

Metrical Version of the Psalms

1650 Scottish Psalter

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

A Reader for children who have learned to read and spell
with *Noah Webster's Spelling Book Method of Teaching
Reading and Spelling*

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

Reproduction Permitted

Book I: Psalms 1 - 44

Psalm 1

- 1 That man hath per-fect bless-ed-ness,
who walk-eth not a-stray
In coun-sel of un-god-ly men,
nor stands in sin-ners' way,
- Nor sit-teth in the scor-ner's chair:
2 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
4 The wick-ed are not so;
But like they are un-to the chaff,
which wind drives to and fro.
- 5 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.
- 6 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.

Psalm 2

- 1 Why rage the hea-then? and vain things
why do the peop-le mind?
- 2 Kings of the earth do set them-selves,
and prin-ces are com-bined,
To plot a-against the Lord, and his
A-noin-ted, saying thus,
- 3 Let us a-sunder 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-standing, I have him
to be my King ap-point-ed;
And over Zi-on, my holy 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 only 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 iron, 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:
- 11 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 begin to burn:
Bles-sed all that on him stay.

Psalm 4

- 1 Give ear un-to me when I call,
God of my right-eous-ness:
Have mer-cy, hear my pray'r; thou hast
en-larg'd me in dis-tress.
- 2 O ye the sons of men! how long
will ye love van-i-ties?
How long my glory turn to shame,
and will ye fol-low lies?
- 3 But know, that for himself the Lord
the godly man doth choose:
The Lord, when I on him do call,
to hear will not refuse.
- 4 Fear, and sin not; talk with your heart
on bed, and si-lent be.
- 5 Off 'rings pre-sent of right-eous-ness,
and in the Lord trust ye.
- 6 O who will shew us any good?
is that which many say:
But of thy coun-tena-nce the light,
Lord, lift on us al-way.
- 7 Upon my heart, be-stow'd by thee,
more gladness 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 quiet sleep will take;
Be-cause thou only me to dwell
in safe-ty, Lord, dost make.

Psalm 8

- 1 How ex-cel-lent in all the earth,
 Lord, our Lord, is thy name!
Who hast thy glory far ad-vanc'd
 above the star-ry frame.
- 2 From in-fants' and from suck-lings' mouth
 thou didest strength or-dain,
For thy foes' cause, that so thou might'st
 th' aveng-ing foe re-strain.
- 3 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;
- 4 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?
- 5 For thou a little low-er hast
 him than the an-gels made;
With glory and with dig-ni-ty
 thou crown-ed hast his head.
- 6 Of thy hands' works thou mad'st him lord,
 all under's feet didst lay;
- 7 All sheep and oxen, yea, and beasts
 that in the field do stray;
- 8 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!

Psalm 11

- 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?
- 2 For, lo, the wicked 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?
4 God in his holy temple is,
in heav-en is his throne:
- His eyes do see, his eye-lids try
5 men's sons. The just he proves:
But his soul hates the wick-ed man,
and him that vi'lence loves.
- 6 Snares, fire and brim-stone, furious storms,
on sin-ners he shall rain:
This, as the por-tion of their cup,
doth un-to them per-tain.
- 7 Be-cause the Lord most right-eous doth
in right-eous-ness de-light;
And with a plea-sant coun-tena-nce
be-hold-eth the up-right.

Psalm 12

- 1 Help, Lord, be-cause the god-ly man
doth dai-ly fade a-way;
And from a-mong the sons of men
the faith-ful do de-cay.
- 2 Un-to his neigh-bour ev'ry one
doth utter van-i-ty:
They with a doub-le heart do speak,
and lips of flat-ter-y.
- 3 God shall cut off all flat-t'ring lips,
tongues that speak proudly thus,
- 4 We'll with our tongue pre-vail, our lips
are ours: who's lord o'er us?
- 5 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.
- 6 The words of God are words most pure;
they be like sil-ver try'd
In ear-then fur-nace, seven times
that hath been pur-i-fy'd.
- 7 Lord, thou shalt them pre-serve and keep
for ever from this race.
- 8 On each side walk the wicked, when
vile men are high in place

Psalms 14

- 1 That there is not a God, the fool
doth in his heart con-clude:
They are cor-rupt, their works are vile;
not one of them doth good.
- 2 Upon men's sons the Lord from heav'n
did cast his eyes a-broad,
To see if any under-stood,
and did seek after God.
- 3 They alt-oge-ther filthy are,
they all a-side are gone;
And there is none that doeth good,
yea, sure there is not one.
- 4 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 Sion come:
when back the Lord shall bring
His captives, Jacob shall re-joice,
and Israel shall sing.

Psalm 15

- 1 With-in thy tab-er-na-cle, Lord,
 who shall a-bide with thee?
And in thy high and holy hill
 who shall a dwel-ler be?
- 2 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 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 ne-ver mov-ed be.

Psalms 19

- 1 The hea-v'ns God's glor-y do de-clare,
the skies his hand-works preach:
2 Day utters 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;
5 Who, bride-groom-like, forth goes
From's cham-ber, as a strong man doth
to run his race re-joice.
- 6 From hea-v'n's end is his going forth,
cir-cling to th' end a-gain;
And there is noth-ing from his heat
that hid-en doth re-main.
- 7 God's law is per-fect, and con-verts
the soul in sin that lies:
God's test-i-mony is most sure,
and makes the sim-ple wise.
- 8 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 endure for ev-er:
The judg-ments of the Lord are true
and right-eous al-toge-ther.
- 10 They more than gold, yea, much fine gold,
to be de-sired are:
Than honey, honey from the comb
that drop-peth, sweet-er far.

- 11 More-over, 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 over 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.

Psalm 20

- 1 Je-ho--vah hear thee in the day
when trou-ble he doth send:
And let the name of Ja-cob's God
thee from all ill de-fend.
- 2 O let him help send from a-bove,
out of his sanc-tu-ar-y:
From Sion, his own holy hill,
let him give strength to thee.
- 3 Let him re-mem-ber all thy gifts,
ac-cept thy sac-ri-fice:
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 prayers all ful-fil.
- 6 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.
- 7 In char-iots some put con-fi-dence,
some horses trust upon:
But we re-mem-ber will the name
of our Lord God al-one.
- 8 We rise, and up-right stand, when they
are bowed down, and fall.
9 De-liver, Lord; and let the King
us hear, when we do call.

Psalm 22

A Psalm about David and Christ

- 1 My God, my God, why hast thou me
for-saken? why so far
Art thou from help-ng me, and from
my words that roar-ing are?
- 2 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 holy, thou that dost
in-habit Isr'el's praise.
- 4 Our fathers 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 upon thy care,
ev'n from the womb till now;
And from my mo-ther's belly, Lord,
my God and guide art thou.

- 11 Be not far off, for grief is near,
and none to help is found.
- 12 Bulls many com-pass me, strong bulls
of Ba-shan me sur-round.
- 13 Their mouths they open'd wide on me,
upon me gape did they,
Like to a lion rav-ening
and roar-ing for his prey.
- 14 Like water I'm pour'd out, my bones
all out of joint do part:
A-midst my bowels, as the wax,
so mel-ted is my heart.
- 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.
- 16 For dogs have com-pass'd me about:
the wick-ed, that did meet
In their as-sem-bly, me in-clos'd;
they pierc'd my hands and feet.
- 17 I all my bones may tell; they do
upon me look and stare.
- 18 Upon 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.
- 21 Out of the roar-ing lion's mouth
do thou me shield and save:
For from the horns of u-ni-corns
an ear to me thou gave.
- 22 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 Within 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 also praise shall give
Un-to the Lord that do him seek:
your heart shall ever 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 among 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 ages 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.

Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord's my sheph-erd, 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.
- 3 My soul he doth re-store a-gain;
and me to walk doth make
With-in the paths of right-eous-ness,
ev'n for his own name's sake.
- 4 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.
- 5 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 ever-more
my dwell-ing-place shall be.

Psalm 24

- 1 The earth be-longs un-to the Lord,
and all that it con-tains;
The world that is in-habit-ed,
and all that there re-mains.
- 2 For the foun-da-tions ther-eof
he on the seas did lay,
And he hath it es-tab-lished
upon the floods to stay.
- 3 Who is the man that shall a-scend
in-to the hill of God?
Or who with-in his holy place
shall have a firm a-bode?
- 4 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 upon,
And right-eous-ness, ev'n from the God
of his sal-va-tion.
- 6 This is the gen-er-a-tion
that after him en-quire,
O Jacob, who do seek thy face
with their whole heart's de-sire.
- 7 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.

9 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 glory? who is this?
The Lord of hosts, and none but he,
 the King of glory is.

Psalm 25

- 1 To thee I lift my soul:
2 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 upon 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 upon thee all the day
ex-pect-ing do at-tend.
- 6 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.
- 8 God good and up-right is:
the way he'll sin-ners show.
9 The meek in judg-ment he will guide,
and make his path to know.
- 10 The whole paths of the Lord
are truth and mercy sure,
To those that do his co-v'n-ant keep,
and test-i-mo-nies pure.

- 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 very 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 upon 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 many are;
And it a cruel ha-tred is
which they a-gainst me bear.

- 20 O do thou keep my soul,
do thou de-liver me:
And let me never be a-sham'd,
be-cause I trust in thee.
- 21 Let up-right-ness and truth
keep me, who thee at-tend.
- 22 Re-demp-tion, Lord, to Is-ra-el
from all his trou-bles send.

Psalm 40

- 1 I wait-ed for the Lord my God,
and pa-tient-ly did bear;
At length to me he did in-cline
my voice and cry to hear.
- 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 ma-gni-fy:
Many shall see it, and shall fear,
and on the Lord re-ly.
- 4 O bles-sed is the man whose trust
upon the Lord re-lies;
Re-spect-ing not the proud, nor such
as turn a-side to lies.
- 5 O Lord my God, full many are
the wonders thou hast done;
Thy gra-cious thoughts to us-ward far
above 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 number'd are.
- 6 No sac-ri-fice nor of-fer-ing
didst thou at all de-sire;
Mine ears thou bor'd: sin-off 'ring thou
and burnt didst not re-quire:
- 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 holy law of thine
I have with-in my heart.
- 9 Within the con-gre-ga-tion great
I right-eous-ness did preach:
Lo, thou dost know, O Lord, that I
re-frained not my speech.
- 10 I never did with-in my heart
con-ceal thy right-eous-ness;
I thy sa-lva-tion have de-clar'd,
and shown thy faith-ful-ness:
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 ill's past reck'ning compass me,
and mine i-ni-qui-ties
Such hold upon 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.
- 13 Be pleased, 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 abide;
Who thy sal-va-tion love, say still,
 The Lord be ma-gni-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

Psalms 46

1 God is our re-fuge and our strength,
in straits a pres-ent aid;
2 There-fore, al-though the earth re-move,
we will not be a-fraid:

Though hills a-midst the seas be cast;
3 Though wa-ters roaring make,
And troubl-ed be; yea, though the hills,
by swell-ling seas do shake.

4 A river is, whose streams do glad
the city of our God;
The holy 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.

6 The hea-then rag'd tu-mul-tuous-ly,
the king-doms moved were:
The Lord God ut-tered his voice,
the earth did melt for fear.

7 The Lord of hosts upon our side
doth cons-tant-ly re-main:
The God of Ja-cob's our ref-uge,
us safely to maintain.

8 Come, and behold what wondrous works
have by the Lord been wrought;
Come, see what des-o-la-tions
he on the earth hath brought.

9 Un-to the ends of all the earth
wars in-to peace he turns:

- The bow he breaks, the spear he cuts,
in fire the char-iot burns.
- 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.
- 11 Our God, who is the Lord of hosts,
is still upon our side;
The God of Ja-cob our re-fuge
for ever will a-bide.

Psalm 63

- 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.
- 4 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:
- 6 When I do thee upon 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 follows 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.
- 10 They by the sword shall be cut off,
and foxes' prey become.
- 11 Yet shall the king in God re-joice,
and each one glory shall
That swear by him: but stopp'd shall be
the mouth of liars all.

Book III: Psalms 73-89

Psalm 72

- 1 Yet God is good to Is-ra-el,
to each pure-heart-ed one.
- 2 But as for me, my steps near slipp'd,
my feet were al-most gone.
- 3 For I en-vi-ous was, and grudg'd
the fool-ish folk to see,
When I pe-rceiv'd the wick-ed sort
en-joy pros-per-i-ty.
- 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 plagu'd, as o-thers be.
- 6 There-fore their pride, like to a chain,
them com-pass-eth a-bout;
And, as a gar-ment, vi-o-lence
doth cover 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-hout
the earth at large doth walk.
- 10 His people often-times for this
look back, and turn a=bout;
Sith waters 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.
- 13 I ver-i-ly have done in vain
my heart to pur-i-fy;
To no effect in in-no-cence
wash-ed my hands have I.
- 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-ement re-ceive.
- 15 If in this mann-er 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-a-ry I went,
then I their end did see.
- 18 As-sur-ed-ly thou didst them set
a slip-p'ry place upon;
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 away.

20 Ev'n like un-to a dream, when one
from sleep-ing doth a-rise;
So thou, O Lord, when thou a-wak'st,
their image shalt de-spise.

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-al-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 glory after-ward
re-ceive me to a-bide.

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.

26 My flesh and heart doth faint and fail,
but God doth fail me ne-ver:
For of my heart God is the strength
and por-tion for e-ver.

27 For, lo, they that are far from thee
for ever 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.

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 grudged
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 other men,
nor plagued, as others be.
- 6 There-fore their pride, like to a chain,
them com-pass-eth about;
And, as a gar-ment, vi-o-lence
doth cover 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 lofty is.
- 9 They set their mouth against 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 waters of so full a cup
to these are pourèd 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 verily have done in vain
my heart to pur-i-fy;
To no ef-fect in in-no-cence
washed my hands have I.
- 14 For dai-ly, and all day through-out,
great plagues I suf-fered have;
Yea, ev'ry morning I of new
did chastisement receive.
- 15 If in this man-ner fool-ish-ly
to speak I would in-tend,
Thy children's generation,
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 slipp'ry place up-on;
Them sud-den-ly thou cast-edst down
into 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 unto 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 grieved was my heart in me,
and me my reins op-pressed:
22 So rude was I, and ig-nor-ant,
and in thy sight a beast.
- 23 Never-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, alone?
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 ever.
- 27 For, lo, they that are far from thee
for ever perish shall;
Them that a whor-ing from thee go
thou hast des-troyed 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.

Psalm 75

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;
Because 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-solvèd 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.
- 4 I to the fool-ish peo-ple said,
Do not deal fool-ish-ly;
And un-to those that wick-ed are,
Lift not your horn on high.
- 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 ever 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.

Psalm 76

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:
- 2 In Sa-lem is his tab-er-na-cle,
in Zi-on is his seat.
- 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-against 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 before 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 very wrath of man
unto 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 unto him;
for to be feared is he.
- 12 By him the sp'rits shall be cut off
of those that prin-ces are:
Unto the kings that are on earth
he fear-ful doth ap-pear.

Psalm 78

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.
- 4 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 charged 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 other arms did lack,
When as the day of bat-tle was,
they faint-ly turned back.
- 10 They brake God's cov'nant, and re-fused
in his commands to go;
- 11 His works and wonders 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 Zoan'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 waters to run down.
- 17 Yet sinning more, in desert they
pro-vo-ked the High-est One.
- 18 For in their heart they temp-ted God,
and, speak-ing with mis-trust,
They gre-edil-y did meat re-quire
to sat-is-fy their lust.
- 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 waters great;
But can he give his peo-ple bread?
and send them flesh to eat?

21 The Lord did hear, and waxed wroth;
so kin-dled was a flame
'Gainst Jacob, and 'gainst Is-ra-el
up indignation 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 open 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.

30 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 upon 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.

- 32 Yet, not-with-stand-ing of all this,
they sinned still the more;
And though he had great won-ders wrought,
Be-lieved him not there-fore:
- 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-turned, 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 a-lmight-y God
had their Re-dee-mer been.
- 36 Yet with their mouth they flat-tered him,
and spake but feigned-ly;
And they unto 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 fading flesh
to mind he did recall;
A wind that pass-eth soon away,
and not re-turns at all.
- 40 How often 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 upon
Him, who in midst of Isr'el is
the only 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 rivers ev'ry where
he turned into blood;
So that nor man nor beast could drink
of stand-ing lake or flood.
- 45 He brought among 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 labors he de-livered up
unto 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 over 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;
Among 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, amidst 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 over-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-chased.
- 55 The na-tions of Ca-naan,
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 ever 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-ide they turned, 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 waxed 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
into 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
unto 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 marri-age 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 Upon his en'mies' hinder parts
he made his stroke to fall;
And so upon them he did put
a shame per-pe-tual.

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 Jehudah's tribe
to be the rest a-bove;
And of mount Zion 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 also choice did make,
And even from the folds of sheep
was plea-sèd 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 after the in-teg-ri-ty
he of his heart them fed;
And by the good skill of his hands
them wisely gov-er-nèd.

Psalm 80

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

- 1 Sing loud to God our strength; with joy
to Jacob'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 trave-led 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 thunder-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 unt-o me.
- 9 In midst of thee there shall not be
any strange god at all;
Nor unto any 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.
- 12 So to the lust of their own hearts
I them de-liver-ed;
And then in coun-sels of their own
they vain-ly wan-dered.
- 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 ever-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.

Psalm 81

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 Jacob's God was this.
- 5 To Jo-seph this a test-i-mo-ny
he made, when Egypt land
He tra-veled through, where speech I heard
I did not un-der-stand.
- 6 His shoulder I from burdens 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 thunder-ing
I did thee answ-er make;
And at the streams of Mer-i-bah
of thee a proof did take.
- 8 O thou, my peo-ple, give an ear,
I'll test-i-fy to thee;
To thee, O Isr'el, if thou wilt
but hear-ken unto me.
- 9 In midst of thee there shall not be
any strange god at all;
Nor unto any god un-known
thou bow-ing down shalt fall.
- 10 I am the Lord thy God, which did
from Egypt 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.
- 12 So to the lust of their own hearts
I them de-liver-ed;
And then in coun-sels of their own
they vain-ly wander-ed.
- 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 ever-more re-mained.
- 16 He should have also fed them with
the fi-nest of the wheat;
Of honey from the rock thy fill
I should have made thee eat.

Psalm 82

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-press-ed 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.
- 8 O God, do thou raise up thy-self,
the earth to judg-ment call:
For thou, as thine in-her-i-tance,
shalt take the na-tions all.

Psalm 84

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

- 1 How lovely is thy dwelling-place,
O Lord of hosts, to me!
The tab-er-nac-les of thy grace
how pleas-ant, Lord, they be!
- 2 My thirs-ty soul longs veh'ment-ly,
yea faints, thy courts to see:
My very heart and flesh cry out,
O liv-ing God, for thee.
- 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-chased 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 ever give thee praise.
- 5 Blessed is the man whose strength thou art,
in whose heart are thy ways:
- 6 Who passing thorough Ba-ca's vale,
there-in do dig up wells;
Also the rain that fall-eth down
the pools with water fills.
- 7 So they from strength un-wearied go
still for-ward unto strength,
Until in Zion they ap-pear
Be-fore the Lord at length.
- 8 Lord God of hosts, my prayer hear;
O Ja-cob's God, give ear.
- 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 assur-ed con-fi-dence
on thee a-lone doth rest.

Psalm 85

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-passes and sins
hast cover-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 endure
a-gainst us with-out end?
Wilt thou to gen-er-a-tions all
thine a-nger 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 glory in our land may have
her ha-bi-ta-tion.
- 10 Truth met with mer-cy, right-eous-ness
and peace kissed mu-tual-ly:
- 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.

Psalm 86

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 unto thee I daily cry,
be mer-ci-ful to me.
- 4 Re-joyce 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
u-pon thee to re-lieve.
- 6 Hear, Lord, my pray'r; unto the voice
of my re-quest at-end:
- 7 In troubl-ous 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 any 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 alone.

- 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 glory will as-cribe
unto 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 gracious,
Long-suffering, and in thy truth
and mercy plenteous.
- 16 O turn to me thy count-e-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 87

Psalm or Song for the sons of Korah.

- 1 Upon the hills of ho-li-ness
 he his foun-da-tion sets.
- 2 God, more than Jacob's dwell-ings all,
 de-lights in Zi-on's gates.

- 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.

Psalm 89

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 ever 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.
- 5 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 hims-elf 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.
- 8 O thou that art the Lord of hosts,
what Lord in migh-ti-ness
Is like to thee? who com-passed round
art with thy faith-ful-ness.

- 9 Ev'n in the ra-ging of the sea
thou over it dost reign;
And when the waves there-of do swell,
thou still-est them a-gain.
- 10 Ra-hab in pie-ces thou did-st break,
like one that slaugh-tered is;
And with thy migh-ty arm thou hast
Dis-persed thine en-e-mies.
- 11 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.
- 13 Thou hast an arm that's full of pow'r,
thy hand is great in might;
And thy right hand ex-cee-ding-ly
Ex-al-ted is in height.
- 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 people are
the joy-ful sound that know;
In bright-ness of thy face, O Lord,
they ever 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 glory of their strength
doth only stand in thee;
And in thy favor 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.
- 19 In vi-sion to thy Holy One
thou saidst, I help upon
A strong one laid; out of the folk
I raised a chosen one;
- 20 Ev'n Da-vid, I have found him out
a ser-vant unto me;
And with my holy 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.
- 25 His hand and pow'r shall reach afar;
I'll set it in the sea;
And his right hand es-tab-lished
shall in the riv-ers be.
- 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 any land.
- 28 My love I'll ever keep for him,
my cov'nant fast shall stand.

29 His seed I by my pow'r will make
for ever to en-dure;
And, as the days of heav'n, his throne
shall stable be, and sure.

30 But if his children 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-ti-se-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 ever 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-pleased, 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 glory thou hast made to cease,
 his throne to ground down cast;
 45 Shortened his days of youth, and him
 with shame thou cover-ed hast.

46 How long, Lord, wilt thou hide thy-self?
 for ever, in thine ire?
 And shall thine in-dig-na-tion
 burn like unto 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 liveth here,
 and death shall never see?
 Or from the power 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 people 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 anoint-ed one.

52 All bless-ing to the Lord our God
 let be as-crib-ed then:
 For ever-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 ever hadst brought forth
the moun-tains great or small;

Ere ever thou hadst formed the earth,
and all the world a-broad;
Ev'n thou from ever-last-ing art
to ever-last-ing God.
- 3 Thou dost unto de-struc-tion
man that is mor-tal turn;
And unto them thou say'st, A-gain,
ye sons of men, re-turn.
- 4 Be-cause a thou-sand years ap-pear
no more be-fore thy sight
Than yes-ter-day, when it is past,
or than a watch by night.
- 5 As with an over-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 anger we're con-sumed,
thy wrath makes us a-fraid.
- 8 Our sins thou and in-i-quit-ies
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 Threes-core 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.
- 16 O let thy work and pow'r ap-pear
thy ser-vants' face be-fore;
And show unto their child-ren dear
thy glor-y ever-more:
- 17 And let the beau-ty of the Lord
our God be us u-pon:
Our handy-works e-stab-lish thou,
e-stab-lish them each one.

Psalm 91

- 1 He that doth in the sec-ret place
of the most High re-side,
Under the shade of him that is
th' Al-might-y shall abide.
- 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.
- 3 As-sur-ed-ly he shall thee save,
and give de-liver-ance
From sub-tle fow-ler's snare, and from
the nois-ome pest-i-lence.
- 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 arrow 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 unto thee
it shall not once come nigh.
- 8 Only 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.
- 12 They in their hands shall bear thee up,
still wait-ing thee upon;
Lest thou at any time should'st dash
thy foot a-gainst a stone.
- 13 Upon the ad-der thou shalt tread,
and on the lion strong;
Thy feet on dra-gons tramp-le shall,
and on the li-ons young.
- 14 Be-cause on me he set his love,
I'll save and set him free;
Be-cause my great name he hath known,
I will him set on high.
- 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 unto his mind
I will him sat-is-fy;
I also my sal-va-tion
will cause his eyes to see.

Psalm 92

A Psalm or Song for the sabbath day.

- 1 To ren-der thanks unto 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.
- 3 On a ten-stringed in-stru-ment,
upon 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
spr-ing 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 ever to re-main.
- 9 For, lo, thine enemies, O Lord,
thine en'mies perish shall;
The work-ers of i-ni-qui-ty
shall be dis-per-sed all.

- 10 But thou shalt, like un-to the horn
of th' u-ni-corn, ex-alt
My horn on high: thou with fresh oil
a-noint me al-so shalt.
- 11 Mine eyes shall also 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 holy place.
- 14 And in old age, when ot-hers fade,
they fruit still forth shall bring;
They shall be fat, and full of sap,
and aye be flour-ish-ing;
- 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.

Psalm 93

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 about with might.

The world is al-so sta-bli-shèd,
that it can-not de-part.

2 Thy throne is fixed of old, and thou
from ever-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 many 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.

Psalms 94

- 1 O Lord God, unto whom a-lone
all ven-geance doth be-long;
O 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-ty-i-ly?
- 4 How long shall things most hard by them
be ut-tered 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 father-less.
- 7 Yet say they, God it shall not see,
nor God of Jacob 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 only 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 unto man doth teach,
and shall hims-elf not know?

- 11 Man's thoughts to be but vani-ty
the Lord doth well dis-cern.
- 12 Blessed is the man thou chast'nest, Lord,
and mak'st thy law to learn:
- 13 That thou may'st give him rest from days
of sad ad-vers-i-ty,
Until the pit be digged for those
that work in-i-quity.
- 14 For sure the Lord will not cast off
those that his people be,
Nei-ther his own in-her-i-tance
quit and for-sake will he:
- 15 But judg-ment unto 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 wicked-ly?
Who will stand up for me 'gainst those
that work in-i-qui-ty?
- 17 Unless 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-tered this word,
(my foot doth slip away,)
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 over-charged,
thy com-forts do de-light.
- 20 Shall of in-i-qui-ty the throne
have fellow-ship with thee,
Which mis-chief, cun-ning-ly con-trived,
doth by a law de-cree?

- 21 A-against the right-eous souls they join,
they guilt-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-i-qui-ty
the Lord shall bring and lay,
And cut them off in their own sin;
our Lord God shall them slay.

Psalms 95

- 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,
 above 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- belongs,
 for he the same did make;
The dry land also 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 people 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 fathers 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 people errs in heart,
 my ways they do not know:
- 11 To whom I swore in wrath, that to
 my rest they should not go.

Psalm 96

- 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 glory 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 fear-ed 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.
- 6 Great hon-or is be-fore his face,
and ma-jes-ty di-vine;
Strength is with-in his ho-ly place,
and there doth beau-ty shine.
- 7 Do ye as-cribe un-to the Lord,
of peo-ple ev'ry tribe,
Glor-y do ye unto 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 into 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 people right-eous-ly.
- 11 Let heav'ns be glad be-fore the Lord,
and let the earth rejoice;
Let seas, and all that is there-in,
cry out, and make a noise.
- 12 Let fields re-joice, and ev'ry thing
that spring-eth of the earth:
Then woods and ev'ry tree shall sing
with glad-ness and with mirth
- 13 Be-fore the Lord; be-cause he comes,
to judge the earth comes he:
He'll judge the world with right-eous-ness,
the people faith-ful-ly.

Psalms 97

- 1 God reign-eth, let the earth be glad,
and isles re-joyce 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 away;
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 upon them fall:
Ye that are called gods, see that
ye do him wor-ship all.
- 8 Zion did hear, and joy-ful was,
glad Ju-dah's daugh-ters were;
They much re-joyced, 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.

- 11 For all those that be right-eous
sown is a joy-ful light,
And glad-ness sown is for all those
that are in heart up-right.
- 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.

Psalm 98

- 1 O sing a new song to the Lord,
for won-ders he hath done:
His right hand and his holy arm
him vic-tor-y hath won.
- 2 The Lord God his sal-va-tion
hath caused 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,
unto 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.

Psalm 99

- 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 holy) let them bless.
- 4 The king's strength also judg ment loves;
thou set-tlest e-qu-ity:
Just judg-ment thou dost ex--ecute
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 unto 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.
- 9 Do ye ex-alt the Lord our God,
and at his ho-ly hill
Do ye him wor-ship: for the Lord
our God is ho-ly still.

Psalm 100

- 1 O all ye lands, unto 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 pasture 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 ne-ver;
And to all gen-er-a-tions
his truth en-dur-eth e-ver.

Psalm 101

A Psalm of David.

- 1 I mercy will and judgment sing,
 Lord, I will sing to thee.
- 2 With wisdom in a perfect way
 shall my behavior be.

 O when, in kindness unto me,
 wilt thou be pleased to come?
I with a perfect heart will walk
 within my house at home.
- 3 I will endure no wicked thing
 before mine eyes to be:
I hate their work that turn aside,
 it shall not cleave to me.
- 4 A stubborn and a froward heart
 depart quite from me shall;
A person giv'n to wickedness
 I will not know at all.
- 5 I'll cut him off that slandereth
 his neighbor privily:
The haughty heart I will not bear,
 nor him that looketh high.
- 6 Upon the faithful of the land
 mine eyes shall be, that they
May dwell with me: he shall me serve
 that walks in perfect way.
- 7 Who of deceit a worker is
 in my house shall not dwell;
And in my presence shall he not
 remain that lies doth tell.
- 8 Yea, all the wicked of the land
 early destroy will I;
All from God's city to cut off
 that work iniquity.

Psalm 102

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

- 1 O Lord, unto my pray'r give ear,
my cry let come to thee;
- 2 And in the day of my distress
hide not thy face from me.

Give ear to me; what time I call,
to answer me make haste:
- 3 For, as an hearth, my bones are burnt,
my days, like smoke, do waste.
- 4 My heart within me smitten is,
and it is withered
Like very grass; so that I do
forget to eat my bread.
- 5 By reason of my groaning voice
my bones cleave to my skin.
- 6 Like pelican in wilderness
forsaken I have been:

I like an owl in desert am,
that nightly there doth moan;
- 7 I watch, and like a sparrow am
on the house-top alone.
- 8 My bitter en'mies all the day
reproaches cast on me;
And, being mad at me, with rage
against me sworn they be.
- 9 For why? I ashes eaten have
like bread, in sorrows deep;
My drink I also mingled have
with tears that I did weep.
- 10 Thy wrath and indignation
did cause this grief and pain;
For thou hast lift me up on high,
and cast me down again.

- 11 My days are like unto a shade,
which doth declining pass;
And I am dried and withered,
ev'n like unto the grass.
- 12 But thou, Lord, everlasting art,
and thy remembrance shall
Continually endure, and be
to generations all.
- 13 Thou shalt arise, and mercy have
upon thy Zion yet;
The time to favor her is come,
the time that thou hast set.
- 14 For in her rubbish and her stones
thy servants pleasure take;
Yea, they the very dust thereof
do favor for her sake.
- 15 So shall the heathen people fear
the Lord's most holy name;
And all the kings on earth shall dread
thy glory and thy fame.
- 16 When Zion by the mighty Lord
built up again shall be,
In glory then and majesty
to men appear shall he.
- 17 The prayer of the destitute
he surely will regard;
Their prayer will he not despise,
by him it shall be heard.
- 18 For generations yet to come
this shall be on record:
So shall the people that shall be
created praise the Lord.
- 19 He from his sanctuary's height
hath downward cast his eye;
And from his glorious throne in heav'n
the Lord the earth did spy;

- 20 That of the mournful prisoner
the groanings he might hear,
To set them free that unto death
by men appointed are:
- 21 That they in Zion may declare
the Lord's most holy name,
And publish in Jerusalem
the praises of the same;
- 22 When as the people gather shall
in troops with one accord,
When kingdoms shall assembled be
to serve the highest Lord.
- 23 My wonted strength and force he hath
abated in the way,
And he my days hath shortened:
- 24 Thus therefore did I say,

My God, in mid-time of my days
take thou me not away:
From age to age eternally
thy years endure and stay.
- 25 The firm foundation of the earth
of old time thou hast laid;
The heavens also are the work
which thine own hands have made.
- 26 Thou shalt for evermore endure,
but they shall perish all;
Yea, ev'ry one of them wax old,
like to a garment, shall:
- Thou, as a vesture, shalt them change,
and they shall changed be:
- 27 But thou the same art, and thy years
are to eternity.
- 28 The children of thy servants shall
continually endure;
And in thy sight, O Lord, their seed
shall be established sure.

Psalm 103

A Psalm of David.

- 1 O thou my soul, bless God the Lord;
and all that in me is
Be stirred up his holy name
to magnify and bless.
- 2 Bless, O my soul, the Lord thy God,
and not forgetful be
Of all his gracious benefits
he hath bestowed on thee.
- 3 All thine iniquities who doth
most graciously forgive:
Who thy diseases all and pains
doth heal, and thee relieve.
- 4 Who doth redeem thy life, that thou
to death may'st not go down;
Who thee with loving-kindness doth
and tender mercies crown:
- 5 Who with abundance of good things
doth satisfy thy mouth;
So that, ev'n as the eagle's age,
renewed is thy youth.
- 6 God righteous judgment executes
for all oppressed ones.
- 7 His ways to Moses, he his acts
made known to Isr'el's sons.
- 8 The Lord our God is merciful,
and he is gracious,
Long-suffering, and slow to wrath,
in mercy plenteous.
- 9 He will not chide continually,
nor keep his anger still.
- 10 With us he dealt not as we sinned,
nor did requite our ill.

- 11 For as the heaven in its height
the earth surmounteth far;
So great to those that do him fear
his tender mercies are:
- 12 As far as east is distant from
the west, so far hath he
From us removed, in his love,
all our iniquity.
- 13 Such pity as a father hath
unto his children dear;
Like pity shews the Lord to such
as worship him in fear.
- 14 For he remembers 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 over it the wind doth pass,
and it away is gone;
And of the place where once it was
it shall no more be known.
- 17 But unto them that do him fear
God's mercy never ends;
And to their children's children still
his righteousness extends:
- 18 To such as keep his covenant,
and mindful are always
Of his most just commandements,
that they may them obey.
- 19 The Lord prepared hath his throne
in heavens firm to stand;
And ev'ry thing that being hath
his kingdom doth command.
- 20 O ye his angels, that excel
in strength, bless ye the Lord;
Ye who obey what he commands,
and hearken to his word.

- 21 O bless and magnify the Lord,
ye glorious hosts of his;
Ye ministers, that do fulfil
whate'er his pleasure is.
- 22 O bless the Lord, all ye his works,
wherewith the world is stored
In his dominions ev'ry where.
My soul, bless thou the Lord.

Psalm 104

- 1 Bless God, my soul. O Lord my God,
thou art exceeding great;
With honour and with majesty
thou clothed art in state.
- 2 With light, as with a robe, thyself
thou coverest about;
And, like unto a curtain, thou
the heavens stretchest out.
- 3 Who of his chambers doth the beams
within the waters lay;
Who doth the clouds his chariot make,
on wings of wind make way.
- 4 Who flaming fire his ministers,
his angels sp'rits, doth make:
- 5 Who earth's foundations did lay,
that it should never shake.
- 6 Thou didst it cover with the deep,
as with a garment spread:
The waters stood above the hills,
when thou the word but said.
- 7 But at the voice of thy rebuke
they fled, and would not stay;
They at thy thunder's dreadful voice
did haste them fast away.
- 8 They by the mountains do ascend,
and by the valley-ground
Descend, unto that very place
which thou for them didst found.
- 9 Thou hast a bound unto them set,
that they may not pass over,
That they do not return again
the face of earth to cover.

- 10 He to the valleys sends the springs,
which run among the hills:
- 11 They to all beasts of field give drink,
wild asses drink their fills.
- 12 By them the fowls of heav'n shall have
their habitation,
Which do among the branches sing
with delectation.
- 13 He from his chambers watereth
the hills, when they are dry'd:
With fruit and increase of thy works
the earth is satisfied.
- 14 For cattle 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;
- 15 And wine, that to the heart of man
doth cheerfulness impart,
Oil that his face makes shine, and bread
that strengtheneth his heart.
- 16 The trees of God are full of sap;
the cedars that do stand
In Lebanon, which planted were
by his almighty hand.
- 17 Birds of the air upon their boughs
do chooe their nests to make;
As for the stork, the fir-tree she
doth for her dwelling take.
- 18 The lofty mountains for wild goats
a place of refuge be;
The conies also to the rocks
do for their safety flee.
- 19 He sets the moon in heav'n, thereby
the seasons to discern:
From him the sun his certain time
of going down doth learn.

- 20 Thou darkness mak'st, 'tis night, then beasts
of forests creep abroad.
- 21 The lions 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 labour he
doth to the ev'ning ply.
- 24 How manifold, Lord, are thy works!
in wisdom wonderful
Thou ev'ry one of them hast made;
earth's of thy riches full:
- 25 So is this great and spacious sea,
wherein things creeping are,
Which numbered cannot be; and beasts
both great and small are there.
- 26 There ships go; there thou mak'st to play
that leviathan great.
- 27 These all wait on thee, that thou may'st
in due time give them meat.
- 28 That which thou givest unto them
they gather for their food;
Thine hand thou open'st lib'rally,
they fill-ed are with good.
- 29 Thou hid'st thy face; they troubled are,
their breath thou tak'st away;
Then do they die, and to their dust
return again do they.
- 30 Thy quick'ning spirit thou send'st forth,
then they created be;
And then the earth's decay-ed face
renew-ed is by thee.
- 31 The glory of the mighty Lord
continue shall for ever:
The Lord Jehovah shall rejoice
in all his works together.

- 32 Earth, as affrighted, trembleth all,
if he on it but look;
And if the mountains he but touch,
they presently do smoke.
- 33 I will sing to the Lord most high,
so long as I shall live;
And while I being have I shall
to my God praises give.
- 34 Of him my meditation shall
sweet thoughts to me afford;
And as for me, I will rejoice
in God, my only Lord.
- 35 From earth let sinners be consumed,
let ill men no more be.
O thou my soul, bless thou the Lord.
Praise to the Lord give ye.

Psalm 105

- 1 Give thanks to God, call on his name;
to men his deeds make known.
- 2 Sing ye to him, sing psalms; proclaim
his wondrous works each one.
- 3 See that ye in his holy name
to glory do accord;
And let the heart of ev'ry one
rejoice that seeks the Lord.
- 4 The Lord Almighty, and his strength,
with steadfast hearts seek ye:
His bless-ed and his gracious face
seek ye continually.
- 5 Think on the works that he hath done,
which admiration breed;
His wonders, and the judgments all
which from his mouth proceed;
- 6 O ye that are of Abr'ham's race,
his servant well approv'n;
And ye that Jacob's children are,
whom he chose for his own.
- 7 Because he, and he only, is
the mighty Lord our God;
And his most righteous judgments are
in all the earth abroad.
- 8 His cov'nant he remembered hath,
that it may ever stand:
To thousand generations
the word he did command.
- 9 Which covenant he firmly made
with faithful Abraham,
And unto Isaac, by his oath,
he did renew the same:

- 10 And unto Jacob, for a law,
 he made it firm and sure,
A covenant to Israel,
 which ever should endure.
- 11 He said, I'll give Canaan's land
 for heritage to you;
- 12 While they were strangers there, and few,
 in number very few:
- 13 While yet they went from land to land
 without a sure abode;
And while through sundry kingdoms they
 did wander far abroad;
- 14 Yet, notwithstanding suffered he
 no man to do them wrong:
Yea, for their sakes, he did reprove
 kings, who were great and strong.
- 15 Thus did he say, Touch ye not those
 that mine anointed be,
Nor do the prophets any harm
 that do pertain to me.
- 16 He called for famine on the land,
 he brake the staff of bread:
- 17 But yet he sent a man before,
 by whom they should be fed;
- Ev'n Joseph, whom unnat'rally
 sell for a slave did they;
- 18 Whose feet with fetters they did hurt,
 and he in irons lay;
- 19 Until the time that his word came
 to give him liberty;
The word and purpose of the Lord
 did him in prison try.
- 20 Then sent the king, and did command
 that he enlarged should be:
He that the people's ruler was
 did send to set him free.

- 21 A lord to rule his family
 he raised him, as most fit;
To him of all that he possessed
 he did the charge commit:
- 22 That he might at his pleasure bind
 the princes of the land;
And he might teach his senators
 wisdom to understand.
- 23 The people then of Israel
 down into Egypt came;
And Jacob also sojourned
 within the land of Ham.
- 24 And he did greatly by his pow'r
 increase his people there;
And stronger than their enemies
 they by his blessing were.
- 25 Their heart he turned to envy
 his folk maliciously,
With those that his own servants were
 to deal in subtlety.
- 26 His servant Moses he did send,
 Aaron his chosen one.
- 27 By these his signs and wonders great
 in Ham's land were made known.
- 28 Darkness he sent, and made it dark;
 his word they did obey.
- 29 He turned their waters into blood,
 and he their fish did slay.
- 30 The land in plenty brought forth frogs
 in chambers of their kings.
- 31 His word all sorts of flies and lice
 in all their borders brings.
- 32 He hail for rain, and flaming fire
 into their land he sent:
- 33 And he their vines and fig-trees smote:
 trees of their coasts he rent.

34 He spake, and caterpillars came,
locusts did much abound;
35 Which in their land all herbs consumed,
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 silver brought them forth,
weak in their tribes were none.

38 Egypt was glad when forth they went,
their fear on them did light.
39 He spread a cloud for covering,
and fire to shine by night.

40 They asked, and he brought quails: with bread
of heav'n he fill-ed them.
41 He opened rocks, floods gushed, and ran
in deserts like a stream.

42 For on his holy promise he,
and servant Abr'ham, thought.
43 With joy his people, his elect
with gladness, forth he brought.

44 And unto them the pleasant lands
he of the heathen gave;
That of the people's labor they
inheritance might have.

45 That they his statutes might observe
according to his word;
And that they might his laws obey.
Give praise unto the Lord.

Psalm 106

- 1 Give praise and thanks unto the Lord,
for bountiful is he;
His tender mercy doth endure
unto eternity.
- 2 God's mighty works who can express?
or shew forth all his praise?
- 3 Blessed are they that judgment keep,
and justly do always.
- 4 Remember me, Lord, with that love
which thou to thine dost bear;
With thy salvation, O my God,
to visit me draw near:
- 5 That I thy chosen's good may see,
and in their joy rejoice;
And may with thine inheritance
triumph with cheerful voice.
- 6 We with our fathers sinned have,
and of iniquity
Too long we have the workers been;
we have done wickedly.
- 7 The wonders great, which thou, O Lord,
didst work in Egypt land,
Our fathers, though they saw, yet them
they did not understand:

And they thy mercies' multitude
kept not in memory;
But at the sea, ev'n the Red sea,
provoked him grievously.
- 8 Nevertheless he saved them,
ev'n for his own name's sake;
That so he might to be well known
his mighty power make.

- 9 When he the Red sea did rebuke,
then dried up it was:
Through depths, as through the wilderness,
he safely made them pass.
- 10 From hands of those that hated them
he did his people save;
And from the en'my's cruel hand
to them redemption gave.
- 11 The waters overwhelmed their foes;
not one was left alive.
- 12 Then they believed his word, and praise
to him in songs did give.
- 13 But soon did they his mighty works
forget unthankfully,
And on his counsel and his will
did not wait patiently;
- 14 But much did lust in wilderness,
and God in desert tempt.
- 15 He gave them what they sought, but to
their soul he leanness sent.
- 16 And against Moses in the camp
their envy did appear;
At Aaron they, the saint of God,
envious also were.
- 17 Therefore the earth did open wide,
and Dathan did devour,
And all Abiram's company
did cover in that hour.
- 18 Likewise among their company
a fire was kindled then;
And so the hot consuming flame
burnt up these wicked men.
- 19 Upon the hill of Horeb they
an idol-calf did frame,
A molten image they did make,
and worshippèd the same.

- 20 And thus their glory, and their God,
most vainly changèd they
Into the likeness of an ox
that eateth grass or hay.
- 21 They did forget the mighty God,
that had their savior been,
By whom such great things brought to pass
they had in Egypt seen.
- 22 In Ham's land he did wondrous works,
things terrible did he,
When he his mighty hand and arm
stretched out at the Red sea.
- 23 Then said he, He would them destroy,
had not, his wrath to stay,
His chosen Moses stood in breach,
that them he should not slay.
- 24 Yea, they despised the pleasant land,
believèd not his word:
25 But in their tents they murmur-ed,
not heark'ning to the Lord.
- 26 Therefore in desert them to slay
he lifted up his hand:
27 'Mong nations to o'erthrow their seed,
and scatter in each land.
- 28 They unto Baal-peor did
themselves associate;
The sacrifices of the dead
they did profanely eat.
- 29 Thus, by their lewd inventions,
they did provoke his ire;
And then upon them suddenly
the plague brake in as fire.
- 30 Then Phin'has rose, and justice did,
and so the plague did cease;
31 That to all ages counted was
to him for righteousness.

32 And at the waters, where they strove,
they did him angry make,
In such sort, that it fared ill
with Moses for their sake:

33 Because they there his spirit meek
provokèd bitterly,
So that he uttered with his lips
words unadvisedly.

34 Nor, as the Lord commanded them,
did they the nations slay:
35 But with the heathen mingled were,
and learned of them their way.

36 And they their idols served, which did
a snare unto them turn.
37 Their sons and daughters they to dev'ls
in sacrifice did burn.

38 In their own children's guiltless blood
their hands they did imbrue,
Whom to Canaan's idols they
for sacrifices slew:

So was the land defiled with blood.
39 They stained with their own way,
And with their own inventions
a whoring they did stray.

40 Against his people kindled was
the wrath of God therefore,
Insomuch that he did his own
inheritance abhor.

41 He gave them to the heathen's hand;
their foes did them command.
42 Their en'mies them oppressed, they were
made subject to their hand.

43 He many times delivered them;
but with their counsel so
They him provoked, that for their sin
they were brought very low.

44 Yet their affliction he beheld,
 when he did hear their cry:
45 And he for them his covenant
 did call to memory;

After his mercies' multitude
46 he did repent: And made
Them to be pitied of all those
 who did them captive lead.

47 O Lord our God, us save, and gather
 the heathen from among,
That we thy holy name may praise
 in a triumphant song.

48 Blessed be Jehovah, Isr'el's God,
 to all eternity:
Let all the people say, Amen.
 Praise to the Lord give ye.

Book V

Psalm 107

- 1 Praise God, for he is good: for still
his mercies lasting be.
- 2 Let God's redeemed say so, whom he
from th' en'my's hand did free;
- 3 And gathered them out of the lands,
from north, south, east, and west.
- 4 They strayed in desert's pathless way,
no city found to rest.
- 5 For thirst and hunger in them faints
6 their soul. When straits them press,
They cry unto the Lord, and he
them frees from their distress.
- 7 Them also in a way to walk
that right is he did guide,
That they might to a city go,
wherein they might abide.
- 8 O that men to the Lord would give
praise for his goodness then,
And for his works of wonder done
unto the sons of men!
- 9 For he the soul that longing is
doth fully satisfy;
With goodness he the hungry soul
doth fill abundantly.
- 10 Such as shut up in darkness deep,
and in death's shade abide,
Whom strongly hath affliction bound,
and irons fast have tried:
- 11 Because against the words of God
they wrought rebelliously,
And they the counsel did contemn
of him that is most High:

- 12 Their heart he did bring down with grief,
they fell, no help could have.
- 13 In trouble then they cried to God,
he them from straits did save.
- 14 He out of darkness did them bring,
and from death's shade them take;
These bands, wherewith they had been bound,
asunder quite he brake.
- 15 O that men to the Lord would give
praise for his goodness then,
And for his works of wonder done
unto the sons of men!
- 16 Because the mighty gates of brass
in pieces he did tear,
By him in sunder also cut
the bars of iron were.
- 17 Fools, for their sin, and their offence,
do sore affliction bear;
- 18 All kind of meat their soul abhors;
they to death's gates draw near.
- 19 In grief they cry to God; he saves
them from their miseries.
- 20 He sends his word, them heals, and them
from their destructions frees.
- 21 O that men to the Lord would give
praise for his goodness then,
And for his works of wonder done
unto the sons of men!
- 22 And let them sacrifice to him
off 'rings of thankfulness;
And let them shew abroad his works
in songs of joyfulness.
- 23 Who go to sea in ships, and in
great waters trading be,
- 24 Within the deep these men God's works
and his great wonders see.

- 25 For he commands, and forth in haste
the stormy tempest flies,
Which makes the sea with rolling waves
aloft to swell and rise.
- 26 They mount to heav'n, then to the depths
they do go down again;
Their soul doth faint and melt away
with trouble and with pain.
- 27 They reel and stagger like one drunk,
at their wit's end they be:
28 Then they to God in trouble cry,
who them from straits doth free.
- 29 The storm is changèd into a calm
at his command and will;
So that the waves, which ragèd before,
now quiet are and still.
- 30 Then are they glad, because at rest
and quiet now they be:
So to the haven he them brings,
which they desirèd to see.
- 31 O that men to the Lord would give
praise for his goodness then,
And for his works of wonder done
unto the sons of men!
- 32 Among the people gather-ed
let them exalt his name;
Among assembled elders spread
his most renown-ed fame.
- 33 He to dry land turns water-springs,
and floods to wilderness;
34 For sins of those that dwell therein,
fat land to barrenness.
- 35 The burnt and parch-ed wilderness
to water-pools he brings;
The ground that was dried up before
he turns to water-springs:

- 36 And there, for dwelling, he a place
doth to the hungry give,
That they a city may prepare
commodiously to live.
- 37 There sow they fields, and vineyards plant,
to yield fruits of increase.
- 38 His blessing makes them multiply,
lets not their beasts decrease.
- 39 Again they are diminish-ed,
and very low brought down,
Through sorrow and affliction,
and great oppression.
- 40 He upon princes pours contempt,
and causeth them to stray,
And wander in a wilderness,
wherein there is no way.
- 41 Yet setteth he the poor on high
from all his miseries,
And he, much like unto a flock,
doth make him families.
- 42 They that are righteous shall rejoice,
when they the same shall see;
And, as ashamed, stop her mouth
shall all iniquity.
- 43 Whoso is wise, and will these things
observe, and them record,
Ev'n they shall understand the love
and kindness of the Lord.

Psalm 108

A Song or Psalm of David

- 1 My heart is fixed, Lord; I will sing,
and with my glory praise.
- 2 Awake up psaltery and harp;
myself I'll early raise.
- 3 I'll praise thee 'mong the people, Lord;
'mong nations sing will I:
- 4 For above heav'n thy mercy's great,
thy truth doth reach the sky.
- 5 Be thou above the heavens, Lord,
exalted gloriously;
Thy glory all the earth above
be lifted up on high.
- 6 That those who thy beloved are
deliver-ed may be,
O do thou save with thy right hand,
and answer give to me.
- 7 God in his holiness hath said,
Herein I will take pleasure;
Shechem I will divide, and forth
will Succoth's valley measure.
- 8 Gilead I claim as mine by right;
Manasseh mine shall be;
Ephraim is of my head the strength;
Judah gives laws for me;
- 9 Moab's my washing-pot; my shoe
I'll over Edom throw;
Over the land of Palestine
I will in triumph go.
- 10 O who is he will bring me to
the city fortified?
O who is he that to the land
of Edom 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 armies go?
- 12 Do thou from trouble give us help,
 for helpless is man's aid.
- 13 Through God we shall do valiantly;
 our foes he shall down tread.

Psalm 110

Psalm of David

- 1 The Lord did say unto my Lord,
 Sit thou at my right hand,
Until I make thy foes a stool,
 whereon thy feet may stand.
- 2 The Lord shall out of Zion send
 the rod of thy great pow'r:
In midst of all thine enemies
 be thou the governor.
- 3 A willing people in thy day
 of pow'r shall come to thee,
In holy beauties from morn's womb;
 thy youth like dew shall be.
- 4 The Lord himself hath made an oath,
 and will repent him never,
Of th' order of Melchisedec
 thou art a priest for ever.
- 5 The glorious and mighty Lord,
 that sits at thy right hand,
Shall, in his day of wrath, strike through
 kings that do him withstand.
- 6 He shall among the heathen judge,
 he shall with bodies dead
The places fill: o'er many lands
 he wound shall ev'ry head.
- 7 The brook that runneth in the way
 with drink shall him supply;
And, for this cause, in triumph he
 shall lift his head on high.

Psalm 111

- 1 Praise ye the Lord: with my whole heart
I will God's praise declare,
Where the assemblies of the just
and congregations are.
- 2 The whole works of the Lord our God
are great above all measure,
Sought out they are of ev'ry one
that doth therein take pleasure.
- 3 His work most honourable is,
most glorious and pure,
And his untainted righteousness
for ever doth endure.
- 4 His works most wonderful he hath
made to be thought upon:
The Lord is gracious, and he is
full of compassion.
- 5 He giveth meat unto all those
that truly do him fear;
And evermore his covenant
he in his mind will bear.
- 6 He did the power of his works
unto his people show,
When he the heathen's heritage
upon them did bestow.
- 7 His handy-works are truth and right;
all his commands are sure:
- 8 And, done in truth and uprightness,
they evermore endure.
- 9 He sent redemption to his folk;
his covenant for aye
He did command: holy his name
and rev'rend is alway.
- 10 Wisdom's beginning is God's fear:
good understanding they
Have all that his commands fulfill:
his praise endures for aye.

Psalms 112

- 1 Praise ye the Lord. The man is blessed
that fears the Lord aright,
He who in his commandments
doth greatly take delight.
- 2 His seed and offspring powerful
shall be the earth upon:
Of upright men blessed shall be
the generation.
- 3 Riches and wealth shall ever be
within his house in store;
And his unspotted righteousness
endures for evermore.
- 4 Unto the upright light doth rise,
though he in darkness be:
Compassionate, and merciful,
and righteous, is he.
- 5 A good man doth his favor show,
and doth to others lend:
He with discretion his affairs
will guide unto the end.
- 6 Surely there is not any thing
that ever shall him move:
The righteous man's memorial
shall everlasting prove.
- 7 When he shall evil tidings hear,
he shall not be afraid:
His heart is fixed, his confidence
upon the Lord is stayed.
- 8 His heart is firmly stablishéd,
afraid he shall not be,
Until upon his enemies
he his desire shall see.

- 9 He hath dispersed, giv'n to the poor;
his righteousness shall be
To ages all; with honor shall
his horn be raised high.
- 10 The wicked shall it see, and fret,
his teeth gnash, melt away:
What wicked men do most desire
shall utterly decay.

Psalms 113

- 1 Praise God: ye servants of the Lord,
O praise, the Lord's name praise.
- 2 Yea, bless-ed be the name of God
from this time forth always.
- 3 From rising sun to where it sets,
God's name is to be praised.
- 4 Above all nations God is high,
'bove heav'ns his glory raised.
- 5 Unto the Lord our God that dwells
on high, who can compare?
- 6 Himself that humbleth 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 dunghill lifts the man
oppressed with poverty;
- 8 That he may highly him advance,
and with the princes set;
With those that of his people are
the chief, ev'n princes great.
- 9 The barren woman house to keep
he maketh, and to be
Of sons a mother full of joy.
Praise to the Lord give ye.

Psalms 114

- 1 When Isr'el out of Egypt went,
and did his dwelling change,
When Jacob's house went out from those
that were of language strange,
- 2 He Judah did his sanctuary,
his kingdom Isr'el make:
- 3 The sea it saw, and quickly fled,
Jordan was driven back.
- 4 Like rams the mountains, and like lambs
the hills skipped to and fro.
- 5 O sea, why fledd'st thou? Jordan, back
why wast thou driven so?
- 6 Ye mountains great, wherefore was it
that ye did skip like rams?
And wherefore was it, little hills,
that ye did leap like lambs?
- 7 O at the presence of the Lord,
earth, tremble thou for fear,
While as the presence of the God
of Jacob doth appear:
- 8 Who from the hard and stony rock
did standing water bring;
And by his pow'r did turn the flint
into a water-spring.

Psalms 115

- 1 Not unto us, Lord, not to us,
but do thou glory take
Unto thy name, ev'n for thy truth,
and for thy mercy's sake.
- 2 O wherefore should the heathen say,
Where is their God now gone?
3 But our God in the heavens is,
what pleased him he hath done.
- 4 Their idols silver 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 savor not;
7 Hands, feet, but handle not, nor walk;
nor speak they through their throat.
- 8 Like them their makers 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 Aaron'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 mindful been,
and he will bless us still:
He will the house of Isr'el bless,
bless Aaron's house he will.
- 13 Both small and great, that fear the Lord,
he will them surely bless.
14 The Lord will you, you and your seed,
aye more and more increase.

- 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 silence go,
 God's praise do not record.
- 18 But henceforth we for ever will
 bless God. Praise ye the Lord.

Psalm 116

- 1 I love the Lord, because my voice
and prayers he did hear.
- 2 I, while I live, will call on him,
who bowed to me his ear.
- 3 Of death the cords and sorrows did
about me compass round;
The pains of hell took hold on me,
I grief and trouble found.
- 4 Upon the name of God the Lord
then did I call, and say,
Deliver thou my soul, O Lord,
I do thee humbly pray.
- 5 God merciful and righteous is,
yea, gracious is our Lord.
- 6 God saves the meek: I was brought low,
he did me help afford.
- 7 O thou my soul, do thou return
unto thy quiet rest;
For largely, lo, the Lord to thee
his bounty hath expressed.
- 8 For my distressed soul from death
delivered was by thee:
Thou didst my mourning eyes from tears,
my feet from falling, free.
- 9 I in the land of those that live
will walk the Lord before.
- 10 I did believe, therefore I spake:
I was afflicted sore.
- 11 I said, when I was in my haste,
that all men liars be.
- 12 What shall I render to the Lord
for all his gifts to me?

- 13 I'll of salvation take the cup,
 on God's name will I call:
- 14 I'll pay my vows now to the Lord
 before his people all.
- 15 Dear in God's sight is his saints' death.
16 Thy servant, Lord, am I;
 Thy servant sure, thine handmaid's son:
 my bands thou didst untie.
- 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
 before his people all;
- 19 Within the courts of God's own house,
 within the midst of thee,
 O city of Jerusalem.
 Praise to the Lord give ye.

Psalm 117

- 1 O give ye praise unto the Lord,
 all nations that be;
 Likewise, ye people all, accord
 his name to magnify.
- 2 For great to us-ward ever are
 his loving-kindnesses:
 His truth endures for evermore.
 The Lord O do ye bless.

Psalm 118

- 1 O praise the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy lasteth ever.
- 2 Let those of Israel now say,
His mercy faileth never.
- 3 Now let the house of Aaron say,
His mercy lasteth ever.
- 4 Let those that fear the Lord now say,
His mercy faileth never.
- 5 I in distress call'd on the Lord;
the Lord did answer me:
He in a large place did me set,
from trouble made me free.
- 6 The mighty Lord is on my side,
I will not be afraid;
For any thing that man can do
I shall not be dismay'd.
- 7 The Lord doth take my part with them
that help to succour me:
Therefore on those that do me hate
I my desire shall see.
- 8 Better it is to trust in God
than trust in man's defence;
- 9 Better to trust in God than make
princes our confidence.
- 10 The nations, joining all in one,
did compass me about:
But in the Lord's most holy name
I shall them all root out.
- 11 They compass'd me about; I say,
they compass'd me about:
But in the Lord's most holy name
I shall them all root out.

- 12 Like bees they compass'd me about;
like unto thorns that flame
They quenched are: for them shall I
destroy in God's own name.
- 13 Thou sore hast thrust, that I might fall,
but my Lord helped me.
- 14 God my salvation is become,
my strength and song is he.
- 15 In dwellings of the righteous
is heard the melody
Of joy and health: the Lord's right hand
doth ever valiantly.
- 16 The right hand of the mighty Lord
exalted is on high;
The right hand of the mighty Lord
doth ever valiantly.
- 17 I shall not die, but live, and shall
the works of God discover.
- 18 The Lord hath me chastised sore,
but not to death giv'n over.
- 19 O set ye open unto me
the gates of righteousness;
Then will I enter into 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 safety been.
- 22 That stone is made head corner-stone,
which builders did despise:
- 23 This is the doing of the Lord,
and wondrous in our eyes.
- 24 This is the day God made, in it
we'll joy triumphantly.
- 25 Save now, I pray thee, Lord; I pray,
send now prosperity.

- 26 Blessed is he in God's great name
that cometh us to save:
We, from the house which to the Lord
pertains, you blessed have.
- 27 God is the Lord, who unto us
hath made light to arise:
Bind ye unto the altar's horns
with cords the sacrifice.
- 28 Thou art my God, I'll thee exalt;
my God, I will thee praise.
- 29 Give thanks to God, for he is good:
his mercy lasts always.

Psalm 119

Aleph

- 1 Blessed are they that undefiled,
and straight are in the way;
Who in the Lord's most holy law
do walk, and do not stray.
- 2 Blessed are they who to observe
his statutes are inclined;
And who do seek the living God
with their whole heart and mind.
- 3 Such in his ways do walk, and they
do no iniquity.
- 4 Thou hast commanded us to keep
thy precepts carefully.
- 5 O that thy statutes to observe
thou would'st my ways direct!
- 6 Then shall I not be shamed, when I
thy precepts all respect.
- 7 Then with integrity of heart
thee will I praise and bless,
When I the judgments all have learned
of thy pure righteousness.
- 8 That I will keep thy statutes all
firmly resolved have I:
O do not then, most gracious God,
forsake me utterly.

Beth

- 9 By what means shall a young man learn
his way to purify?
If he according to thy word
thereto attentive be.
- 10 Unfeignedly thee have I sought
with all my soul and heart:
O let me not from the right path
of thy commands depart.

- 11 Thy word I in my heart have hid,
that I offend not thee.
- 12 O Lord, thou ever blessed art,
thy statutes teach thou me.
- 13 The judgments of thy mouth each one
my lips declared have:
- 14 More joy thy testimonies' way
than riches all me gave.
- 15 I will thy holy precepts make
my meditation;
And carefully I'll have respect
unto thy ways each one.
- 16 Upon thy statutes my delight
shall constantly be set:
And, by thy grace, I never will
thy holy word forget.

Gimel

- 17 With me thy servant, in thy grace,
deal bountifully, Lord;
That by thy favor I may live,
and duly keep thy word.
- 18 Open mine eyes, that of thy law
the wonders I may see.
- 19 I am a stranger on this earth,
hide not thy laws from me.
- 20 My soul within me breaks, and doth
much fainting still endure,
Through longing that it hath all times
unto thy judgments pure.
- 21 Thou hast rebuked the cursed proud,
who from thy precepts swerve.
- 22 Reproach and shame remove from me,
for I thy laws observe.
- 23 Against me princes spake with spite,
while they in council sat:
But I thy servant did upon
thy statutes meditate.

24 My comfort, and my heart's delight,
thy testimonies be;
And they, in all my doubts and fears,
are counselors to me

Daleth

25 My soul to dust cleaves: quicken me,
according to thy word.

26 My ways I showed, and me thou heard'st:
teach me thy statutes, Lord.

27 The way of thy commandements
make me aright to know;
So all thy works that wondrous are
I shall to others show.

28 My soul doth melt, and drop away,
for heaviness and grief:
To me, according to thy word,
give strength, and send relief.

29 From me the wicked way of lies
let far removed be;
And graciously thy holy law
do thou grant unto me.

30 I chosen have the perfect way
of truth and verity:
Thy judgments that most righteous are
before me laid have I.

31 I to thy testimonies cleave;
shame do not on me cast.

32 I'll run thy precepts' way, when thou
my heart enlarged hast.

He

33 Teach me, O Lord, the perfect way
of thy precepts divine,
And to observe it to the end
I shall my heart incline.

- 34 Give understanding unto me,
so keep thy law shall I;
Yea, ev'n with my whole heart I shall
observe it carefully.
- 35 In thy law's path make me to go;
for I delight therein.
- 36 My heart unto thy testimonies,
and not to greed, incline.
- 37 Turn thou away my sight and eyes
from viewing vanity;
And in thy good and holy way
be pleased to quicken me.
- 38 Confirm to me thy gracious word,
which I did gladly hear,
Ev'n to thy servant, Lord, who is
devoted to thy fear.
- 39 Turn thou away my fear'd reproach;
for good thy judgments be.
- 40 Lo, for thy precepts I have long'd;
in thy truth quicken me.

Vau

- 41 Let thy sweet mercies also come
and visit me, O Lord;
Ev'n thy benign salvation,
according to thy word.
- 42 So shall I have wherewith I may
give him an answer just,
Who spitefully reproacheth me;
for in thy word I trust.
- 43 The word of truth out of my mouth
take thou not utterly;
For on thy judgments righteous
my hope doth still rely.
- 44 So shall I keep for evermore
thy law continually.
- 45 And, sith that I thy precepts seek,
I'll walk at liberty.

46 I'll speak thy word to kings, and I
with shame shall not be moved;
47 And will delight myself always
in thy laws, which I loved.

48 To thy commandements, which I loved,
my hands lift up I will;
And I will also meditate
upon thy statutes still

Zain

49 Remember, Lord, thy gracious word
thou to thy servant spake,
Which, for a ground of my sure hope,
thou causedst me to take.

50 This word of thine my comfort is
in mine affliction:
For in my straits I am revived
by this thy word alone.

51 The men whose hearts with pride are stuffed
did greatly me deride;
Yet from thy straight commandements
I have not turned aside.

52 Thy judgments righteous, O Lord,
which thou of old forth gave,
I did remember, and myself
by them comforted have.

53 Horror took hold on me, because
ill men thy law forsake.

54 I in my house of pilgrimage
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, because thy word
I kept, and stood in awe.

Cheth

57 Thou my sure portion art alone,
 which I did choose, O Lord:
I have resolved, and said, that I
 would keep thy holy word.

58 With my whole heart I did entreat
 thy face and favor free:
According to thy gracious word
 be merciful to me.

59 I thought upon my former ways,
 and did my life well try;
And to thy testimonies pure
 my feet then turned I.

60 I did not stay, nor linger long,
 as those that slothful are;
But hastily thy laws to keep
 myself I did prepare.

61 Bands of ill men me robbed; yet I
 thy precepts did not slight.

62 I'll rise at midnight thee to praise,
 ev'n for thy judgments right.

63 I am companion to all those
 who fear, and thee obey.

64 O Lord, thy mercy fills the earth:
 teach me thy laws, I pray.

Teth

65 Well hast thou with thy servant dealt,
 as thou didst promise give.

66 Good judgment me, and knowledge teach,
 for I thy word believe.

67 Ere I afflicted was I strayed;
 but now I keep thy word.

68 Both good thou art, and good thou do'st:
 teach me thy statutes, Lord.

- 69 The men that are puffed up with pride
 against me forged a lie;
Yet thy commandements observe
 with my whole heart will I.
- 70 Their hearts, through worldly ease and wealth,
 as fat as grease they be:
But in thy holy law I take
 delight continually.
- 71 It hath been very good for me
 that I afflicted was,
That I might well instructed be,
 and learn thy holy laws.
- 72 The word that cometh from thy mouth
 is better unto me
Than many thousands and great sums
 of gold and silver be.

Jod

- 73 Thou mad'st and fashion'dst me: thy laws
 to know give wisdom, Lord.
- 74 So who thee fear shall joy to see
 me trusting in thy word.
- 75 That very right thy judgments are
 I know, and do confess;
And that thou hast afflicted me
 in truth and faithfulness.
- 76 O let thy kindness merciful,
 I pray thee, comfort me,
As to thy servant faithfully
 was promised by thee.
- 77 And let thy tender mercies come
 to me, that I may live;
Because thy holy laws to me
 sweet delectation give.
- 78 Lord, let the proud ashamed be;
 for they, without a cause,
With me perversely dealt: but I
 will muse upon thy laws.

- 79 Let such as fear thee, and have known
thy statutes, turn to me.
80 My heart let in thy laws be sound,
that shamed I never be.

Caph

- 81 My soul for thy salvation faints;
yet I thy word believe.
82 Mine eyes fail for thy word: I say,
When wilt thou comfort give?
83 For like a bottle I'm become,
that in the smoke is set:
I'm black, and parched with grief; yet I
thy statutes not forget.
84 How many are thy servant's days?
when wilt thou execute
Just judgment on these wicked men
that do me persecute?
85 The proud have digged pits for me,
which is against thy laws.
86 Thy words all faithful are: help me,
pursued without a cause.
87 They so consumed me, that on earth
my life they scarce did leave:
Thy precepts yet forsook I not,
but close to them did cleave.
88 After thy loving-kindness, Lord,
me quicken, and preserve:
The testimony of thy mouth
so shall I still observe.

Lamed

- 89 Thy word for ever is, O Lord,
in heaven settled fast;
90 Unto all generations
thy faithfulness doth last:

- The earth thou hast established,
and it abides by thee.
- 91 This day they stand as thou ordain'dst;
for all thy servants be.
- 92 Unless in thy most perfect law
my soul delights had found,
I should have perished, when as
my troubles did abound.
- 93 Thy precepts I will ne'er forget;
they quick'ning to me brought.
- 94 Lord, I am thine; O save thou me:
thy precepts I have sought.
- 95 For me the wicked have laid wait,
me seeking to destroy:
But I thy testimonies true
consider will with joy.
- 96 An end of all perfection
here have I seen, O God:
But as for thy commandment,
it is exceeding broad.
- Mem**
- 97 O how love I thy law! it is
my study all the day:
- 98 It makes me wiser than my foes;
for it doth with me stay.
- 99 Than all my teachers now I have
more understanding far;
Because my meditation
thy testimonies are.
- 100 In understanding I excel
those that are ancients;
For I endeavored to keep
all thy commandments.
- 101 My feet from each ill way I stayed,
that I may keep thy word.
- 102 I from thy judgments have not swerved;
for thou hast taught me, Lord.

- 103 How sweet unto my taste, O Lord,
 are all thy words of truth!
 Yea, I do find them sweeter far
 than honey to my mouth.
- 104 I through thy precepts, that are pure,
 do understanding get;
 I therefore ev'ry way that's false
 with all my heart do hate

Nun

- 105 Thy word is to my feet a lamp,
 and to my path a light.
- 106 I sworn have, and I will perform,
 to keep thy judgments right.
- 107 I am with sore affliction
 ev'n overwhelmed, O Lord:
 In mercy raise and quicken me,
 according to thy word.
- 108 The free-will-off 'rings of my mouth
 accept, I thee beseech:
 And unto me thy servant, Lord,
 thy judgments clearly teach.
- 109 Though still my soul be in my hand,
 thy laws I'll not forget.
- 110 I erred not from them, though for me
 the wicked snares did set.
- 111 I of thy testimonies have
 above all things made choice,
 To be my heritage for aye;
 for they my heart rejoice.
- 112 I carefully inclined have
 my heart still to attend;
 That I thy statutes may perform
 always unto the end.

Samech

- 113 I hate the thoughts of vanity,
but love thy law do I.
- 114 My shield and hiding-place thou art:
I on thy word rely.
- 115 All ye that evil-doers are
from me depart away;
For the commandements of my God
I purpose to obey.
- 116 According to thy faithful word
uphold and stablish me,
That I may live, and of my hope
ashamed never be.
- 117 Hold thou me up, so shall I be
in peace and safety still;
And to thy statutes have respect
continually I will.
- 118 Thou tread'st down all that love to stray;
false their deceit doth prove.
- 119 Lewd men, like dross, away thou putt'st;
therefore thy law I love.
- 120 For fear of thee my very flesh
doth tremble, all dismayed;
And of thy righteous judgments, Lord,
my soul is much afraid.

Ain

- 121 To all men I have judgment done,
performing justice right;
Then let me not be left unto
my fierce oppressors' might.
- 122 For good unto thy servant, Lord,
thy servant's surety be:
From the oppression of the proud
do thou deliver me.

- 123 Mine eyes do fail with looking long
for thy salvation,
The word of thy pure righteousness
while I do wait upon.
- 124 In mercy with thy servant deal,
thy laws me teach and show.
- 125 I am thy servant, wisdom give,
that I thy laws may know.
- 126 'Tis time thou work, Lord; for they have
made void thy law divine.
- 127 Therefore thy precepts more I love
than gold, yea, gold most fine.
- 128 Concerning all things thy commands
all right I judge therefore;
And ev'ry false and wicked way
I perfectly abhor.

Pe

- 129 Thy statutes, Lord, are wonderful,
my soul them keeps with care.
- 130 The entrance of thy words gives light,
makes wise who simple are.
- 131 My mouth I have wide opened,
and panted earnestly,
While after thy commandements
I longed exceedingly.
- 132 Look on me, Lord, and merciful
do thou unto me prove,
As thou art wont to do to those
thy name who truly love.
- 133 O let my footsteps in thy word
aright still ordered be:
Let no iniquity obtain
dominion over me.
- 134 From man's oppression save thou me;
so keep thy laws I will.
- 135 Thy face make on thy servant shine;
teach me thy statutes still.

136 Rivers of waters from mine eyes
did run down, when I saw
How wicked men run on in sin,
and do not keep thy law.

Tzaddi

137 O Lord, thou art most righteous;
thy judgments are upright.

138 Thy testimonies thou command'st
most faithful are and right.

139 My zeal hath ev'n consumed me,
because mine enemies
Thy holy words forgotten have,
and do thy laws despise.

140 Thy word's most pure, therefore on it
thy servant's love is set.

141 Small, and despised I am, yet I
thy precepts not forget.

142 Thy righteousness is righteousness
which ever doth endure:
Thy holy law, Lord, also is
the very truth most pure.

143 Trouble and anguish have me found,
and taken hold on me:
Yet in my trouble my delight
thy just commandements be.

144 Eternal righteousness is in
thy testimonies all:
Lord, to me understanding give,
and ever live I shall.

Koph

145 With my whole heart I cried, Lord, hear;
I will thy word obey.

146 I cried to thee; save me, and I
will keep thy laws alway.

- 147 I of the morning did prevent
the dawning, and did cry:
For all mine expectation
did on thy word rely.
- 148 Mine eyes did timeously prevent
the watches of the night,
That in thy word with careful mind
then meditate I might.
- 149 After thy loving-kindness hear
my voice, that calls on thee:
According to thy judgment, Lord,
revive and quicken me.
- 150 Who follow mischief they draw nigh;
they from thy law are far:
151 But thou art near, Lord; most firm truth
all thy commandements are.
- 152 As for thy testimonies all,
of old this have I tried,
That thou hast surely founded them
for ever to abide.

Resh

- 153 Consider mine affliction,
in safety do me set:
Deliver me, O Lord, for I
thy law do not forget.
- 154 After thy word revive thou me:
save me, and plead my cause.
- 155 Salvation is from sinners far;
for they seek not thy laws.
- 156 O Lord, both great and manifold
thy tender mercies be:
According to thy judgments just,
revive and quicken me.
- 157 My persecutors many are,
and foes that do combine;
Yet from thy testimonies pure
my heart doth not decline.

158 I saw transgressors, and was grieved;
for they keep not thy word.
159 See how I love thy law! as thou
art kind, me quicken, Lord.

160 From the beginning all thy word
hath been most true and sure:
Thy righteous judgments ev'ry one
for evermore endure.

Schin

161 Princes have persecuted me,
although no cause they saw:
But still of thy most holy word
my heart doth stand in awe.

162 I at thy word rejoice, as one
of spoil that finds great store.
163 Thy law I love; but lying all
I hate and do abhor.

164 Sev'n times a-day it is my care
to give due praise to thee;
Because of all thy judgments, Lord,
which righteous ever be.

165 Great peace have they who love thy law;
offence they shall have none.
166 I hoped for thy salvation, Lord,
and thy commands have done.

167 My soul thy testimonies pure
observ-ed carefully;
On them my heart is set, and them
I love exceedingly.

168 Thy testimonies and thy laws
I kept with special care;
For all my works and ways each one
before thee open are.

Tau

- 169 O let my earnest pray'r and cry
 come near before thee, Lord:
 Give understanding unto me,
 according to thy word.
- 170 Let my request before thee come:
 after thy word me free.
- 171 My lips shall utter praise, when thou
 hast taught thy laws to me.
- 172 My tongue of thy most blessed word
 shall speak, and it confess;
 Because all thy commandements
 are perfect righteousness.
- 173 Let thy strong hand make help to me:
 thy precepts are my choice.
- 174 I longed for thy salvation, Lord,
 and in thy law rejoice.
- 175 O let my soul live, and it shall
 give praises unto thee;
 And let thy judgments gracious
 be helpful unto me.
- 176 I, like a lost sheep, went astray;
 thy servant seek, and find:
 For thy commands I suffered not
 to slip out of my mind.

Psalm 120

A Song of Ascents

- 1 In my distress to God I cried,
and he gave ear to me.
- 2 From lying lips, and guileful tongue,
O Lord, my soul set free.
- 3 What shall be giv'n thee? or what shall
be done to thee, false tongue?
- 4 Ev'n burning coals of juniper,
sharp arrows of the strong.
- 5 Woe's me that I in Mesech am
a sojourner so long;
That I in tabernacles dwell
to Kedar that belong.
- 6 My soul with him that hateth peace
hath long a dweller been.
- 7 I am for peace; but when I speak,
for battle they are keen.

Psalm 121

A Psalm of Ascents

- 1 I to the hills will lift mine eyes,
from whence doth come mine aid.
- 2 My safety cometh from the Lord,
who heav'n and earth hath made.

- 3 Thy foot he'll not let slide, nor will
he slumber that thee keeps.
- 4 Behold, he that keeps Israel,
he slumbers 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
preserve thee from all ill.
- 8 Henceforth thy going out and in
God keep for ever will.

Psalm 122

A Song of Ascents, Of David.

- 1 I joyed when to the house of God,
Go up, they said to me.
- 2 Jerusalem, within thy gates
our feet shall standing be.
- 3 Jerus'lem, as a city, is
compactly built together:
- 4 Unto that place the tribes go up,
the tribes of God go thither:

To Isr'el's testimony, there
to God's name thanks to pay.
- 5 For thrones of judgment, ev'n the thrones
of David's house, there stay.
- 6 Pray that Jerusalem may have
peace and felicity:
Let them that love thee and thy peace
have still prosperity.
- 7 Therefore I wish that peace may still
within thy walls remain,
And ever may thy palaces
prosperity retain.
- 8 Now, for my friends' and brethren's sakes,
Peace be in thee, I'll say.
- 9 And for the house of God our Lord,
I'll seek thy good always.

Psalms 123

A Song of Ascents

- 1 O thou that dwellest in the heav'ns,
I lift mine eyes to thee.
- 2 Behold, as servants' eyes do look
their masters' hand to see,

As handmaid's eyes her mistress' hand;
so do our eyes attend
Upon the Lord our God, until
to us he mercy send.
- 3 O Lord, be gracious unto us,
unto us gracious be;
Because replenished with contempt
exceedingly are we.
- 4 Our soul is filled with scorn of those
that at their ease abide,
And with the insolent contempt
of those that swell in pride.

Psalm 124

- 1 Had not the Lord been on our side,
 may Israel now say;
- 2 Had not the Lord been on our side,
 when men rose us to slay;
- 3 They had us swallowed quick, when as
 their wrath 'gainst us did flame:
- 4 Waters had covered us, our soul
 had sunk beneath the stream.
- 5 Then had the waters, swelling high,
 over our soul made way.
- 6 Blessed be the Lord, who to their teeth
 us gave not for a prey.
- 7 Our soul's escapèd, as a bird
 out of the fowler's snare;
The snare asunder broken is,
 and we escapèd are.
- 8 Our sure and all-sufficient help
 is in Jehovah's name;
His name who did the heav'n create,
 and who the earth did frame.

Psalm 125

- 1 They in the Lord that firmly trust
shall be like Zion hill,
Which at no time can be removed,
but standeth ever still.
- 2 As round about Jerusalem
the mountains stand alway,
The Lord his folk doth compass so,
from henceforth and for aye.
- 3 For ill men's rod upon the lot
of just men shall not lie;
Lest righteous men stretch forth their hands
unto iniquity.
- 4 Do thou to all those that be good
thy goodness, Lord, impart;
And do thou good to those that are
upright within their heart.
- 5 But as for such as turn aside
after their crooked way,
God shall lead forth with wicked men:
on Isr'el peace shall stay.

Psalm 126

- 1 When Zion's bondage God turned back,
as men that dreamed were we.
- 2 Then filled with laughter was our mouth,
our tongue with melody:

They 'mong the heathen 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 water in the south,
our bondage, Lord, recall.
- 5 Who sow in tears, a reaping time
of joy enjoy they shall.
- 6 That man who, bearing precious seed,
in going forth doth mourn,
He doubtless, bringing back his sheaves,
rejoicing shall return.

Psalm 127

- 1 Except the Lord do build the house,
the builders lose their pain:
Except the Lord the city keep,
the watchmen watch in vain.
- 2 'Tis vain for you to rise betimes,
or late from rest to keep,
To feed on sorrows' bread; so gives
he his beloved sleep.
- 3 Lo, children are God's heritage,
the womb's fruit his reward.
- 4 The sons of youth as arrows are,
for strong men's hands prepared.
- 5 O happy is the man that hath
his quiver filled with those;
They unashamed in the gate
shall speak unto their foes.

Psalm 128

- 1 Blessed is each one that fears the Lord,
and walketh in his ways;
- 2 For of thy labour thou shalt eat,
and happy be always.

- 3 Thy wife shall as a fruitful vine
by thy house' sides be found:
Thy children like to olive-plants
about thy table round.

- 4 Behold, the man that fears the Lord,
thus bless-ed shall he be.
- 5 The Lord shall out of Zion give
his blessing unto thee:

Thou shalt Jerus'lem's good behold
whilst thou on earth dost dwell.
- 6 Thou shalt thy children's children see,
and peace on Israel.

Psalm 129

- 1 Oft did they vex me from my youth,
may Isr'el now declare;
- 2 Oft did they vex me from my youth,
yet not victorious were.

- 3 The plowers plowed upon my back;
they long their furrows drew.
- 4 The righteous Lord did cut the cords
of the ungodly crew.

- 5 Let Zion's haters all be turned
back with confusion.
- 6 As grass on houses' tops be they,
which fades ere it be grown:

- 7 Whereof enough to fill his hand
the mower cannot find;
Nor can the man his bosom fill,
whose work is sheaves to bind.

- 8 Neither say they who do go by,
God's blessing on you rest:
We in the name of God the Lord
do wish you to be blest.

Psalm 130

- 1 Lord, from the depths to thee I cried.
2 My voice, Lord, do thou hear:
Unto my supplication's voice
give an attentive ear.
- 3 Lord, who shall stand, if thou, O Lord,
should'st mark iniquity?
4 But yet with thee forgiveness is,
that feared thou mayest be.
- 5 I wait for God, my soul doth wait,
my hope is in his word.
6 More than they that for morning watch,
my soul waits for the Lord;
I say, more than they that do watch
the morning light to see.
- 7 Let Israel hope in the Lord,
for with him mercies be;
And plenteous redemption
is ever found with him.
- 8 And from all his iniquities
he Isr'el shall redeem.

Psalm 131

A Song of degrees of David.

- 1 My heart not haughty is, O Lord,
mine eyes not lofty be;
Nor do I deal in matters great,
or things too high for me.

- 2 I surely have myself behaved
with quiet sp'rit and mild,
As child of mother weaned: my soul
is like a weanèd child.

- 3 Upon the Lord let all the hope
of Israel rely,
Ev'n from the time that present is
unto eternity.

Psalm 132

- 1 David, and his afflictions all,
Lord, do thou think upon;
- 2 How unto God he sware, and vowed
to Jacob's mighty One.

- 3 I will not come within my house,
nor rest in bed at all;
- 4 Nor shall mine eyes take any sleep,
nor eyelids slumber shall;

- 5 Till for the Lord a place I find,
where he may make abode;
A place of habitation
for Jacob's mighty God.

- 6 Lo, at the place of Ephratah
of it we understood;
And we did find it in the fields,
and city of the wood.

- 7 We'll go into his tabernacles,
and at his footstool bow.
- 8 Arise, O Lord, into thy rest,
th' ark of thy strength, and thou.

- 9 O let thy priests be clothèd, Lord,
with truth and righteousness;
And let all those that are thy saints
shout loud for joyfulness.

- 10 For thine own servant David's sake,
do not deny thy grace;
Nor of thine own anointed one
turn thou away the face.

- 11 The Lord in truth to David sware,
he will not turn from it,
I of thy body's fruit will make
upon thy throne to sit.

- 12 My cov'nant if thy sons will keep,
and laws to them made known,
Their children then shall also sit
for ever on thy throne.
- 13 For God of Zion hath made choice;
there he desires to dwell.
- 14 This is my rest, here still I'll stay;
for I do like it well.
- 15 Her food I'll greatly bless; her poor
with bread will satisfy.
- 16 Her priests I'll clothe with health; her saints
shall shout forth joyfully.
- 17 And there will I make David's horn
to bud forth pleasantly:
For him that mine anointed is
a lamp ordained have I.
- 18 As with a garment I will clothe
with shame his en'mies all:
But yet the crown that he doth wear
upon him flourish shall.

Psalm 133

- 1 Behold, how good a thing it is,
and how becoming well,
Together such as brethren are
in unity to dwell!
- 2 Like precious ointment on the head,
that down the beard did flow,
Ev'n Aaron's beard, and to the skirts,*
did of his garments go.
- 3 As Hermon's dew, the dew that doth
on Zion' hills descend:
For there the blessing God commands,
life that shall never end.

Psalm 134

- 1 Behold, bless ye the Lord, all ye
that his attendants are,
Ev'n you that in God's temple be,
and praise him nightly there.
- 2 Your hands within God's holy place
lift up, and praise his name.
- 3 From Zion' hill the Lord thee bless,
that heav'n and earth did frame.

Psalm 135

- 1 Praise ye the Lord, the Lord's name praise;
his servants, praise ye God.
- 2 Who stand in God's house, in the courts
of our God make abode.
- 3 Praise ye the Lord, for he is good;
unto him praises sing:
Sing praises to his name, because
it is a pleasant thing.
- 4 For Jacob to himself the Lord
did choose of his good pleasure,
And he hath chosen Israel
for his peculiar treasure.
- 5 Because I know assuredly
the Lord is very great,
And that our Lord above all gods
in glory hath his seat.
- 6 What things soever 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 vapors to ascend;
With rain he lightnings makes, and wind
doth from his treasures send.
- 8 Egypt's first-born, from man to beast
9 who smote. Strange tokens he
On Phar'oh and his servants sent,
Egypt, in midst of thee.
- 10 He smote great nations, slew great kings:
11 Sihon of Heshbon king,
And Og of Bashan, and to nought
did Canaan's kingdoms bring:

- 12 And for a wealthy heritage
 their pleasant land he gave,
An heritage which Israel,
 his chosen folk, should have.
- 13 Thy name, O Lord, shall still endure,
 and thy memorial
With honor shall continued be
 to generations all.
- 14 For why? the righteous God will judge
 his people righteously;
Concerning those that do him serve,
 himself repent will he.
- 15 The idols of the nations
 of silver are and gold,
And by the hands of men is made
 their fashion 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 breathing be.
- 18 Their makers are like them; so are
 all that on them rely.
- 19 O Isr'el's house, bless God; bless God,
 O Aaron's family.
- 20 O bless the Lord, of Levi's house
 ye who his servants are;
And bless the holy name of God,
 all ye the Lord that fear.
- 21 And blessed be the Lord our God
 from Zion's holy hill,
Who dwelleth at Jerusalem.
 The Lord O praise ye still.

Psalm 136

- 1 Give thanks to God, for good is he:
for mercy hath he ever.
- 2 Thanks to the God of gods give ye:
for his grace faileth never.
- 3 Thanks give the Lord of lords unto:
for mercy hath he ever.
- 4 Who only wonders great can do:
for his grace faileth never.
- 5 Who by his wisdom made heav'ns high:
for mercy hath he ever.
- 6 Who stretch'd the earth above the sea:
for his grace faileth never.
- 7 To him that made the great lights shine:
for mercy hath he ever.
- 8 The sun to rule till day decline:
for his grace faileth never.
- 9 The moon and stars to rule by night:
for mercy hath he ever.
- 10 Who Egypt's first-born kill'd outright:
for his grace faileth never.
- 11 And Isr'el brought from Egypt land:
for mercy hath he ever.
- 12 With stretch'd-out arm, and with strong hand:
for his grace faileth never.
- 13 By whom the Red sea parted was:
for mercy hath he ever.
- 14 And through its midst made Isr'el pass:
for his grace faileth never.
- 15 But Phar'oh and his host did drown:
for mercy hath he ever.
- 16 Who through the desert led his own:
for his grace faileth never.
- 17 To him great kings who overthrew:
for he hath mercy ever.
- 18 Yea, famous kings in battle slew:
for his grace faileth never.

- 19 Ev'n Sihon king of Amorites:
for he hath mercy ever.
- 20 And Og the king of Bashanites:
for his grace faileth never.
- 21 Their land in heritage to have:
(for mercy hath he ever.)
- 22 His servant Isr'el right he gave:
for his grace faileth never.
- 23 In our low state who on us thought:
for he hath mercy ever.
- 24 And from our foes our freedom wrought:
for his grace faileth never.
- 25 Who doth all flesh with food relieve:
for he hath mercy ever.
- 26 Thanks to the God of heaven give:
for his grace faileth never.

Psalm 137

- 1 By Babel's streams we sat and wept,
when Zion we thought on.
- 2 In midst thereof we hanged our harps
the willow-trees upon.
- 3 For there a song required they,
who did us captive bring:
Our spoilers called for mirth, and said,
A song of Zion sing.
- 4 O how the Lord's song shall we sing
within a foreign land?
- 5 If thee, Jerus'lem, I forget,
skill part from my right hand.
- 6 My tongue to my mouth's roof let cleave,
if I do thee forget,
Jerusalem, and thee above
my chief joy do not set.
- 7 Remember Edom's children, Lord,
who in Jerus'lems day,
Ev'n unto its foundation,
Raze, raze it quite, did say.
- 8 O daughter thou of Babylon,
near to destruction;
Blessed shall he be that thee rewards,
as thou to us hast done.
- 9 Yea, happy surely shall he be
thy tender little ones
Who shall lay hold upon, and them
shall dash against the stones.

Psalm 138

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Thee will I praise with all my heart,
I will sing praise to thee
- 2 Before the gods: And worship will
toward thy sanctuary.

I'll praise thy name, ev'n for thy truth,
and kindness of thy love;
For thou thy word hast magnified
all thy great name above.
- 3 Thou didst me answer in the day
when I to thee did cry;
And thou my fainting soul with strength
didst strengthen inwardly.
- 4 All kings upon the earth that are
shall give thee praise, O Lord,
When as they from thy mouth shall hear
thy true and faithful word.
- 5 Yea, in the righteous ways of God
with gladness they shall sing:
For great's the glory of the Lord;
who doth for ever reign.
- 6 Though God be high, yet he respects
all those that lowly be;
Whereas the proud and lofty ones
afar off knoweth he.
- 7 Though I in midst of trouble walk,
I life from thee shall have:
'Gainst my foes' wrath thou'lt stretch thine hand;
thy right hand shall me save.
- 8 Surely that which concerneth me
the Lord will perfect make:
Lord, still thy mercy lasts; do not
thine own hands' works forsake.

Psalm 139

*To the chief Musician,
A Psalm of David.*

- 1 O Lord, thou hast me searched and known.
- 2 Thou know'st my sitting down,
And rising up; yea, all my thoughts
afar to thee are known.
- 3 My footsteps, and my lying down,
thou compasses always;
Thou also most entirely art
acquaint with all my ways.
- 4 For in my tongue, before I speak,
not any word can be,
But altogether, lo, O Lord,
it is well known to thee.
- 5 Behind, before, thou hast beset,
and laid on me thine hand.
- 6 Such knowledge is too strange for me,
too high to understand.
- 7 From thy Sp'rit whither shall I go?
or from thy presence fly?
- 8 Ascend I heav'n, lo, thou art there;
there, if in hell I lie.
- 9 Take I the morning wings, and dwell
in utmost 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 darkness shall
me cover from thy sight,
Then surely shall the very night
about me be as light.
- 12 Yea, darkness hideth not from thee,
but night doth shine as day:
To thee the darkness and the light
are both alike alway.

- 13 For thou possessed hast my reins,
and thou hast covered me,
When I within my mother's womb
enclosèd was by thee.
- 14 Thee will I praise; for fearfully
and strangely made I am;
Thy works are marv'llous, and right well
my soul doth know the same.
- 15 My substance was not hid from thee,
when as in secret I
Was made; and in earth's lowest parts
was wrought most curiously.
- 16 Thine eyes my substance did behold,
yet being unperfect;
And in the volume of thy book
my members all were writ;
- Which after in continuance
were fashioned ev'ry one,
When as they yet all shapeless were,
and of them there was none.
- 17 How precious also are thy thoughts,
O gracious God, to me!
And in their sum how passing great
and numberless they be!
- 18 If I should count them, than the sand
they more in number be:
What time soever I awake,
I ever am with thee.
- 19 Thou, Lord, wilt sure the wicked slay:
hence from me bloody men.
- 20 Thy foes against thee loudly speak,
and take thy name in vain.
- 21 Do not I hate all those, O Lord,
that hatred bear to thee?
With those that up against thee rise
can I but grieved be?

- 22 With perfect hatred them I hate,
my foes I them do hold.
- 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart,
try me, my thoughts unfold:
- 24 And see if any wicked way
there be at all in me;
And in thine everlasting way
to me a leader be.

Psalm 140

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

- 1 Lord, from the ill and froward man
give me deliverance,
And do thou safe preserve me from
the man of violence:
- 2 Who in their heart mischievous things
are meditating ever;
And they for war assembled are
continually together.
- 3 Much like unto a serpent's tongue
their tongues they sharp do make;
And underneath their lips there lies
the poison of a snake.
- 4 Lord, keep me from the wicked's hands,
from vi'lent men me save;
Who utterly to overthrow
my goings purposed 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 unto the Lord, Thou art
my God: unto the cry
Of all my supplications,
Lord, do thine ear apply.
- 7 O God the Lord, who art the strength
of my salvation:
A cov'ring in the day of war
my head thou hast put on.
- 8 Unto the wicked man, O Lord,
his wishes do not grant;
Nor further thou his ill device,
lest they themselves should vaunt.

- 9 As for the head and chief of those
about that compass me,
Ev'n by the mischief of their lips
let thou them cover'd be.
- 10 Let burning coals upon them fall,
them throw in fiery flame,
And in deep pits, that they no more
may rise out of the same.
- 11 Let not an evil speaker be
on earth establish-ed:
Mischief shall hunt the vi'lent man,
till he be ruin-ed.
- 12 I know God will th' afflicted's cause
maintain, and poor men's right.
- 13 Surely the just shall praise thy name;
th' upright dwell in thy sight.

Psalm 141

A Psalm of David.

1 O Lord, I unto thee do cry,
do thou make haste to me,
And give an ear unto my voice,
when I cry unto thee.

2 As incense let my prayer be
directed in thine eyes;
And the uplifting of my hands
as th' ev 'ning sacrifice.

3 Set, Lord, a watch before my mouth,
keep of my lips the door.

4 My heart incline thou not unto
the ills I should abhor,

To practice wicked works with men
that work iniquity;
And with their delicacies my taste
let me not satisfy.

5 Let him that righteous is me smite,
it shall a kindness be;
Let him reprove, I shall it count
a precious oil to me:

Such smiting shall not break my head;
for yet the time shall fall,
When I in their calamities
to God pray for them shall.

6 When as their judges down shall be
in stony places cast,
Then shall they hear my words; for they
shall sweet be to their taste.

7 About the grave's devouring mouth
our bones are scattered round,
As wood which men do cut and cleave
lies scattered on the ground.

- 8 But unto thee, O God the Lord,
mine eyes uplifted be:
My soul do not leave destitute;
my trust is set on thee.
- 9 Lord, keep me safely from the snares
which they for me prepare;
And from the subtle gins of them
that wicked workers are.
- 10 Let workers of iniquity
into their own nets fall,
Whilst I do, by thine help, escape
the danger of them all.

Psalm 142

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

- 1 I with my voice cried to the Lord,
with it made my request:
- 2 Poured out to him my plaint, to him
my trouble I expressed.
- 3 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 privily did lay.
- 4 I looked on my right hand, and viewed,
but none to know me were;
All refuge failed me, no man
did for my soul take care.
- 5 I cried to thee; I said, Thou art
my refuge, Lord, alone;
And in the land of those that live
thou art my portion.
- 6 Because I am brought very low,
attend unto my cry:
Me from my persecutors save,
who stronger are than I.
- 7 From prison bring my soul, that I
thy name may glorify:
The just shall compass me, when thou
with me deal'st bounteously.

Psalm 143

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Lord, hear my pray'r, attend my suits;
and in thy faithfulness
Give thou an answer unto me,
and in thy righteousness.
- 2 Thy servant also bring thou not
in judgment to be tried:
Because no living man can be
in thy sight justified.
- 3 For th' en'my hath pursued my soul,
my life to ground down tread:
In darkness he hath made me dwell,
as who have long been dead.
- 4 My sp'rit is therefore overwhelmed
in me perplexedly;
Within me is my very heart
amazed wondrously.
- 5 I call to mind the days of old,
to meditate I use
On all thy works; upon 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 spirit fails:
hide not thy face from me;

Lest like to them I do become
that go down to the dust.
- 8 At morn let me thy kindness 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 cover me.

- 10 Because thou art my God, to do
thy will do me instruct:
Thy Sp'rit is good, me to the land
of uprightness conduct.
- 11 Revive and quicken me, O Lord,
ev'n for thine own name's sake;
And do thou, for thy righteousness,
my soul from trouble take.
- 12 And of thy mercy slay my foes;
let all destroyed be
That do afflict my soul: for I
a servant am to thee.

Psalm 144

A Psalm of David.

- 1 O blessed ever be the Lord,
 who is my strength and might,
Who doth instruct my hands to war,
 my fingers teach to fight.
- 2 My goodness, fortress, my high tow'r,
 deliverer, and shield,
In whom I trust: who under me
 my people makes to yield.
- 3 Lord, what is man, that thou of him
 dost so much knowledge take?
Or son of man, that thou of him
 so great account dost make?
- 4 Man is like vanity; his days,
 as shadows, pass away.
- 5 Lord, bow thy heav'ns, come down,
 touch thou the hills, and smoke shall they.
- 6 Cast forth thy lightning, scatter them;
 thine arrows shoot, them rout.
- 7 Thine hand send from above, me save;
 from great depths draw me out;

And from the hand of children strange,
8 Whose mouth speaks vanity;
And their right hand is a right hand
 that works deceitfully.
- 9 A new song I to thee will sing,
 Lord, on a psaltery;
I on a ten-stringed instrument
 will praises sing to thee.
- 10 Ev'n he it is that unto kings
 salvation doth send;
Who his own servant David doth
 from hurtful sword defend.

- 11 O free me from strange children's hand,
whose mouth speaks vanity;
And their right hand a right hand is
that works deceitfully.
- 12 That, as the plants, our sons may be
in youth grown up that are;
Our daughters like to corner-stones,
carved like a palace fair.
- 13 That to afford all kind of store
our garners may be filled;
That our sheep thousands, in our streets
ten thousands they may yield.
- 14 That strong our oxen be for work,
that no in-breaking be,
Nor going out; and that our streets
may from complaints be free.
- 15 Those people blessed are who be
in such a case as this;
Yea, blessed all those people are,
whose God Jehovah is.

Psalm 145

- 1 I'll thee extol, my God, O King;
I'll bless thy name always.
- 2 Thee will I bless each day, and will
thy name for ever praise.
- 3 Great is the Lord, much to be praised;
his greatness search exceeds.
- 4 Race unto race shall praise thy works,
and show thy mighty deeds.
- 5 I of thy glorious majesty
the honor will record;
I'll speak of all thy mighty works,
which wondrous are, O Lord.
- 6 Men of thine acts the might shall show,
thine acts that dreadful are;
And I, thy glory to advance,
thy greatness will declare.
- 7 The mem'ry of thy goodness great
they largely shall express;
With songs of praise they shall extol
thy perfect righteousness.
- 8 The Lord is very gracious,
in him compassions flow;
In mercy he is very great,
and is to anger slow.
- 9 The Lord Jehovah unto all
his goodness doth declare;
And over all his other works
his tender mercies are.
- 10 Thee all thy works shall praise, O Lord,
and thee thy saints shall bless;
- 11 They shall thy kingdom's glory show,
thy pow'r by speech express:

- 12 To make the sons of men to know
his acts done mightily,
And of his kingdom th' excellent
and glorious majesty.
- 13 Thy kingdom shall for ever stand,
thy reign through ages all.
- 14 God raiseth all that are bowed down,
upholdeth all that fall.
- 15 The eyes of all things wait on thee,
the giver of all good;
And thou, in time convenient,
bestow'st on them their food:
- 16 Thine hand thou open'st lib'rally,
and of thy bounty gives
Enough to satisfy the need
of ev'ry thing that lives.
- 17 The Lord is just in all his ways,
holy in his works all.
- 18 God's near to all that call on him,
in truth that on him call.
- 19 He will accomplish the desire
of those that do him fear:
He also will deliver them,
and he their cry will hear.
- 20 The Lord preserves all who him love,
that naught can them annoy:
But he all those that wicked are
will utterly destroy.
- 21 My mouth the praises of the Lord
to publish cease shall never:
Let all flesh bless his holy name
for ever and for ever.

Psalm 146

- 1 Praise God. The Lord praise, O my soul.
- 2 I'll praise God while I live;
While I have being to my God
in songs I'll praises give.
- 3 Trust not in princes, nor man's son,
in whom there is no stay:
- 4 His breath departs, to's earth he turns;
that day his thoughts decay.
- 5 O happy is that man and blest,
whom Jacob's God doth aid;
Whose hope upon the Lord doth rest,
and on his God is stayed:
- 6 Who made the earth and heavens high,
who made the swelling deep,
And all that is within the same;
who truth doth ever keep:
- 7 Who righteous judgment executes
for those oppressed that be,
Who to the hungry giveth food;
God sets the pris'ners free.
- 8 The Lord doth give the blind their sight,
the bowed down doth raise:
The Lord doth dearly love all those
that walk in upright ways.
- 9 The stranger's shield, the widow's stay,
the orphan's help, is he:
But yet by him the wicked's way
turned upside down shall be.
- 10 The Lord shall reign for evermore:
thy God, O Zion, he
Reigns to all generations.
Praise to the Lord give ye.

Psalm 147

- 1 Praise ye the Lord; for it is good
praise to our God to sing:
For it is pleasant, and to praise
it is a comely thing.
- 2 God doth build up Jerusalem;
and he it is alone
That the dispersed of Israel
doth gather into one.
- 3 Those that are broken in their heart,
and grievèd in their minds,
He healeth, and their painful wounds
he tenderly up-binds.
- 4 He counts the number of the stars;
he names them ev'ry one.
- 5 Great is our Lord, and of great pow'r;
his wisdom search can none.
- 6 The Lord lifts up the meek; and casts
the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the Lord, and give him thanks;
on harp his praises sound;
- 8 Who covereth the heav'n with clouds,
who for the earth below
Prepareth rain, who maketh grass
upon the mountains grow.
- 9 He gives the beast his food, he feeds
the ravens young that cry.
- 10 His pleasure not in horses' strength,
nor in man's legs, doth lie.
- 11 But in all those that do him fear
the Lord doth pleasure take;
In those that to his mercy do
by hope themselves betake.

- 12 The Lord praise, O Jerusalem;
Zion, thy God confess:
- 13 For thy gates' bars he maketh strong;
thy sons in thee doth bless.
- 14 He in thy borders maketh peace;
with fine wheat filleth thee.
- 15 He sends forth his command on earth,
his word runs speedily.
- 16 Hoar-frost, like ashes, scatt'reth he;
like wool he snow doth give:
- 17 Like morsels casteth forth his ice;
who in its cold can live?
- 18 He sendeth forth his mighty word,
and melteth them again;
His wind he makes to blow, and then
the waters flow amain.
- 19 The doctrine of his holy word
to Jacob he doth show;
His statutes and his judgments he
gives Israel to know.
- 20 To any nation never he
such favor did afford;
For they his judgments have not known.
O do ye praise the Lord.

Psalm 148

- 1 Praise God. From heavens praise the Lord,
in heights praise to him be.
- 2 All ye his angels, 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
above the heavens' height.
- 5 Let all the creatures praise the name
of our almighty Lord:
For he commanded, and they were
created by his word.
- 6 He also, for all times to come,
hath them established sure;
He hath appointed them a law,
which ever shall endure.
- 7 Praise ye Jehovah from the earth,
dragons, and ev'ry deep:
- 8 Fire, hail, snow, vapor, stormy wind,
his word that fully keep.
- 9 All hills and mountains, fruitful trees,
and all ye cedars high:
- 10 Beasts, and all cattle, creeping things,
and all ye birds that fly.
- 11 Kings of the earth, all nations,
princes, earth's judges all:
- 12 Both young men, yea, and maidens too,
old men, and children small.
- 13 Let them God's name praise; for his name
alone is excellent:
His glory reacheth far above
the earth and firmament.
- 14 His people's horn, the praise of all
his saints, exalteth he;
Ev'n Isr'el's seed, a people near
to him. The Lord praise ye.

Psalm 149

- 1 Praise ye the Lord: unto him sing
a new song, and his praise
In the assembly of his saints
in sweet psalms do ye raise.
- 2 Let Isr'el in his Maker joy,
and to him praises sing:
Let all that Zion's children are
be joyful in their King.
- 3 O let them unto his great name
give praises in the dance;
Let them with timbrel and with harp
in songs his praise advance.
- 4 For God doth pleasure take in those
that his own people be;
And he with his salvation
the meek will beautify.
- 5 And in his glory excellent
let all his saints rejoice:
Let them to him upon their beds
aloud lift up their voice.
- 6 Let in their mouth aloft be raised
the high praise of the Lord,
And let them have in their right hand
a sharp two-edgèd sword;
- 7 To execute the vengeance due
upon the heathen all,
And make deservèd punishment
upon the people fall.
- 8 And ev'n with chains, as pris'ners, bind
their kings that them command;
Yea, and with iron fetters strong,
the nobles of their land.
- 9 On them the judgment to perform
found written in his word:
This honor is to all his saints.
O do ye praise the Lord.

Psalm 150

- 1 Praise ye the Lord. God's praise within
his sanctuary raise;
And to him in the firmament
of his pow'r give ye praise.
- 2 Because of all his mighty acts,
with praise him magnify:
O praise him, as he doth excel
in glorious majesty.
- 3 Praise him with trumpet's sound; his praise
with psaltery advance:
- 4 With timbrel, harp, stringed instruments,
and organs, in the dance.
- 5 Praise him on cymbals loud; him praise
on cymbals sounding high.
- 6 Let each thing breathing 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: peggles, 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 <i>b</i> , and say,	ba,	be,	bi,	bo,	bu.
So <i>d</i> .	da,	de,	di,	do,	du.
<i>f</i> ;	fa,	fe,	fi,	fo,	fu.
Then teach them to say all the rest, as it were					
singing them together,	la,	le,	li,	lo,	lu;
Teach the hardest last, as	ca,	çe,	çi,	co,	cu;
and	ga,	ge,	gi,	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-in-progress. I will be adding more select Psalms over the next few weeks. I welcome any suggestions for improving the work.

I added the syllable divisions to assist students in reading the polysyllables. The original was not divided into syllables.

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 Shakespeare'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 because 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 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 have 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.

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 metrical Psalms, we speak to God.

The last Psalm was added on March 13, 2012.

Document last revised, March 13, 2012, 10:33 a.m.