

PSALMS

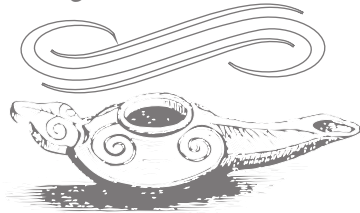
BOOK ONE (Psalms 1–41)

- 1** ¹ Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers.
- 2** But they delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night.
- 3** They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do.
- 4** But not the wicked!
They are like worthless chaff, scattered by the wind.
- 5** They will be condemned at the time of judgment. Sinners will have no place among the godly.
- 6** For the LORD watches over the path of the godly, but the path of the wicked leads to destruction.
- 2** ¹ Why are the nations so angry?
Why do they waste their time with futile plans?
- 2** The kings of the earth prepare for battle; the rulers plot together against the LORD and against his anointed one.
- 3** “Let us break their chains,” they cry, “and free ourselves from slavery to God.”
- 4** But the one who rules in heaven laughs. The Lord scoffs at them.
- 5** Then in anger he rebukes them, terrifying them with his fierce fury.
- 6** For the Lord declares, “I have placed my chosen king on the throne in Jerusalem,* on my holy mountain.”
- 7** The king proclaims the LORD’s decree: “The LORD said to me, ‘You are my son.* Today I have become your Father.*”
- 8** Only ask, and I will give you the nations as your inheritance, the whole earth as your possession.
- 9** You will break* them with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots.”
- 10** Now then, you kings, act wisely!
Be warned, you rulers of the earth!
- 11** Serve the LORD with reverent fear, and rejoice with trembling.

2:6 Hebrew on Zion. **2:7a** Or Son; also in 2:12. **2:7b** Or Today I reveal you as my son.
2:9 Greek version reads rule. Compare Rev 2:27.

YOUR
WORD
IS A
lamp
TO GUIDE
my FEET
AND A
light
FOR MY
PATH.

Psalm 119:105





12 Submit to God's royal son,* or he will become angry,
and you will be destroyed in the midst of all your
activities—
for his anger flares up in an instant.
But what joy for all who take refuge in him!

3 *A psalm of David, regarding the time David fled from his son Absalom.*

1 O LORD, I have so many enemies;
so many are against me.

2 So many are saying,
"God will never rescue him!"

*Interlude**

3 But you, O LORD, are a shield around me;
you are my glory, the one who holds my head high.

4 I cried out to the LORD,
and he answered me from his holy mountain.

Interlude

5 I lay down and slept,
yet I woke up in safety,
for the LORD was watching over me.

6 I am not afraid of ten thousand enemies
who surround me on every side.

7 Arise, O LORD!
Rescue me, my God!
Slap all my enemies in the face!
Shatter the teeth of the wicked!

8 Victory comes from you, O LORD.
May you bless your people.

Interlude

4 *For the choir director: A psalm of David, to be accompanied by stringed instruments.*

1 Answer me when I call to you,
O God who declares me innocent.
Free me from my troubles.
Have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

2 How long will you people ruin my reputation?
How long will you make groundless accusations?
How long will you continue your lies?

Interlude

3 You can be sure of this:
The LORD set apart the godly for himself.
The LORD will answer when I call to him.

4 Don't sin by letting anger control you.
Think about it overnight and remain silent.

Interlude

5 Offer sacrifices in the right spirit,
and trust the LORD.

6 Many people say, "Who will show us better times?"
Let your face smile on us, LORD.

7 You have given me greater joy
than those who have abundant harvests of grain and new wine.

2:12 The meaning of the Hebrew is uncertain. 3:2 Hebrew *Selah*. The meaning of this word is uncertain, though it is probably a musical or literary term. It is rendered *Interlude* throughout the Psalms.

8 In peace I will lie down and sleep,
for you alone, O LORD, will keep me safe.

5 *For the choir director: A psalm of David, to be accompanied by the flute.*

- 1 O LORD, hear me as I pray;
pay attention to my groaning.
- 2 Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God,
for I pray to no one but you.
- 3 Listen to my voice in the morning, LORD.
Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait expectantly.
- 4 O God, you take no pleasure in wickedness;
you cannot tolerate the sins of the wicked.
- 5 Therefore, the proud may not stand in your presence,
for you hate all who do evil.
- 6 You will destroy those who tell lies.
The LORD detests murderers and deceivers.
- 7 Because of your unfailing love, I can enter your house;
I will worship at your Temple with deepest awe.
- 8 Lead me in the right path, O LORD,
or my enemies will conquer me.
Make your way plain for me to follow.
- 9 My enemies cannot speak a truthful word.
Their deepest desire is to destroy others.
Their talk is foul, like the stench from an open grave.
Their tongues are filled with flattery.*
- 10 O God, declare them guilty.
Let them be caught in their own traps.
Drive them away because of their many sins,
for they have rebelled against you.
- 11 But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;
let them sing joyful praises forever.
Spread your protection over them,
that all who love your name may be filled with joy.
- 12 For you bless the godly, O LORD;
you surround them with your shield of love.

6 *For the choir director: A psalm of David, to be accompanied by an eight-stringed instrument.**

- 1 O LORD, don't rebuke me in your anger
or discipline me in your rage.
- 2 Have compassion on me, LORD, for I am weak.
Heal me, LORD, for my bones are in agony.
- 3 I am sick at heart.
How long, O LORD, until you restore me?
- 4 Return, O LORD, and rescue me.
Save me because of your unfailing love.
- 5 For the dead do not remember you.
Who can praise you from the grave?*

5:9 Greek version reads *with lies*. Compare Rom 3:13. **6:TITLE** Hebrew *with stringed instruments; according to the sheminith*. **6:5** Hebrew *from Sheol?*

- 6 I am worn out from sobbing.
All night I flood my bed with weeping,
drenching it with my tears.
- 7 My vision is blurred by grief;
my eyes are worn out because of all my enemies.
- 8 Go away, all you who do evil,
for the LORD has heard my weeping.
- 9 The LORD has heard my plea;
the LORD will answer my prayer.
- 10 May all my enemies be disgraced and terrified.
May they suddenly turn back in shame.

7 *A psalm* of David, which he sang to the LORD concerning Cush of the tribe of Benjamin.*

- 1 I come to you for protection, O LORD my God.
Save me from my persecutors—rescue me!
- 2 If you don't, they will maul me like a lion,
tearing me to pieces with no one to rescue me.
- 3 O LORD my God, if I have done wrong
or am guilty of injustice,
- 4 if I have betrayed a friend
or plundered my enemy without cause,
- 5 then let my enemies capture me.
Let them trample me into the ground
and drag my honor in the dust.
- 6 Arise, O LORD, in anger!
Stand up against the fury of my enemies!
Wake up, my God, and bring justice!
- 7 Gather the nations before you.
Rule over them from on high.
- 8 The LORD judges the nations.
Declare me righteous, O LORD,
for I am innocent, O Most High!
- 9 End the evil of those who are wicked,
and defend the righteous.
For you look deep within the mind and heart,
O righteous God.
- 10 God is my shield,
saving those whose hearts are true and right.
- 11 God is an honest judge.
He is angry with the wicked every day.
- 12 If a person does not repent,
God* will sharpen his sword;
he will bend and string his bow.
- 13 He will prepare his deadly weapons
and shoot his flaming arrows.
- 14 The wicked conceive evil;
they are pregnant with trouble
and give birth to lies.
- 15 They dig a deep pit to trap others,
then fall into it themselves.

Interlude

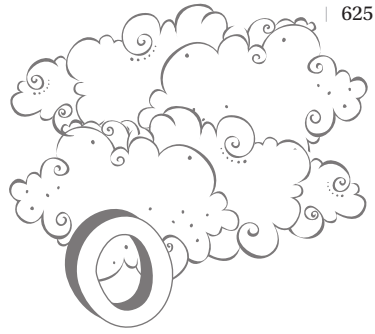
- 16 The trouble they make for others backfires on them.
The violence they plan falls on their own heads.
- 17 I will thank the LORD because he is just;
I will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High.

8 *For the choir director: A psalm of David, to be accompanied by a stringed instrument.**

- 1 O LORD, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth!
Your glory is higher than the heavens.
- 2 You have taught children and infants
to tell of your strength,*
silencing your enemies
and all who oppose you.
- 3 When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers—
the moon and the stars you set in place—
4 what are mere mortals that you should think about them,
human beings that you should care for them?*
- 5 Yet you made them only a little lower than God*
and crowned them* with glory and honor.
- 6 You gave them charge of everything you made,
putting all things under their authority—
7 the flocks and the herds
and all the wild animals,
8 the birds in the sky, the fish in the sea,
and everything that swims the ocean currents.
- 9 O LORD, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth!

9 *For the choir director: A psalm of David, to be sung to the tune "Death of the Son."*

- 1 I will praise you, LORD, with all my heart;
I will tell of all the marvelous things you have done.
- 2 I will be filled with joy because of you.
I will sing praises to your name, O Most High.
- 3 My enemies retreated;
they staggered and died when you appeared.
- 4 For you have judged in my favor;
from your throne you have judged with fairness.
- 5 You have rebuked the nations and destroyed the wicked;
you have erased their names forever.
- 6 The enemy is finished, in endless ruins;
the cities you uprooted are now forgotten.
- 7 But the LORD reigns forever,
executing judgment from his throne.
- 8 He will judge the world with justice
and rule the nations with fairness.
- 9 The LORD is a shelter for the oppressed,
a refuge in times of trouble.
- 10 Those who know your name trust in you,
for you, O LORD, do not abandon those who search
for you.



LORD,
our Lord,
your
majestic
name
fills the
earth!



8:TITLE Hebrew *according to the gittith*. **8:2** Greek version reads *to give you praise*. Compare Matt 21:16. **8:4** Hebrew *what is man that you should think of him, / the son of man that you should care for him?* **8:5a** Or *Yet you made them only a little lower than the angels*; Hebrew reads *Yet you made him [i.e., man] a little lower than Elohim*. **8:5b** Hebrew *him [i.e., man]*; similarly in 8:6.