tion for ev-er.
- 27 For, lo, they that are far from thee
   for ev-er per-ish shall;
  Them that a whor-ing from thee go
   thou hast des-troy-ed all.
- 28 But sure-ly it is good for me that I draw near to God:
  In God I trust, that all thy works
  I may de-clare a-broad.

To the chief Musician, Al-taschith, A Psalm or Song of Asaph.

- 1 To thee, O God, do we give thanks,
   we do give thanks to thee;
  Be-cause thy won-drous works de-clare
   thy great name near to be.
- 2 I pur-pose, when I shall re-ceive
   the con-gre-ga-tion,
   That I shall judgment up-right-ly
   re-nder to ev'ry one.
- 3 Dis-solv-èd is the land, with all
   that in the same do dwell;
  But I the pil-lars there-of do
   bear up, and stab-lish well.
- 5 Lift not your horn on high, nor speak 6 with stub-born neck. But know, That not from east, nor west, nor south, pro-mo-tion doth flow.
- 7 But God is judge; he puts down one, and sets a-no-ther up.
- 8 For in the hand of God most high
   of red wine is a cup:
  - 'Tis full of mix-ture, he pours forth, and makes the wick-ed all Wring out the bit-ter dregs there-of; yea, and they drink them shall.
- 9 But I for ev-er will de-clare, I Jacob's God will praise.
- 10 All horns of lewd men I'll cut off; but just men's horns will raise.

To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm or Song of Asaph.

- 1 In Ju-dah's land God is well known,
   his name's in Isr'el great:
- 3 There ar-rows of the bow he brake, the shield, the sword, the war.
- 4 More glor-i-ous thou than hills of prey, more ex-cel-lent art far.
- 5 Those that were stout of heart are spoiled, they slept their sleep out-right; And none of those their hands did find, that were the men of might.
- 6 When thy re-buke, O Ja-cob's God, had forth a-gainst them past, Their hor-ses and their char-i-ots both were in a dead sleep cast.
- 7 Thou, Lord, ev'n thou art he that should be feared; and who is he That may stand up be-fore thy sight, if once thou an-gry be?
- 8 From hea-v'n thou judg-ment caused be heard; the earth was still with fear,
- 9 When God to judg-ment rose, to save all meek on earth that were.
- 10 Sure-ly the ve-ry wrath of man un-to thy praise re-dounds:

  Thou to the rem-nant of his wrath wilt set re-strain-ing bounds.
- 11 Vow to the Lord your God, and pay:
   all ye that near him be,
   Bring gifts and pres-ents un-to him;
   for to be feared is he.
- 12 By him the sp'rits shall be cut off of those that prin-ces are:
  Un-to the kings that are on earth he fear-ful doth ap-pear.

# Maschil of Asaph.

- 1 At-tend, my peo-ple, to my law;
   there-to give thou an ear;
  The words that from my mouth pro-ceed
   At-ten-tive-ly do hear.
- 2 My mouth shall speak a par-a-ble, and say-ings dark of old;
- 3 The same which we have heard and known, and us our fa-thers told.
- We also will them not con-ceal
   from their pos-ter-i-ty;
  Them to the gen-er-a-tion
   to come de-clare will we:
  - The prai-ses of the Lord our God, and his al-might-y strength, The won-drous works that he hath done, we will show forth at length.
- 5 His tes-ti-mon-y and his law in Isr'el he did place, And charg-ed our fa-thers it to show to their suc-cee-ding race;
- 6 That so the race which was to come might well them learn and know; And sons un-born, who should a-rise, might to their sons them show:
- 7 That they might set their hope in God, and suf-fer not to fall His might-y works out of their mind, but keep his pre-cepts all:
- 8 And might not, like their fa-thers, be
   a stiff re-bell-ious race;
  A race not right in heart; with God
   whose sp'rit not stead-fast was.

- 9 The sons of E-phraim, who nor bows nor o-ther arms did lack, When as the day of bat-tle was, they faint-ly turn-ed back.
- 10 They brake God's cov'nant, and re-fused in his com-mands to go;
- 11 His works and won-ders they for-got, which he to them did show.
- 12 Things mar-vel-ous he brought to pass; their fa-thers them be-held With-in the land of E-gypt done, yea, ev'n in Zo-an's field.
- 13 By him di-vi-ded was the sea, he caused them through to pass; And made the wa-ters so to stand, as like an heap it was.
- 14 With cloud by day, with light of fire all night, he did them guide.
- 15 In des-ert rocks he clave, and drink, as from great depths, sup-plied.
- 16 He from the rock brought streams, like floods made wa-ters to run down.
- 17 Yet sin-ning more, in des-ert they pro-vo-ked the High-est One.
- 19 A-gainst the Lord him-self they spake, and, mur-mur-ing, said thus, A ta-ble in the wil-der-ness can God pre-pare for us?
  - 20 Be-hold, he smote the rock, and thence
     came streams and wa-ters great;
    But can he give his peo-ple bread?
     and send them flesh to eat?

- 21 The Lord did hear, and wax-ed wroth;
   so kin-dled was a flame
   'Gainst Ja-cob, and 'gainst Is-ra-el
   up in-dig-na-tion came.
- 22 For they be-lieved not God, nor trust
   in his sal-va-tion had;
- 23 Though clouds a-bove he did com-mand, and hea-v'n's doors o-pen made,
- 24 And man-na rained on them, and gave them corn of heav'n to eat.
- 25 Man an-gels' food did eat; to them he to the full sent meat.
- 26 And in the hea-ven he did cause an east-ern wind to blow;
  And by his pow-er he let out the sou-thern wind to go.
- 27 Then flesh as thick as dust he made
   to rain down them a-mong;
  And fea-thered fowls, like as the sand
   which li'th the shore a-long.
- 28 At his com-mand a-midst their camp these show'rs of flesh down fell, All round about the tab-er-na-cles and tents where they did dwell.
- 29 So they did eat a-bund-ant-ly, and had of meat their fill; For he did give to them what was their own de-sire and will.
- They from their lust had not es-tranged their heart and their de-sire;
  But while the meat was in their mouths, which they did so re-quire,
- 31 God's wrath up-on them came, and slew the fat-test of them all;
  So that the choice of Is-ra-el, o'er-thrown by death, did fall.

- 33 Where-fore their days in van-i-ty
  he did con-sume and waste;
  And by his wrath their wretch-ed years
  a-way in troub-le past.
- 34 But when he slew them, then they did to seek him show de-sire;
  Yea, they re-turn-ed, and after God right ear-ly did en-quire.
- 35 And that the Lord had been their Rock, they did re-mem-ber then;
  Ev'n that the high al-might-y God had their Re-dee-mer been.
- 36 Yet with their mouth they flat-tered him, and spake but feigned-ly;
  And they un-to the God of truth with their false tongues did lie.
- 37 For though their words were good, their heart with him was not sin-cere;
  Un-stead-fast and per-fid-ious they in his cov'na-nt were.
- 38 But, full of pity, he for-gave their sin, them did not slay;
  Nor stirred up all his wrath, but oft his an-ger turned a way.
- 39 For that they were but fad-ing flesh
   to mind he did re-call;
  A wind that pass-eth soon a-way,
   and not re-turns at all.
- 40 How of-ten did they him pro-voke with-in the wil-der-ness!

  And in the des-ert did him grieve with their re-bell-ious-ness!

- 41 Yea, turn-ng back, they temp-ted God, and lim-its set up-on
  Him, who in midst of Isr'el is the on-ly Hol-y One.
- 42 They did not call to mind his pow'r, nor yet the day when he De-liver-ed them out of the hand of their fierce e-ne-my;
- 43 Nor how great signs in Eg-ypt land he o-pen-ly had wrought;
  What mi-ra-cles in Zo-an's field his hand to pass had brought.
- 44 How lakes and riv-ers ev'ry where he turn-ed in-to blood;
  So that nor man nor beast could drink of stand-ing lake or flood.
- 45 He brought a-mong them swarms of flies, which did them sore an-noy;
  And di-vers kinds of fil-thy frogs he sent them to des-troy.
- 46 He to the cat-er-pill-ar gave the fruits of all their soil; Their la-bors he de-livered up un-to the lo-custs' spoil.
- 47 Their vines with hail, their sy-ca-mores he with the frost did blast:
- 48 Their beasts to hail he gave; their flocks hot thunder-bolts did waste.
- 49 Fierce burn-ing wrath he on them cast, and in-di-gna-tion strong,
  And troub-les sore, by send-ing forth ill an-gels them a-mong.
- 50 He to his wrath made way; their soul from death he did not save;
  But o-ver to the pest-i-lence the lives of them he gave.

- 51 In Egypt land the first-born all he smote down ev'ry where; A-mong the tents of Ham, ev'n these chief of their strength that were.
- 52 But his own peo-ple, like to sheep, thence to go forth he made;
  And he, a-midst the wil-der-ness, them, as a flock, did lead.
- 53 And he them safe-ly on did lead, so that they did not fear; Where-as their en'mies by the sea quite o-ver-whelm-ed were.
- 54 To bor-ders of his san-ctu-ary the Lord his peo-ple led,
  Ev'n to the mount which his right hand for them had pur-chas-ed.
- 55 The na-tions of Ca-na-an, by his al-might-y hand, Be-fore their face he did ex-pel out of their na-tive land;
  - Which for in-her-i-tance to them by line he did div-ide,
    And made the tri-bes of Is-ra-el with-in their tents a-bide.
- 56 Yet God most high they did pro-voke, and tempt-ed ev-er still;
  And to ob-serve his test-i-monies did not inc-line their will:
- 57 But, like their fa-thers, turn-ed back, and dealt un-faith-full-y:
  A-side they turn-ed, like a bow that shoots de-ceit-full-y.
- 58 For they to an-ger did pro-voke him with their pla-ces high; And with their grav-en im-a-ges moved him to jeal-ou-sy.

- 59 When God heard this, he wax-ed wroth, and much loathed Isr'el then:
- 60 So Shi-loh's tent he left, the tent which he had placed with men.
- 61 And he his strength de-live-red in-to cap-tiv-i-ty;
  He left his glor-y in the hand of his proud e-ne-my.
- 62 His peo-ple al-so he gave o'er un-to the sword's fierce rage:
  So sore his wrath in-flam-ed was a-gainst his her-i-tage.
- 63 The fire con-sumed their choice young men; their maids no mar-riage had;
- 64 And when their priests fell by the sword, their wives no mourn-ing made.
- 65 But then the Lord a-rose, as one that doth from sleep a-wake; And like a giant that, by wine re-freshed, a shout doth make:
- 66 Up-on his en'mies' hind-er parts he made his stroke to fall;
  And so up-on them he did put a shame per-pe-tu-al.
- 67 More-o-ver, he the tab-er-na-cle
   of Jo-seph did re-fuse;
  The might-y tribe of E-phra-im
   he would in no wise choose:
- 68 But he did choose Je-hu-dah's tribe to be the rest a-bove;
  And of mount Zi-on he made choice, which he so much did love.
- 69 And he his san-ctu-ar-y built like to a pal-ace high,
  Like to the earth which he did found to per-pe-tu-i-ty.

- 70 Of Da-vid, that his ser-vant was, he al-so choice did make, And ev-en from the folds of sheep was pleas-èd him to take:
- 71 From wait-ing on the ewes with young, he brought him forth to feed Is-ra-el, his in-her-i-ance, his peo-ple, Jac-ob's seed.
- 72 So af-ter the in-teg-ri-ty
  he of his heart them fed;
  And by the good skill of his hands
  them wise-ly gov-ern-èd.

To the chief Musician upon Gittith, A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 Sing loud to God our strength; with joy
   to Ja-cob's God do sing.
- 2 Take up a psalm, the pleas-ant harp, tim-brel and psalt'ry bring.
- 3 Blow trum-pets at new-moon, what day our feast ap-point-ed is:
- 4 For charge to Isr'el, and a law of Ja-cob's God was this.
- 5 To Jo-seph this a test-i-mo-ny he made, when E-gypt land He tra-veled through, where speech I heard I did not under-stand.
- 6 His shoul-der I from bur-dens took, his hands from pots did free.
- 7 Thou didst in troub-le on me call, and I de-liver-ed thee:
  - In se-cret place of thun-der-ing
     I did thee an-swer make;
    And at the streams of Me-ri-bah
     of thee a proof did take.
- 8 O thou, my peo-ple, give an ear, I'll tes-ti-fy to thee; To thee, O Isr'el, if thou wilt but hear-ken un-to me.
- 9 In midst of thee there shall not be an-y strange god at all; Nor un-to an-y god un-known thou bow-ing down shalt fall.
- 10 I am the Lord thy God, which did
   from E-gypt land thee guide;
  I'll fill thy mouth a-bun-dant-ly,
   do thou it o-pen wide.

- 11 But yet my peo-ple to my voice would not at-ten-tive be;
  And ev'n my cho-sen Is-ra-el he would have none of me.
- 13 O that my peo-ple had me heard, Isr'el my ways had chose!
- 14 I had their en'mies soon sub-dued,
   my hand turned on their foes.
- 15 The ha-ters of the Lord to him
   sub-mis-sion should have feigned;
  But as for them, their time should have
   for ev-er-more re-mained.
- 16 He should have also fed them with
   the fi-nest of the wheat;
   Of hon-ey from the rock thy fill
   I should have made thee eat.

To the chief Musician upon Gittith, A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 Sing loud to God our strength; with joy
   to Ja-cob's God do sing.
- 2 Take up a psalm, the pleas-ant harp, tim-brel and psalt'ry bring.
- 3 Blow trum-pets at new-moon, what day our feast ap-point-ed is:
- 4 For charge to Isr'el, and a law of Ja-cob's God was this.
- 5 To Jo-seph this a test-i-mo-ny he made, when E-gypt land He tra-veled through, where speech I heard I did not un-der-stand.
- 6 His shoulder I from bur-dens took, his hands from pots did free.
- 7 Thou didst in troub-le on me call, and I de-liv-ered thee:
  - In se-cret place of thun-der-ing
     I did thee answ-er make;
    And at the streams of Mer-i-bah
     of thee a proof did take.
- 9 In midst of thee there shall not be an-y strange god at all; Nor un-to an-y god un-known thou bow-ing down shalt fall.
- 10 I am the Lord thy God, which did
   from E-gypt land thee guide;
  I'll fill thy mouth a-bund-ant-ly,
   do thou it o-pen wide.

- 11 But yet my peo-ple to my voice would not at-ten-tive be;
  And ev'n my cho-sen Is-ra-el he would have none of me.
- 13 O that my peo-ple had me heard, Isr'el my ways had chose!
- - 15 The ha-ters of the Lord to him sub-mis-sion should have feigned;
    But as for them, their time should have for ev-er-more re-mained.
- 16 He should have al-so fed them with
   the fi-nest of the wheat;
   Of hon-ey from the rock thy fill
   I should have made thee eat.

# A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 In gods' as-sem-bly God doth stand;
   he judg-eth gods a-mong.
- 2 How long, ac-cept-ing per-sons vile, will ye give judg-ment wrong?
- 3 De-fend the poor and fa-ther-less; to poor op-pressed do right.
- 4 The poor and need-y ones set free; rid them from ill men's might.
- 5 They know not, nor will under-stand; in dark-ness they walk on: All the foun-da-tions of the earth out of their course are gone.
- 6 I said that ye are gods, and are sons of the High-est all:
- 7 But ye shall die like men, and as one of the prin-ces fall.

To the chief Musician upon Gittith, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.

- 1 How love-ly is thy dwelling-place,
   O Lord of hosts, to me!
   The tab-er-na-cles of thy grace
   how pleas-ant, Lord, they be!
- 3 Be-hold, the spar-row find-eth out an house where-in to rest; The swal-low al-so for her-self hath pur-chas-ed a nest;
  - Ev'n thine own al-tars, where she safe
     her young ones forth may bring,
    O thou al-might-y Lord of hosts,
     who art my God and King.
- 4 Blessed are they in thy house that dwell, they ev-er give thee praise.
- 5 Blessed is the man whose strength thou art, in whose heart are thy ways:
- 6 Who pas-sing thorough Ba-ca's vale, there-in do dig up wells; Also the rain that fall-eth down the pools with wa-ter fills.
- 7 So they from strength un-wearied go still for-ward un-to strength, Un-til in Zi-on they ap-pear Be-fore the Lord at length.
- 9 See God our shield, look on the face of thine a-noin-ted dear.

- 10 For in thy courts one day e-xcels a thous-and; rather in
  My God's house will I keep a door, than dwell in tents of sin.
- 11 For God the Lord's a sun and shield:
   he'll grace and glor-y give;
  And will with-hold no good from them
   that up-right-ly do live.
- 12 O thou that art the Lord of hosts, that man is trul-y blest, Who by as-sur-ed con-fi-dence on thee a-lone doth rest.

To the chief Musician, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.

- 1 O Lord, thou hast been fa-vor-able
   to thy be-lov-ed land:
   Jacob's cap-ti-vit-y thou hast
   re-called with might-y hand.
- 2 Thou par-doned thy people hast
   all their in-i-qui-ties;
  Thou all their tres-pass-es and sins
   hast cov-er-ed from thine eyes.
- 3 Thou took'st off all thine ire, and turn'dst from thy wrath's fur-i-ous-ness.
- 4 Turn us, God of our health, and cause thy wrath 'gainst us to cease.
- 5 Shall thy dis-plea-sure thus en-dure a-gainst us with-out end? Wilt thou to gen-er-a-tions all thine an-ger forth ex-tend?
- 6 That in thee may thy peo-ple joy, wilt thou not us re-vive?
- 7 Show us thy me-rcy, Lord, to us do thy sal-va-tion give.
- 8 I'll hear what God the Lord will speak: to his folk he'll speak peace, And to his saints; but let them not re-turn to fool-ish-ness.
- 9 To them that fear him sure-ly near
   is his sa-lva-tion;
  That glor-y in our land may have
   her ha-bi-ta-tion.
- 11 Truth springs from earth, and right-eous-ness looks down from hea-ven high.
- 12 Yea, what is good the Lord shall give; our land shall yield in-crease:
- 13 Jus-tice, to set us in his steps, shall go be-fore his face.

#### A Prayer of David.

- 1 O Lord, do thou bow down thine ear, and hear me gra-cious-ly; Be-cause I sore af-flic-ted am, and am in pov-er-ty.
- 2 Be-cause I'm ho-ly, let my soul
   by thee pre-serv-ed be:
   O thou my God, thy ser-vant save,
   that puts his trust in thee.
- 3 Sith un-to thee I daily cry, be mer-ci-ful to me.
- 4 Re-joice thy ser-vant's soul; for, Lord, I lift my soul to thee.
- 5 For thou art gra-cious, O Lord, and rea-dy to for-give; And rich in mer-cy, all that call Up-on thee to re-lieve.
- 6 Hear, Lord, my pray'r; un-to the voice
   of my re-quest at-end:
- 7 In troub-lous times I'll call on thee; for thou wilt answ-er send.
- 8 Lord, there is none a-mong the gods
   that may with thee com-pare;
  And like the works which thou hast done,
   not an-y work is there.
- 9 All na-tions whom thou mad'st shall come and wor-ship rev'rent-ly Be-fore thy face; and they, O Lord, thy name shall glor-i-fy.
- 10 Be-cause thou art ex-ceed-ing great,
   and works by thee are done
  Which are to be ad-mired; and thou
   art God thy-self a-lone.

- 11 Teach me thy way, and in thy truth,
   O Lord, then walk will I;
   U-nite my heart, that I thy name
   may fear con-tin-ual-ly.
- 12 O Lord my God, with all my heart to thee I will give praise;
  And I the glor-y will as-cribe
  Un-to thy name al-ways:
- 13 Be-cause thy mer-cy toward me
   in great-ness doth ex-cel;
  And thou de-liver-ed hast my soul
   out from the low-est hell.
- 14 O God, the proud a-gainst me rise, and vi'lent men have met, That for my soul have sought; and thee be-fore them have not set.
- 15 But thou art full of pity, Lord, a God most grac-i-ous, Long-suf-fer-ing, and in thy truth and mer-cy plen-te-ous.
- 16 O turn to me thy coun-te-nance, and merc-y on me have; Thy ser-vant streng-then, and the son of thine own hand-maid save.
- 17 Show me a sign for good, that they which do me hate may see,
  And be a-shamed; be-cause thou, Lord, didst help and com-fort me.

Psalm or Song for the sons of Korah.

- 1 Up-on the hills of ho-li-ness he his foun-da-tion sets.
- 3 Things glor-i-ous are said of thee, thou cit-y of the Lord.
- 4 Ra-hab and Bab-el I, to those that know me, will re-cord:
  - Be-hold ev'n Tyr-us, and with it the land of Pal-es-tine, And like-wise E-thi-o-pia; this man was born there-in.
- 5 And it of Zi-on shall be said,
  This man and that man there
  Was born; and he that is most High
  Him-self shall stab-lish her.
- 6 When God the peo-ple writes, he'll count that this man born was there.
- 7 There be that sing and play; and all my well-springs in thee are.

#### Maschil of Ethan the Ezrahite.

- 1 God's mer-cies I will ev-er sing; and with my mouth I shall Thy faith-ful-ness make to be known to gen-er-a-tions all.
- 2 For mer-cy shall be built, said I,
   for ev-er to en-dure;
  Thy faith-ful-ness, ev'n in the heav'ns,
   thou wilt es-tab-lish sure.
- 3 I with my chos-en One have made
   a cov'nant gra-cious-ly;
  And to my ser-vant, whom I loved,
   to Da-vid sworn have I;
- 4 That I thy seed es-tab-lish shall for ev-er to re-main, And will to gen-er-a-tions all thy throne build and main-tain.
- The prai-ses of thy won-ders, Lord, the hea-vens shall ex-press; And in the con-gre-ga-tion of saints thy faith-fu-lness.
- 6 For who in hea-ven with the Lord may once him-self com-pare? Who is like God a-mong the sons of those that might-y are?
- 7 Great fear in meet-ing of the saints
   is due un-to the Lord;
  And he of all a-bout him should
   with rev'rence be a-dored.

- 9 Ev'n in the ra-ging of the sea
   thou o-ver it dost reign;
  And when the waves there-of do swell,
   thou still-est them a-gain.
- 10 Ra-hab in pie-ces thou didst break, like one that slaugh-tered is; And with thy migh-ty arm thou hast dis-persed thine en-e-mies.
- The heav'ns are thine, thou for thine own the earth dost al-so take;
  The world, and ful-ness of the same, thy pow'r did found and make.
- 12 The north and south from thee a-lone their first be-gin-ning had;
  Both Ta-bor mount and Her-mon hill shall in thy name be glad.
- 14 Jus-tice and judg-ment of thy throne
   are made the dwell-ing-place;
   Mer-cy, ac-com-pa-nied with truth,
   shall go be-fore thy face.
- 15 O great-ly blessed the peo-ple are the joy-ful sound that know;
  In bright-ness of thy face, O Lord, they ev-er on shall go.
- 16 They in thy name shall all the day
   re-joice ex-cee-ding-ly;
  And in thy right-eous-ness shall they
   ex-al-ted be on high.
- 17 Be-cause the glor-y of their strength doth on-ly stand in thee;
  And in thy fav-or shall our horn and pow'r exalt-ed be.

- 18 For God is our de-fense; and he
   to us doth safe-ty bring:
   The Ho-ly One of Is-a-el
   is our al-migh-ty King.
- 20 Ev'n Da-vid, I have found him out a ser-vant un-to me;
  And with my ho-ly oil my King a-noin-ted him to be.
- 21 With whom my hand shall stablish-ed be; mine arm shall make him strong.
- 22 On him the foe shall not ex-act, nor son of mis-chief wrong.
- 23 I will beat down be-fore his face
   all his ma-li-cious foes;
   I will them great-ly plague who do
   with hat-red him op-pose.
- 24 My mer-cy and my faith-ful-ness with him yet still shall be;
  And in my name his horn and pow'r men shall ex-al-ted see.

  - 26 Thou art my Fa-ther, he shall cry,
     thou art my God a-lone;
    And he shall say, Thou art the Rock
     of my sal-va-tion.
  - 27 I'll make him my first-born, more high than kings of an-y land.
  - 28 My love I'll ev-er keep for him, my cov'nant fast shall stand.

- 29 His seed I by my pow'r will make for ev-er to en-dure;
  And, as the days of heav'n, his throne shall stab-le be, and sure.
- 30 But if his child-ren shall for-sake my laws, and go a-stray,
  And in my judg-ments shall not walk,
  but wand-er from my way:
- 31 If they my laws break, and do not keep my com-mande-ments;
- 32 I'll vi-sit then their faults with rods, their sins with chas-tise-ments.
- 33 Yet I'll not take my love from him, nor false my prom-ise make.
- 34 My cov'nant I'll not break, nor change what with my mouth I spake.
- 35 Once by my ho-li-ness I sware, to Da-vid I'll not lie;
- 36 His seed and throne shall, as the sun, be-fore me last for aye.
- 37 It, like the moon, shall ev-er be
   es-tab-lished sted-fast-ly;
  And like to that which in the hea-v'n
   doth wit-ness faith-full-y.
- 38 But thou, dis-pleas-ed, hast cast off, thou didst ab-hor and loathe;
  With him that thine a-noint-ed is thou hast been very wroth.
- 39 Thou hast thy ser-vant's cov-en-ant made void, and quite cast by;
  Thou hast pro-faned his crown, while it cast on the ground doth lie.
- 40 Thou all his hed-ges hast broke down, his strong holds down hast torn.
- 41 He to all pass-ers-by a spoil, to neigh-bors is a scorn.

- 42 Thou hast set up his foes' right hand; mad'st all his en'mies glad:
- 43 Turned his sword's edge, and him to stand in bat-tle hast not made.
- 44 His glor-y thou hast made to cease, his throne to ground down cast;
- 45 Short-ened his days of youth, and him with shame thou cov-ered hast.
- 46 How long, Lord, wilt thou hide thy-self?
   for ev-er, in thine ire?
   And shall thine in-dig-na-tion
   burn like un-to a fire?
- 47 Re-mem-ber, Lord, how short a time I shall on earth re-main:
  O where-fore is it so that thou has made all men in vain?
- 48 What man is he that liv-eth here, and death shall nev-er see?

  Or from the pow-er of the grave what man his soul shall free?
- 49 Thy for-mer loving-kind-ness-es,
  O Lord, where be they now?
  Those which in truth and faith-ful-ness
  to David sworn hast thou?
- 50 Mind, Lord, thy ser-vant's sad re-proach; how I in bo-som bear The scor-nings of the peo-ple all, who strong and migh-ty are.
- 51 Where-with thy ra-ging en-e-mies re-proached, O Lord, think on; Where-with they have re-proached the steps of thine a-noint-ed one.
- 52 All bless-ing to the Lord our God let be as-crib-ed then:
  For ev-er-more so let it be.
  A-men, yea, and a-men.

### Book IV: Psalms 90-106

## Psalm 90

A Prayer of Moses the man of God.

- 1 Lord, thou hast been our dwelling-place in gen-er-a-tions all.
- 2 Be-fore thou ev-er hadst brought forth the moun-tains great or small;
  - Ere ev-er thou hadst formed the earth,
     and all the world a-broad;
    Ev'n thou from ev-er-last-ing art
     to ev-er-last-ing God.
- 3 Thou dost un-to de-struc-tion
   man that is mor-tal turn;
  And un-to them thou say'st, A-gain,
   ye sons of men, re-turn.
- 5 As with an o-ver-flow-ing flood thou car-ry'st them a-way: They like a sleep are, like the grass that grows at morn are they.
- 6 At morn it flour-i-shes and grows, cut down at ev'n doth fade.
- 7 For by thine an-ger we're con-sumed, thy wrath makes us a-fraid.
- 8 Our sins thou and in-i-quities
   dost in thy pre-sence place,
  And sett'st our sec-ret faults be-fore
   the bright-ness of thy face.
- 9 For in thine an-ger all our days do pass on to an end; And as a tale that hath been told, so we our years do spend.

- 10 Three-score and ten years do sum up
   our days and years, we see;
  Or, if, by rea-son of more strength,
   in some four-score they be:
  - Yet doth the strength of such old men but grief and la-bor prove; For it is soon cut off, and we fly hence, and soon re-move.
- 11 Who knows the pow-er of thy wrath?
  Ac-cor-ding to thy fear
- 12 So is thy wrath: Lord, teach thou us our end in mind to bear;
  - And so to count our days, that we our hearts may still ap-ply
    To learn thy wis-dom and thy truth, that we may live there-by.
- 13 Turn yet a-gain to us, O Lord, how long thus shall it be? Let it re-pent thee now for those that ser-vants are to thee.
- 14 O with thy tend-er mer-cies, Lord,
   us early sat-i-sfy;
  So we re-joice shall all our days,
   and still be glad in thee.
- 15 Ac-cord-ing as the days have been, where-in we grief have had, And years where-in we ill have seen, so do thou make us glad.
- 17 And let the beau-ty of the Lord our God be us up-on:
  Our hand-y-works e-stab-lish thou,
  e-stab-lish them each one.

- 1 He that doth in the sec-ret place of the most High re-side, Un-der the shade of him that is th' Al-might-y shall a-bide.
- 2 I of the Lord my God will say,
   He is my ref-uge still,
   He is my fort-ress, and my God,
   and in him trust I will.
- 4 His fea-thers shall thee hide; thy trust un-der his wings shall be: His faith-ful-ness shall be a shield and buck-ler un-to thee.
- 5 Thou shalt not need to be a-fraid for ter-rors of the night; Nor for the ar-row that doth fly by day, while it is light;
- 6 Nor for the pest-i-lence, that walks in dark-ness se-cret-ly; Nor for des-truc-tion, that doth waste at noon-day o-pen-ly.
- 7 A thous-and at thy side shall fall, on thy right hand shall lie Ten thous-and dead; yet un-to thee it shall not once come nigh.
- 8 On-ly thou with thine eyes shalt look, and a be-hold-er be; And thou there-in the just re-ward of wick-ed men shalt see.

- 9 Be-cause the Lord, who cons-tant-ly
   my ref-uge is a-lone,
  Ev'n the most High, is made by thee
   thy hab-i-ta-tion;
- 10 No pla-gue shall near thy dwell-ing come; no ill shall thee be-fall:
- 11 For thee to keep in all thy ways his an-gels charge he shall.
- 13 Up-on the ad-der thou shalt tread,
   and on the li-on strong;
  Thy feet on dra-gons tramp-le shall,
   and on the li-ons young.
- 15 He'll call on me, I'll answ-er him;
   I will be with him still
   In trou-ble, to de-liver him,
   and hon-or him I will.
- 16 With length of days un-to his mind
   I will him sat-is-fy;
   I al-so my sal-va-tion
   will cause his eyes to see.

A Psalm or Song for the sabbath day.

- 1 To ren-der thanks un-to the Lord
   it is a come-ly thing,
  And to thy name, O thou most High,
   due praise a-loud to sing.
- 2 Thy lov-ing-kind-ness to show forth
   when shines the morn-ing light;
  And to de-clare thy faith-ful-ness
   with plea-sure ev'ry night.
- On a ten-string-ed in-stru-ment, up-on the psal-te-ry,
  And on the harp with so-lemn sound, and grave sweet me-lo-dy.
- 4 For thou, Lord, by thy might-y works hast made my heart right glad; And I will tri-umph in the works which by thine hands were made.
- 5 How great, Lord, are thy works! each thought of thine a deep it is:
- 6 A bru-tish man it know-eth not; fools under-stand not this.
- 7 When those that lewd and wick-ed are spring quick-ly up like grass, And work-ers of in-i-qui-ty do flour-ish all a-pace;
  - It is that they for ev-er may de-story-ed be and slain;
- 8 But thou, O Lord, art the most High, for ev-er to re-main.

- 11 Mine eyes shall al-so my de-sire
   see on mine en-e-mies;
  Mine ears shall of the wick-ed hear
   that do a-gainst me rise.
- 12 But like the palm-tree flour-ish-ing shall be the right-eous one;
  He shall like to the ce-dar grow that is in Leb-a-non.
- 13 Those that with-in the house of God are plant-ed by his grace, They shall grow up, and flour-ish all in our God's ho-ly place.
- 15 To show that up-right is the Lord:
   he is a rock to me;
  And he from all un-right-eous-ness
   is al-to-ge-ther free.

- 1 The Lord doth reign, and clothed is he
   with ma-jes-ty most bright;
  His works do show him clothed to be,
   and girt a-bout with might.
  - The world is al-so sta-blish-èd, that it can-not de-part.
- 2 Thy throne is fixed of old, and thou from ev-er-last-ing art.
- 3 The floods, O Lord, have lift-ed up, they lift-ed up their voice; The floods have lift-ed up their waves, and made a migh-ty noise.
- 4 But yet the Lord, that is on high, is more of might by far Than noise of man-y wat-ers is, or great sea-bill-ows are.
- 5 Thy test-i-mo-nies ev'ry one in faith-ful-ness ex-cel; And ho-li-ness for ev-er, Lord, thine house be-cometh well.

- 1 O Lord God, un-to whom a-lone
   all ven-geance doth be-long;
   0 might-y God, who ven-geance own'st,
   shine forth, a-veng-ing wrong.
- 2 Lift up thy-self, thou of the earth the sov'reign Judge that art; And un-to those that are so proud a due re-ward im-part.
- 3 How long, O might-y God, shall they who lewd and wick-ed be, How long shall they who wick-ed are thus tri-umph haugh-ti-ly?
- 4 How long shall things most hard by them be ut-ter-ed and told? And all that work in-i-qui-ty to boast them-selves be bold?
- 5 Thy folk they break in pie-ces, Lord, thine her-i-tage op-press:
- 6 The wid-ow they and strang-er slay, and kill the fa-ther-less.
- 7 Yet say they, God it shall not see, nor God of Ja-cob know.
- 8 Ye brut-ish peo-ple! Under-stand; fools! when wise will ye grow?
- 9 The Lord did plant the ear of man, and hear then shall not he? He on-ly formed the eye, and then shall he not clear-ly see?
- 10 He that the na-tions doth cor-rect, shall he not chas-tise you?

  He know-ledge un-to man doth teach, and shall him-self not know?

- 11 Man's thoughts to be but vani-ty the Lord doth well dis-cern.
- 13 That thou may'st give him rest from days
   of sad ad-ver-si-ty,
   Un-til the pit be digged for those
   that work in-iq-ui-ty.
- 14 For sure the Lord will not cast off those that his peo-ple be,
  Nei-ther his own in-her-i-tance quit and for-sake will he:
- 15 But judg-ment un-to right-eous-ness shall yet re-turn a-gain;
  And all shall fol-low a-fter it that are right-heart-ed men.
- 16 Who will rise up for me a-gainst
   those that do wick-ed-ly?
   Who will stand up for me 'gainst those
   that work in-i-qui-ty?
- 17 Un-less the Lord had been my help when I was sore op-pressed,
  Al-most my soul had in the house of si-lence been at rest.
- 18 When I had ut-ter-ed this word, (my foot doth slip a-way,)
  Thy mer-cy held me up, O Lord, thy good-ness did me stay.
- 19 A-midst the mul-ti-tude of thoughts
   which in my heart do fight,
   My soul, lest it be o-ver-charged,
   thy com-forts do de-light.
- 20 Shall of in-iq-ui-ty the throne have fel-low-ship with thee,
  Which mis-chief, cun-ning-ly con-trived,
  doth by a law de-cree?

- 21 A-gainst the right-eous souls they join, they quilt-less blood con-demn.
- 22 But of my re-fuge God's the rock, and my de-fense from them.
- 23 On them their own in-iq-ui-ty
  the Lord shall bring and lay,
  And cut them off in their own sin;
  our Lord God shall them slay.

- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord:
   come, let us ev'ry one
  A joy-ful noise make to the Rock
   of our sal-va-tion.
- 2 Let us be-fore his pres-ence come with praise and thank-ful voice; Let us sing psalms to him with grace, and make a joy-ful noise.
- 3 For God, a great God, and great King, a-bove all gods he is.
- 4 Depths of the earth are in his hand, the strength of hills is his.
- 5 To him the spa-cious sea be-longs, for he the same did make; The dry land al-so from his hands its form at first did take.
- 6 O come, and let us wor-ship him, let us bow down with-al, And on our knees be-fore the Lord our Ma-ker let us fall.
- 7 For he's our God, the peo-ple we of his own pas-ture are, And of his hand the sheep; to-day, if ye his voice will hear,
- 8 Then har-den not your hearts, as in
   the pro-vo-ca-tion,
   As in the des-ert, on the day
   of the temp-ta-tion:
- 9 When me your fa-thers temp-ted and proved, and did my work-ing see;
- 10 Ev'n for the space of for-ty years this race hath griev-ed me.
  - I said, This peo-ple errs in heart, my ways they do not know:
- 11 To whom I swore in wrath, that to my rest they should not go.

- 1 O sing a new song to the Lord: sing all the earth to God.
- 2 To God sing, bless his name, show still his sav-ing health a-broad.
- 3 Among the hea-then na-tions
   his glor-y do de-clare;
  And un-to all the peo-ple show
   his works that won-drous are.
- 4 For great's the Lord, and great-ly he
   is to be mag-ni-fied;
  Yea, wor-thy to be feared is he
   a-bove all gods be-side.
- 5 For all the gods are i-dols dumb, which blind-ed na-tions fear; But our God is the Lord, by whom the heav'ns cre-a-ted were.
- 7 Do ye as-cribe un-to the Lord, of peo-ple ev'ry tribe, Glor-y do ye un-to the Lord, and might-y pow'r as-cribe.
- 8 Give ye the glor-y to the Lord that to his name is due;
  Come ye in-to his courts, and bring an of-fer-ing with you.
- 9 In beau-ty of his ho-li-ness,
  O do the Lord a-dore;
  Like-wise let all the earth through-out
  trem-ble his face be-fore.

- 10 A-mong the hea-then say, God reigns;
   the world shall stead-fast-ly
   Be fixed from mov-ing; he shall judge
   the peo-ple right-eous-ly.
- 11 Let heav'ns be glad be-fore the Lord,
   and let the earth re-joice;
   Let seas, and all that is there-in,
   cry out, and make a noise.

- 1 God reign-eth, let the earth be glad, and isles re-joice each one.
- 2 Dark clouds him com-pass; and in right with judg-ment dwells his throne.
- 3 Fire goes be-fore him, and his foes
   it burns up round a-bout:
- 4 His lightn-ings ligh-ten did the world; earth saw, and shook through-hout.
- 5 Hills at the pres-ence of the Lord, like wax, did melt a-way; Ev'n at the pres-ence of the Lord of all the earth, I say.
- 6 The heav'ns de-clare his right-eous-ness, all men his glor-y see.
- 7 All who serve gra-ven im-a-ges, con-found-ed let them be.
  - Who do of i-dols boast them-selves, let shame up-on them fall: Ye that are call-ed gods, see that ye do him wor-ship all.
- 8 Zi-on did hear, and joy-ful was,
   glad Ju-dah's daugh-ters were;
  They much re-joiced, O Lord, be-cause
   thy judg-ments did ap-pear.
- 9 For thou, O Lord, art high a-bove all things on earth that are; A-bove all other gods thou art ex-al-ted ve-ry far.
- 10 Hate ill, all ye that love the Lord:
   his saints' souls keep-eth he;
  And from the hands of wick-ed men
   he sets them safe and free.

- 12 Ye right-eous, in the Lord re-joice; ex-press your thank-ful-ness, When ye in-to your mem-o-ry do call his ho-li-ness.

- 2 The Lord God his sal-va-tion hath caus-ed to be known; His jus-tice in the hea-then's sight he o-pen-ly hath shown.
- 3 He mind-ful of his grace and truth
   to Isr'el's house hath been;
  And the sal-va-tion of our God
   all ends of th' earth have seen.
- 4 Let all the earth un-to the Lord send forth a joy-ful noise; Lift up your voice a-loud to him, sing prais-es, and re-joice.
- 5 With harp, with harp, and voice of psalms, un-to Je-ho-vah sing:
- 6 With trum-pets, cor-nets, glad-ly sound be-fore the Lord the King.
- 7 Let seas and all their full-ness roar; the world, and dwell-ers there;
- 8 Let floods clap hands, and let the hills to-ge-ther joy de-clare
- 9 Be-fore the Lord; be-cause he comes, to judge the earth comes he: He'll judge the world with right-eous-ness, his folk with e-qui-ty.

- 1 Th' e-ter-nal Lord doth reign as king,
   let all the peo-ple quake;
  He sits be-tween the cher-u-bims,
   let th' earth be moved and shake.
- 2 The Lord in Zi-on great and high a-bove all peo-ple is;
- 3 Thy great and dread-ful name (for it is ho-ly) let them bless.
- 4 The king's strength also judg-ment loves;
   thou set-tlest e-qu-ity:
   Just judg-ment thou dost ex-e-cute
   in Ja-cob right-eous-ly.
- 5 The Lord our God e-xalt on high, and rev'rent-ly do ye Be-fore his foot-stool wor-ship him: the Ho-ly One is he.
- 6 Mo-ses and Aar-on 'mong his prie-sts, Sam-uel, with them that call Up-on his name: these called on God, and he them answ-ered all.
- 7 With-in the pil-lar of the cloud he un-to them did speak: The test-i-mo-nies he them taught, and laws, they did not break.
- 8 Thou answ-er'dst them, O Lord our God; thou wast a God that gave Par-don to them, though on their deeds thou would-est ven-geance have.

- 1 O all ye lands, un-to the Lord make ye a joy-ful noise.
- 2 Serve God with glad-ness, him be-fore come with a sing-ing voice.
- 3 Know ye the Lord that he is God; not we, but he us made: We are his peo-ple, and the sheep with-in his pas-ture fed.
- 4 En-ter his gates and courts with praise, to thank him go ye thi-ther: To him ex-press your thank-ful-ness, and bless his name to-ge-ther.
- 5 Be-cause the Lord our God is good, his mer-cy fail-eth nev-er; And to all gen-er-a-tions his truth en-dur-eth ev-er.

## A Psalm of David.

- 1 I mer-cy will and judg-ment sing, Lord, I will sing to thee.
- With wis-dom in a per-fect way shall my be-ha-vior be.
  - O when, in kind-ness un-to me, wilt thou be pleased to come? I with a per-fect heart will walk with-in my house at home.
- 3 I will en-dure no wick-ed thing
   be-fore mine eyes to be:
   I hate their work that turn a-side,
   it shall not cleave to me.
- 4 A stub-born and a fro-ward heart
   de-part quite from me shall;
  A per-son giv'n to wicked-ness
   I will not know at all.
- 5 I'll cut him off that slander-eth his neigh-bor priv-i-ly: The haught-y heart I will not bear, nor him that look-eth high.
- 6 Up-on the faith-ful of the land mine eyes shall be, that they May dwell with me: he shall me serve that walks in per-fect way.
- 7 Who of de-ceit a work-er is in my house shall not dwell; And in my pres-ence shall he not re-main that lies doth tell.
- 8 Yea, all the wick-ed of the land
   earl-y des-troy will I;
  All from God's cit-y to cut off
   that work in-i-quit-y.

A Prayer of the afflicted, when he is overwhelmed, and poureth out his complaint before the Lord.

- 1 O Lord, un-to my pray'r give ear,
   my cry let come to thee;
- 2 And in the day of my dis-tress hide not thy face from me.
  - Give ear to me; what time I call, to answ-er me make haste:
- For, as an hearth, my bones are burnt, my days, like smoke, do waste.
- 4 My heart with-in me smit-ten is, and it is wi-ther-ed Like very grass; so that I do for-get to eat my bread.
- 5 By rea-son of my groan-ing voice my bones cleave to my skin.
- 6 Like pel-i-can in wil-der-ness
  for-sa-ken I have been:
  - I like an owl in des-ert am,
     that night-ly there doth moan;
- 7 I watch, and like a spar-row am on the house-top a-lone.
- 8 My bit-ter en'mies all the day re-proa-ches cast on me; And, be-ing mad at me, with rage a-gainst me sworn they be.
- 9 For why? I ash-es eat-en have like bread, in sor-rows deep; My drink I al-so min-gled have with tears that I did weep.
- 10 Thy wrath and in-dig-na-tion did cause this grief and pain; For thou hast lift me up on high, and cast me down a-gain.

- 12 But thou, Lord, ev-er-last-ing art, and thy re-mem-brance shall Con-tin-ual-ly en-dure, and be to gen-er-a-tions all.
- 13 Thou shalt a-rise, and mer-cy have
   up-on thy Zi-on yet;
  The time to fa-vor her is come,
   the time that thou hast set.
- 14 For in her rub-bish and her stones thy ser-vants plea-sure take;
  Yea, they the ve-ry dust there-of do fa-vor for her sake.
- 15 So shall the hea-then peo-ple fear the Lord's most ho-ly name;
  And all the kings on earth shall dread thy glor-y and thy fame.
- 16 When Zi-on by the might-y Lord built up a-gain shall be,
  In glor-y then and ma-jes-ty to men ap-pear shall he.
- 17 The pray-er of the des-ti-tute he sure-ly will re-gard;
  Their pray-er will he not des-pise, by him it shall be heard.
- 18 For gen-er-a-tions yet to come this shall be on re-cord:
  So shall the peo-ple that shall be cre-a-ted praise the Lord.
- 19 He from his sanc-tu-ar-y's height
   hath down-ward cast his eye;
  And from his glor-i-ous throne in heav'n
   the Lord the earth did spy;

- 21 That they in Zi-on may de-clare
   the Lord's most hol-y name,
   And pub-lish in Jer-u-sa-lem
   the prai-ses of the same;
- 22 When as the peo-ple ga-ther shall in troops with one ac-cord, When king-doms shall as-sem-bled be to serve the high-est Lord.
  - 23 My won-ted strength and force he hath a-ba-ted in the way,
    And he my days hath short-en-ed:
    24 Thus there-fore did I say,
  - My God, in mid-time of my days take thou me not a-way:
    - From age to age e-tern-al-ly thy years en-dure and stay.
  - 25 The firm foun-da-tion of the earth of old time thou hast laid;
    The hea-vens also are the work which thine own hands have made.
  - 26 Thou shalt for ev-er-more en-dure,
     but they shall per-ish all;
    Yea, ev'ry one of them wax old,
     like to a gar-ment, shall:
    - Thou, as a ves-ture, shalt them change, and they shall changed be:
  - 27 But thou the same art, and thy years are to e-ter-ni-ty.
  - 28 The chil-dren of thy ser-vants shall
     con-tin-u-ally en-dure;
    And in thy sight, O Lord, their seed
     shall be es-tab-lished sure.

#### A Psalm of David.

- 1 O thou my soul, bless God the Lord; and all that in me is Be stir-red up his ho-ly name to mag-ni-fy and bless.
- 2 Bless, O my soul, the Lord thy God, and not for-get-ful be Of all his gra-cious ben-e-fits he hath be-stowed on thee.
- 3 All thine i-ni-qui-ties who doth most gra-cious-ly for-give: Who thy dis-ea-ses all and pains doth heal, and thee re-lieve.
- Who doth re-deem thy life, that thou to death may'st not go down; Who thee with lov-ing-kind-ness doth and ten-der mer-cies crown:
- 5 Who with a-bun-dance of good things doth sa-tis-fy thy mouth; So that, ev'n as the ea-gle's age, re-new-ed is thy youth.
- 6 God right-eous judg-ment ex-e-cutes for all op-pres-sed ones.
- 7 His ways to Mo-ses, he his acts made known to Isr'el's sons.
- 9 He will not chide con-tin-ual-ly, nor keep his anger still.
- 10 With us he dealt not as we sinned, nor did re-quite our ill.

- 11 For as the hea-ven in its height
   the earth sur-mount-eth far;
   So great to those that do him fear
   his ten-der mer-cies are:
- 12 As far as east is dis-tant from the west, so far hath he From us re-moved, in his love, all our in-i-qui-ty.
- 13 Such pit-y as a fa-ther hath un-to his child-ren dear;
  Like pit-y shews the Lord to such as wor-ship him in fear.
- 14 For he re-mem-bers we are dust, and he our frame well knows.
- 15 Frail man, his days are like the grass, as flow'r in field he grows:
- 16 For o-ver it the wind doth pass,
   and it a-way is gone;
  And of the place where once it was
   it shall no more be known.
- 17 But un-to them that do him fear
  God's mer-cy nev-er ends;
  And to their child-ren's child-ren still
  his right-eous-ness ex-tends:
- 19 The Lord pre-par-ed hath his throne
   in hea-vens firm to stand;
  And ev'ry thing that being hath
   his king-dom doth com-mand.
- 20 O ye his an-gels, that ex-cel in strength, bless ye the Lord; Ye who o-bey what he com-mands, and hear-ken to his word.

- O bless and mag-ni-fy the Lord, ye glor-i-ous hosts of his;
  Ye min-is-ters, that do ful-fil whate'er his plea-sure is.
- 22 O bless the Lord, all ye his works, where-with the world is stored
  In his do-min-ions ev'ry where.
  My soul, bless thou the Lord.

- With light, as with a robe, thy-self thou cov-er-est a-bout; And, like un-to a cur-tain, thou the hea-vens stretch-est out.
- Who of his cham-bers doth the beams with-in the wa-ters lay; Who doth the clouds his char-i-ot make, on wings of wind make way.
- 4 Who flam-ing fire his min-is-ters, his an-gels sp'rits, doth make:
- 5 Who earth's foun-da-tions did lay, that it should nev-er shake.
- 6 Thou didst it cov-er with the deep, as with a gar-ment spread: The wa-ters stood a-bove the hills, when thou the word but said.
- 7 But at the voice of thy re-buke they fled, and would not stay; They at thy thun-der's dread-ful voice did haste them fast a-way.
- 8 They by the moun-tains do as-cend, and by the valley-ground De-scend, un-to that ver-y place which thou for them didst found.
- 9 Thou hast a bound un-to them set, that they may not pass o-ver, That they do not re-turn a-gain the face of earth to co-ver.

- 10 He to the val-leys sends the springs, which run a-mong the hills:
- 11 They to all beasts of field give drink, wild as-ses drink their fills.
- 12 By them the fowls of heav'n shall have
   their ha-bi-ta-tion,
  Which do a-mong the bran-ches sing
   with de-lec-ta-tion.
- 13 He from his cham-bers wa-ter-eth the hills, when they are dry'd:
  With fruit and in-crease of thy works the earth is sa-tis-fied.
- 14 For cat-tle he makes grass to grow, he makes the herb to spring For th' use of man, that food to him he from the earth may bring;
- 16 The trees of God are full of sap;
   the ce-dars that do stand
   In Le-ba-non, which plan-ted were
   by his al-might-y hand.
- 17 Birds of the air up-on their boughs do choose their nests to make;
  As for the stork, the fir-tree she doth for her dwel-ling take.
- 18 The lof-ty moun-tains for wild goats a place of ref-uge be;
  The co-nies al-so to the rocks do for their safe-ty flee.
- 19 He sets the moon in heav'n, there-by the sea-sons to dis-cern:
  From him the sun his cer-tain time of go-ing down doth learn.

- 20 Thou dark-ness mak'st, 'tis night, then beasts of for-ests creep a-broad.
- 21 The li-ons young roar for their prey, and seek their meat from God.
- 22 The sun doth rise, and home they flock, down in their dens they lie.
- 23 Man goes to work, his la-bour he doth to the ev'ning ply.
- 24 How man-i-fold, Lord, are thy works!
  in wis-dom won-der-ful
  Thou ev'ry one of them hast made;
  earth's of thy ri-ches full:
- 25 So is this great and spa-cious sea, where-in things creep-ing are, Which num-bered can-not be; and beasts both great and small are there.
- 26 There ships go; there thou mak'st to play that le-vi-a-than great.
- 27 These all wait on thee, that thou may'st in due time give them meat.
- 29 Thou hid'st thy face; they troub-led are, their breath thou tak'st a-way; Then do they die, and to their dust re-turn a-gain do they.
- 31 The glor-y of the might-y Lord con-tin-ue shall for ev-er:
  The Lord Je-ho-vah shall re-joice in all his works to-ge-ther.

- 32 Earth, as af-fright-ed, tremb-leth all, if he on it but look;
  And if the moun-tains he but touch, they pre-sent-ly do smoke.
- 34 Of him my med-i-ta-tion shall sweet thoughts to me af-ford; And as for me, I will re-joice in God, my on-ly Lord.
- 35 From earth let sin-ners be con-sumed,
   let ill men no more be.
  0 thou my soul, bless thou the Lord.
   Praise to the Lord give ye.

- 1 Give thanks to God, call on his name; to men his deeds make known.
- 2 Sing ye to him, sing psalms; pro-claim his won-drous works each one.
- 3 See that ye in his ho-ly name to glor-y do ac-cord; And let the heart of ev'ry one re-joice that seeks the Lord.
- The Lord Al-mi-ghty, and his strength, with stead-fast hearts seek ye:

  His bless-ed and his gra-cious face seek ye con-tin-ual-ly.
- 5 Think on the works that he hath done, which ad-mir-a-tion breed; His wonders, and the judg-ments all which from his mouth pro-ceed;
- 6 O ye that are of Abr'ham's race, his ser-vant well ap-prov'n; And ye that Ja-cob's child-ren are, whom he chose for his own.
- 7 Be-cause he, and he on-ly, is
   the might-y Lord our God;
  And his most right-eous judg-ments are
   in all the earth a-broad.
- 8 His cov'nant he re-mem-bered hath, that it may ev-er stand: To thou-sand gen-er-a-tions the word he did com-mand.
- Which cov-e-nant he firm-ly made with faith-ful A-bra-ham, And un-to I-saac, by his oath, he did re-new the same:

- 10 And un-to Ja-cob, for a law,
   he made it firm and sure,
   A cov-e-nant to Is-ra-el,
   which ev-er should en-dure.
- 11 He said, I'll give Cana-an's land for her-i-tage to you;
- 12 While they were stran-gers there, and few, in num-ber ver-y few:
- 13 While yet they went from land to land
   with-out a sure a-bode;
  And while through sun-dry king-doms they
   did wan-der far a-broad;
- 14 Yet, not-with-stand-ing suf-fered he
   no man to do them wrong:
   Yea, for their sakes, he did re-prove
   kings, who were great and strong.
- 15 Thus did he say, Touch ye not those that mine a-noin-ted be, Nor do the pro-phets an-y harm that do per-tain to me.
- 16 He called for fam-ine on the land, he brake the staff of bread:
- 17 But yet he sent a man be-fore, by whom they should be fed;
  - Ev'n Jo-seph, whom un-nat'ral-ly
    sell for a slave did they;
- 18 Whose feet with fet-ters they did hurt, and he in i-rons lay;
- 19 Un-til the time that his word came to give him lib-er-ty;
  The word and pur-pose of the Lord did him in pri-son try.
- 20 Then sent the king, and did com-mand
   that he en-larged should be:
   He that the peo-ple's ru-ler was
   did send to set him free.

- 21 A lord to rule his fa-mi-ly
  he raised him, as most fit;
  To him of all that he pos-ses-sed
  he did the charge com-mit:
- 22 That he might at his plea-sure bind the prin-ces of the land;
  And he might teach his sen-a-tors wis-dom to und-er-stand.
- 23 The peo-ple then of Is-ra-el down in-to Eg-ypt came;
  And Ja-cob al-so so-journed
  With-in the land of Ham.
- 24 And he did great-ly by his pow'r in-crease his peo-ple there;
  And stron-ger than their en-e-mies they by his bless-ing were.
- 25 Their heart he turn-ed to en-vy
   his folk ma-li-cious-ly,
  With those that his own ser-vants were
   to deal in sub-tle-ty.
- 26 His ser-vant Mo-ses he did send, Aa-ron his cho-sen one.
- 27 By these his signs and won-ders great in Ham's land were made known.
- 28 Dark-ness he sent, and made it dark; his word they did o-bey.
- 29 He turned their wa-ters in-to blood, and he their fish did slay.
- 30 The land in plen-ty brought forth frogs in cham-bers of their kings.
- 31 His word all sorts of flies and lice in all their bor-ders brings.
- 32 He hail for rain, and fla-ming fire in-to their land he sent:
- 33 And he their vines and fig-trees smote: trees of their coasts he rent.

- 34 He spake, and cat-er-pill-ars came, lo-custs did much a-bound;
- 35 Which in their land all herbs con-sumed, and all fruits of their ground.
- 36 He smote all first-born in their land, chief of their strength each one.
- 37 With gold and sil-ver brought them forth, weak in their tribes were none.
- 38 E-gypt was glad when forth they went, their fear on them did light.
- 39 He spread a cloud for cov-er-ing, and fire to shine by night.
- 40 They asked, and he brought quails: with bread of heav'n he fill-ed them.
- 41 He o-pened rocks, floods gushed, and ran in des-erts like a stream.
- 42 For on his ho-ly prom-ise he, and ser-vant Ab-r'ham, thought.
- 43 With joy his peop-le, his elect with glad-ness, forth he brought.
- 44 And un-to them the pleas-ant lands he of the hea-then gave;
  That of the peop-le's la-bor they in-her-i-tance might have.
- 45 That they his sta-tutes might ob-serve ac-cor-ding to his word;
  And that they might his laws o-bey.
  Give praise un-to the Lord.

- 1 Give praise and thanks un-to the Lord,
   for boun-ti-ful is he;
  His ten-der mer-cy doth en-dure
   un-to e-ter-ni-ty.
- 2 God's might-y works who can ex-press?
   or shew forth all his praise?
- 3 Bles-sed are they that judg-ment keep, and just-ly do al-ways.
- 4 Re-mem-ber me, Lord, with that love
   which thou to thine dost bear;
  With thy sal-va-tion, O my God,
   to vi-sit me draw near:
- 5 That I thy cho-sen's good may see, and in their joy re-joice; And may with thine in-her-i-tance tri-umph with cheer-ful voice.
- We with our fa-thers sin-ned have, and of i-ni-qui-ty Too long we have the work-ers been; we have done wick-ed-ly.
- 7 The won-ders great, which thou, O Lord, didst work in E-gypt land, Our fa-thers, though they saw, yet them they did not un-der-stand:
  - And they thy mer-cies' mul-ti-tude kept not in me-mor-y; But at the sea, ev'n the Red sea, pro-voked him grie-vous-ly.
- 8 Nev-er-the-less he sav-ed them, ev'n for his own name's sake; That so he might to be well known his might-y pow-er make.

- 9 When he the Red sea did re-buke, then dri-ed up it was: Through depths, as through the wil-der-ness, he safe-ly made them pass.
- 10 From hands of those that ha-ted them
   he did his peo-ple save;
  And from the en'my's cru-el hand
   to them re-demp-tion gave.
- 11 The wa-ters o-ver-whelmed their foes; not one was left a-live.
- 12 Then they be-lieved his word, and praise to him in songs did give.
- 14 But much did lust in wil-der-ness, and God in de-sert tempt.
- 15 He gave them what they sought, but to their soul he lean-ness sent.
- 16 And a-gainst Mo-ses in the camp their en-vy did ap-pear;
  At Aa-ron they, the saint of God, en-vi-ous al-so were.
- 17 There-fore the earth did o-pen wide, and Da-than did de-vour, And all A-bir-am's com-pan-y did co-ver in that hour.
- 18 Like-wise a-mong their comp-a-ny
   a fire was kind-led then;
  And so the hot con-su-ming flame
   burnt up these wick-ed men.
- 19 Up-on the hill of Hor-eb they an i-dol-calf did frame,
  A mol-ten im-age they did make, and wor-ship-pèd the same.

- 21 They did for-get the might-y God, that had their sa-vior been, By whom such great things brought to pass they had in E-gypt seen.
- 23 Then said he, He would them de-stroy, had not, his wrath to stay, His cho-sen Mo-ses stood in breach, that them he should not slay.
- 24 Yea, they des-pised the pleas-ant land, be-live-èd not his word:
- 25 But in their tents they mur-mur-ed, not heark'n-ing to the Lord.
- 26 There-fore in des-ert them to slay he lift-ed up his hand:
- 27 'Mong na-tions to o'er-throw their seed, and scat-ter in each land.
- 28 They un-to Ba-al-pe-or did them-selves as-so-ci-ate; The sa-cri-fi-ces of the dead they did pro-fane-ly eat.
- 29 Thus, by their lewd in-ven-tions, they did pro-voke his ire; And then up-on them sud-den-ly the pla-gue brake in as fire.
- 30 Then Phi-n'has rose, and jus-tice did, and so the pla-gue did cease;
- 31 That to all ages coun-ted was to him for right-eous-ness.

- 32 And at the wa-ters, where they strove, they did him ang-ry make,
  In such sort, that it fared ill with Mo-ses for their sake:
- 33 Be-cause they there his spir-it meek pro-vok-èd bit-ter-ly,
  So that he ut-tered with his lips words un-ad-vis-e-dly.
- 34 Nor, as the Lord com-mand-ed them, did they the na-tions slay:
- 35 But with the hea-then ming-led were, and learn-ed of them their way.
- 36 And they their i-dols served, which did a snare un-to them turn.
- 37 Their sons and dau-ghters they to de-v'ls in sac-ri-fice did burn.
- 38 In their own child-ren's guilt-less blood
   their hands they did im-brue,
   Whom to Cana-an's i-dols they
   for sac-ri-fi-ces slew:
- So was the land de-filed with blood.

  They stained with their own way,

  And with their own in-ven-tions
  a whor-ing they did stray.
- 40 A-gainst his peo-ple kin-dled was the wrath of God there-fore, In-so-much that he did his own in-her-i-tance ab-hor.
- 41 He gave them to the hea-then's hand; their foes did them com-mand.
- 42 Their en'mies them op-pressed, they were made sub-ject to their hand.
- 43 He man-y times de-liv-ered them; but with their coun-sel so They him pro-voked, that for their sin they were brought ve-ry low.

- 44 Yet their af-flic-tion he be-held, when he did hear their cry:
- 45 And he for them his cov-e-nant did call to me-mor-y;
- After his mer-cies' mul-ti-tude

  46 he did re-pent: And made
  Them to be pi-tied of all those
  who did them cap-tive lead.
- 47 O Lord our God, us save, and ga-ther the hea-then from a-mong,
  That we thy ho-ly name may praise in a tri-um-phant song.
- 48 Blessed be Je-ho-vah, Isr'el's God, to all e-ter-ni-ty:
  Let all the peop-le say, A-men.
  Praise to the Lord give ye.

# Book V: 107 - 150

- 1 Praise God, for he is good: for still his mer-cies last-ing be.
- 2 Let God's re-deem-ed say so, whom he from th' en'my's hand did free;
- 3 And ga-thered them out of the lands, from north, south, east, and west.
- 4 They strayed in de-sert's path-less way, no cit-y found to rest.
- 5 For thirst and hun-ger in them faints
- 6 their soul. When straits them press, They cry un-to the Lord, and he them frees from their dis-tress.
- 7 Them al-so in a way to walk that right is he did guide, That they might to a cit-y go, where-in they might a-bide.
- 8 O that men to the Lord would give praise for his good-ness then, And for his works of won-der done un-to the sons of men!
- 9 For he the soul that long-ing is doth ful-ly sat-is-fy; With good-ness he the hung-ry soul doth fill a-bun-dant-ly.
- 11 Be-cause a-gainst the words of God
   they wrought re-bel-lious-ly,
   And they the coun-sel did con-temn
   of him that is most High:

- 12 Their heart he did bring down with grief, they fell, no help could have.
- 13 In trou-ble then they cried to God, he them from straits did save.
- 14 He out of dark-ness did them bring,
   and from death's shade them take;
   These bands, where-with they had been bound,
   a-sunder quite he brake.
- 15 O that men to the Lord would give praise for his good-ness then,
  And for his works of won-der done un-to the sons of men!
- 16 Be-cause the might-y gates of brass
   in pie-ces he did tear,
   By him in sun-der al-so cut
   the bars of i-ron were.
- 17 Fools, for their sin, and their of-fence, do sore af-flic-tion bear;
- 18 All kind of meat their soul ab-hors; they to death's gates draw near.
- 19 In grief they cry to God; he saves them from their mis-er-ies.
- 20 He sends his word, them heals, and them from their des-truc-tions frees.
- 21 O that men to the Lord would give praise for his good-ness then, And for his works of won-der done un-to the sons of men!
- 22 And let them sac-ri-fice to him off 'rings of thank-ful-ness;
  And let them shew a-broad his works in songs of joy-ful-ness.
- 23 Who go to sea in ships, and in great wa-ters trad-ing be,
- 24 With-in the deep these men God's works and his great won-ders see.

- 25 For he com-mands, and forth in haste the storm-y tem-pest flies,
  Which makes the sea with roll-ing waves a-loft to swell and rise.
- 26 They mount to heav'n, then to the depths they do go down a-gain; Their soul doth faint and melt a-way with trou-ble and with pain.
- 27 They reel and stag-ger like one drunk, at their wit's end they be:
- 28 Then they to God in trou-ble cry, who them from straits doth free.
- 29 The storm is chang-èd in-to a calm
   at his com-mand and will;
   So that the waves, which rag-èd be-fore,
   now qui-et are and still.
- 30 Then are they glad, be-cause at rest and qui-et now they be:
  So to the ha-ven he them brings, which they de-sir-èd to see.
- 31 O that men to the Lord would give praise for his good-ness then,
  And for his works of won-der done un-to the sons of men!
- 32 A-mong the peo-ple ga-ther-ed let them ex-alt his name; A-mong as-sem-bled el-ders spread his most re-nown-ed fame.
- 33 He to dry land turns wa-ter-springs, and floods to wil-der-ness;
- 34 For sins of those that dwell there-in, fat land to bar-ren-ness.
- 35 The burnt and parch-ed wil-der-ness to wa-ter-pools he brings;
  The ground that was dried up be-fore he turns to wa-ter-springs:

- 36 And there, for dwel-ling, he a place doth to the hun-gry give,

  That they a cit-y may pre-pare com-mo-dious-ly to live.
- 37 There sow they fields, and vine-yards plant, to yield fruits of in-crease.
- 38 His bles-sing makes them mul-ti-ply, lets not their beasts de-crease.
- 39 A-gain they are di-min-ish-ed, and very low brought down, Through sor-row and af-flict-ion, and great op-pres-sion.
- 40 He up-on prin-ces pours con-tempt, and caus-eth them to stray,
  And wan-der in a wil-der-ness, where-in there is no way.
- 41 Yet set-teth he the poor on high from all his mis-er-ies,
  And he, much like un-to a flock,
  doth make him fam-i-lies.
- 42 They that are right-eous shall re-joice, when they the same shall see;
  And, as a-sham-ed, stop her mouth shall all in-iq-ui-ty.
- 43 Who-so is wise, and will these things ob-serve, and them re-cord, Ev'n they shall under-stand the love and kind-ness of the Lord.

#### A Song or Psalm of David

- 1 My heart is fixed, Lord; I will sing, and with my glor-y praise.
- 2 A-wake up psal-ter-y and harp; my-self I'll earl-y raise.
- 3 I'll praise thee 'mong the peo-ple, Lord;
   'mong na-tions sing will I:
- 4 For a-bove heav'n thy mer-cy's great, thy truth doth reach the sky.
- 5 Be thou a-bove the hea-vens, Lord, ex-alt-ed glor-i-ous-ly; Thy glor-y all the earth a-bove be lif-ted up on high.
- 6 That those who thy be-lov-ed are
   de-liv-er-ed may be,
  0 do thou save with thy right hand,
   and answ-er give to me.
- 7 God in his ho-li-ness hath said, here-in I will take plea-sure; She-chem I will di-vide, and forth will Suc-coth's val-ley mea-sure.
- 8 Gi-le-ad I claim as mine by right;
   Ma-nas-seh mine shall be;
  E-phraim is of my head the strength;
   Ju-dah gives laws for me;
- 10 O who is he will bring me to
   the cit-y fort-i-fied?
   O who is he that to the land
   of E-dom will me guide?

- 11 O God, thou who hadst cast us off, this thing wilt thou not do? And wilt not thou, ev'n thou, O God, forth with our ar-mies go?
- 12 Do thou from trou-ble give us help, for help-less is man's aid.
- 13 Through God we shall do val-iant-ly; our foes he shall down tread.

### Psalm of David

- 2 The Lord shall out of Zi-on send
   the rod of thy great pow'r:
   In midst of all thine en-e-mies
   be thou the gov-er-nor.
- 3 A will-ing peo-ple in thy day
   of pow'r shall come to thee,
  In hol-y beau-ties from morn's womb;
   thy youth like dew shall be.
- 4 The Lord him-self hath made an oath, and will re-pent him nev-er, Of th' or-der of Mel-chi-se-dec thou art a priest for ev-er.
- 5 The glor-i-ous and might-y Lord, that sits at thy right hand, Shall, in his day of wrath, strike through kings that do him with-stand.
- 6 He shall a-mong the hea-then judge, he shall with bod-ies dead The pla-ces fill: o'er man-y lands he wound shall ev'ry head.
- 7 The brook that run-neth in the way with drink shall him sup-ply; And, for this cause, in tri-umph he shall lift his head on high.

- 1 Praise ye the Lord: with my whole heart
   I will God's praise de-clare,
   Where the as-sem-blies of the just
   and con-gre-ga-tions are.
- 2 The whole works of the Lord our God are great a-bove all mea-sure, Sought out they are of ev'ry one that doth there-in take plea-sure.
- 4 His works most won-der-ful he hath made to be thought up-on: The Lord is gra-cious, and he is full of com-pas-sion.
- 5 He giv-eth meat un-to all those that tru-ly do him fear;
  And ev-er-more his cov-e-nant he in his mind will bear.
- 6 He did the pow-er of his works un-to his peo-ple show, When he the hea-then's her-i-tage up-on them did be-stow.
- 7 His hand-y-works are truth and right; all his com-mands are sure:
- 8 And, done in truth and up-right-ness, they ev-er-more en-dure.
- 9 He sent re-demp-tion to his folk; his cov-e-nant for aye He did com-mand: ho-ly his name and rev'rend is al-way.
- 10 Wis-dom's be-gin-ning is God's fear:
  good under-stand-ing they
  Have all that his com-mands ful-fill:
  his praise en-dures for aye.

- 1 Praise ye the Lord. The man is blessed
   that fears the Lord a-right,
  He who in his com-mand-ments
   doth great-ly take de-light.
- 2 His seed and off-spring pow-er-ful
   shall be the earth up-on:
   Of up-right men bless-éd shall be
   the gen-er-a-tion.
- 3 Ri-ches and wealth shall ev-er be with-in his house in store; And his un-spot-ted right-eous-ness En-dures for ev-er-more.
- 4 Un-to the up-right light doth rise, though he in dar-kness be: Com-pas-sion-ate, and mer-ci-ful, and right-eous, is he.
- 5 A good man doth his fa-vor show, and doth to oth-ers lend: He with dis-cre-tion his af-fairs will guide un-to the end.
- 6 Sure-ly there is not an-y thing that ev-er shall him move: The right-eous man's me-mo-ri-al shall ev-er-last-ing prove.
- 7 When he shall evil ti-dings hear, he shall not be a-fraid: His heart is fixed, his con-fi-dence up-on the Lord is stayed.
- His heart is firm-ly stab-lish-éd, a-fraid he shall not be, Un-til up-on his en-e-mies he his de-sire shall see.

- 9 He hath dis-persed, giv'n to the poor;
   his right-eous-ness shall be
  To a-ges all; with hon-or shall
   his horn be rais-ed high.
- 10 The wick-ed shall it see, and fret,
   his teeth gnash, melt a-way:
   What wick-ed men do most de-sire
   shall ut-ter-ly de-cay.

- 1 Praise God: ye ser-vants of the Lord, 0 praise, the Lord's name praise.
- Yea, bless-ed be the name of God from this time forth al-ways.
- 3 From ris-ing sun to where it sets, God's name is to be praised.
- 4 A-bove all na-tions God is high, 'bove heav'ns his glor-y raised.
- 5 Un-to the Lord our God that dwells on high, who can com-pare?
- 6 Him-self that humb-leth things to see in heav'n and earth that are.
- 7 He from the dust doth raise the poor, that very low doth lie; And from the dung-hill lifts the man o-pressed with pov-er-ty;
- 8 That he may high-ly him ad-vance, and with the prin-ces set; With those that of his peo-ple are the chief, ev'n prin-ces great.
- 9 The bar-ren wo-man house to keep he mak-eth, and to be Of sons a moth-er full of joy. Praise to the Lord give ye.

- 1 When Isr'el out of E-gypt went, and did his dwell-ing change, When Ja-cob's house went out from those that were of lan-guage strange,
- 2 He Judah did his sanc-tua-ry, his king-dom Isr'el make:
- 3 The sea it saw, and quick-ly fled, Jor-dan was driv-en back.
- 4 Like rams the moun-tains, and like lambs the hills skipped to and fro.
- 5 O sea, why fled-d'st thou? Jor-dan, back why wast thou driv-en so?
- 6 Ye moun-tains great, where-fore was it that ye did skip like rams? And where-fore was it, lit-tle hills, that ye did leap like lambs?
- 7 O at the pres-ence of the Lord, earth, trem-ble thou for fear, While as the pres-ence of the God of Ja-cob doth ap-pear:
- 8 Who from the hard and ston-y rock
   did stand-ing wa-ter bring;
  And by his pow'r did turn the flint
   in-to a wa-ter-spring.

- 1 Not un-to us, Lord, not to us,
   but do thou glo-ry take
  Un-to thy name, ev'n for thy truth,
   and for thy mer-cy's sake.
- O where-fore should the hea-then say, Where is their God now gone?
- 3 But our God in the hea-vens is, what pleased him he hath done.
- 4 Their i-dols sil-ver are and gold, work of men's hands they be.
- 5 Mouths have they, but they do not speak; and eyes, but do not see;
- 6 Ears have they, but they do not hear; noses, but sa-vor not;
- 7 Hands, feet, but hand-le not, nor walk; nor speak they through their throat.
- 8 Like them their ma-kers are, and all on them their trust that build.
- 9 O Isr'el, trust thou in the Lord, he is their help and shield.
- 10 O Aar-on's house, trust in the Lord, their help and shield is he.
- 11 Ye that fear God, trust in the Lord, their help and shield he'll be.
- 12 The Lord of us hath mind-ful been, and he will bless us still:
  He will the house of Isr'el bless, bless Aar-on's house he will.
- 13 Both small and great, that fear the Lord, he will them sure-ly bless.
- 14 The Lord will you, you and your seed, aye more and more in-crease.

- 15 O bless-ed are ye of the Lord, who made the earth and heav'n.
- 16 The heav'n, ev'n heav'ns, are God's, but he earth to men's sons hath giv'n.
- 17 The dead, nor who to si-lence go, God's praise do not re-cord.
- 18 But hence-forth we for ev-er will bless God. Praise ye the Lord.

- 1 I love the Lord, be-cause my voice and pray-ers he did hear.
- 2 I, while I live, will call on him, who bowed to me his ear.
- 3 Of death the cords and sor-rows did
   a-bout me com-pass round;
   The pains of hell took hold on me,
   I grief and trou-ble found.
- 4 Up-on the name of God the Lord
   then did I call, and say,
  De-li-ver thou my soul, O Lord,
   I do thee hum-bly pray.
- 5 God mer-ci-ful and right-eous is, yea, gra-cious is our Lord.
- 6 God saves the meek: I was brought low, he did me help af-ford.
- 7 O thou my soul, do thou re-turn un-to thy qui-et rest; For large-ly, lo, the Lord to thee his boun-ty hath ex-pressed.
- 8 For my dis-tress-ed soul from death
   de-liv-ered was by thee:
   Thou didst my mourn-ing eyes from tears,
   my feet from fall-ing, free.
- 9 I in the land of those that live will walk the Lord be-fore.
- 11 I said, when I was in my haste,
   that all men li-ars be.
- 12 What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all his gifts to me?

- 14 I'll pay my vows now to the Lord be-fore his peo-ple all.
- 15 Dear in God's sight is his saints' death.
- Thy ser-vant, Lord, am I;
  Thy ser-vant sure, thine hand-maid's son:
   my bands thou didst un-tie.
- 17 Thank off'rings I to thee will give, and on God's name will call.
- 18 I'll pay my vows now to the Lord be-fore his peo-ple all;
- 19 With-in the courts of God's own house,
   with-in the midst of thee,
   0 cit-y of Jer-u-sa-lem.
   Praise to the Lord give ye.

- 1 O give ye praise un-to the Lord, all na-tions that be; Like-wise, ye peo-ple all, ac-cord his name to mag-ni-fy.
- 2 For great to us-ward ev-er are
   his lov-ing-kind-nes-ses:
   His truth en-dures for ev-er-more.
   The Lord O do ye bless.

- 1 O praise the Lord, for he is good; his mer-cy last-eth ev-er.
- 2 Let those of Is-ra-el now say, His mer-cy fail-eth nev-er.
- Now let the house of Aar-on say, His mer-cy last-eth ev-er.
- 4 Let those that fear the Lord now say, His mer-cy fail-eth nev-er.
- 5 I in dis-tress call'd on the Lord; the Lord did an-swer me: He in a large place did me set, from trou-ble made me free.
- 6 The might-y Lord is on my side, I will not be a-fraid; For an-y thing that man can do I shall not be dis-may'd.
- 7 The Lord doth take my part with them that help to suc-cour me:
  There-fore on those that do me hate
  I my de-sire shall see.
- 8 Bet-ter it is to trust in God
   than trust in man's de-fence;
- 9 Bet-ter to trust in God than make prin-ces our con-fi-dence.

- 12 Like bees they com-pass'd me a-bout;
   like un-to thorns that flame
   They quench-ed are: for them shall I
   des-troy in God's own name.
- 13 Thou sore hast thrust, that I might fall, but my Lord help-ed me.
- 14 God my sal-va-tion is be-come, my strength and song is he.
- 15 In dwell-ings of the right-eous
   is heard the melod-y
   Of joy and health: the Lord's right hand
   doth ev-er val-ian-tly.
- 16 The right hand of the might-y Lord
   ex-al-ted is on high;
  The right hand of the might-y Lord
   doth ev-er val-ian-tly.
- 17 I shall not die, but live, and shall the works of God dis-cov-er.
- 18 The Lord hath me chas-tis-ed sore, but not to death giv'n o-ver.
- 19 O set ye o-pen un-to me
  the gates of right-eous-ness;
  Then will I en-ter in-to them,
  and I the Lord will bless.
- 20 This is the gate of God, by it the just shall enter in.
- 21 Thee will I praise, for thou me heard'st and hast my safe-ty been.
- 22 That stone is made head cor-ner-stone,
   which build-ers did des-pise:
- 23 This is the do-ing of the Lord, and won-drous in our eyes.
- 24 This is the day God made, in it we'll joy trum-phant-ly.

- 26 Bless-ed is he in God's great name
   that com-eth us to save:
   We, from the house which to the Lord
   per-tains, you bles-sed have.
- 27 God is the Lord, who un-to us hath made light to a-rise:
  Bind ye un-to the al-tar's horns with cords the sac-ri-fice.
- 28 Thou art my God, I'll thee ex-alt; my God, I will thee praise.
- 29 Give thanks to God, for he is good: his merc-y lasts al-ways.

### Aleph

- - Bles-sed are they who to ob-serve his sta-tutes are in-clined; And who do seek the liv-ing God with their whole heart and mind.
  - 3 Such in his ways do walk, and they do no in-iq-ui-ty.
  - 4 Thou hast com-mand-ed us to keep thy pre-cepts care-ful-ly.
  - 5 O that thy stat-utes to o-bserve thou would'st my ways di-rect!
  - 6 Then shall I not be shamed, when I thy pre-cepts all re-spect.
  - 7 Then with in-teg-ri-ty of heart thee will I praise and bless, When I the judg-ments all have learned of thy pure right-eous-ness.
  - 8 That I will keep thy stat-utes all
     firml-y re-solved have I:
     O do not then, most gra-cious God,
     for-sake me ut-ter-ly.

#### Beth

- 9 By what means shall a young man learn his way to pur-i-fy? If he ac-cord-ing to thy word there-to at-ten-tive be.
- 10 Un-feign-ed-ly thee have I sought
   with all my soul and heart:
   0 let me not from the right path
   of thy com-mands de-part.

- 11 Thy word I in my heart have hid, that I of-fend not thee.
- 12 O Lord, thou ev-er bles-sed art, thy stat-utes teach thou me.
- 13 The judg-ments of thy mouth each one my lips de-clar-ed have:
- 14 More joy thy test-i-moni-es' way than ri-ches all me gave.
- 15 I will thy hol-y pre-cepts make
   my me-di-ta-tion;
  And care-ful-ly I'll have re-spect
   un-to thy ways each one.

#### **Gimel**

- 17 With me thy ser-vant, in thy grace, deal boun-ti-ful-ly, Lord;
  That by thy fa-vor I may live, and du-ly keep thy word.
- 18 O-pen mine eyes, that of thy law the won-ders I may see.
- 19 I am a stran-ger on this earth,
   hide not thy laws from me.
- 20 My soul with-in me breaks, and doth
   much faint-ing still en-dure,
   Through long-ing that it hath all times
   un-to thy judg-ments pure.
- 21 Thou hast re-buked the curs-ed proud, who from thy pre-cepts swerve.
- 22 Re-proach and shame re-move from me, for I thy laws ob-serve.
- 23 A-gainst me prin-ces spake with spite, while they in coun-cil sat:
  But I thy ser-vant did up-on thy stat-utes me-di-tate.

#### Daleth

- 25 My soul to dust cleaves: quick-en me, ac-cor-ding to thy word.
- 26 My ways I showed, and me thou heard'st: teach me thy stat-utes, Lord.
- 27 The way of thy com-mand-ments
   make me a-right to know;
  So all thy works that won-drous are
   I shall to o-thers show.
- 29 From me the wick-ed way of lies let far re-mov-ed be;
  And gra-cious-ly thy hol-y law do thou grant un-to me.
- 31 I to thy tes-ti-mo-nies cleave; shame do not on me cast.
- 32 I'll run thy pre-cepts' way, when thou
   my heart en-larg-ed hast.

#### He

33 Teach me, O Lord, the per-fect way of thy pre-cepts di-vine,
And to ob-serve it to the end
I shall my heart in-cline.

- 34 Give under-stand-ing un-to me, so keep thy law shall I;
  Yea, ev'n with my whole heart I shall ob-serve it care-ful-ly.
- 35 In thy law's path make me to go; for I de-light there-in.
- 36 My heart un-to thy tes-ti-mo-nies, and not to greed, in-cline.
- 37 Turn thou a-way my sight and eyes from view-ing van-i-ty;
  And in thy good and hol-y way be pleased to quick-en me.
- 38 Con-firm to me thy gra-cious word, which I did glad-ly hear, Ev'n to thy ser-vant, Lord, who is de-vo-ted to thy fear.
- 39 Turn thou a-way my fear'd re-proach; for good thy judg-ments be.
- 40 Lo, for thy pre-cepts I have long'd; in thy truth quick-en me.

#### Vau

- 41 Let thy sweet mer-cies al-so come and vis-it me, O Lord;
  Ev'n thy be-nign sal-va-tion, ac-cor-ding to thy word.
- 42 So shall I have where-with I may give him an an-swer just,
  Who spite-ful-ly re-proach-eth me;
  for in thy word I trust.
- 43 The word of truth out of my mouth take thou not ut-ter-ly;
  For on thy judg-ments right-eous my hope doth still re-ly.
- 44 So shall I keep for ev-er-more thy law con-tin-ual-ly.
- 45 And, sith that I thy pre-cepts seek, I'll walk at lib-er-ty.

- 46 I'll speak thy word to kings, and I with shame shall not be moved;
- 47 And will de-light my-self al-ways in thy laws, which I loved.
- 48 To thy com-mand-ments, which I loved,
  my hands lift up I will;
  And I will al-so me-di-tate
  up-on thy sta-tutes still

#### Zain

- 49 Re-mem-ber, Lord, thy gra-cious word thou to thy ser-vant spake,
  Which, for a ground of my sure hope, thou cause-dst me to take.
- 50 This word of thine my com-fort is in mine af-flic-tion:
  For in my straits I am re-viv-ed by this thy word a-lone.
- 51 The men whose hearts with pride are stuffed did great-ly me de-ride;
  Yet from thy straight com-mand-ments
  I have not turned a-side.
- 52 Thy judg-ments right-eous, O Lord, which thou of old forth gave,
  I did re-mem-ber, and my-self by them com-fort-ed have.
- 53 Hor-ror took hold on me, be-cause ill men thy law for-sake.
- 54 I in my house of pil-grim-age thy laws my songs do make.
- 55 Thy name by night, Lord, I did mind, and I have kept thy law.
- 56 And this I had, be-cause thy word I kept, and stood in awe.

#### Cheth

- 57 Thou my sure por-tion art a-lone, which I did choose, O Lord:
  I have re-solved, and said, that I would keep thy ho-ly word.
- 58 With my whole heart I did en-treat thy face and fa-vor free:
  Ac-cor-ding to thy gra-cious word be mer-ci-ful to me.
- 59 I thought up-on my for-mer ways, and did my life well try; And to thy tes-ti-mo-nies pure my feet then turn-ed I.
- 60 I did not stay, nor lin-ger long, as those that sloth-ful are; But has-ti-ly thy laws to keep my-self I did pre-pare.
- 61 Bands of ill men me rob-bed; yet I thy pre-cepts did not slight.
- 62 I'll rise at mid-night thee to praise, ev'n for thy judg-ments right.
- 63 I am com-pan-ion to all those who fear, and thee o-bey.
- 0 Lord, thy mer-cy fills the earth: teach me thy laws, I pray.

#### Teth

- 65 Well hast thou with thy ser-vant dealt, as thou didst prom-ise give.
- 66 Good judg-ment me, and knowl-edge teach, for I thy word be-lieve.
- 67 Ere I af-flict-ed was I strayed; but now I keep thy word.
- 68 Both good thou art, and good thou do'st: teach me thy stat-utes, Lord.

- 69 The men that are puffed up with pride a-gainst me forged a lie;
  Yet thy com-mand-ments ob-serve with my whole heart will I.
- 70 Their hearts, through world-ly ease and wealth, as fat as grease they be:
  But in thy ho-ly law I take
  de-light con-tin-ual-ly.
- 71 It hath been ve-ry good for me that I af-flic-ted was,
  That I might well in-struct-ed be, and learn thy ho-ly laws.
- 72 The word that com-eth from thy mouth is bet-ter un-to me
  Than man-y thou-sands and great sums of gold and sil-ver be.

#### Jod

- 73 Thou mad'st and fash-ion'dst me: thy laws to know give wis-dom, Lord.
- 74 So who thee fear shall joy to see me trust-ing in thy word.
- 75 That ver-y right thy judg-ments are I know, and do con-fess;
  And that thou hast af-flic-ted me in truth and faith-ful-ness.
- 76 O let thy kind-ness mer-ci-ful,
  I pray thee, com-fort me,
  As to thy ser-vant faith-ful-ly
  was prom-is-ed by thee.
- 77 And let thy ten-der mer-cies come to me, that I may live;
  Be-cause thy ho-ly laws to me sweet de-lec-ta-tion give.
- 78 Lord, let the proud a-sham-ed be; for they, with-out a cause, With me pe-rver-se-ly dealt: but I will muse up-on thy laws.

- 79 Let such as fear thee, and have known thy stat-utes, turn to me.
- 80 My heart let in thy laws be sound, that sham-ed I nev-er be.

### Caph

- 81 My soul for thy sal-va-tion faints; yet I thy word be-lieve.
- 82 Mine eyes fail for thy word: I say, When wilt thou com-fort give?
- 83 For like a bot-tle I'm be-come, that in the smoke is set: I'm black, and parched with grief; yet I thy stat-utes not for-get.
- 84 How man-y are thy ser-vant's days?

  when wilt thou ex-e-cute

  Just judg-ment on these wick-ed men

  that do me per-se-cute?
- 85 The proud have dig-ged pits for me, which is a-gainst thy laws.
- 86 Thy words all faith-ful are: help me, pur-sued with-out a cause.
- 87 They so con-sumed me, that on earth my life they scarce did leave:
  Thy pre-cepts yet for-sook I not, but close to them did cleave.
- 88 Af-ter thy lov-ing-kind-ness, Lord, me quick-en, and pre-serve:
  The test-i-mo-ny of thy mouth so shall I still ob-serve.

#### Lamed

- 89 Thy word for ev-er is, O Lord, in hea-ven set-tled fast;
- 90 Un-to all gen-er-a-tions thy faith-ful-ness doth last:

- The earth thou hast es-tab-lish-ed, and it a-bides by thee.
- 91 This day they stand as thou or-dain'dst; for all thy ser-vants be.
- 92 Un-less in thy most per-fect law my soul de-lights had found,
  I should have per-ish-ed, when as my trou-bles did a-bound.
- 93 Thy pre-cepts I will ne'er for-get; they quick'ning to me brought.
- 94 Lord, I am thine; O save thou me: thy pre-cepts I have sought.
- 95 For me the wick-ed have laid wait, me seek-ing to de-stroy: But I thy tes-ti-mo-nies true con-sid-er will with joy.
- 96 An end of all per-fec-tion here have I seen, O God:
  But as for thy com-mand-ment, it is ex-ceed-ing broad.

#### Mem

- 97 O how love I thy law! it is my stud-y all the day:
- 98 It makes me wis-er than my foes; for it doth with me stay.
- 99 Than all my teach-ers now I have more un-der-stand-ing far;
  Be-cause my me-di-ta-tion thy test-i-mo-nies are.
- 100 In un-der-stand-ing I e-xcel those that are an-ci-ents; For I en-dea-vor-ed to keep all thy com-mand-ments.
- 101 My feet from each ill way I stayed, that I may keep thy word.
- 102 I from thy judg-ments have not swerved; for thou hast taught me, Lord.

- 103 How sweet un-to my taste, O Lord, are all thy words of truth!

  Yea, I do find them sweet-er far than hon-ey to my mouth.

#### Nun

- 105 Thy word is to my feet a lamp, and to my path a light.
- 107 I am with sore af-flic-tion ev'n o-ver-whelmed, O Lord: In mer-cy raise and quick-en me, ac-cord-ing to thy word.
- 108 The free-will-off 'rings of my mouth ac-cept, I thee be-seech:

  And un-to me thy ser-vant, Lord, thy judg-ments clear-ly teach.
- 109 Though still my soul be in my hand, thy laws I'll not for-get.
- 110 I erred not from them, though for me the wick-ed snares did set.
- 111 I of thy tes-ti-mo-nies have
   a-bove all things made choice,
   To be my her-it-age for aye;
   for they my heart re-joice.
- 112 I care-ful-ly in-clin-ed have
   my heart still to at-tend;
  That I thy stat-utes may pe-rform
   al-way un-to the end.

#### Samech

- 114 My shield and hid-ing-place thou art: I on thy word re-ly.
- 115 All ye that evil-do-ers are from me de-part a-way;
  For the com-mand-ments of my God
  I pur-pose to o-bey.
- 116 Ac-cord-ing to thy faith-ful word up-hold and stab-lish me,

  That I may live, and of my hope a-sham-ed nev-er be.
- 117 Hold thou me up, so shall I be
   in peace and safe-ty still;
  And to thy stat-utes have re-spect
   con-tin-ual-ly I will.
- 118 Thou tread'st down all that love to stray; false their de-ceit doth prove.
- 119 Lewd men, like dross, away thou putt'st; there-fore thy law I love.
- 120 For fear of thee my ve-ry flesh
   doth trem-ble, all dis-mayed;
  And of thy right-eous judg-ments, Lord,
   my soul is much a-fraid.

#### Ain

- 121 To all men I have judg-ment done, per-form-ing jus-tice right;

  Then let me not be left un-to my fierce op-pres-sors' might.
- 122 For good un-to thy ser-vant, Lord, thy ser-vant's sure-ty be:
  From the op-pres-sion of the proud do thou de-liver me.

- 123 Mine eyes do fail with look-ing long for thy sal-va-tion,

  The word of thy pure right-eous-ness while I do wait up-on.
- 124 In mer-cy with thy ser-vant deal, thy laws me teach and show.
- 125 I am thy ser-vant, wis-dom give, that I thy laws may know.
- 126 'Tis time thou work, Lord; for they have made void thy law di-vine.
- 127 There-fore thy pre-cepts more I love than gold, yea, gold most fine.
- 128 Con-cern-ing all things thy com-mands all right I judge there-fore;
  And ev'ry false and wick-ed way
  I per-fec-ly ab-hor.

#### Pe

- 129 Thy stat-utes, Lord, are wond-er-ful, my soul them keeps with care.
- 130 The en-trance of thy words gives light, makes wise who sim-ple are.
- 131 My mouth I have wide o-pened, and pant-ed ear-nes-tly, While af-ter thy com-mand-ments I longed ex-ceed-ing-ly.
- 132 Look on me, Lord, and mer-ci-ful do thou un-to me prove,
  As thou art wont to do to those thy name who tru-ly love.
- 133 O let my foot-steps in thy word a-right still or-der-ed be:

  Let no in-iqu-i-ty ob-tain do-min-ion o-ver me.
- 134 From man's op-pres-sion save thou me; so keep thy laws I will.
- 135 Thy face make on thy ser-vant shine; teach me thy stat-utes still.

136 Riv-ers of wa-ters from mine eyes did run down, when I saw
How wick-ed men run on in sin, and do not keep thy law.

#### Tzaddi

- 137 O Lord, thou art most right-eous; thy judg-ments are up-right.
- 138 Thy tes-ti-mo-nies thou com-mand'st most faithf-ul are and right.
- 139 My zeal hath ev'n con-sum-ed me, be-cause mine en-e-mies
  Thy ho-ly words for-got-ten have, and do thy laws de-spise.
- 140 Thy word's most pure, there-fore on it thy ser-vant's love is set.
- 141 Small, and des-pised I am, yet I thy pre-cepts not for-get.
- 143 Troub-le and an-guish have me found, and ta-ken hold on me: Yet in my troub-le my de-light thy just com-mand-ments be.
- 144 E-ter-nal right-eous-ness is in
   thy tes-ti-mo-nies all:
   Lord, to me un-der-stand-ing give,
   and ev-er live I shall.

#### Koph

- 145 With my whole heart I cried, Lord, hear; I will thy word o-bey.
- 146 I cried to thee; save me, and I will keep thy laws al-way.

- 147 I of the morn-ing did pre-vent
   the dawn-ing, and did cry:
   For all mine ex-pec-ta-tion
   did on thy word re-ly.
- 148 Mine eyes did time-ous-ly pre-vent the wa-tches of the night,

  That in thy word with care-ful mind then me-di-tate I might.
- 149 Af-ter thy lov-ing-kind-ness hear my voice, that calls on thee:
  Ac-cor-ding to thy judg-ment, Lord, re-vive and quick-en me.
- 150 Who fol-low mis-chief they draw nigh; they from thy law are far:
- 151 But thou art near, Lord; most firm truth all thy com-mand-ments are.
- 152 As for thy tes-ti-mo-nies all, of old this have I tried,
  That thou hast sure-ly found-ed them for ev-er to a-bide.

#### Resh

- 153 Con-si-der mine af-flic-tion, in safe-ty do me set: De-liv-er me, O Lord, for I thy law do not for-get.
- 154 Af-ter thy word re-vive thou me: save me, and plead my cause.
- 155 Sal-va-tion is from sin-ners far; for they seek not thy laws.
- 156 O Lord, both great and man-i-fold thy tend-er mer-cies be:
  Ac-cor-ding to thy judg-ments just, re-vive and quick-en me.
- 157 My per-se-cu-tors man-y are, and foes that do com-bine; Yet from thy tes-ti-mo-nies pure my heart doth not de-cline.

- 158 I saw trans-gres-sors, and was grieved; for they keep not thy word.
- 159 See how I love thy law! as thou art kind, me quick-en, Lord.
- 160 From the be-gin-ning all thy word hath been most true and sure:

  Thy right-eous judg-ments ev'ry one for ev-er-more en-dure.

#### Schin

- 161 Prin-ces have per-se-cu-ted me, al-though no cause they saw: But still of thy most ho-ly word my heart doth stand in awe.
- 162 I at thy word re-joice, as one of spoil that finds great store.
- 163 Thy law I love; but ly-ing all I hate and do ab-hor.
- 164 Sev'n times a-day it is my care to give due praise to thee;
  Be-cause of all thy judg-ments, Lord, which right-eous ev-er be.
- 165 Great peace have they who love thy law; of-fence they shall have none.
- 166 I hoped for thy sal-va-tion, Lord, and thy com-mands have done.
- 167 My soul thy tes-ti-mo-nies pure ob-serv-ed care-ful-ly;
  On them my heart is set, and them I love ex-ceed-ing-ly.
- 168 Thy tes-ti-mo-nies and thy laws
  I kept with spe-cial care;
  For all my works and ways each one
  be-fore thee o-pen are.

#### Tau

- 169 O let my ear-nest pray'r and cry come near be-fore thee, Lord: Give un-der-stand-ing un-to me, ac-cor-ding to thy word.
- 170 Let my re-quest be-fore thee come: af-ter thy word me free.
- 171 My lips shall ut-ter praise, when thou hast taught thy laws to me.
- 172 My tongue of thy most bless-ed word shall speak, and it con-fess;
  Be-cause all thy com-mand-ments are per-fect right-eous-ness.
- 173 Let thy strong hand make help to me: thy pre-cepts are my choice.
- 174 I longed for thy sal-va-tion, Lord, and in thy law re-joice.
- 175 O let my soul live, and it shall give prais-es un-to thee;
  And let thy judg-ments gra-cious be help-ful un-to me.
- 176 I, like a lost sheep, went a-stray; thy serv-ant seek, and find:
  For thy com-mands I suf-fered not to slip out of my mind.

# A Song of Ascents

- 1 In my dis-tress to God I cried, and he gave ear to me.
- 3 What shall be giv'n thee? or what shall be done to thee, false tongue?
- 4 Ev'n burn-ing coals of jun-i-per, sharp ar-rows of the strong.
- 5 Woe's me that I in Me-sech am a so-jour-ner so long; That I in tab-er-na-cles dwell to Ke-dar that be-long.
- 6 My soul with him that ha-teth peace hath long a dwel-ler been.
- 7 I am for peace; but when I speak, for bat-tle they are keen.

### A Psalm of Ascents

- 1 I to the hills will lift mine eyes, from whence doth come mine aid.
- 2 My safe-ty com-eth from the Lord, who heav'n and earth hath made.
- 3 Thy foot he'll not let slide, nor will he slum-ber that thee keeps.
- 4 Be-hold, he that keeps Is-ra-el, he slum-bers not, nor sleeps.
- 5 The Lord thee keeps, the Lord thy shade on thy right hand doth stay:
- 6 The moon by night thee shall not smite, nor yet the sun by day.
- 7 The Lord shall keep thy soul; he shall pre-serve thee from all ill.
- 8 Hence-forth thy go-ing out and in God keep for ev-er will.

# A Song of Ascents, Of David.

- 1 I joyed when to the house of God, Go up, they said to me.
- 2 Je-ru-sa-lem, with-in thy gates our feet shall stand-ing be.
- 3 Je-rus'lem, as a ci-ty, is com-pact-ly built to-gether:
- 4 Un-to that place the tribes go up, the tribes of God go thi-ther:
  - To Isr'el's tes-ti-mo-ny, there to God's name thanks to pay.
- 5 For thrones of judg-ment, ev'n the thrones of Da-vid's house, there stay.
- 6 Pray that Je-ru-sa-lem may have
   peace and fe-li-ci-ty:
   Let them that love thee and thy peace
   have still pros-per-i-ty.
- 7 There-fore I wish that peace may still
   with-in thy walls re-main,
  And ev-er may thy pal-ac-es
   pros-per-i-ty re-tain.
- 8 Now, for my friends' and bre-thren's sakes, Peace be in thee, I'll say.
- 9 And for the house of God our Lord, I'll seek thy good a-lway.

# A Song of Ascents

- 2 Be-hold, as ser-vants' eyes do look their mas-ters' hand to see,
  - As hand-maid's eyes her mis-tress' hand; so do our eyes at-tend
    Up-on the Lord our God, un-til to us he mer-cy send.
- 3 O Lord, be gra-cious un-to us, un-to us gra-cious be; Be-cause re-plen-ished with con-tempt ex-ceed-ing-ly are we.
- 4 Our soul is filled with scorn of those that at their ease a-bide, And with the in-so-lent con-tempt of those that swell in pride.

- 1 Had not the Lord been on our side, may Is-ra-el now say;
- 2 Had not the Lord been on our side, when men rose us to slay;
- 3 They had us swal-lowed quick, when as their wrath 'gainst us did flame:
- 4 Wa-ters had cov-ered us, our soul had sunk be-neath the stream.
- 5 Then had the wa-ters, swel-ling high, o-ver our soul made way.
- 6 Blessed be the Lord, who to their teeth us gave not for a prey.
- 7 Our soul's es-cap-èd, as a bird out of the fow-ler's snare; The snare as-un-der bro-ken is, and we es-ca-pèd are.
- 8 Our sure and all-suf-fi-cient help is in Je-ho-vah's name;
  His name who did the heav'n cre-ate, and who the earth did frame.

- 1 They in the Lord that firm-ly trust
   shall be like Zi-on hill,
  Which at no time can be re-moved,
   but stand-eth ev-er still.
- 2 As round a-bout Je-ru-sa-lem
   the moun-tains stand al-way,
   The Lord his folk doth com-pass so,
   from hence-forth and for aye.
- For ill men's rod up-on the lot
   of just men shall not lie;
  Lest right-eous men stretch forth their hands
   un-to in-iq-ui-ty.
- 4 Do thou to all those that be good
   thy good-ness, Lord, im-part;
  And do thou good to those that are
   up-right with-in their heart.
- 5 But as for such as turn a-side af-ter their crook-ed way, God shall lead forth with wick-ed men: on Isr'el peace shall stay.

- 1 When Zi-on's bon-dage God turned back, as men that dreamed were we.
- 2 Then fil-led with laugh-ter was our mouth, our tongue with mel-o-dy:
  - They 'mong the hea-then said, The Lord great things for them hath wrought.
- 3 The Lord hath done great things for us, whence joy to us is brought.
- 4 As streams of wa-ter in the south, our bon-dage, Lord, re-call.
- 5 Who sow in tears, a reap-ing time of joy en-joy they shall.
- 6 That man who, bea-ring pre-cious seed, in go-ing forth doth mourn, He doubt-less, bring-ing back his sheaves, re-joi-cing shall re-turn.

- 2 'Tis vain for you to rise be-times,
   or late from rest to keep,
  To feed on sor-rows' bread; so gives
   he his be-loved sleep.
- 3 Lo, children are God's her-it-age, the womb's fruit his re-ward.
- 4 The sons of youth as ar-rows are, for strong men's hands pre-pared.
- 5 O hap-py is the man that hath his qui-ver fil-led with those; They un-a-shamèd in the gate shall speak un-to their foes.

- 1 Bles-sed is each one that fears the Lord, and walk-eth in his ways;
- 2 For of thy la-bour thou shalt eat, and hap-py be al-ways.
- 3 Thy wife shall as a fruit-ful vine by thy house' sides be found: Thy child-ren like to ol-ive-plants about thy ta-ble round.
- 4 Be-hold, the man that fears the Lord, thus bless-ed shall he be.
- 5 The Lord shall out of Zi-on give his bless-ing un-to thee:
  - Thou shalt Je-ru-s'lem's good be-hold whilst thou on earth dost dwell.
- 6 Thou shalt thy child-ren's child-ren see, and peace on Is-ra-el.

- 1 Oft did they vex me from my youth, may Is-r'el now de-clare;
- 2 Oft did they vex me from my youth, yet not vic-tor-i-ous were.
- 3 The plow-ers plowed up-on my back; they long their fur-rows drew.
- 4 The right-eous Lord did cut the cords of the un-god-ly crew.
- 5 Let Zi-on's ha-ters all be turned back with con-fu-sion.
- 6 As grass on hous-es' tops be they, which fades ere it be grown:
- 7 Where-of e-nough to fill his hand the mow-er can-not find; Nor can the man his bos-om fill, whose work is sheaves to bind.
- 8 Nei-ther say they who do go by, God's bless-ing on you rest: We in the name of God the Lord do wish you to be blest.

- 1 Lord, from the depths to thee I cried.
- 2 My voice, Lord, do thou hear:
  Un-to my sup-pli-ca-tion's voice
  give an at-ten-tive ear.
- 4 But yet with thee for-give-ness is, that feared thou may-est be.
- 5 I wait for God, my soul doth wait, my hope is in his word.
- 6 More than they that for morn-ing watch, my soul waits for the Lord;
  - I say, more than they that do watch the morn-ing light to see.
- 7 Let Is-ra-el hope in the Lord, for with him mer-cies be;
  - And plen-teous re-demp-tion is ev-er found with him.
- 8 And from all his in-i-qui-ties
  he Isr'el shall re-deem.

### A Song of degrees of David.

- 1 My heart not haugh-ty is, O Lord,
   mine eyes not lof-ty be;
  Nor do I deal in mat-ters great,
   or things too high for me.
- 2 I sure-ly have my-self be-haved
   with qui-et sp'rit and mild,
  As child of mo-ther weaned: my soul
   is like a wean-èd child.
- 3 Up-on the Lord let all the hope
   of Is-ra-el re-ly,
  Ev'n from the time that pre-sent is
   Un-to e-ter-ni-ty.

- 1 Da-vid, and his af-flic-tions all, Lord, do thou think up-on;
- 2 How un-to God he sware, and vowed to Ja-cob's migh-ty One.

- 5 Till for the Lord a place I find, where he may make a-bode; A place of ha-bi-ta-tion for Ja-cob's might-y God.
- 6 Lo, at the place of Eph-ra-tah of it we under-stood; And we did find it in the fields, and cit-y of the wood.
- 7 We'll go in-to his tab-er-na-cles, and at his foot-stool bow.
- 8 A-rise, O Lord, in-to thy rest, th' ark of thy strength, and thou.
- 9 O let thy priests be cloth-èd, Lord, with truth and right-eous-ness; And let all those that are thy saints shout loud for joy-ful-ness.
- 10 For thine own ser-vant Da-vid's sake,
   do not den-y thy grace;
   Nor of thine own a-noin-ted one
   turn thou a-way the face.
- 11 The Lord in truth to Da-vid sware,
   he will not turn from it,
   I of thy bod-y's fruit will make
   up-on thy throne to sit.

- 12 My cov'nant if thy sons will keep,
   and laws to them made known,
   Their child-ren then shall also sit
   for ev-er on thy throne.
- 13 For God of Zi-on hath made choice; there he de-sires to dwell.
- 14 This is my rest, here still I'll stay; for I do like it well.
- 15 Her food I'll great-ly bless; her poor with bread will sa-tis-fy.
- 16 Her priests I'll clothe with health; her saints shall shout forth joy-ful-ly.
- 17 And there will I make Da-vid's horn to bud forth pleas-ant-ly:

  For him that mine a-noin-ted is a lamp or-dained have I.
- 18 As with a gar-ment I will clothe with shame his en'mies all:
  But yet the crown that he doth wear up-on him flour-ish shall.

- 2 Like pre-cious oint-ment on the head, that down the beard did flow, Ev'n Aar-on's beard, and to the skirts,\* did of his gar-ments go.
- As Her-mon's dew, the dew that doth on Zi-on' hills de-scend:

  For there the bless-ing God com-mands, life that shall nev-er end.

- 1 Be-hold, bless ye the Lord, all ye
   that his at-ten-dants are,
  Ev'n you that in God's tem-ple be,
   and praise him night-ly there.
- Your hands with-in God's ho-ly place lift up, and praise his name.
- 3 From Zi-on' hill the Lord thee bless, that heav'n and earth did frame.

- Praise ye the Lord, the Lord's name praise;
  his ser-vants, praise ye God.
- 2 Who stand in God's house, in the courts of our God make a-bode.
- 3 Praise ye the Lord, for he is good; un-to him prais-es sing: Sing prais-es to his name, be-cause it is a pleas-ant thing.
- 4 For Ja-cob to him-self the Lord did choose of his good pleas-ure, And he hath cho-sen Is-ra-el for his pe-cu-liar treas-ure.
- 5 Be-cause I know as-sur-ed-ly the Lord is ve-ry great, And that our Lord a-bove all gods in glor-y hath his seat.
- 6 What things so-ev-er pleased the Lord, that in the heav'n did he, And in the earth, the seas, and all the places deep that be.
- 7 He from the ends of earth doth make the va-pors to as-cend; With rain he light-nings makes, and wind doth from his treas-ures send.
- 8 E-gypt's first-born, from man to beast 9 who smote. Strange to-kens he On Phar'oh and his ser-vants sent, E-gypt, in midst of thee.
- 10 He smote great na-tions, slew great kings:
  11 Si-hon of Hesh-bon king,
  And Og of Ba-shan, and to nought
  did Cana-an's king-doms bring:

- 12 And for a wealth-y her-it-age their plea-sant land he gave,
  An her-it-age which Is-ra-el,
  his cho-sen folk, should have.
- 14 For why? the right-eous God will judge
   his peo-ple right-eous-ly;
  Con-cern-ing those that do him serve,
   him-self re-pent will he.
- 15 The i-dols of the na-tions of sil-ver are and gold,
  And by the hands of men is made their fa-shion and mould.
- 16 Mouths have they, but they do not speak; eyes, but they do not see;
- 17 Ears have they, but hear not; and in their mouths no breath-ing be.
- 18 Their ma-kers are like them; so are all that on them re-ly.
- 20 O bless the Lord, of Lev-i's house ye who his ser-vants are; And bless the ho-ly name of God, all ye the Lord that fear.
- 21 And bles-sed be the Lord our God from Zi-on's ho-ly hill,
  Who dwell-eth at Je-ru-sa-lem.
  The Lord O praise ye still.

- 1 Give thanks to God, for good is he:
   for mer-cy hath he ev-er.
- 2 Thanks to the God of gods give ye: for his grace fail-eth nev-er.
- 3 Thanks give the Lord of lords un-to: for mer-cy hath he ev-er.
- 4 Who on-ly won-ders great can do: for his grace fail-eth nev-er.
- 5 Who by his wis-dom made heav'ns high: for mer-cy hath he ev-er.
- 6 Who stretch'd the earth a-bove the sea: for his grace fail-eth nev-er.
- 7 To him that made the great lights shine: for mer-cy hath he ev-er.
- 8 The sun to rule till day de-cline: for his grace fail-eth nev-er.
- 9 The moon and stars to rule by night: for mer-cy hath he ev-er.
- 11 And Is-r'el brought from E-gypt land: for mer-cy hath he ev-er.
- 12 With stretch'd-out arm, and with strong hand: for his grace fail-eth nev-er.
- 13 By whom the Red sea part-ed was: for mer-cy hath he ev-er.
- 14 And through its midst made Isr'el pass: for his grace fail-eth nev-er.
- 15 But Pha-r'oh and his host did drown: for mer-cy hath he ev-er.
- 16 Who through the des-ert led his own: for his grace fail-eth nev-er.
- 17 To him great kings who o-ver-threw: for he hath mer-cy ev-er.
- 18 Yea, fa-mous kings in bat-tle slew: for his grace fail-eth nev-er.

- 19 Ev'n Si-hon king of Am-or-ites: for he hath mer-cy ev-er.
- 20 And Og the king of Ba-sha-nites: for his grace fail-eth nev-er.
- 21 Their land in her-it-age to have: (for mer-cy hath he ev-er.)
- 22 His ser-vant Is-r'el right he gave: for his grace fail-eth nev-er.
- 23 In our low state who on us thought: for he hath mer-cy ev-er.
- 24 And from our foes our free-dom wrought: for his grace fail-eth nev-er.
- 25 Who doth all flesh with food re-lieve: for he hath mer-cy ev-er.
- 26 Thanks to the God of heav-en give: for his grace fail-eth nev-er.

- 1 By Ba-bel's streams we sat and wept, when Zi-on we thought on.
- 2 In midst there-of we hanged our harps the wil-low-trees up-on.
- For there a song re-quir-ed they,
   who did us cap-tive bring:
  Our spoi-lers called for mirth, and said,
   A song of Zi-on sing.
- 4 O how the Lord's song shall we sing with-in a for-eign land?
- 5 If thee, Je-ru-s'lem, I for-get, skill part from my right hand.
- 6 My tongue to my mouth's roof let cleave, if I do thee for-get, Je-ru-sa-lem, and thee a-bove my chief joy do not set.
- 7 Re-mem-ber E-dom's child-ren, Lord, who in Je-ru-s'lems day, Ev'n un-to its foun-da-tion, Raze, raze it quite, did say.
- 8 O daugh-ter thou of Ba-by-lon,
   ne-ar to de-struc-tion;
  Blessed shall he be that thee re-wards,
   as thou to us hast done.
- 9 Yea, hap-py sure-ly shall he be thy ten-der lit-tle ones Who shall lay hold up-on, and them shall dash a-gainst the stones.

#### A Psalm of David.

- 1 Thee will I praise with all my heart, I will sing praise to thee
- 2 Be-fore the gods: And wor-ship will to-ward thy sanc-tu-ar-y.
  - I'll praise thy name, ev'n for thy truth,
     and kind-ness of thy love;
    For thou thy word hast mag-ni-fied
     all thy great name a-bove.
- 3 Thou didst me answ-er in the day
   when I to thee did cry;
  And thou my faint-ing soul with strength
   didst streng-then in-ward-ly.
- 4 All kings up-on the earth that are shall give thee praise, O Lord, When as they from thy mouth shall hear thy true and faith-ful word.
- 5 Yea, in the right-eous ways of God with glad-ness they shall sing: For great's the glor-y of the Lord; who doth for ev-er reign.
- 6 Though God be high, yet he re-spects all those that lowl-y be; Where-as the proud and lof-ty ones a-far off know-eth he.

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

- 1 O Lord, thou hast me searched and known.
- Thou know'st my sit-ting down,
  And ri-sing up; yea, all my thoughts
  a-far to thee are known.

- 5 Be-hind, be-fore, thou hast be-set, and laid on me thine hand.
- 6 Such know-ledge is too strange for me, too high to under-stand.
- 7 From thy Sp'rit whi-ther shall I go?
   or from thy pres-ence fly?
- 8 As-cend I heav'n, lo, thou art there; there, if in hell I lie.
- 9 Take I the morn-ing wings, and dwell in ut-most parts of sea;
- 10 Ev'n there, Lord, shall thy hand me lead, thy right hand hold shall me.
- 11 If I do say that dark-ness shall
   me cov-er from thy sight,
   Then sure-ly shall the very night
   a-bout me be as light.
- 12 Yea, dark-ness hi-deth not from thee, but night doth shine as day:

  To thee the dark-ness and the light are both a-like al-way.

- 13 For thou pos-sess-ed hast my reins, and thou hast cov-ered me,
  When I with-in my mo-ther's womb en-clos-èd was by thee.
- 14 Thee will I praise; for fear-ful-ly
   and strange-ly made I am;
  Thy works are marv'l-lous, and right well
   my soul doth know the same.
- 16 Thine eyes my sub-stance did be-hold,
   yet be-ing un-per-fect;
  And in the vol-ume of thy book
   my mem-bers all were writ;
  - Which after in con-tin-u-ance were fash-ioned ev'ry one, When as they yet all shape-less were, and of them there was none.
- 17 How pre-cious al-so are thy thoughts,
  O gra-cious God, to me!
  And in their sum how pass-ing great
  and number-less they be!
- 18 If I should count them, than the sand they more in num-ber be:
  What time so-ev-er I a-wake,
  I ev-er am with thee.
- 19 Thou, Lord, wilt sure the wick-ed slay: hence from me blood-y men.
- 20 Thy foes a-gainst thee loud-ly speak, and take thy name in vain.
- 21 Do not I hate all those, O Lord,
   that ha-trd bear to thee?
  With those that up a-gainst thee rise
   can I but griev-ed be?

- 22 With per-fect ha-tred them I hate, my foes I them do hold.
- 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart, try me, my thoughts un-fold:
- 24 And see if an-y wick-ed way there be at all in me;
  And in thine ev-er-last-ing way to me a lead-er be.

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

- 1 Lord, from the ill and fro-ward man give me de-liver-ance, And do thou safe pre-serve me from the man of vi-o-lence:
- Who in their heart mis-chie-vous things
   are med-i-tating ev-er;
  And they for war as-sem-bled are
   con-tin-ual-ly to-ge-ther.
- 3 Much like un-to a ser-pent's tongue their tongues they sharp do make; And un-der-neath their lips there lies the poi-son of a snake.
- 4 Lord, keep me from the wick-ed's hands,
   from vi'lent men me save;
  Who ut-terl-y to o-ver-throw
   my go-ings pur-posed have.
- 5 The proud for me a snare have hid, and cords; yea, they a net Have by the way-side for me spread; they gins for me have set.
- 6 I said un-to the Lord, Thou art my God: un-to the cry Of all my sup-pli-ca-tions, Lord, do thine ear ap-ply.
- 7 O God the Lord, who art the strength of my sal-va-tion: A cov'ring in the day of war my head thou hast put on.
- 8 Un-to the wick-ed man, O Lord,
   his wish-es do not grant;
  Nor fur-ther thou his ill de-vice,
   lest they them-selves should vaunt.

- 9 As for the head and chief of those a-bout that com-pass me, Ev'n by the mis-chief of their lips let thou them cov-er'd be.
- 10 Let burn-ing coals up-on them fall,
   them throw in fier-y flame,
  And in deep pits, that they no more
   may rise out of the same.
- 11 Let not an e-vil speak-er be
   on earth es-tab-lish-ed:
   Mis-chief shall hunt the vi'lent man,
   till he be ru-in-ed.
- 12 I know God will th' af-flic-ted's cause main-tain, and poor men's right.
- 13 Sure-ly the just shall praise thy name; th' up-right dwell in thy sight.

#### A Psalm of David.

- 1 O Lord, I un-to thee do cry,
   do thou make haste to me,
  And give an ear un-to my voice,
   when I cry un-to thee.
- 3 Set, Lord, a watch be-fore my mouth, keep of my lips the door.
- 4 My heart in-cline thou not un-to the ills I should ab-hor,
  - To prac-tice wick-ed works with men that work in-i-qui-ty; And with their del-i-cates my taste let me not sa-tis-fy.
- 5 Let him that right-eous is me smite, it shall a kind-ness be; Let him re-prove, I shall it count a pre-cious oil to me:
  - Such smit-ing shall not break my head; for yet the time shall fall, When I in their ca-lam-i-ties to God pray for them shall.
- 6 When as their judg-es down shall be in ston-y pla-ces cast, Then shall they hear my words; for they shall sweet be to their taste.
- 7 A-bout the grave's de-vour-ing mouth our bones are scat-tered round,
  As wood which men do cut and cleave lies scat-tered on the ground.

- 8 But un-to thee, O God the Lord,
   mine eyes up-lift-ed be:
   My soul do not leave de-sti-tute;
   my trust is set on thee.
- 9 Lord, keep me safe-ly from the snares
   which they for me pre-pare;
  And from the sub-tle gins of them
   that wick-ed work-ers are.
- 10 Let work-ers of in-iqu-ity
   in-to their own nets fall,
   Whilst I do, by thine help, es-cape
   the dang-er of them all.

Maschil of David; A Prayer when he was in the cave.

- 1 I with my voice cried to the Lord,
   with it made my re-quest:
- 2 Poured out to him my plaint, to him my trou-ble I ex-pressed.
- When in me was o'erwhelmed my sp'rit, then well thou knew'st my way; Where I did walk a snare for me they pri-vi-ly did lay.
- 4 I looked on my right hand, and viewed, but none to know me were; All ref-uge fail-ed me, no man did for my soul take care.
- 5 I cried to thee; I said, Thou art my ref-uge, Lord, a-lone; And in the land of those that live thou art my por-tion.
- 6 Be-cause I am brought very low, at-tend un-to my cry: Me from my per-se-cu-tors save, who strong-er are than I.
- 7 From pris-on bring my soul, that I
   thy name may glori-fy:
   The just shall com-pass me, when thou
   with me deal'st boun-teous-ly.

#### A Psalm of David.

- 1 Lord, hear my pray'r, at-tend my suits; and in thy faith-ful-ness Give thou an an-swer un-to me, and in thy right-eous-ness.
- 2 Thy ser-vant al-so bring thou not in judg-ment to be tried: Be-cause no liv-ing man can be in thy sight jus-ti-fied.
- 3 For th' en'my hath pur-sued my soul,
   my life to ground down tread:
   In dark-ness he hath made me dwell,
   as who have long been dead.
- 4 My sp'rit is there-fore o-ver-whelmed
   in me per-plex-ed-ly;
  With-in me is my ve-ry heart
   a-maz-ed won-drous-ly.
- 5 I call to mind the days of old, to med-i-tate I use On all thy works; up-on the deeds I of thy hands do muse.
- 6 My hands to thee I stretch; my soul thirsts, as dry land, for thee.
- 7 Haste, Lord, to hear, my spir-it fails: hide not thy face from me;
  - Lest like to them I do be-come that go down to the dust.
- 8 At morn let me thy kind-ness hear; for in thee do I trust.
  - Teach me the way that I should walk: I lift my soul to thee.
- 9 Lord, free me from my foes; I flee to thee to cov-er me.

- 10 Be-cause thou art my God, to do
   thy will do me in-struct:
   Thy Sp'rit is good, me to the land
   of up-right-ness con-duct.
- 11 Re-vive and quick-en me, O Lord,
   ev'n for thine own name's sake;
  And do thou, for thy right-eous-ness,
   my soul from trou-ble take.
- 12 And of thy mer-cy slay my foes; let all des-troy-ed be That do af-flict my soul: for I a ser-vant am to thee.

#### A Psalm of David.

- 1 O bless-ed ev-er be the Lord,
   who is my strength and might,
   Who doth in-struct my hands to war,
   my fin-gers teach to fight.
- 3 Lord, what is man, that thou of him
   dost so much know-ledge take?
  Or son of man, that thou of him
   so great ac-count dost make?
- 4 Man is like van-i-ty; his days, as shad-ows, pass away.
- 5 Lord, bow thy heav'ns, come down, touch thou the hills, and smoke shall they.
- 6 Cast forth thy light-ning, scat-ter them; thine ar-rows shoot, them rout.
- 7 Thine hand send from a-bove, me save; from great depths draw me out;
- And from the hand of child-ren strange,

  Whose mouth speaks van-i-ty;

  And their right hand is a right hand
  that works de-ceit-ful-ly.
- 9 A new song I to thee will sing, Lord, on a psal-ter-y; I on a ten-stringed in-stru-ment will prais-es sing to thee.
- 10 Ev'n he it is that un-to kings sal-va-tion doth send;
  Who his own ser-vant Da-vid doth from hurt-ful sword de-fend.

- 11 O free me from strange child-ren's hand,
   whose mouth speaks vani-ty;
  And their right hand a right hand is
   that works de-ceit-ful-ly.
- 12 That, as the plants, our sons may be
   in youth grown up that are;
  Our daugh-ters like to cor-ner-stones,
   carved like a pal-ace fair.
- 13 That to af-ford all kind of store our gar-ners may be filled;
  That our sheep thous-ands, in our streets ten thous-ands they may yield.
- 15 Those peo-ple bless-ed are who be
   in such a case as this;
  Yea, bless-ed all those peo-ple are,
   whose God Je-ho-vah is.

- 2 Thee will I bless each day, and will thy name for ev-er praise.
- 3 Great is the Lord, much to be praised; his great-ness search ex-ceeds.
- 4 Race un-to race shall praise thy works, and show thy might-y deeds.
- 5 I of thy glo-ri-ous ma-jes-ty the hon-or will re-cord; I'll speak of all thy might-y works, which won-drous are, O Lord.
- 6 Men of thine acts the might shall show, thine acts that dread-ful are; And I, thy glor-y to a-dvance, thy great-ness will de-clare.
- 7 The mem'ry of thy good-ness great they large-ly shall ex-press;
  With songs of praise they shall ex-tol thy per-fect right-eous-ness.
- 8 The Lord is ve-ry gra-cious,
   in him com-pas-sions flow;
  In mer-cy he is ve-ry great,
   and is to an-ger slow.
- 9 The Lord Je-ho-vah un-to all his good-ness doth de-clare; And o-ver all his o-ther works his ten-der mer-cies are.
- 10 Thee all thy works shall praise, O Lord, and thee thy saints shall bless;

- 12 To make the sons of men to know
   his acts done might-i-ly,
  And of his king-dom th' ex-cel-lent
   and glo-ri-ous ma-jes-ty.
- 13 Thy king-dom shall for ev-er stand, thy reign through a-ges all.
- 14 God rais-eth all that are bowed down, up-hold-eth all that fall.

- 17 The Lord is just in all his ways, ho-ly in his works all.
- 18 God's near to all that call on him, in truth that on him call.
- 19 He will ac-comp-lish the de-sire of those that do him fear:

  He also will de-li-ver them, and he their cry will hear.
- 20 The Lord pre-ser-ves all who him love, that naught can them an-noy: But he all those that wick-ed are will ut-ter-ly de-stroy.
- 21 My mouth the prais-es of the Lord to pub-lish cease shall nev-er: Let all flesh bless his ho-ly name for ev-er and for ev-er.

- 1 Praise God. The Lord praise, 0 my soul.
- 2 I'll praise God while I live; While I have be-ing to my God in songs I'll prais-es give.
- 3 Trust not in prin-ces, nor man's son, in whom there is no stay:
- 4 His breath de-parts, to's earth he turns; that day his thoughts de-cay.
- 5 O hap-py is that man and blest, whom Ja-cob's God doth aid; Whose hope up-on the Lord doth rest, and on his God is stayed:
- 6 Who made the earth and hea-vens high, who made the swell-ing deep, And all that is with-in the same; who truth doth ev-er keep:
- 7 Who right-eous judg-ment ex-e-cutes
   for those op-pressed that be,
   Who to the hung-ry giv-eth food;
   God sets the pris'ners free.
- 8 The Lord doth give the blind their sight, the bow-ed down doth raise: The Lord doth dear-ly love all those that walk in up-right ways.
- 9 The stran-ger's shield, the wid-ow's stay, the or-phan's help, is he: But yet by him the wick-ed's way turned up-side down shall be.
- 10 The Lord shall reign for ev-er-more:
   thy God, O Zi-on, he
   Reigns to all gen-er-a-tions.
   Praise to the Lord give ye.

- 1 Praise ye the Lord; for it is good
   praise to our God to sing:
   For it is pleas-ant, and to praise
   it is a come-ly thing.
- 2 God doth build up Je-ru-sa-lem; and he it is a-lone That the dis-pers-ed of Is-ra-el doth ga-ther in-to one.
- 3 Those that are brok-en in their heart, and griev-èd in their minds, He heal-eth, and their pain-ful wounds he ten-der-ly up-binds.
- 4 He counts the num-ber of the stars; he names them ev'ry one.
- 5 Great is our Lord, and of great pow'r; his wis-dom search can none.
- 6 The Lord lifts up the meek; and casts the wick-ed to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the Lord, and give him thanks; on harp his prais-es sound;
- 8 Who cov-er-eth the heav'n with clouds, who for the earth be-low Pre-par-eth rain, who mak-eth grass up-on the moun-tains grow.
- 9 He gives the beast his food, he feeds the ra-vens young that cry.
- 10 His plea-sure not in hor-ses' strength, nor in man's legs, doth lie.
- 11 But in all those that do him fear the Lord doth plea-sure take;
  In those that to his mer-cy do by hope them-selves be-take.

- 12 The Lord praise, O Je-ru-sa-lem; Zi-on, thy God con-fess:
- 13 For thy gates' bars he mak-eth strong; thy sons in thee doth bless.
- 14 He in thy bor-ders mak-eth peace; with fine wheat fill-eth thee.
- 15 He sends forth his com-mand on earth, his word runs speed-i-ly.
- 16 Hoar-frost, like a-shes, scatt'reth he;
   like wool he snow doth give:
- 17 Like mor-sels cast-eth forth his ice; who in its cold can live?
- 18 He send-eth forth his might-y word, and melt-eth them a-gain;
  His wind he makes to blow, and then the wa-ters flow a-main.
- 19 The doc-trine of his ho-ly word to Ja-cob he doth show;
  His sta-tutes and his judgm-ents he gives Is-ra-el to know.
- 20 To an-y na-tion nev-er he
   such fa-vor did af-ford;
  For they his judg-ments have not known.
   O do ye praise the Lord.

- 1 Praise God. From hea-vens praise the Lord, in heights praise to him be.
  - 2 All ye his an-gels, praise ye him; his hosts all, praise him ye.
  - 3 O praise ye him, both sun and moon, praise him, all stars of light.
  - 4 Ye heav'ns of heav'ns him praise, and floods a-bove the hea-vens' height.
  - 5 Let all the crea-tures praise the name of our al-might-y Lord: For he com-mand-ed, and they were creat-ed by his word.
  - 6 He al-so, for all times to come, hath them es-tab-lished sure; He hath ap-point-ed them a law, which ev-er shall en-dure.

  - 8 Fire, hail, snow, va-por, storm-y wind,
     his word that ful-ly keep.
  - 9 All hills and moun-tains, fruit-ful trees, and all ye ce-dars high:
  - 10 Beasts, and all cat-tle, creep-ing things, and all ye birds that fly.

  - 12 Both young men, yea, and mai-dens too, old men, and child-ren small.
  - 13 Let them God's name praise; for his name
     a-lone is ex-cel-lent:
     His glor-y reach-eth far a-bove
     the earth and fir-ma-ment.
  - 14 His peo-ple's horn, the praise of all
     his saints, ex-alt-eth he;
    Ev'n Isr'el's seed, a peo-ple near
     to him. The Lord praise ye.

- 1 Praise ye the Lord: un-to him sing a new song, and his praise In the as-sem-bly of his saints in sweet psalms do ye raise.
- 3 O let them un-to his great name give prais-es in the dance; Let them with timb-rel and with harp in songs his praise a-dvance.
- 4 For God doth plea-sure take in those
   that his own peo-ple be;
  And he with his sal-va-tion
   the meek will beau-ti-fy.
- 5 And in his glo-ry e-xcel-lent let all his saints re-joice: Let them to him up-on their beds a-loud lift up their voice.
- 6 Let in their mouth a-loft be raised the high praise of the Lord, And let them have in their right hand a sharp two-edg-èd sword;
- 7 To ex-e-cute the ven-geance due up-on the hea-then all, And make de-serv-èd punish-ment up-on the peo-ple fall.
- 8 And ev'n with chains, as pris'ners, bind their kings that them com-mand; Yea, and with i-ron fet-ters strong, the no-bles of their land.
- 9 On them the judg-ment to per-form
   found writ-ten in his word:
   This honor is to all his saints.
   O do ye praise the Lord.

- 1 Praise ye the Lord. God's praise with-in
   his sanc-tu-ar-y raise;
  And to him in the firm-a-ment
   of his pow'r give ye praise.
- 2 Be-cause of all his migh-ty acts,
   with praise him mag-ni-fy:
   O praise him, as he doth ex-cel
   in glor-i-ous ma-jes-ty.
- 3 Praise him with trum-pet's sound; his praise
   with psal-ter-y ad-vance:
- 4 With tim-brel, harp, stringed in-stru-ments, and or-gans, in the dance.
- 5 Praise him on cym-bals loud; him praise on cym-bals sound-ing high.
- 6 Let each thing breath-ing praise the Lord.
  Praise to the Lord give ye.

# Of Reading English Speedily

(How to Teach Reading with a Syllabary)

From Ludus Literarius: or The Grammar School by John Brinsley (1612, 1627)

Modernized by Dr. Eugene Earl Roth, Jr. (Dec. 2009)

First the child is to be taught, how to say every letter, pronouncing each of them plainly, fully and distinctly; I *mean*, in a distinct and differing sound, each from others, and also naturally, from the very first entrance to learning. More specially to be careful, for the right pronouncing the five vowels, in the first place, as *a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, *u*. Because these are first and most natural, and do make a perfect sound, so that they may be pronounced fully of themselves; and they being rightly uttered, all the rest are more plain. After these vowels, to teach them to pronounce every other letter: which are therefore called Consonants, because they cannot make a perfect sound of themselves, without a Vowel.

This may be done, and also the teaching of children to spell any syllable, before the child do know any letter on the book; and that, some wise and experienced do hold the surest and best course. But they are, at least, to be taught to pronounce their letters thus, as they do learn them; to prevent the grief and weariness of teaching them to forget evil customs in pronouncing, which they took up in their first ill learning. And so ever in teaching to read, the teachers are to continue the like care of sweet and natural pronunciation.

Secondly, for the knowing of the letters (besides that common manner practiced in Schools, which is by often reading over all the letters forwards and backwards until they can say them) they may be much furthered thus; That is, by causing the child to find out, and to show you which is a, which b, which c, which f, and so any other letter. First to find them in the Alphabet, then in any other place. Or if you will let them learn but one letter at once, until they can readily know or find out that letter in any place, and after that another in the same manner: This is holden the surer and more easy way: But this at your own judgment.

3. You may help them to spell thus, besides that course which is usual. Let so many as are beginners, or who cannot read perfectly, stand together, and then test them without book, one by one. First, in syllables of two letters, as they are set down in their A. B. C. and where one misses, let his next fellow answer: if he cannot, then, let some other. Then examine them in syllables of three letters, after in more. And ever what syllable they miss, mark it with a dent with the nail, or a prick with a pen, or the like: and when you have marked out those where in they so miss, test them often over, not forgetting due praise to them who do best. One half hour would be spent daily in this kind of examining, until they be perfect in any syllable, or word. To make children to take a delight in spelling, let them spell many syllables together, which differ but only in one letter, as hand, band, land, sand, &c. These syllables and words following, I have observed, to be of the hardest for children to spell: I will set them down together for you in this short brief. They may serve for spelling, reading, or writing, and may soon be learned by being often tested, read or written over.

Ac, ec, ca, ce, ci, co, cu, ag, eg, ah, az, ae, ai, au, ga, ge, gi, go, gu, va, wa, we, wee, back, base, bag, bage, gage, badge, baw. bay, daw, dew, jaw, rack, race, ross, rose, yell, you, gua. cha, cla, dwa, gla, pha, tha, sca, sha, swa, wra, chra, phra, spha, thra, twa, thwa, able, abs, ach, adge, afle, apt, ath, own, blow, brow, crow, dreg, dredge, dwarf, frog, gnash, gnaw, plow, snow, stew, slug, they, thorn, throne, twain, twig, school, cockle, puddle: peggle, good, gold, goggle, balm, fallen, stolen, scalp, salve, thumb, couple, pierce, chair, chapped, moth, mouth, nymphs, uncle, tenth, strength, height, depth, breadth, weight, joint, laude, beauty, deed, language, guide, feed, feud, vow, brow, dow, dove, knife, knives, yeoman, enough, air, here, doubting, island, isle, buy, league, hatchet, laugh, yew, bough, public, cushion.

These are some of the hardest syllables, as I said: you may add more as you encounter them. Also this is to be observed in spelling; that before you spell or write commonly (ti) not (sh) as in salvation, not as salvashon, although we pronounce it as (sh.). But this is to be known mainly, by the Latin words from which they come.

Correct pronunciation of words, and continual practice in spelling, are the surest way to come to spell correctly.

If you mispronounce the word, which you want your child to spell, he misspells it: for he spells according as it is pronounced to him, or as he pronounces it. For example; ask a child how he spells a strea, (as in many places the country manner is to pronounce straw) he will spell strea or stree: but ask him how he spells a straw and to pronounce it, and he will spell straw.

To direct further how to come to perfection in spelling or writing right, I shall have occasion to speak later.

In joining syllables together, they must be taught to say every syllable by it self, truly, plainly, fully, and distinctly, as we heard of the letters before; and so also as that others who hear may understand; always sounding out the last syllable: as sal-va-tion.

Thus they may go through their Abcie, and Primer. And if they read them twice over, that they may be very perfect in them, it will be the better for them. For, the second reading of any book doth much encourage children, because it seems to be so easy then; and also it imprints it more. Besides that, they will run over it so fast the second time, that it will be no loss of time at all to them.

After these they may read other English books again. Among which, the Psalms in meter would be one, because children will learn that book with most readiness and delight through the running-of the meter, as it is found by experience. Then the Testament, in which the discreet Master may keep his student less or more, until he think him meet to enter into the Accidence.

If any require any other little book good for beginning enter children; *the School of Virtue* is one of the principle and easiest for the beginners, being full of precepts of civility, and things that children will soon learn and take a delight in, through the roundness of the meter, as was said before of the singing Psalms: And after it *the School of good manners*, called, *the new School of virtue*, leading the child as by the hand in the way of all good manners.

By these means, children if they are well applied, and continually keep at it, may be taught so to read within a year or little more, as they should be ready to begin in their Grammar, by that time that they are six year old at the most; especially if they be in any way apt, and practice spelling the hardest syllables a lot.

For dividing or distinguishing of syllables, this one observation is to be remembered: That those consonants which are usually joined in the beginnings of words, are not to be disjoined and separated in the middle of words, except in Compound words. But we shall speak properly and more about this later. This is enough for now about the speedy reading of English; for I have certainly had much experience in this.

Spoud. I cannot justly dislike anything which you have said here, it stands all with so great reason: chiefly to make children so excellent in reading the hardest syllables. For, if they are good in those, then they will attain all the rest in a short time. Except only one thing which you uttered; which indeed seems a strange Paradox to me: Namely, that someone wise & experienced, would teach children to say and pronounce all their letters, and to spell any syllable before they know a letter in the book.

*Phil.* This is very true which you say; it may seem a Paradox to them who have not tried it. I myself was of your mind when I heard it first. Yet setting myself to make some trial of it, because of the respect I had for who told me, and because he showed me his experience with it in a child not yet four years old, I found it the easiest, most pleasant and shortest way of all, where one would begin in a private house with little ones playing. The manner is thus.

- 1. You must teach them, as I said, to say their five Vowels, and to pronounce them correctly: Which they will quickly learn, if you but only cause them to repeat them over often, after you say them distinctly together as:
  - a, e, i, o, u, with the sounds like five bells, or like we count; one, two, three, four, five.
- 2. Then teach them to put the consonants in order before every vowel and to repeat them over often together; like this:

begin with b, and say,	ba,	be,	bi,	bo,	bu.
So d.	da,	de,	di,	do,	du.
f;	fa,	fe,	fi,	fo,	fu.
Then teach them to say all the rest, as it v	were				
singing them together,	la,	le,	li,	lo,	lu;
Teach the hardest last, as	ca,	çe,	çi,	co,	cu;
and	ga,	ġe,	ġi,	go,	gu;

because the sound is a little changed in the second and third syllables.

When they can read all these syllables, then teach them to spell them in order, thus;

What spells b-a?

If the child cannot answer, teach him to say thus;

b-a, ba:

so putting first b before every vowel, to say

b-a ba, b-e be, b-i bi, b-o bo, b-u bu.

Then ask him again what spells b-a, and he will tell you; so too all the rest in order. By often repeating these before he says it, he will certainly do it. After this if you ask him how he spells b-a, he will answer b-a ba, so too in all others.

Next these, teach them to put the vowels first,

as to say, ab, eb, ib, ob, ub.

Then, a-b ab, e-b eb, i-b ib, o-b ob, u-b ub.

After, what spells a-b, e-b, &c. Then go with them backward and forward, cross, in and out, until they can spell any syllable of two letters. Then you may join those of three letters: After that, do all the hard syllables, to read what any of them spells, until they are perfect in all, or as you think necessary. By this means, and by a little repeating of the letters of the Alphabet over before they do, by three or four letters together, as they stand in order, so as they may best sound in the children's ears, they will soon learn to say the names of all the letters of the A.B.C. if you want. Repeat them thus:

A. b. c. d. e. f. g. h. i. k. l. m. n. o. p. q. r. s. t. u. w. x. y. z. &. To say this by rote, will not hinder, but help them.

Then they may quickly be taught to identify the names of the letters in the book, either one by one, finding first which is *a*, in the Alphabet; and then in any other place. Then to find which is *b*, and so through all the rest as you will.

Then when they know their letters and spelling, if you make them to understand the matter which they learn, by questions, for a little at the first, they will go on in reading as fast as you will desire. The easier and more familiar the matter is to them, the faster they learn.

Thus may any poor man or woman start the little ones in a town together; and make an honest poor living of it, or get some thing for helping the same. Also the Parents who have any learning, may start with their little ones, playing with them, at dinners, and suppers, or as they sit by the fire, and find it very pleasant delight.

So they may help their children to gain a year or two in learning, at the beginning, & also save the Grammar Schools this labor and hindrance.

Spoud. You have persuaded me very much concerning this question also. Surely, Sir, howsoever this may seem but a toy, yet all young parents will much rejoice in it, and acknowledge it a great benefit, to have their children so begun; and this time being saved in the beginning, will be found in the end as you truly said. Yet there is another matter that comes unto my memory, about which I have taken no small grief and discouragement many times, concerning this point of reading English. I will mention it here, and desire your judgment how to address it, although it might haply come in better later.

The trouble is this: That when my children do first begin in Latin, many of them forget to read English, and some of them be worse two or three years after they have been in my school, than when they began it.

Now if you could teach me how to help this likewise, that they might as well still go forward in reading English as in Latin, I would account this a very great benefit. For, some of their Parents, who treat me the kindest, will be at me, that their children may every day read some Chapters of the Bible, in order to help their reading of English. Now this I cannot possibly do, without hindering their progress in Latin, in some lessons or necessary exercises; and either be behind their fellows, or else trouble all their fellows very much, that they cannot go so fast forward as they should, but stay for these readers. Others being more ignorant or malicious, upon every light occasion, are ready to rage & rail at me, because their children, as they say, get nothing good from me, but are worse and worse. For, whereas they could read English perfectly (it may be) when they came to me, now they have forgotten to do it. Thus am I grieved on every side, and vexed daily, let me labor never so much, and spend my heart with them to do them good.

Phil. Sir, herein I can say, as she in the Poet; Haud ignara mali miseris succurrere disco. [Not unfamiliar with misfortune myself, I have learned to help the miserable. Virgil]

For I have tasted deeply of the same grief until very recently, in the last year or two. Yet now I seem to myself, to find as sensible and continual growth amongst all my Students, in their English tongue as in the Latin. And not only in reading it, but also in understanding it, and in ability to speak their minds about any thing with which they are acquainted, or which they learn in Latin; and also how to express the meaning of the Latin in the propriety, and purity of our own language: so that I am quite delivered from that clamor.

But to tell you what I think, in which there seems to me, to be a very big lack in all our Grammar schools generally, or in most of them; and which I have heard some great learned men complain about; That there is no care had in respect, to train up students so, that they will be able to express their minds purely and readily in our own language, and to increase in the practice of it, as well as in the Latin or Greek. Therefore, our chief endeavor should be for English, and that for these reasons, 1. Because that language which all sorts and conditions of men amongst us are to have most use of, both in speech and writing, is our own native tongue. 2. The purity and elegance of our own language, is to be esteemed a chief part of the honor of our Nation: which we all ought to advance as much as lies in us. When Greece and Rome and other nations have most flourished, their languages also have been most pure: and from those times of Greece and Rome, we get our chief patterns, from the learning of their tongues. 3. Because of those who are for a time trained up in schools, there are very few which proceed in learning, in comparison to those who pursue other callings.

Spoud. This complaint is not without just cause: for I do not know any school, in which there is regard held for this to any purpose; in spite of the general necessity and use of it, as well as the great commendation which it brings to those who have attained it. But I think every minute is an hour, until I hear this from you: how my trouble and shame may be avoided, and how I may obtain this ability to direct my children, how they may go thus forward, not only in reading English perfectly, but also in the propriety, purity and copy of our English language, so as they may speak their minds commendably about any thing which concerns them, according to their age and place.

*Phil.* I will but name the means unto you now: for I shall have occasion to show them all more particularly after this.

Besides the daily use of distinct reading over their English parts to get them perfectly, and correctly reading all other things which they learn in Latin, as you know; these methods following, by the blessing of God will accomplish your desire.

- 1. The continual use of the books of construing of *Lillies* Rules, by causing them to learn to construe, and to keep their Grammar rules, only by the help of those *construed*. translations. This I find one very good use of these books, besides some other which I shall mention after.
- 2. The daily use, and practice of Grammatical translation in English, of all the School Authors, which the younger sort learn; causing them each day out of those to construe, and repeat, whatever they learn. This I also have proved by happy experience, to be a rare help to make young Students to grow very much, both in English and Latin. But of all these, for the manner, benefits, and use of them, I shall have occasion to speak at large.

3. Besides these, they would have every day some practice of writing English speedily, in true Orthography; as also of translating into English; or, of writing Epistles, or familiar Letters to their friends, as well in English as in Latin. Amongst some of them, the reporting of a Fable in English, or the like matter, trying who can make the best report, doth much further them in this. And generally, amongst all those that can write, the taking of notes of Sermons, and delivering them again, or making repetitions, is a special means. Also striving to express whatsoever they construe, not only in propriety, but in variety of the finest phrase, who can give the best. This chiefly in the higher forms: So reading forth of Latin into English; first in propriety, then in purity. By these, and some use of the History of the Bible, and the like, which I shall be occasioned to mention after; you may find their growth, according to your desire, and much above your expectation.

Spoud. Undoubtedly Sir, these must needs be very available; because students may have hereby, so much use of the English every day, above that which is practiced in any School which I have known. But for any such translations of the School-Authors, I have not heard of them. Only I have seen the books of construing *Lillies* rules, and some of my children have them, though I feared that it would rather make them idle, being but a truant's book. Indeed I never conceived so much of them as you say: I will think better of their use.

Phil. There is not the best thing but it may be abused. But for that book as the others, I will show and prove to you the commodities of them, above all that you would imagine. Experience makes me confident: Yet to return unto yourself, concerning the complaint of the Parents for their children going backward in reading English, when they first learn Latin; the chief fault in truth is in the Parents themselves; although we poor schoolmasters must be sure to bear all. For if such murmuring Parents would but cause their children, every day after dinner or supper, or both, to read a Chapter of the Bible, or a piece of a Chapter, as leisure would permit, and to do it constantly; thereby to show their love to the Lord, and his Word, and their desire to have the Word dwell plentifully in their houses, to have their children trained up in it, as young *Timothy* was; then, I say, this complaint would soon be at an end: for they should either see then, their children to increase in this, or else they should discern the fault to be in their children's dullness, and not in our neglect. Notwithstanding, since there are so very few of whom we can hope, that they have any care of this duty in their houses, in respect of all the rest who omit it, and yet all the blame must surely rest on us, it concerns us so much as we can to address it; and therefore use all good means, to cut off all occasions of clamors, and of discrediting ourselves, and our schools, and to contend for the greatest profiting of our children, as well in this, as in any other part of learning; the use of this being, as we heard, most general and perpetual.

Spoud. You have directed me very rightly how to answer such Parents: now I shall be able to show them where the fault is, & be calling upon them to address this at home. I shall also endeavor to put all this in use, and more as you make the particulars more fully known unto me; and as I shall find by trial the fruit of it. But now, that you have thus satisfied me in all of my doubts; I cannot but demand yet one other point, wherein I find another great lack, though not comparable to the former; because there is not so much use of it: which is about the ordinary numbers or numbering. For I am much troubled about this, that my readers and others above them, are much to seek in all matters of numbers, whether in figures or in letters. Insomuch, as when they hear the Chapters named in the Church, many of them cannot turn to them, much less to the verse.

#### **Note from Internet Publisher: Donald L. Potter**

February 13, 2011

This is a work was first published as a work-in-progress. The work was completed on March 13, 2012.

I added the syllable divisions to assist students in reading the polysyllables. The original was not divided into syllables. Most of the syllable division follow the meter, but a tiny few seems to have an extra syllable.

Students learning to read from Webster's 1908 *Elementary Spelling Book* (or any other edition of Webster or other Spelling Books contemporary with Webster - that used the syllabary) with the alphabet, syllabary, word tables, and decodable sentences - will find this Metrical Versions of the Psalms a most pleasant and profitable means of improving their reading ability.

I understand that William Shakespeare cut his linguistic teeth on the Metrical Psalms. Notice that Brinsley (1612) recommended the Metrical Psalms for beginning readers. Children in Shakesphere's age and for sometime thereafter would be familiar with the Metrical Psalms from hearing them sung at Church, just as I learned much of my reading by following along in the hymn books (with words divided into syllables) when I was a young lad in the 1950's. Psalms after 100 are not divided into syllable becaue children will not need that help by then.

It is important to understand that the old fashioned spelling books were used to teach reading by means of spelling. Children learned to spell the words before they read them. No more effective method of producing high level reading and total linguistic function has ever been discovered. A return to the Spelling Book Method for Teaching Reading and Spelling will go a long way to totally eliminating illiteracy in our land.

For a modern defense of the Spelling-First approach to teaching high-level reading see Ronald P. Carver's 2000 *The Causes of High and Low Reading Achievement*.

The Metrical Version of the Psalms provides an excellent means of practicing reading for beginners. Most of the words are common Anglo Saxon words with just a sprinkling of word from Latin.

I have selected 90 Psalms that I felt were appropriate for young children.

The Psalms here are all in Common Meter. Common meter or Common measure, abbreviated C. M. or CM, is a poetic meter consisting of four lines which alternate between iambic tetrameter (four metrical feet per line, with each foot consisting of an unstressed syllable followed by a stressed syllable) and iambic trimeter (three metrical feet per line, with each foot consisting of an unstressed syllable followed by a stressed syllable), rhyming in the pattern a-b-a-b. The meter is denoted by the syllable count of each line, i.e. 8.6.8.6 or 86.86, depending on style, or by its shorthand abbreviation "CM".

**Historical Note**: On February 14, 2011, I taught my first reading lesson with this Metrical Version of the Psalms to a class of first-grade students. I taught these students to read with *Blumenfeld's Alpha-Phonics* by Samuel L. Blumenfeld. These students had been coming to me since the first of the school year for help with reading. I call my program, *The Cursive Road to Reading and Spelling with Blumenfeld's Alpha-Phonics*. I was very impressed with their ability to read the Psalm by syllables. This ability is a strong testimony to the effectiveness of the program by which they were taught to read.

The *Trinitarian Bible Society* sells several beautiful editions of the KJV with the 1650 Scottish Psalter in the back. This would be a wonderful gift to give children learning to read with the *Psalter Reader*. Although the language at first appears antiquated, the KJV is actually a very readable book. I especially recommend editions that are self-pronouncing, although the TBS self-pronouncing Concord Bible with the metrical version of the Psalms is pretty expensive for a kids' Bible. Editions with the Psalter that are not self-pronouncing are available that are far less expensive.

For more information on the 1650 Scottish Psalter visit:

http://www.cgmusic.org/workshop/smp frame.htm

You can access the 1650 Psalter and John Brown of Haddington's commentary at:

http://www.swrb.com/newslett/actualNLs/Psalter2.htm

Isaac Watts once said that when we read the prose Psalms, God speaks to us, but when we sing metriecal Psalms, we speak to God.

There numerous tunes that can be used to sing the Metrical Psalms, but all of them can be sung with just one tune – any tune will do! Here are some that you can start with:

http://soundcloud.com/niallags/tracks?page=1

While I do not advocate exclusive Psalms singing in Church worship or private devotion, the following site will explain that position and give help on using the Psalter to develop our spiritual life.

http://exclusivepsalmody.com/audio/

Here is a large selection of tunes in Common Meter. Any can be used with any Psalm.

http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/met/CM.htm http://www.albanycrpc.org/tunes.php

Here is a scholarly study of the Scottish Psalter: The Metrical Psalms and Paraphrase by Thomas Young (1908).

http://www.hymntime.com/tch/mid/met/CM.htm

In order to sing the Psalms, one has to either edit the words to fit tunes, or create tunes to fit the words. Metrical Psalms are of the first type, words edited to fit tunes. A standard metrical Psalm is written in **Common Meter** which is **8.6.8.6.** That means in a four line phrase, there will be eight syllables, then six syllables, then eight syllables, and then six syllables.

#### **Familiar Tunes in Common Meter**

Amazing Grace; O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing O God Our Help in Ages Past; There is a Fountain; All Hail the Power; Oh Little Town of Bethlehem; Joy to the World; Auld Lang Syne, Let Ever Heart Rejoice and Sing (Washburn); The Lord is My Shephard (Crimond); O For a Faith That Will Not Shrink (Amazon); O for a Thouand Tongues to Sing (Azmon); I'm Not Ashamed to Own My Lord (Azmon); How Sweet, How Heavenly (Brown); How Shall the Young Secure Their Hearts (Croydon); All Hail the Power of Jesus Name (Diadem); Why Did My Savior Come to Earth (He Loved Me So); Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone: (Maitland); America the Beautiful (Materna); Jesus the Very Thought of Thee (St Agnes); Let Every Heart Rejoice and Sing (Washburne); While Sheperd Watched Their Flocks.

Yankee Doodle; America the Beautiful; O Susannah; I've been Working on the Railroad; Gilligan's Island; Greensleeves; House of the Rising Sun; The Yellow Rose of Texas.

#### **Glossary of Archiac Words**

Sith: since; adverb, conjunction, preposition.

Reins: The kidneys; lower pat of the back. In Scripture, the inward

parts; the *heart*, or seat of affections and passions.

Haste: hurry.

**Unfeigned:** *genuine, sincere, not fake or pretend.* 

Plaint: complaint, lament.

Suit: A petition or entrity (requriest) to a person in authority.

Straits: trouble or difficulty.

Ire: anger.

Aye: forever, still.

Benign: kind, generous, beneficial, wholesome (Webster 1828)

**Timeous**: in good time, sufficiently early.

Gin: trap or snare.

A good dictionary will help with any unknown words. It is also good to have the KJV or a modern literal version like the NKJV or ESV to consult. The 1640 Scottish Psalter is considered a very accurate translation of the Hebrew, making it is quite easy to compare with modern literal translations.

Document last revised, January 16, 2013.

For this last revison, I personally sang all the Psalms in this *Psalm Reader*. It was a refreshing and deeply spiritual experience. I anticipate that the students will improve their reading, gain an ear for meter and rhyme, and come to a deep experience of joyful worship of their Creator.

Note a 5 x 9 paperback edition is available for purchase from *Create Space*.

https://www.createspace.com/4056703

# Psalms in the Psalms Reader

# **Book I: Psalms 1-44:**

1, 2, 4, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 40.

#### Book II: Psalms 42-72:

46, 63, 72.

### Book III: Psalms 73-89:

73, 75, 76, 78, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 87, 89.

#### Book VI: Psalms 90-106:

90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106.

#### **Book V: Psalms 106-150:**

107, 108, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143,9044, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150.