

– A Psalter for Prayer –

Psalm 23

The LORD [Yahweh] is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

In green pastures He gives me repose;
Beside still waters He leadeth me; He refreshes my soul.

He guides me in right paths for His namesake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I fear no evil,
for You are at my side with your rod and your staff that give me courage.

You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes;
You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.

Only goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life,
And I shall dwell in the House of the LORD for years to come.

Psalm 1

Happy are those who do not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor stand in the way of sinners, nor sit in company with scoffers.

Rather, the law of the LORD is their delight;
and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like a tree planted near streams of water, that yields its fruit in season;
Its leaves never wither, whatever they do prospers.

But not so the wicked, not so!
They are like chaff driven by the wind.

Therefore the wicked will not arise at the judgment,
nor will sinners in the assembly of the just.

Because the LORD knows the way of the just,
but the way of the wicked leads to ruin.

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[Royal]

Psalm 2

Why do the nations conspire,
and the peoples plot in vain?

Kings on earth rise up
and princes take counsel together
against the LORD [Yahweh] and against his anointed one:

“Let us break their shackles
and cast off their chains from us!”

The one enthroned in the heavens laughs;
the LORD [Yahweh] derides them.

Then he speaks to them in his wrath;
in his fury he terrifies them:

“I myself have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain.”

I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:
he said to me, “You are my son; today I have begotten you.

Ask it of me,
and I will give you the nations as your inheritance,
and, as your possession, the ends of the earth.

With an iron rod you will break them,
dash them into pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

And now, kings, give heed;
take warning, judges throughout the land.

Serve the LORD [Yahweh] with fear,
and rejoice with trembling;

Accept correction lest he become angry and you perish along the way
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Happy are all who take refuge in him!

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[Praise]

Psalm 8

YAHWEH, our Lord,
How awesome is your name throughout the earth!
You have set your majesty above the heavens!

With the mouths of babes and infants You have established a bulwark against your foes,
to silence enemy and avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and stars that You set in place—

What are humans that You are mindful of them?
and a son of man that You care for him?

Yet You have made him little less than a god,
crowned him with glory and honor.

You have given him rule over the works of your hands,
put all things under his feet: all sheep and oxen, even the beasts of the field, the birds of
the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever swims the paths of the seas.

YAHWEH, our Lord,
How awesome is your name throughout the earth!

[Praise]

Psalm 117

Praise the LORD, all you nations!
Acclaim Him, all you peoples!

Strong is His love for us;
the LORD is forever faithful.

Hallelujah!

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[Thanksgiving]

Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us; may his face shine upon us.
So shall your way be known upon the earth, your victory among all the nations.

May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you!

May the nations be glad and rejoice;
for you judge the peoples with fairness, you guide the nations upon the earth.

May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you!

The earth has yielded its harvest; God, our God, blesses us.
May God bless us still; that the ends of the earth may revere him.

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[Thanksgiving]

Psalm 91

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust.”

For He will rescue you from the fowler’s snare, from the deadly plague;
He will shelter you with his pinions, and under his wings you may take refuge;
his faithfulness is a protecting shield.

You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;
nor the pestilence that roams in darkness, nor the plague that ravages at noon.

Though a thousand fall at your side—ten thousand at your right hand—near you it
shall not come.

Watch merely with your eyes and you will see the punishment of the wicked.

As you have the LORD for your refuge and have made the Most High your stronghold,
no evil shall befall you, no disaster come near your tent.

For he commands his angels concerning you, to guard you in all your ways.

In their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.
You will tread upon the asp and the viper, trample the lion and the dragon.

As one clings to me, I will rescue him;
because he knows my name I will set him on high.

He will call upon me and I will answer;
I will be with him in distress;
I will deliver him and honor him.

With length of days I will satisfy him,
and show him my salvation.

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[Thanksgiving]

Psalm 116

I love the LORD, for He heard my voice, He heard my cry for mercy.
Because He turned His ear to me, I will call on Him as long as I live.

The cords of death entangled me;
the snares of Sheol seized me;
I felt agony and dread.

Then I called on the name of the LORD,
“O YAHWEH, save my life!”

Gracious is YAHWEH and righteous; our God is merciful.
The LORD protects the simple-hearted; I was helpless yet he saved me.

Be at rest once more, O my soul, for the LORD has been good to you.
For my soul has been freed from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling,
that I may walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

I kept faith even as I said, “I am greatly afflicted!”
I said in my alarm, “All men are liars!”

How can I repay the LORD for all the good done for me?
I will raise the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.
I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones.

O YAHWEH, I am your servant;
I am your servant, offspring of your maidservant;
you have loosed my bonds.

I will offer a sacrifice of praise and call on the name of the LORD.
I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,
in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Hallelujah!