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Chronological Bible Plan

May



MAY

**“Every day I will bless you and praise
your name forever and ever” (Ps 145:2)**

May 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Prayer
May 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Prayer
May 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Prayer
May 4	<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Prayer
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May 30	<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Prayer
May 31	<input type="checkbox"/> Bible Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Prayer

Hushai and Ahithophel (c. 974 BC)

2 Samuel 16:15–17:29

Ahithophel Gives Absalom Wise Advice

16:15 And Absalom, and all the people the men of Israel, came to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel with him.

16 And it came to pass, when Hushai the Archite, David's friend, was come unto Absalom, that Hushai said unto Absalom, God save the king, God save the king.

17 And Absalom said to Hushai, *Is this thy kindness to thy friend? why wentest thou not with thy friend?*

18 And Hushai said unto Absalom, Nay; but whom the LORD, and this people, and all the men of Israel, choose, his will I be, and with him will I abide.

19 And again, whom should I serve? *should I not serve* in the presence of his son? as I have served in thy father's presence, so will I be in thy presence.

20 Then said Absalom to Ahithophel, Give counsel among you what we shall do.

21 And Ahithophel said unto Absalom, Go in unto thy father's concubines, which he hath left to keep the house; and all Israel shall hear that thou art abhorred of thy father: then shall the hands of all that *are* with thee be strong.

22 So they spread Absalom a tent upon the top of the house; and Absalom went in unto his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel.

23 And the counsel of Ahithophel, which he counselled in those days, *was* as if a man had enquired at the oracle of God: so *was* all the counsel of Ahithophel both with David and with Absalom.

17:1 Moreover Ahithophel said unto Absalom, Let me now choose out twelve thousand men, and I will arise and pursue after David this night:

2 And I will come upon him while he *is* weary and weak handed, and will make him afraid: and all the people that *are* with him shall flee; and I will smite the king only:

3 And I will bring back all the people unto thee: the man whom thou seekest *is* as if all returned: *so* all the people shall be in peace.

4 And the saying pleased Absalom well, and all the elders of Israel.

God Helps Hushai Frustrate the Wise Advice of Ahithophel

5 Then said Absalom, Call now Hushai the Archite also, and let us hear likewise what he saith.

6 And when Hushai was come to Absalom, Absalom spake unto him, saying, Ahithophel hath spoken after this manner: shall we do *after* his saying? if not; speak thou.

7 And Hushai said unto Absalom, The counsel that Ahithophel hath given *is* not good at this time.

8 For, said Hushai, thou knowest thy father and his men, that they *be* mighty men, and they *be* chafed in their minds, as a bear robbed of her whelps in the field: and thy father *is* a man of war, and will not lodge with the people.

9 Behold, he is hid now in some pit, or in some *other* place: and it will come to pass, when some of them be overthrown at the first, that whosoever heareth it will say, There is a slaughter among the people that follow Absalom.

10 And he also *that is* valiant, whose heart *is* as the heart of a lion, shall utterly melt: for all Israel knoweth that thy father *is* a mighty man, and *they* which *be* with him *are* valiant men.

11 Therefore I counsel that all Israel be generally gathered unto thee, from Dan even to Beersheba, as the sand that *is* by the sea for multitude; and that thou go to battle in thine own person.

12 So shall we come upon him in some place where he shall be found, and we will light upon him as the dew falleth on the ground: and of him and of all the men that *are* with him there shall not be left so much as one.

13 Moreover, if he be gotten into a city, then shall all Israel bring ropes to that city, and we will draw it into the river, until there be not one small stone found there.

14 And Absalom and all the men of Israel said, The counsel of Hushai the Archite *is* better than the counsel of Ahithophel. For the LORD had appointed to defeat the good counsel of Ahithophel, to the intent that the LORD might bring evil upon Absalom.

Hushai Sends Word to David

15 Then said Hushai unto Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, Thus and thus did Ahithophel counsel Absalom and the elders of Israel; and thus and thus have I counselled.

16 Now therefore send quickly, and tell David, saying, Lodge not this night in the plains of the wilderness, but speedily pass over; lest the king be swallowed up, and all the people that *are* with him.

17 Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz stayed by Enrogel; for they might not be seen to come into the city: and a wench went and told them; and they went and told king David.

18 Nevertheless a lad saw them, and told Absalom: but they went both of them away quickly, and came to a man's house in Bahurim, which had a well in his court; whither they went down.

19 And the woman took and spread a covering over the well's mouth, and spread ground corn thereon; and the thing was not known.

20 And when Absalom's servants came to the woman to the house, they said, Where *is* Ahimaaz and Jonathan? And the woman said unto them, They be gone over the brook of water. And when they had sought and could not find *them*, they returned to Jerusalem.

21 And it came to pass, after they were departed, that they came up out of the well, and went and told king David, and said unto David, Arise, and pass quickly over the water: for thus hath Ahithophel counselled against you.

22 Then David arose, and all the people that *were* with him, and they passed over Jordan: by the morning light there lacked not one of them that was not gone over Jordan.

Ahithophel Foresees Disaster and Hangs Himself

23 And when Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not followed, he saddled *his* ass, and arose, and gat him home to his house, to his city, and put his household in order, and hanged himself, and died, and was buried in the sepulcher of his father.

Absalom Begins His Pursuit of David

24 Then David came to Mahanaim. And Absalom passed over Jordan, he and all the men of Israel with him.

25 And Absalom made Amasa captain of the host instead of Joab: which Amasa *was* a man's son, whose name *was* Ithra an Israelite, that went in to Abigail the daughter of Nahash, sister to Zeruiah Joab's mother.

26 So Israel and Absalom pitched in the land of Gilead.

27 And it came to pass, when David was come to Mahanaim, that Shobi the son of Nahash of Rabbah of the children of Ammon, and Machir the son of Ammiel of Lodebar, and Barzillai the Gileadite of Rogelim,

28 Brought beds, and basins, and earthen vessels, and wheat, and barley, and flour, and parched *corn*, and beans, and lentils, and parched *pulse*,

29 And honey, and butter, and sheep, and cheese of kine, for David, and for the people that *were* with him, to eat: for they said, The people *is* hungry, and weary, and thirsty, in the wilderness.

My Soul Thirsts For You (c. 974 BC)

Psalm 63

A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.

1 O God, thou *art* my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;

2 To see thy power and thy glory, so *as* I have seen thee in the sanctuary.

3 Because thy lovingkindness *is* better than life, my lips shall praise thee.

4 Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.

5 My soul shall be satisfied as *with* marrow and fatness; and my mouth shall praise *thee* with joyful lips:

6 When I remember thee upon my bed, *and* meditate on thee in the *night* watches.

7 Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

8 My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me.

9 But those *that* seek my soul, to destroy *it*, shall go into the lower parts of the earth.

10 They shall fall by the sword: they shall be a portion for foxes.

11 But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that sweareth by him shall glory: but the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped.

Save Me, O My God (c. 974 BC)

Psalm 3

A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.

1 LORD, how are they increased that trouble me! many *are* they that rise up against me.

2 Many *there be* which say of my soul, *There is* no help for him in God. Selah.

3 But thou, O LORD, *art* a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

4 I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill. Selah.

5 I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the LORD sustained me.

6 I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that have set *themselves* against me round about.

7 Arise, O LORD; save me, O my God: for thou hast smitten all mine enemies *upon* the cheek bone; thou hast broken the teeth of the ungodly.

8 Salvation *belongeth* unto the LORD: thy blessing *is* upon thy people. Selah.

David's Forces Quell Absalom's Revolt (c. 974 BC)

2 Samuel 18:1–19:8a

David Prepares His Army for Battle With Absalom

18:1 And David numbered the people that *were* with him, and set captains of thousands and captains of hundreds over them.
 2 And David sent forth a third part of the people under the hand of Joab, and a third part under the hand of Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and a third part under the hand of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said unto the people, I will surely go forth with you myself also.
 3 But the people answered, Thou shalt not go forth: for if we flee away, they will not care for us; neither if half of us die, will they care for us: but now *thou art* worth ten thousand of us: therefore now *it is* better that thou succor us out of the city.
 4 And the king said unto them, What seemeth you best I will do. And the king stood by the gate side, and all the people came out by hundreds and by thousands.
 5 And the king commanded Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, *Deal* gently for my sake with the young man, *even* with Absalom. And all the people heard when the king gave all the captains charge concerning Absalom.

David's Army Defeats Absalom's Forces

6 So the people went out into the field against Israel: and the battle was in the wood of Ephraim;
 7 Where the people of Israel were slain before the servants of David, and there was there a great slaughter that day of twenty thousand *men*.
 8 For the battle was there scattered over the face of all the country: and the wood devoured more people that day than the sword devoured.

Joab Kills Absalom

9 And Absalom met the servants of David. And Absalom rode upon a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was taken up between the heaven and the earth; and the mule that *was* under him went away.
 10 And a certain man saw *it*, and told Joab, and said, Behold, I saw Absalom hanged in an oak.
 11 And Joab said unto the man that told him, And, behold, thou sawest *him*, and why didst thou not smite him there to the ground? and I would have given thee ten *shekels* of silver, and a girdle.
 12 And the man said unto Joab, Though I should receive a thousand *shekels* of silver in mine hand, *yet* would I not put forth mine hand against the king's son: for in our hearing the king charged thee and Abishai and Ittai, saying, Beware that none *touch* the young man Absalom.
 13 Otherwise I should have wrought falsehood against mine own life: for there is no matter hid from the king, and thou thyself wouldest have set thyself against *me*.
 14 Then said Joab, I may not tarry thus with thee. And he took three darts in his hand, and thrust them through the heart of Absalom, while he *was* yet alive in the midst of the oak.
 15 And ten young men that bare Joab's armor compassed about and smote Absalom, and slew him.
 16 And Joab blew the trumpet, and the people returned from pursuing after Israel: for Joab held back the people.
 17 And they took Absalom, and cast him into a great pit in the wood, and laid a very great heap of stones upon him: and all Israel fled every one to his tent.
 18 Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and reared up for himself a pillar, which *is* in the king's dale: for he said, I have no son to keep my name in remembrance: and he called the pillar after his own name: and it is called unto this day, Absalom's place.

Ahimaaz and the Cushite Bring David the News of Absalom's Death

19 Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok, Let me now run, and bear the king tidings, how that the LORD hath avenged him of his enemies.
 20 And Joab said unto him, Thou shalt not bear tidings this day, but thou shalt bear tidings another day: but this day thou shalt bear no tidings, because the king's son is dead.
 21 Then said Joab to Cushi, Go tell the king what thou hast seen. And Cushi bowed himself unto Joab, and ran.
 22 Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok yet again to Joab, But howsoever, let me, I pray thee, also run after Cushi. And Joab said, Wherefore wilt thou run, my son, seeing that thou hast no tidings ready?
 23 But howsoever, *said he*, let me run. And he said unto him, Run. Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the plain, and overran Cushi.
 24 And David sat between the two gates: and the watchman went up to the roof over the gate unto the wall, and lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold a man running alone.
 25 And the watchman cried, and told the king. And the king said, If he *be* alone, *there is* tidings in his mouth. And he came apace, and drew near.
 26 And the watchman saw another man running: and the watchman called unto the porter, and said, Behold *another* man running alone. And the king said, He also bringeth tidings.
 27 And the watchman said, Me thinketh the running of the foremost is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok. And the king

said, He *is* a good man, and cometh with good tidings.

28 And Ahimaaz called, and said unto the king, All is well. And he fell down to the earth upon his face before the king, and said, Blessed *be* the LORD thy God, which hath delivered up the men that lifted up their hand against my lord the king.

29 And the king said, Is the young man Absalom safe? And Ahimaaz answered, When Joab sent the king's servant, and *me* thy servant, I saw a great tumult, but I knew not what *it was*.

30 And the king said *unto him*, Turn aside, *and* stand here. And he turned aside, and stood still.

31 And, behold, Cushy came; and Cushy said, Tidings, my lord the king: for the LORD hath avenged thee this day of all them that rose up against thee.

32 And the king said unto Cushy, Is the young man Absalom safe? And Cushy answered, The enemies of my lord the king, and all that rise against thee to do *thee* hurt, be as *that* young man *is*.

David Grieves Absalom's Death

33 And the king was much moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

19:1 And it was told Joab, Behold, the king weepeth and mourneth for Absalom.

2 And the victory that day was *turned* into mourning unto all the people: for the people heard say that day how the king was grieved for his son.

3 And the people gat them by stealth that day into the city, as people being ashamed steal away when they flee in battle.

4 But the king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!

Joab Angrily Confronts David

5 And Joab came into the house to the king, and said, Thou hast shamed this day the faces of all thy servants, which this day have saved thy life, and the lives of thy sons and of thy daughters, and the lives of thy wives, and the lives of thy concubines;

6 In that thou lovest thine enemies, and hatest thy friends. For thou hast declared this day, that thou regardest neither princes nor servants: for this day I perceive, that if Absalom had lived, and all we had died this day, then it had pleased thee well.

7 Now therefore arise, go forth, and speak comfortably unto thy servants: for I swear by the LORD, if thou go not forth, there will not tarry one with thee this night: and that will be worse unto thee than all the evil that befell thee from thy youth until now.

8a Then the king arose, and sat in the gate. And they told unto all the people, saying, Behold, the king doth sit in the gate. And all the people came before the king:

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Chronological Notes

- 1) Kidner comments: "The title in the canonical text [of Psalm 63] identifies the desolate scene which set these thoughts in motion, and the mention of the king in verse 11 points to the time when Absalom rather than Saul had made him take to the Wilderness of Judah on his way to the Jordan (cf. 2 Sam. 15:23). Not only is the weariness of the way emphasized in the narrative (e.g. 2 Sam 16:14) but, as Kirkpatrick points out, the strong faith evident in the psalm has its counterpart there as well, in that David was prepared to part with the ark itself (2 Sam. 15:25) in his certainty of God and his commitment to his will."¹

¹ Derek Kidner, "Psalms 1–72," *TOTC*, 242–43.

The Journey Home (c. 974 BC)

2 Samuel 19:8b–40a

Israel and Judah Argue About What to Do

8b for Israel had fled every man to his tent.

9 And all the people were at strife throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, The king saved us out of the hand of our enemies, and he delivered us out of the hand of the Philistines; and now he is fled out of the land for Absalom.

10 And Absalom, whom we anointed over us, is dead in battle. Now therefore why speak ye not a word of bringing the king back?

David Reaches Out to Judah and Punishes Joab for His Insubordination

11 And king David sent to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, saying, Speak unto the elders of Judah, saying, Why are ye the last to bring the king back to his house? seeing the speech of all Israel is come to the king, *even* to his house.

12 Ye *are* my brethren, ye *are* my bones and my flesh: wherefore then are ye the last to bring back the king?

13 And say ye to Amasa, *Art* thou not of my bone, and of my flesh? God do so to me, and more also, if thou be not captain of the host before me continually in the room of Joab.

14 And he bowed the heart of all the men of Judah, even as *the heart of* one man; so that they sent *this word* unto the king, Return thou, and all thy servants.

Shimei Meets David at the Jordan River and Begs Forgiveness

15 So the king returned, and came to Jordan. And Judah came to Gilgal, to go to meet the king, to conduct the king over Jordan.

16 And Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite, which *was* of Bahurim, hasted and came down with the men of Judah to meet king David.

17 And *there were* a thousand men of Benjamin with him, and Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons and his twenty servants with him; and they went over Jordan before the king.

18 And there went over a ferry boat to carry over the king's household, and to do what he thought good. And Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king, as he was come over Jordan;

19 And said unto the king, Let not my lord impute iniquity unto me, neither do thou remember that which thy servant did perversely the day that my lord the king went out of Jerusalem, that the king should take it to his heart.

20 For thy servant doth know that I have sinned: therefore, behold, I am come the first this day of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my lord the king.

21 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah answered and said, Shall not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the LORD's anointed?

22 And David said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah, that ye should this day be adversaries unto me? shall there any man be put to death this day in Israel? for do not I know that I *am* this day king over Israel?

23 Therefore the king said unto Shimei, Thou shalt not die. And the king sware unto him.

Mephibosheth Accuses Ziba of Slander

24 And Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king, and had neither dressed his feet, nor trimmed his beard, nor washed his clothes, from the day the king departed until the day he came *again* in peace.

25 And it came to pass, when he was come to Jerusalem to meet the king, that the king said unto him, Wherefore wentest not thou with me, Mephibosheth?

26 And he answered, My lord, O king, my servant deceived me: for thy servant said, I will saddle me an ass, that I may ride thereon, and go to the king; because thy servant *is* lame.

27 And he hath slandered thy servant unto my lord the king; but my lord the king *is* as an angel of God: do therefore *what is* good in thine eyes.

28 For all *of* my father's house were but dead men before my lord the king: yet didst thou set thy servant among them that did eat at thine own table. What right therefore have I yet to cry any more unto the king?

29 And the king said unto him, Why speakest thou any more of thy matters? I have said, Thou and Ziba divide the land.

30 And Mephibosheth said unto the king, Yea, let him take all, forasmuch as my lord the king is come again in peace unto his own house.

David Expresses His Gratitude to Barzillai

31 And Barzillai the Gileadite came down from Rogelim, and went over Jordan with the king, to conduct him over Jordan.

32 Now Barzillai was a very aged man, *even* fourscore years old: and he had provided the king of sustenance while he lay at Mahanaim; for he *was* a very great man.

33 And the king said unto Barzillai, Come thou over with me, and I will feed thee with me in Jerusalem.

34 And Barzillai said unto the king, How long have I to live, that I should go up with the king unto Jerusalem?

35 I *am* this day fourscore years old: *and* can I discern between good and evil? can thy servant taste what I eat or what I drink? can I hear any more the voice of singing men and singing women? wherefore then should thy servant be yet a burden unto my lord the

king?

36 Thy servant will go a little way over Jordan with the king: and why should the king recompense it me with such a reward?

37 Let thy servant, I pray thee, turn back again, that I may die in mine own city, *and be buried* by the grave of my father and of my mother. But behold thy servant Chimham; let him go over with my lord the king; and do to him what shall seem good unto thee.

38 And the king answered, Chimham shall go over with me, and I will do to him that which shall seem good unto thee: and whatsoever thou shalt require of me, *that* will I do for thee.

39 And all the people went over Jordan. And when the king was come over, the king kissed Barzillai, and blessed him; and he returned unto his own place.

40a Then the king went on to Gilgal, and Chimham went on with him:

David's Return to Jerusalem is Marred by Sheba's Rebellion (c. 974 BC)

2 Samuel 19:40b–20:26

At Gilgal, Israel Accuses Judah of Insulting Them

19:40b and all the people of Judah conducted the king, and also half the people of Israel.

41 And, behold, all the men of Israel came to the king, and said unto the king, Why have our brethren the men of Judah stolen thee away, and have brought the king, and his household, and all David's men with him, over Jordan?

42 And all the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, Because the king *is* near of kin to us: wherefore then be ye angry for this matter? have we eaten at all of the king's *cost*? or hath he given us any gift?

43 And the men of Israel answered the men of Judah, and said, We have ten parts in the king, and we have also more *right* in David than ye: why then did ye despise us, that our advice should not be first had in bringing back our king? And the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel.

Sheba, a Benjaminite, Takes Advantage of the Tension to Start Another Revolt

20:1 And there happened to be there a man of Belial, whose name *was* Sheba, the son of Bichri, a Benjamite: and he blew a trumpet, and said, We have no part in David, neither have we inheritance in the son of Jesse: every man to his tents, O Israel.

2a So every man of Israel went up from after David, *and* followed Sheba the son of Bichri:

David Returns to Jerusalem With the Men of Judah

2b but the men of Judah clave unto their king, from Jordan even to Jerusalem.

3 And David came to his house at Jerusalem; and the king took the ten women *his* concubines, whom he had left to keep the house, and put them in ward, and fed them, but went not in unto them. So they were shut up unto the day of their death, living in widowhood.

David Sends Amasa to Mobilize the Men of Judah

4 Then said the king to Amasa, Assemble me the men of Judah within three days, and be thou here present.

5 So Amasa went to assemble *the men of* Judah: but he tarried longer than the set time which he had appointed him.

David Sends Abishai to Deal With Sheba

6 And David said to Abishai, Now shall Sheba the son of Bichri do us more harm than *did* Absalom: take thou thy lord's servants, and pursue after him, lest he get him fenced cities, and escape us.

7 And there went out after him Joab's men, and the Cherethites, and the Pelethites, and all the mighty men: and they went out of Jerusalem, to pursue after Sheba the son of Bichri.

Joab Kills Amasa and Takes Command

8 When they *were* at the great stone which *is* in Gibeon, Amasa went before them. And Joab's garment that he had put on was girded unto him, and upon it a girdle *with* a sword fastened upon his loins in the sheath thereof; and as he went forth it fell out.

9 And Joab said to Amasa, *Art* thou in health, my brother? And Joab took Amasa by the beard with the right hand to kiss him.

10 But Amasa took no heed to the sword that *was* in Joab's hand: so he smote him therewith in the fifth *rib*, and shed out his bowels to the ground, and struck him not again; and he died. So Joab and Abishai his brother pursued after Sheba the son of Bichri.

11 And one of Joab's men stood by him, and said, He that favoureth Joab, and he that *is* for David, *let him go* after Joab.

12 And Amasa wallowed in blood in the midst of the highway. And when the man saw that all the people stood still, he removed Amasa out of the highway into the field, and cast a cloth upon him, when he saw that every one that came by him stood still.

13 When he was removed out of the highway, all the people went on after Joab, to pursue after Sheba the son of Bichri.

Sheba Hides in Abel and Joab Besieges the City

14 And he went through all the tribes of Israel unto Abel, and to Bethmaachah, and all the Berites: and they were gathered together, and went also after him.

15 And they came and besieged him in Abel of Bethmaachah, and they cast up a bank against the city, and it stood in the trench: and all the people that *were* with Joab battered the wall, to throw it down.

16 Then cried a wise woman out of the city, Hear, hear; say, I pray you, unto Joab, Come near hither, that I may speak with thee.

17 And when he was come near unto her, the woman said, *Art* thou Joab? And he answered, I *am* *he*. Then she said unto him, Hear the words of thine handmaid. And he answered, I do hear.

18 Then she spake, saying, They were wont to speak in old time, saying, They shall surely ask *counsel* at Abel: and so they ended *the matter*.

19 I *am* *one of them that are* peaceable *and* faithful in Israel: thou seekest to destroy a city and a mother in Israel: why wilt thou swallow up the inheritance of the LORD?

20 And Joab answered and said, Far be it, far be it from me, that I should swallow up or destroy.

21 The matter *is* not so: but a man of mount Ephraim, Sheba the son of Bichri by name, hath lifted up his hand against the king, *even* against David: deliver him only, and I will depart from the city. And the woman said unto Joab, Behold, his head shall be thrown to thee over the wall.

22 Then the woman went unto all the people in her wisdom. And they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri, and cast *it* out to Joab. And he blew a trumpet, and they retired from the city, every man to his tent. And Joab returned to Jerusalem unto the king.

David's Administration After the Rebellions of Absalom and Sheba

23 Now Joab *was* over all the host of Israel: and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada *was* over the Cherethites and over the Pelethites:

24 And Adoram *was* over the tribute: and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud *was* recorder:

25 And Sheva *was* scribe: and Zadok and Abiathar *were* the priests:

26 And Ira also the Jairite *was* a chief ruler about David.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

David's Census of Israel (c. 973 BC)

2 Samuel 24

1 And again the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he moved David against them to say, Go, number Israel and Judah.

2 For the king said to Joab the captain of the host, which *was* with him, Go now through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan even to Beersheba, and number ye the people, that I may know the number of the people.

3 And Joab said unto the king, Now the LORD thy God add unto the people, how many soever they be, an hundredfold, and that the eyes of my lord the king may see *it*:

but why doth my lord the king delight in this thing?

4 Notwithstanding the king's word prevailed against Joab, and against the captains of the host. And Joab and the captains of the host went out from the presence of the king, to number the people of Israel.

5 And they passed over Jordan, and pitched in Aroer, on the right side of the city that *lieth* in the midst of the river of Gad, and toward Jazer:

6 Then they came to Gilead, and to the land of Tahtimhodshi; and they came to Danjaan, and about to Zidon,

7 And came to the strong hold of Tyre, and to all the cities of the Hivites, and of the Canaanites: and they went out to the south of Judah, *even* to Beersheba.

8 So when they had gone through all the land, they came to Jerusalem at the end of nine months and twenty days.

9 And Joab gave up the sum of the number of the people unto the king: and there were in Israel eight hundred thousand valiant men that drew the sword; and the men of Judah *were* five hundred thousand men.

10 And David's heart smote him after that he had numbered the people. And David said unto the LORD, I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now, I beseech thee, O LORD, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.

11 For when David was up in the morning, the word of the LORD came unto the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying,

12 Go and say unto David, Thus saith the LORD, I offer thee three *things*; choose thee one of them, that I may *do it* unto thee.

13 So Gad came to David, and told him, and said unto him,

Shall seven years of famine come unto thee in thy land? or wilt thou flee three months before thine enemies, while they pursue thee? or that there be three days' pestilence in thy land?

1 Chronicles 21

1 And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

2 And David said to Joab and to the rulers of the people, Go, number Israel from Beersheba even to Dan; and bring the number of them to me, that I may know *it*.

3 And Joab answered, The LORD make his people an hundred times so many more as they *be*:

but, my lord the king, *are* they not all my lord's servants? why then doth my lord require this thing? why will he be a cause of trespass to Israel? [cf. [Exod 30:12](#)]

4 Nevertheless the king's word prevailed against Joab.

Wherefore Joab departed,

and went throughout all Israel, and came to Jerusalem.

5 And Joab gave the sum of the number of the people unto David. And all *they of* Israel were a thousand thousand and an hundred thousand men that drew sword: and Judah *was* four hundred threescore and ten thousand men that drew sword.

6 But Levi and Benjamin counted he not among them: for the king's word was abominable to Joab.

7 And God was displeased with this thing; therefore he smote Israel.

8 And David said unto God, I have sinned greatly, because I have done this thing: but now, I beseech thee, do away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.

9 And the LORD spake unto Gad, David's seer, saying,

10 Go and tell David, saying, Thus saith the LORD, I offer thee three *things*: choose thee one of them, that I may *do it* unto thee.

11 So Gad came to David, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Choose thee

12 Either three years' famine; or three months to be destroyed before thy foes, while that the sword of thine enemies overtaketh *thee*; or else three days the sword of the LORD, even the pestilence, in the land, and the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the coasts of Israel.

now advise, and see what answer I shall return to him that sent me.

14 And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let us fall now into the hand of the LORD; for his mercies *are* great: and let me not fall into the hand of man.

15 So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed: and there died of the people from Dan even to Beersheba seventy thousand men.

16 And when the angel stretched out his hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed the people, It is enough: stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD was by the threshing-place of Araunah the Jebusite.

17 And David spake unto the LORD when he saw the angel that smote the people,

and said,

Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly: but these sheep, what have they done? let thine hand, I pray thee, be against me, and against my father's house.

18 And Gad came that day to David, and said unto him, Go up, rear an altar unto the LORD in the threshing-floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

19 And David, according to the saying of Gad, went up as the LORD commanded.

20 And Araunah looked, and saw the king and his servants coming on toward him: and Araunah went out, and bowed himself before the king on his face upon the ground.

21 And Araunah said, Wherefore is my lord the king come to his servant? And David said, To buy the threshing-floor of thee, to build an altar unto the LORD,

that the plague may be stayed from the people.

22 And Araunah said unto David, Let my lord the king take and offer up what *seemeth* good unto him: behold, *here be* oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing instruments and *other* instruments of the oxen for wood.

23 All these *things* did Araunah, *as* a king, give unto the king. And Araunah said unto the king, The LORD thy God accept thee.

24 And the king said unto Araunah, Nay; but I will surely buy *it* of thee at a price: neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing. So David bought the threshing-floor

and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

25 And David built there an altar unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.

Now therefore advise thyself what word I shall bring again to him that sent me.

13 And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let me fall now into the hand of the LORD; for very great *are* his mercies: but let me not fall into the hand of man.

14 So the LORD sent pestilence upon Israel:

and there fell of Israel seventy thousand men.

15 And God sent an angel unto Jerusalem to destroy it: and as he was destroying, the LORD beheld, and he repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed, It is enough, stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD stood by the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite.

16 And David lifted up his eyes, and saw the angel of the LORD stand between the earth and the heaven, having a drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders *of Israel, who were* clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces.

17 And David said unto God, *Is it* not I *that* commanded the people to be numbered? even I it is that have sinned and done evil indeed; but *as for* these sheep, what have they done? let thine hand, I pray thee, O LORD my God, be on me, and on my father's house; but not on thy people, that they should be plagued.

18 Then the angel of the LORD commanded Gad to say to David, that David should go up, and set up an altar unto the LORD in the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite.

19 And David went up at the saying of Gad, which he spake in the name of the LORD.

20 And Ornan turned back, and saw the angel; and his four sons with him hid themselves. Now Ornan was threshing wheat.

21 And as David came to Ornan, Ornan looked and saw David, and went out of the threshing-floor, and bowed himself to David with *his* face to the ground.

22 Then David said to Ornan, Grant me the place of *this* threshing-floor, that I may build an altar therein unto the LORD: thou shalt grant it me for the full price: that the plague may be stayed from the people.

23 And Ornan said unto David, Take *it* to thee, and let my lord the king do *that which is* good in his eyes: lo, I give *thee* the oxen *also* for burnt offerings, and the threshing instruments for wood, and the wheat for the meat offering; I give it all.

24 And king David said to Ornan, Nay; but I will verily buy it for the full price: for I will not take *that which is* thine for the LORD, nor offer burnt offerings without cost.

25 So David gave to Ornan for the place six hundred shekels of gold by weight.

26 And David built there an altar unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings,

<p>So the LORD was entreated for the land,</p> <p>and the plague was stayed from Israel.</p>	<p>and called upon the LORD; and he answered him from heaven by fire upon the altar of burnt offering.</p> <p>27 And the LORD commanded the angel; and he put up his sword again into the sheath thereof.</p> <p>28 At that time when David saw that the LORD had answered him in the threshing-floor of Ornan the Jebusite, then he sacrificed there.</p> <p>29 For the tabernacle of the LORD, which Moses made in the wilderness, and the altar of the burnt offering, were at that season in the high place at Gibeon.</p> <p>30 But David could not go before it to enquire of God: for he was afraid because of the sword of the angel of the LORD.</p>
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David Makes Preparations for the Construction of the Temple (c. 972 – c. 969t BC)

1 Chronicles 22

Materials Needed for the Construction of the Temple

- 1 Then David said, This *is* the house of the LORD God, and this *is* the altar of the burnt offering for Israel.
- 2 And David commanded to gather together the strangers that *were* in the land of Israel; and he set masons to hew wrought stones to build the house of God.
- 3 And David prepared iron in abundance for the nails for the doors of the gates, and for the joinings; and brass in abundance without weight;
- 4 Also cedar trees in abundance: for the Zidonians and they of Tyre brought much cedar wood to David.
- 5 And David said, Solomon my son *is* young and tender, and the house *that is* to be builded for the LORD *must be* exceeding magnificent, of fame and of glory throughout all countries: I will *therefore* now make preparation for it. So David prepared abundantly before his death.

David's Private Charge to Solomon

- 6 Then he called for Solomon his son, and charged him to build an house for the LORD God of Israel.
- 7 And David said to Solomon, My son, as for me, it was in my mind to build an house unto the name of the LORD my God:
- 8 But the word of the LORD came to me, saying, Thou hast shed blood abundantly, and hast made great wars: thou shalt not build an house unto my name, because thou hast shed much blood upon the earth in my sight.
- 9 Behold, a son shall be born to thee, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies round about: for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quietness unto Israel in his days.
- 10 He shall build an house for my name; and he shall be my son, and I *will be* his father; and I will establish the throne of his kingdom over Israel for ever.
- 11 Now, my son, the LORD be with thee; and prosper thou, and build the house of the LORD thy God, as he hath said of thee.
- 12 Only the LORD give thee wisdom and understanding, and give thee charge concerning Israel, that thou mayest keep the law of the LORD thy God.
- 13 Then shalt thou prosper, if thou takest heed to fulfil the statutes and judgments which the LORD charged Moses with concerning Israel: be strong, and of good courage; dread not, nor be dismayed.
- 14 Now, behold, in my trouble I have prepared for the house of the LORD an hundred thousand talents of gold, and a thousand thousand talents of silver; and of brass and iron without weight; for it is in abundance: timber also and stone have I prepared; and thou mayest add thereto.
- 15 Moreover *there are* workmen with thee in abundance, hewers and workers of stone and timber, and all manner of cunning men for every manner of work.
- 16 Of the gold, the silver, and the brass, and the iron, *there is* no number. Arise *therefore*, and be doing, and the LORD be with thee.

David's Charge to the Leaders of Israel

- 17 David also commanded all the princes of Israel to help Solomon his son, *saying*,
- 18 *Is not* the LORD your God with you? and hath he *not* given you rest on every side? for he hath given the inhabitants of the land into mine hand; and the land is subdued before the LORD, and before his people.
- 19 Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God; arise therefore, and build ye the sanctuary of the LORD God, to bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and the holy vessels of God, into the house that is to be built to the name of the LORD.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Chronological Notes

- 1) Merrill argues: “After the revolutions of both Absalom and Sheba it would have been reasonable for David to reassess his military situation against the possibility of similar uprisings or other emergencies.”¹ In support of this hypothesis is the fact that Joab and the army commanders were able to take over nine months to gather the population statistics (v. 8). This suggests a very peaceful condition in Israel that characterized David’s later reign but not his earlier reign.

¹ Eugene H. Merrill, *Kingdom of Priests*, 272.

The Reign of the LORD's Anointed [Messianic] (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 2

[Attributed to David in [Acts 4:25](#) and identified as the "second psalm" in [Acts 13:33](#)]

- 1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?
- 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, [[Acts 4:25–26](#)]
- 3 Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.
- 4 He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.
- 5 Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.
- 6 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.
- 7 I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou *art* my Son; this day have I begotten thee. [[Acts 13:33](#); [Heb 1:5](#); [5:5](#)]
- 8 Ask of me, and I shall give *thee* the heathen *for* thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth *for* thy possession.
- 9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. [[Rev 2:26–28](#)]
- 10 Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.
- 11 Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.
- 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish *from* the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed *are* all they that put their trust in him.

Answer Me When I Call (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 4

To the chief Musician on Neginoth,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness: thou hast enlarged me *when I was* in distress; have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer.
- 2 O ye sons of men, how long *will ye turn* my glory into shame? *how long* will ye love vanity, *and* seek after leasing? Selah.
- 3 But know that the LORD hath set apart him that is godly for himself: the LORD will hear when I call unto him.
- 4 Stand in awe, and sin not: [cf. [Eph 4:26](#)] commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah.
- 5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.
- 6 *There be* many that say, Who will shew us *any* good? LORD, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us.
- 7 Thou hast put gladness in my heart, more than in the time *that* their corn and their wine increased.
- 8 I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety.

Lead Me In Your Righteousness (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 5

To the chief Musician upon Nehiloth,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Give ear to my words, O LORD, consider my meditation.
- 2 Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray.
- 3 My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O LORD; in the morning will I direct *my prayer* unto thee, and will look up.
- 4 For thou *art* not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with thee.
- 5 The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity.
- 6 Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man.
- 7 But as for me, I will come *into* thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: *and* in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.
- 8 Lead me, O LORD, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face.
- 9 For *there is* no faithfulness in their mouth; their inward part *is* very wickedness; their throat *is* an open sepulcher; they flatter with their tongue. [[Rom 3:13](#)]
- 10 Destroy thou them, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; cast them out in the multitude of their transgressions; for they have rebelled against thee.
- 11 But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.
- 12 For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as *with* a shield.

O Lord, Deliver My Life (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 6

To the chief Musician on Neginoth upon Sheminith,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 O LORD, rebuke me not in thine anger, neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.
- 2 Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I *am* weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed.
- 3 My soul is also sore vexed: but thou, O LORD, how long?
- 4 Return, O LORD, deliver my soul: oh save me for thy mercies' sake.
- 5 For in death *there is* no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?
- 6 I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears.
- 7 Mine eye is consumed because of grief; it waxeth old because of all mine enemies.
- 8 Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity; for the LORD hath heard the voice of my weeping.
- 9 The LORD hath heard my supplication; the LORD will receive my prayer.
- 10 Let all mine enemies be ashamed and sore vexed: let them return *and* be ashamed suddenly.

In You Do I Take Refuge (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 7

Shiggaion of David, which he sang unto the LORD, concerning the words of Cush the Benjamite.

- 1 O LORD my God, in thee do I put my trust: save me from all them that persecute me, and deliver me:
- 2 Lest he tear my soul like a lion, rending *it* in pieces, while *there is* none to deliver.
- 3 O LORD my God, if I have done this; if there be iniquity in my hands;
- 4 If I have rewarded evil unto him that was at peace with me; (yea, I have delivered him that without cause is mine enemy:)
- 5 Let the enemy persecute my soul, and take *it*; yea, let him tread down my life upon the earth, and lay mine honor in the dust. Selah.
- 6 Arise, O LORD, in thine anger, lift up thyself because of the rage of mine enemies: and awake for me *to* the judgment *that* thou hast commanded.
- 7 So shall the congregation of the people compass thee about: for their sakes therefore return thou on high.
- 8 The LORD shall judge the people: judge me, O LORD, according to my righteousness, and according to mine integrity *that is* in me.
- 9 Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end; but establish the just: for the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins.
- 10 My defense *is* of God, which saveth the upright in heart.
- 11 God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry *with the wicked* every day.
- 12 If he turn not, he will whet his sword; he hath bent his bow, and made it ready.
- 13 He hath also prepared for him the instruments of death; he ordaineth his arrows against the persecutors.
- 14 Behold, he travaileth with iniquity, and hath conceived mischief, and brought forth falsehood.
- 15 He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch *which* he made.
- 16 His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate.
- 17 I will praise the LORD according to his righteousness: and will sing praise to the name of the LORD most high.

How Majestic Is Your Name [Messianic] (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 8

To the chief Musician upon Gittith,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 O LORD our Lord, how excellent *is* thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.
- 2 Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, [[Matt 21:15-17](#)] that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.
- 3 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;
- 4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? [[Heb 2:5-9](#)]
- 5 For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor.
- 6 Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all *things* under his feet: [[1 Cor 15:27-28](#); [Eph 1:22](#)]
- 7 All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;
- 8 The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, *and whatsoever* passeth through the paths of the seas.
- 9 O LORD our Lord, how excellent *is* thy name in all the earth!

I Will Recount Your Wonderful Deeds (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 9

To the chief Musician upon Muthlabben,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 I will praise *thee*, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvelous works.
- 2 I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.
- 3 When mine enemies are turned back, they shall fall and perish at thy presence.
- 4 For thou hast maintained my right and my cause; thou satest in the throne judging right.
- 5 Thou hast rebuked the heathen, thou hast destroyed the wicked, thou hast put out their name for ever and ever.
- 6 O thou enemy, destructions are come to a perpetual end: and thou hast destroyed cities; their memorial is perished with them.
- 7 But the LORD shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment.
- 8 And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.
- 9 The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.
- 10 And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.
- 11 Sing praises to the LORD, which dwelleth in Zion: declare among the people his doings.
- 12 When he maketh inquisition for blood, he remembereth them: he forgetteth not the cry of the humble.
- 13 Have mercy upon me, O LORD; consider my trouble *which I suffer* of them that hate me, thou that liftest me up from the gates of death:
- 14 That I may shew forth all thy praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion: I will rejoice in thy salvation.
- 15 The heathen are sunk down in the pit *that* they made: in the net which they hid is their own foot taken.
- 16 The LORD is known *by* the judgment *which* he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Higgaion. Selah.
- 17 The wicked shall be turned into hell, *and* all the nations that forget God.
- 18 For the needy shall not alway be forgotten: the expectation of the poor shall *not* perish for ever.
- 19 Arise, O LORD; let not man prevail: let the heathen be judged in thy sight.
- 20 Put them in fear, O LORD: *that* the nations may know themselves *to be but* men. Selah.

Why Do You Hide Yourself? (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 10

[*Considered to be a psalm of David—the absence of a title to Psalm 10 supports the view that it runs on from Psalm 9, and this is strengthened by the presence of a fragmentary acrostic, begun in Psalm 9 and concluded in Psalm 10.*]

- 10:1 Why standest thou afar off, O LORD? *why* hidest thou *thyself* in times of trouble?
- 2 The wicked in *his* pride doth persecute the poor: let them be taken in the devices that they have imagined.
- 3 For the wicked boasteth of his heart's desire, and blesseth the covetous, *whom* the LORD abhorreth.
- 4 The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek *after* God: God *is* not in all his thoughts.
- 5 His ways are always grievous; thy judgments *are* far above out of his sight: *as for* all his enemies, he puffeth at them.
- 6 He hath said in his heart, I shall not be moved: for *I shall never be* in adversity.
- 7 His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud: under his tongue *is* mischief and vanity. [[Rom 3:14](#)]
- 8 He sitteth in the lurking places of the villages: in the secret places doth he murder the innocent: his eyes are privily set against the poor.
- 9 He lieth in wait secretly as a lion in his den: he lieth in wait to catch the poor: he doth catch the poor, when he draweth him into his net.
- 10 He croucheth, *and* humbleth himself, that the poor may fall by his strong ones.
- 11 He hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten: he hideth his face; he will never see *it*.
- 12 Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up thine hand: forget not the humble.
- 13 Wherefore doth the wicked contemn God? he hath said in his heart, Thou wilt not require *it*.
- 14 Thou hast seen *it*; for thou beholdest mischief and spite, to requite *it* with thy hand: the poor committeth himself unto thee; thou art the helper of the fatherless.
- 15 Break thou the arm of the wicked and the evil *man*: seek out his wickedness *till* thou find none.
- 16 The LORD *is* King for ever and ever: the heathen are perished out of his land.
- 17 LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: thou wilt prepare their heart, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear:
- 18 To judge the fatherless and the oppressed, that the man of the earth may no more oppress.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Chronological Notes

- 1) There are 73 psalms whose headings attribute authorship to David (3–9, 11–32, 34–41, 51–65, 68–70, 86, 101, 103, 108–110, 122, 124, 131, 133, 138–145). Two other psalms are attributed to David by New Testament writers (2, 95). Psalm 10 is closely connected with Psalm 9 and so I have chosen to attribute it to David as well. This brings the total Davidic psalms to 76 (out of 150).
- 2) Psalms that are directly connected to specific events in David's life have already been included in their respective contexts. The rest of the Davidic psalms will now be presented in canonical order. David is currently making preparations for the construction of the Temple, and his psalms seem appropriate in this context. I dated the psalms c. 1022 – c. 969t BC since David was first anointed king c. 1022 BC and died c. 969t BC.

The Lord is in His Holy Temple (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 11

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee *as* a bird to your mountain?
- 2 For, lo, the wicked bend *their* bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.
- 3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?
- 4 The LORD *is* in his holy temple, the LORD's throne *is* in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.
- 5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.
- 6 Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: *this shall be* the portion of their cup.
- 7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

The Faithful Have Vanished (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 12

To the chief Musician upon Sheminith,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men.
- 2 They speak vanity every one with his neighbor: *with* flattering lips *and* with a double heart do they speak.
- 3 The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, *and* the tongue that speaketh proud things:
- 4 Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips *are* our own: who *is* lord over us?
- 5 For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set *him* in safety *from him that* puffeth at him.
- 6 The words of the LORD *are* pure words: *as* silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.
- 7 Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.
- 8 The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted.

How Long, O Lord? (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 13

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 How long wilt thou forget me, O LORD? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?
- 2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul, *having* sorrow in my heart daily? how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?
- 3 Consider *and* hear me, O LORD my God: lighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the *sleep of* death;
- 4 Lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him; *and* those that trouble me rejoice when I am moved.
- 5 But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation.
- 6 I will sing unto the LORD, because he hath dealt bountifully with me.

The Fool Says, There is No God (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 14

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The fool hath said in his heart, *There is* no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, *there is* none that doeth good. [[Rom 3:10–12](#)]
- 2 The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, *and* seek God.
- 3 They are all gone aside, they are *all* together become filthy: *there is* none that doeth good, no, not one.
- 4 Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people *as* they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD.
- 5 There were they in great fear: for God *is* in the generation of the righteous.
- 6 Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the LORD *is* his refuge.
- 7 Oh that the salvation of Israel *were come* out of Zion! when the LORD bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, *and* Israel shall be glad.

Who Shall Dwell on Your Holy Hill (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 15

A Psalm of David.

- 1 LORD, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill?
- 2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.
- 3 *He that* backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbor, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor.
- 4 In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoreth them that fear the LORD. *He that* sweareth to *his own* hurt, and changeth not.
- 5 *He that* putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these *things* shall never be moved.

You Will Not Abandon My Soul [Messianic] (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 16

Michtam of David.

- 1 Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust.
- 2 *O my soul*, thou hast said unto the LORD, Thou *art* my Lord: my goodness *extendeth* not to thee;
- 3 *But* to the saints that *are* in the earth, and *to* the excellent, in whom *is* all my delight.
- 4 Their sorrows shall be multiplied *that* hasten *after* another *god*: their drink offerings of blood will I not offer, nor take up their names into my lips.
- 5 The LORD *is* the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.
- 6 The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant *places*; yea, I have a goodly heritage.
- 7 I will bless the LORD, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons.
- 8 I have set the LORD always before me: because *he is* at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
- 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope.
- 10 For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.
- 11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence *is* fullness of joy; at thy right hand *there are* pleasures for evermore. [[Acts 2:24–28](#); [13:34–37](#)]

In the Shadow of Your Wings (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 17

A Prayer of David.

- 1 Hear the right, O LORD, attend unto my cry, give ear unto my prayer, *that goeth* not out of feigned lips.
- 2 Let my sentence come forth from thy presence; let thine eyes behold the things that are equal.
- 3 Thou hast proved mine heart; thou hast visited *me* in the night; thou hast tried me, *and* shalt find nothing; I am purposed *that* my mouth shall not transgress.
- 4 Concerning the works of men, by the word of thy lips I have kept *me from* the paths of the destroyer.
- 5 Hold up my goings in thy paths, *that* my footsteps slip not.
- 6 I have called upon thee, for thou wilt hear me, O God: incline thine ear unto me, *and hear* my speech.
- 7 Shew thy marvelous lovingkindness, O thou that savest by thy right hand them which put their trust *in thee* from those that rise up *against them*.
- 8 Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings,
- 9 From the wicked that oppress me, *from* my deadly enemies, *who* compass me about.
- 10 They are enclosed in their own fat: with their mouth they speak proudly.
- 11 They have now compassed us in our steps: they have set their eyes bowing down to the earth;
- 12 Like as a lion *that* is greedy of his prey, and as it were a young lion lurking in secret places.
- 13 Arise, O LORD, disappoint him, cast him down: deliver my soul from the wicked, *which is* thy sword:
- 14 From men *which are* thy hand, O LORD, from men of the world, *which have* their portion in *this* life, and whose belly thou fillest with thy hid *treasure*: they are full of children, and leave the rest of their *substance* to their babes.
- 15 As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

The Law of the LORD is Perfect (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 19

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork.
- 2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.
- 3 *There is* no speech nor language, *where* their voice is not heard.
- 4 Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. [[Rom 1:19–20; 10:17–18](#)]
- In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,
- 5 Which *is* as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, *and* rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.
- 6 His going forth *is* from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.
- 7 The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired *are they* than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.
- 11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: *and* in keeping of them *there is* great reward.
- 12 Who can understand *his* errors? cleanse thou me from secret *faults*.
- 13 Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous *sins*; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

Trust in the Name of the LORD Our God (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 20

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The LORD hear thee in the day of trouble; the name of the God of Jacob defend thee;
- 2 Send thee help from the sanctuary, and strengthen thee out of Zion;
- 3 Remember all thy offerings, and accept thy burnt sacrifice; Selah.
- 4 Grant thee according to thine own heart, and fulfil all thy counsel.
- 5 We will rejoice in thy salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up *our* banners: the LORD fulfil all thy petitions.
- 6 Now know I that the LORD saveth his anointed; he will hear him from his holy heaven with the saving strength of his right hand.
- 7 Some *trust* in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.
- 8 They are brought down and fallen: but we are risen, and stand upright.
- 9 Save, LORD: let the king hear us when we call.

The King Rejoices in the LORD's Strength (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 21

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The king shall joy in thy strength, O LORD; and in thy salvation how greatly shall he rejoice!
- 2 Thou hast given him his heart's desire, and hast not withholden the request of his lips. Selah.
- 3 For thou preventest him with the blessings of goodness: thou settest a crown of pure gold on his head.
- 4 He asked life of thee, *and* thou gavest *it* him, *even* length of days for ever and ever.
- 5 His glory *is* great in thy salvation: honor and majesty hast thou laid upon him.
- 6 For thou hast made him most blessed for ever: thou hast made him exceeding glad with thy countenance.
- 7 For the king trusteth in the LORD, and through the mercy of the most High he shall not be moved.
- 8 Thine hand shall find out all thine enemies: thy right hand shall find out those that hate thee.
- 9 Thou shalt make them as a fiery oven in the time of thine anger: the LORD shall swallow them up in his wrath, and the fire shall devour them.
- 10 Their fruit shalt thou destroy from the earth, and their seed from among the children of men.
- 11 For they intended evil against thee: they imagined a mischievous device, *which* they are not able *to perform*.
- 12 Therefore shalt thou make them turn their back, *when* thou shalt make ready *thine arrows* upon thy strings against the face of them.
- 13 Be thou exalted, LORD, in thine own strength: so will we sing and praise thy power.

Why Have You Forsaken Me? [Messianic] (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 22

To the chief Musician upon Aijeleth Shahar,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? *why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?* [[Matt 27:46](#); [Mark 15:34](#)]
- 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent.
- 3 But thou *art* holy, O *thou* that inhabitest the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our fathers trusted in thee: they trusted, and thou didst deliver them.
- 5 They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in thee, and were not confounded.
- 6 But I *am* a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people.
- 7 All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, *saying*, [[Matt 27:39](#); [Mark 15:29](#); [Luke 23:35](#)]
- 8 He trusted on the LORD *that* he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him. [[Matt 27:43](#)]
- 9 But thou *art* he that took me out of the womb: thou didst make me hope *when I was* upon my mother's breasts.
- 10 I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou *art* my God from my mother's belly.
- 11 Be not far from me; for trouble *is* near; for *there is* none to help.
- 12 Many bulls have compassed me: strong *bulls* of Bashan have beset me round.
- 13 They gaped upon me *with* their mouths, *as* a ravening and a roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels.
- 15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death.
- 16 For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have enclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.
- 17 I may tell all my bones: they look *and* stare upon me.
- 18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture. [[John 19:24](#); [Matt 27:35](#); [Mark 15:24](#); [Luke 23:34](#)]
- 19 But be not thou far from me, O LORD: O my strength, haste thee to help me.
- 20 Deliver my soul from the sword; my darling from the power of the dog.
- 21 Save me from the lion's mouth: for thou hast heard me from the horns of the unicorns.
- 22 I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee. [[Hebrews 2:10–12](#)]
- 23 Ye that fear the LORD, praise him; all ye the seed of Jacob, glorify him; and fear him, all ye the seed of Israel.
- 24 For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard.
- 25 My praise *shall be* of thee in the great congregation: I will pay my vows before them that fear him.
- 26 The meek shall eat and be satisfied: they shall praise the LORD that seek him: your heart shall live for ever.
- 27 All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee.
- 28 For the kingdom *is* the LORD's: and he *is* the governor among the nations.
- 29 All *they that be* fat upon earth shall eat and worship: all they that go down to the dust shall bow before him: and none can keep alive his own soul.
- 30 A seed shall serve him; it shall be accounted to the Lord for a generation.
- 31 They shall come, and shall declare his righteousness unto a people that shall be born, that he hath done *this*.

The LORD is My Shepherd (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 23

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou *art* with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
- 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

The King of Glory (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 24

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The earth *is* the LORD's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. [[1 Cor 10:24–26](#)]
- 2 For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

3 Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?
4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.
5 He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
6 This *is* the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah.
7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.
8 Who *is* this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.
9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift *them* up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.
10 Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he *is* the King of glory. Selah.

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Teach Me Your Paths (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 25

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul.
- 2 O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me.
- 3 Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause.
- 4 Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.
- 5 Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou *art* the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.
- 6 Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy loving-kindnesses; for they *have been* ever of old.
- 7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD.
- 8 Good and upright *is* the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way.
- 9 The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.
- 10 All the paths of the LORD *are* mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies.
- 11 For thy name's sake, O LORD, pardon mine iniquity; for it *is* great.
- 12 What man *is* he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way *that* he shall choose.
- 13 His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth.
- 14 The secret of the LORD *is* with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.
- 15 Mine eyes *are* ever toward the LORD; for he shall pluck my feet out of the net.
- 16 Turn thee unto me, and have mercy upon me; for I *am* desolate and afflicted.
- 17 The troubles of my heart are enlarged: *O* bring thou me out of my distresses.
- 18 Look upon mine affliction and my pain; and forgive all my sins.
- 19 Consider mine enemies; for they are many; and they hate me with cruel hatred.
- 20 O keep my soul, and deliver me: let me not be ashamed; for I put my trust in thee.
- 21 Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee.
- 22 Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.

Examine Me, O LORD (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 26

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Judge me, O LORD; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the LORD; *therefore* I shall not slide.
- 2 Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart.
- 3 For thy lovingkindness *is* before mine eyes: and I have walked in thy truth.
- 4 I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers.
- 5 I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked.
- 6 I will wash mine hands in innocence: so will I compass thine altar, O LORD:
- 7 That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works.
- 8 LORD, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honor dwelleth.
- 9 Gather not my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloody men:
- 10 In whose hands *is* mischief, and their right hand is full of bribes.
- 11 But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity: redeem me, and be merciful unto me.
- 12 My foot standeth in an even place: in the congregations will I bless the LORD.

The LORD Is My Light and My Salvation (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 27

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The LORD *is* my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD *is* the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- 2 When the wicked, *even* mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.
- 3 Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this *will I be* confident.
- 4 One *thing* have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.
- 5 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.
- 6 And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.
- 7 Hear, O LORD, *when* I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.
- 8 *When thou saidst*, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.

- 9 Hide not thy face *far* from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- 10 When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.
- 11 Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.
- 12 Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.
- 13 *I had fainted*, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.
- 14 Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

The LORD Is My Strength and My Shield (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 28

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Unto thee will I cry, O LORD my rock; be not silent to me: lest, *if* thou be silent to me, I become like them that go down into the pit.
- 2 Hear the voice of my supplications, when I cry unto thee, when I lift up my hands toward thy holy oracle.
- 3 Draw me not away with the wicked, and with the workers of iniquity, which speak peace to their neighbors, but mischief *is* in their hearts.
- 4 Give them according to their deeds, and according to the wickedness of their endeavors: give them after the work of their hands; render to them their desert.
- 5 Because they regard not the works of the LORD, nor the operation of his hands, he shall destroy them, and not build them up.
- 6 Blessed *be* the LORD, because he hath heard the voice of my supplications.
- 7 The LORD *is* my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.
- 8 The LORD *is* their strength, and he *is* the saving strength of his anointed.
- 9 Save thy people, and bless thine inheritance: feed them also, and lift them up for ever.

Ascribe to the LORD Glory (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 29

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Give unto the LORD, O ye mighty, give unto the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD *is* upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD *is* upon many waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD *is* powerful; the voice of the LORD *is* full of majesty.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon.
- 6 He maketh them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn.
- 7 The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire.
- 8 The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 9 The voice of the LORD maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of *his* glory.
- 10 The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever.
- 11 The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace.

Joy Comes With the Morning (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 30

A Psalm and Song at the dedication of the house of David.

- 1 I will extol thee, O LORD; for thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me.
- 2 O LORD my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.
- 3 O LORD, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.
- 4 Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.
- 5 For his anger *endureth but* a moment; in his favour *is* life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy *cometh* in the morning.
- 6 And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved.
- 7 LORD, by thy favour thou hast made my mountain to stand strong: thou didst hide thy face, *and* I was troubled.
- 8 I cried to thee, O LORD; and unto the LORD I made supplication.
- 9 What profit *is there* in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise thee? shall it declare thy truth?
- 10 Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me: LORD, be thou my helper.
- 11 Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness;
- 12 To the end that *my* glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.

Into Your Hand I Commit My Spirit (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 31

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness.
- 2 Bow down thine ear to me; deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock, for an house of defense to save me.
- 3 For thou *art* my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.
- 4 Pull me out of the net that they have laid privily for me: for thou *art* my strength.
- 5 Into thine hand I commit my spirit: [[Luke 23:46](#)] thou hast redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.
- 6 I have hated them that regard lying vanities: but I trust in the LORD. [[Jonah 2:8](#)]
- 7 I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou hast considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversities;
- 8 And hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy: thou hast set my feet in a large room.
- 9 Have mercy upon me, O LORD, for I am in trouble: mine eye is consumed with grief, *yea*, my soul and my belly.
- 10 For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength faileth because of mine iniquity, and my bones are consumed.
- 11 I was a reproach among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbors, and a fear to mine acquaintance: they that did see me without fled from me.
- 12 I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind: I am like a broken vessel.
- 13 For I have heard the slander of many: fear *was* on every side: while they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life. [[Jer 20:10](#)]
- 14 But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said, Thou *art* my God.
- 15 My times *are* in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.
- 16 Make thy face to shine upon thy servant: save me for thy mercies' sake.
- 17 Let me not be ashamed, O LORD; for I have called upon thee: let the wicked be ashamed, *and* let them be silent in the grave.
- 18 Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.
- 19 *Oh* how great *is* thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; *which* thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!
- 20 Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues.
- 21 Blessed *be* the LORD: for he hath shewed me his marvelous kindness in a strong city.
- 22 For I said in my haste, I am cut off from before thine eyes: nevertheless thou heardest the voice of my supplications when I cried unto thee.
- 23 O love the LORD, all ye his saints: *for* the LORD preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.
- 24 Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD.

Great Is the LORD (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 35

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Plead *my cause*, O LORD, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me.
- 2 Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for mine help.
- 3 Draw out also the spear, and stop *the way* against them that persecute me: say unto my soul, I *am* thy salvation.
- 4 Let them be confounded and put to shame that seek after my soul: let them be turned back and brought to confusion that devise my hurt.
- 5 Let them be as chaff before the wind: and let the angel of the LORD chase *them*.
- 6 Let their way be dark and slippery: and let the angel of the LORD persecute them.
- 7 For without cause have they hid for me their net *in* a pit, *which* without cause they have digged for my soul.
- 8 Let destruction come upon him at unawares; and let his net that he hath hid catch himself: into that very destruction let him fall.
- 9 And my soul shall be joyful in the LORD: it shall rejoice in his salvation.
- 10 All my bones shall say, LORD, who *is* like unto thee, which deliverest the poor from him that is too strong for him, *yea*, the poor and the needy from him that spoileth him?
- 11 False witnesses did rise up; they laid to my charge *things* that I knew not.
- 12 They rewarded me evil for good *to* the spoiling of my soul.
- 13 But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing *was* sackcloth: I humbled my soul with fasting; and my prayer returned into mine own bosom.
- 14 I behaved myself as though *he had been* my friend *or* brother: I bowed down heavily, as one that mourneth *for his* mother.
- 15 But in mine adversity they rejoiced, and gathered themselves together: *yea*, the objects gathered themselves together against me, and I knew *it* not; they did tear *me*, and ceased not:

16 With hypocritical mockers in feasts, they gnashed upon me with their teeth.
 17 Lord, how long wilt thou look on? rescue my soul from their destructions, my darling from the lions.
 18 I will give thee thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people.
 19 Let not them that are mine enemies wrongfully rejoice over me: *neither* let them wink with the eye that hate me without a cause. [[John 15:24–25](#)]
 20 For they speak not peace: but they devise deceitful matters against *them that are* quiet in the land.
 21 Yea, they opened their mouth wide against me, *and* said, Aha, aha, our eye hath seen *it*.
 22 *This* thou hast seen, O LORD: keep not silence: O Lord, be not far from me.
 23 Stir up thyself, and awake to my judgment, *even* unto my cause, my God and my Lord.
 24 Judge me, O LORD my God, according to thy righteousness; and let them not rejoice over me.
 25 Let them not say in their hearts, Ah, so would we have it: let them not say, We have swallowed him up.
 26 Let them be ashamed and brought to confusion together that rejoice at mine hurt: let them be clothed with shame and dishonor that magnify *themselves* against me.
 27 Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.
 28 And my tongue shall speak of thy righteousness *and* of thy praise all the day long.

How Precious Is Your Steadfast Love (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 36

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David the servant of the LORD.

1 The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, *that there is* no fear of God before his eyes. [[Rom 3:18](#)]
 2 For he flattereth himself in his own eyes, until his iniquity be found to be hateful.
 3 The words of his mouth *are* iniquity and deceit: he hath left off to be wise, *and* to do good.
 4 He deviseth mischief upon his bed; he setteth himself in a way *that is* not good; he abhorreth not evil.
 5 Thy mercy, O LORD, *is* in the heavens; *and* thy faithfulness *reacheth* unto the clouds.
 6 Thy righteousness *is* like the great mountains; thy judgments *are* a great deep: O LORD, thou preservest man and beast.
 7 How excellent *is* thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.
 8 They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.
 9 For with thee *is* the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.
 10 O continue thy lovingkindness unto them that know thee; and thy righteousness to the upright in heart.
 11 Let not the foot of pride come against me, and let not the hand of the wicked remove me.
 12 There are the workers of iniquity fallen: they are cast down, and shall not be able to rise.

He Will Not Forsake His Saints (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 37

A Psalm of David.

1 Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.
 2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.
 3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; *so* shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.
 4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.
 5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring *it* to pass.
 6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.
 7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.
 8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.
 9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.
 10 For yet a little while, and the wicked *shall* not *be*: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it *shall* not *be*.
 11 But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.
 12 The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth.
 13 The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming.
 14 The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, *and* to slay such as be of upright conversation.
 15 Their sword shall enter into their own heart, and their bows shall be broken.
 16 A little that a righteous man hath *is* better than the riches of many wicked.
 17 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken: but the LORD upholdeth the righteous.

18 The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever.
19 They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.
20 But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the LORD *shall be* as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away.
21 The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth.
22 For *such as be* blessed of him shall inherit the earth; and *they that be* cursed of him shall be cut off.
23 The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.
24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth *him with* his hand.
25 I have been young, and *now* am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.
26 *He is* ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed *is* blessed.
27 Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore.
28 For the LORD loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.
29 The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.
30 The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment.
31 The law of his God *is* in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.
32 The wicked watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to slay him.
33 The LORD will not leave him in his hand, nor condemn him when he is judged.
34 Wait on the LORD, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see *it*.
35 I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree.
36 Yet he passed away, and, lo, he *was* not: yea, I sought him, but he could not be found.
37 Mark the perfect *man*, and behold the upright: for the end of *that* man *is* peace.
38 But the transgressors shall be destroyed together: the end of the wicked shall be cut off.
39 But the salvation of the righteous *is* of the LORD: *he is* their strength in the time of trouble.
40 And the LORD shall help them, and deliver them: he shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in him.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Do Not Forsake Me, O Lord (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 38

A Psalm of David, to bring to remembrance.

- 1 O LORD, rebuke me not in thy wrath: neither chasten me in thy hot displeasure.
- 2 For thine arrows stick fast in me, and thy hand presseth me sore.
- 3 *There is* no soundness in my flesh because of thine anger; neither *is there any* rest in my bones because of my sin.
- 4 For mine iniquities are gone over mine head: as an heavy burden they are too heavy for me.
- 5 My wounds stink *and* are corrupt because of my foolishness.
- 6 I am troubled; I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long.
- 7 For my loins are filled with a loathsome *disease*: and *there is* no soundness in my flesh.
- 8 I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart.
- 9 Lord, all my desire *is* before thee; and my groaning is not hid from thee.
- 10 My heart panteth, my strength faileth me: as for the light of mine eyes, it also is gone from me.
- 11 My lovers and my friends stand aloof from my sore; and my kinsmen stand afar off.
- 12 They also that seek after my life lay snares *for me*: and they that seek my hurt speak mischievous things, and imagine deceits all the day long.
- 13 But I, as a deaf *man*, heard not; and *I was* as a dumb man *that* openeth not his mouth.
- 14 Thus I was as a man that heareth not, and in whose mouth *are* no reproofs.
- 15 For in thee, O LORD, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord my God.
- 16 For I said, *Hear me*, lest *otherwise* they should rejoice over me: when my foot slippeth, they magnify *themselves* against me.
- 17 For I *am* ready to halt, and my sorrow *is* continually before me.
- 18 For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin.
- 19 But mine enemies *are* lively, *and* they are strong: and they that hate me wrongfully are multiplied.
- 20 They also that render evil for good are mine adversaries; because I follow *the thing that good is*.
- 21 Forsake me not, O LORD: O my God, be not far from me.
- 22 Make haste to help me, O Lord my salvation.

What Is the Measure of My Days? (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 39

To the chief Musician, even to Jeduthun,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me.
- 2 I was dumb with silence, I held my peace, *even* from good; and my sorrow was stirred.
- 3 My heart was hot within me, while I was musing the fire burned: *then* spake I with my tongue,
- 4 LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it *is*; *that* I may know how frail I *am*.
- 5 Behold, thou hast made my days *as* an handbreadth; and mine age *is* as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state *is* altogether vanity. Selah.
- 6 Surely every man walketh in a vain shew: surely they are disquieted in vain: he heapeth up *riches*, and knoweth not who shall gather them.
- 7 And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope *is* in thee.
- 8 Deliver me from all my transgressions: make me not the reproach of the foolish.
- 9 I was dumb, I opened not my mouth; because thou didst *it*.
- 10 Remove thy stroke away from me: I am consumed by the blow of thine hand.
- 11 When thou with rebukes dost correct man for iniquity, thou makest his beauty to consume away like a moth: surely every man *is* vanity. Selah.
- 12 Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears: for I *am* a stranger with thee, *and* a sojourner, as all my fathers *were*.
- 13 O spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go hence, and be no more.

My Help and My Deliverer [Messianic] (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 40

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.
- 2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, *and* established my goings.

3 And he hath put a new song in my mouth, *even* praise unto our God: many shall see *it*, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.
 4 Blessed *is* that man that maketh the LORD his trust, and respecteth not the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.
 5 Many, O LORD my God, *are* thy wonderful works *which* thou hast done, and thy thoughts *which are* to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: *if* I would declare and speak *of them*, they are more than can be numbered.
 6 Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: [But a body you have prepared for me] (LXX) burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required. [[Heb 10:5-6](#)]
 7 Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book *it is* written of me,
 8 I delight to do thy will, O my God: [[Heb 10:7-9](#)] yea, thy law *is* within my heart.
 9 I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O LORD, thou knowest.
 10 I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great congregation.
 11 Withhold not thou thy tender mercies from me, O LORD: let thy lovingkindness and thy truth continually preserve me.
 12 For innumerable evils have compassed me about: mine iniquities have taken hold upon me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of mine head: therefore my heart faileth me.
 13 Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me: O LORD, make haste to help me.
 14 Let them be ashamed and confounded together that seek after my soul to destroy it; let them be driven backward and put to shame that wish me evil.
 15 Let them be desolate for a reward of their shame that say unto me, Aha, aha.
 16 Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: let such as love thy salvation say continually, The LORD be magnified.
 17 But I *am* poor and needy; *yet* the Lord thinketh upon me: thou *art* my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God.

O Lord, Be Gracious to Me [Messianic] (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 41

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

1 Blessed *is* he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.
 2 The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive; *and* he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies.
 3 The LORD will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.
 4 I said, LORD, be merciful unto me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against thee.
 5 Mine enemies speak evil of me, When shall he die, and his name perish?
 6 And if he come to see *me*, he speaketh vanity: his heart gathereth iniquity to itself; *when* he goeth abroad, he telleth *it*.
 7 All that hate me whisper together against me: against me do they devise my hurt.
 8 An evil disease, *say they*, cleaveth fast unto him: and *now* that he lieth he shall rise up no more.
 9 Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up *his* heel against me. [[John 13:18](#)]
 10 But thou, O LORD, be merciful unto me, and raise me up, that I may requite them.
 11 By this I know that thou favorest me, because mine enemy doth not triumph over me.
 12 And as for me, thou upholdest me in mine integrity, and settest me before thy face for ever.
 13 Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen.

There Is None Who Does Good (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 53

To the chief Musician upon Mahalath,

Maschil, A Psalm of David.

1 The fool hath said in his heart, *There is* no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: *there is* none that doeth good.
 2 God looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were *any* that did understand, that did seek God.
 3 Every one of them is gone back: they are altogether become filthy; *there is* none that doeth good, no, not one. [[Rom 3:10-12](#)]
 4 Have the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people *as* they eat bread: they have not called upon God.
 5 There were they in great fear, *where* no fear was: for God hath scattered the bones of him that encampeth *against* thee: thou hast put *them* to shame, because God hath despised them.
 6 Oh that the salvation of Israel *were come* out of Zion! When God bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, *and* Israel shall be glad.

Cast Your Burden on the Lord (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 55

*To the chief Musician on Neginoth,***Maschil, A Psalm of David.**

1 Give ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not thyself from my supplication.

2 Attend unto me, and hear me: I mourn in my complaint, and make a noise;

3 Because of the voice of the enemy, because of the oppression of the wicked: for they cast iniquity upon me, and in wrath they hate me.

4 My heart is sore pained within me: and the terrors of death are fallen upon me.

5 Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me, and horror hath overwhelmed me.

6 And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! *for then* would I fly away, and be at rest.7 Lo, *then* would I wander far off, *and* remain in the wilderness. Selah.8 I would hasten my escape from the windy storm *and* tempest.9 Destroy, O Lord, *and* divide their tongues: for I have seen violence and strife in the city.10 Day and night they go about it upon the walls thereof: mischief also and sorrow *are* in the midst of it.11 Wickedness *is* in the midst thereof: deceit and guile depart not from her streets.12 For *it was* not an enemy *that* reproached me; then I could have borne *it*: neither *was it* he that hated me *that* did magnify *himself* against me; then I would have hid myself from him:13 But *it was* thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance.14 We took sweet counsel together, *and* walked unto the house of God in company.15 Let death seize upon them, *and* let them go down quick into hell: for wickedness *is* in their dwellings, *and* among them.

16 As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me.

17 Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.

18 He hath delivered my soul in peace from the battle *that was* against me: for there were many with me.

19 God shall hear, and afflict them, even he that abideth of old. Selah. Because they have no changes, therefore they fear not God.

20 He hath put forth his hands against such as be at peace with him: he hath broken his covenant.

21 *The words* of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war *was* in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet *were* they drawn swords.22 Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. [[1 Pet 5:6-7](#)]

23 But thou, O God, shalt bring them down into the pit of destruction: bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will trust in thee.

God Who Judges the Earth (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 58

*To the chief Musician, Altaschith,***Michtam of David.**

1 Do ye indeed speak righteousness, O congregation? do ye judge uprightly, O ye sons of men?

2 Yea, in heart ye work wickedness; ye weigh the violence of your hands in the earth.

3 The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.

4 Their poison *is* like the poison of a serpent: *they are* like the deaf adder *that* stoppeth her ear;

5 Which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, charming never so wisely.

6 Break their teeth, O God, in their mouth: break out the great teeth of the young lions, O LORD.

7 Let them melt away as waters *which* run continually: *when* he bendeth *his bow to shoot* his arrows, let them be as cut in pieces.8 As a snail *which* melteth, let *every one of them* pass away: *like* the untimely birth of a woman, *that* they may not see the sun.9 Before your pots can feel the thorns, he shall take them away as with a whirlwind, both living, and in *his* wrath.

10 The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance: he shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked.

11 So that a man shall say, Verily *there is* a reward for the righteous: verily he is a God that judgeth in the earth.

Lead Me to the Rock (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 61

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

1 Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer.

2 From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock *that* is higher than I.3 For thou hast been a shelter for me, *and* a strong tower from the enemy.

4 I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Selah.
 5 For thou, O God, hast heard my vows: thou hast given *me* the heritage of those that fear thy name.
 6 Thou wilt prolong the king's life: *and* his years as many generations.
 7 He shall abide before God for ever: O prepare mercy and truth, *which* may preserve him.
 8 So will I sing praise unto thy name for ever, that I may daily perform my vows.

My Soul Waits for God Alone (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 62

To the chief Musician, to Jeduthun,

A Psalm of David.

1 Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him *cometh* my salvation.
 2 He only *is* my rock and my salvation; *he is* my defense; I shall not be greatly moved.
 3 How long will ye imagine mischief against a man? ye shall be slain all of you: as a bowing wall *shall ye be, and as* a tottering fence.
 4 They only consult to cast *him* down from his excellency: they delight in lies: they bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly. Selah.
 5 My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation *is* from him.
 6 He only *is* my rock and my salvation: *he is* my defense; I shall not be moved.
 7 In God *is* my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, *and* my refuge, *is* in God.
 8 Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God *is* a refuge for us. Selah.
 9 Surely men of low degree *are* vanity, *and* men of high degree *are* a lie: to be laid in the balance, they *are* altogether *lighter* than vanity.
 10 Trust not in oppression, and become not vain in robbery: if riches increase, set not your heart *upon them*.
 11 God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power *belongeth* unto God.
 12 Also unto thee, O Lord, *belongeth* mercy: for thou renderest to every man according to his work. [[Matt 16:27](#); [Rom 2:6](#)]

Hide Me from the Wicked (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 64

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

1 Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy.
 2 Hide me from the secret counsel of the wicked; from the insurrection of the workers of iniquity:
 3 Who whet their tongue like a sword, *and* bend *their bows to shoot* their arrows, *even* bitter words:
 4 That they may shoot in secret at the perfect: suddenly do they shoot at him, and fear not.
 5 They encourage themselves *in* an evil matter: they commune of laying snares privily; they say, Who shall see them?
 6 They search out iniquities; they accomplish a diligent search: both the inward *thought* of every one *of them*, and the heart, *is* deep.
 7 But God shall shoot at them *with* an arrow; suddenly shall they be wounded.
 8 So they shall make their own tongue to fall upon themselves: all that see them shall flee away.
 9 And all men shall fear, and shall declare the work of God; for they shall wisely consider of his doing.
 10 The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory.

O God of Our Salvation (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 65

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm and Song of David.

1 Praise waiteth for thee, O God, in Sion: and unto thee shall the vow be performed.
 2 O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.
 3 Iniquities prevail against me: *as for* our transgressions, thou shalt purge them away.
 4 Blessed *is the man whom* thou choosest, and causest to approach *unto thee, that* he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, *even* of thy holy temple.
 5 *By* terrible things in righteousness wilt thou answer us, O God of our salvation; *who art* the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off *upon* the sea:
 6 Which by his strength setteth fast the mountains; *being* girded with power:
 7 Which stilleth the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the people.
 8 They also that dwell in the uttermost parts are afraid at thy tokens: thou makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to

rejoice.

9 Thou visitest the earth, and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, *which* is full of water: thou preparest them corn, when thou hast so provided for it.

10 Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers: thou blessest the springing thereof.

11 Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.

12 They drop *upon* the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side.

13 The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

God Shall Scatter His Enemies [Messianic] (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 68

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

1 Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him.
 2 As smoke is driven away, *so* drive *them* away: as wax melteth before the fire, *so* let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
 3 But let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yea, let them exceedingly rejoice.
 4 Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that rideth upon the heavens by his name JAH, and rejoice before him.
 5 A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, *is* God in his holy habitation.
 6 God setteth the solitary in families: he bringeth out those which are bound with chains: but the rebellious dwell in a dry *land*.
 7 O God, when thou wentest forth before thy people, when thou didst march through the wilderness; Selah:
 8 The earth shook, the heavens also dropped at the presence of God: *even* Sinai itself *was moved* at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
 9 Thou, O God, didst send a plentiful rain, whereby thou didst confirm thine inheritance, when it was weary.
 10 Thy congregation hath dwelt therein: thou, O God, hast prepared of thy goodness for the poor.
 11 The Lord gave the word: great *was* the company of those that published *it*.
 12 Kings of armies did flee apace: and she that tarried at home divided the spoil.
 13 Though ye have lien among the pots, *yet shall ye be as* the wings of a dove covered with silver, and her feathers with yellow gold.
 14 When the Almighty scattered kings in it, it was *white* as snow in Salmon.
 15 The hill of God *is as* the hill of Bashan; an high hill *as* the hill of Bashan.
 16 Why leap ye, ye high hills? *this is* the hill *which* God desireth to dwell in; yea, the LORD will dwell *in it* for ever.
 17 The chariots of God *are* twenty thousand, *even* thousands of angels: the Lord *is* among them, *as in* Sinai, in the holy *place*.
 18 Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, *for* the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell *among them*. [[Eph 4:7–10](#)]
 19 Blessed *be* the Lord, *who* daily loadeth us *with benefits*, *even* the God of our salvation. Selah.
 20 *He that is* our God *is* the God of salvation; and unto GOD the Lord *belong* the issues from death.
 21 But God shall wound the head of his enemies, *and* the hairy scalp of such an one as goeth on still in his trespasses.
 22 The Lord said, I will bring again from Bashan, I will bring *my people* again from the depths of the sea:
 23 That thy foot may be dipped in the blood of *thine* enemies, *and* the tongue of thy dogs in the same.
 24 They have seen thy goings, O God; *even* the goings of my God, my King, in the sanctuary.
 25 The singers went before, the players on instruments *followed* after; among *them were* the damsels playing with timbrels.
 26 Bless ye God in the congregations, *even* the Lord, from the fountain of Israel.
 27 There *is* little Benjamin *with* their ruler, the princes of Judah *and* their council, the princes of Zebulun, *and* the princes of Naphtali.
 28 Thy God hath commanded thy strength: strengthen, O God, that which thou hast wrought for us.
 29 Because of thy temple at Jerusalem shall kings bring presents unto thee.
 30 Rebuke the company of spearmen, the multitude of the bulls, with the calves of the people, *till every one* submit himself with pieces of silver: scatter thou the people *that* delight in war.
 31 Princes shall come out of Egypt; Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God.
 32 Sing unto God, ye kingdoms of the earth; O sing praises unto the Lord; Selah:
 33 To him that rideth upon the heavens of heavens, *which were* of old; lo, he doth send out his voice, *and that* a mighty voice.
 34 Ascribe ye strength unto God: his excellency *is* over Israel, and his strength *is* in the clouds.
 35 O God, *thou art* terrible out of thy holy places: the God of Israel *is* he that giveth strength and power unto *his* people. Blessed *be* God.

Save Me, O God [Messianic] (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 69

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

1 Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto *my* soul.
 2 I sink in deep mire, where *there is* no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me.
 3 I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God.
 4 They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: [[John 15:23–25](#)] they that would destroy me, *being* mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored *that* which I took not away.
 5 O God, thou knowest my foolishness; and my sins are not hid from thee.
 6 Let not them that wait on thee, O Lord God of hosts, be ashamed for my sake: let not those that seek thee be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel.
 7 Because for thy sake I have borne reproach; shame hath covered my face.

8 I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mother's children.
 9 For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; [[John 2:14-17](#)] and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me. [[Rom 15:1-4](#)]
 10 When I wept, *and chastened* my soul with fasting, that was to my reproach.
 11 I made sackcloth also my garment; and I became a proverb to them.
 12 They that sit in the gate speak against me; and I *was* the song of the drunkards.
 13 But as for me, my prayer *is* unto thee, O LORD, *in* an acceptable time: O God, in the multitude of thy mercy hear me, in the truth of thy salvation.
 14 Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not sink: let me be delivered from them that hate me, and out of the deep waters.
 15 Let not the water-flood overflow me, neither let the deep swallow me up, and let not the pit shut her mouth upon me.
 16 Hear me, O LORD; for thy lovingkindness *is* good: turn unto me according to the multitude of thy tender mercies.
 17 And hide not thy face from thy servant; for I am in trouble: hear me speedily.
 18 Draw nigh unto my soul, *and* redeem it: deliver me because of mine enemies.
 19 Thou hast known my reproach, and my shame, and my dishonor: mine adversaries *are* all before thee.
 20 Reproach hath broken my heart; and I am full of heaviness: and I looked *for some* to take pity, but *there was* none; and for comforters, but I found none.
 21 They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. [[Matt 27:34, 48](#); [Mark 15:36](#); [Luke 23:36](#); [John 19:28-29](#)]
 22 Let their table become a snare before them: and *that which should have been* for their welfare, *let it become* a trap.
 23 Let their eyes be darkened, that they see not; and make their loins continually to shake. [[Rom 11:9-10](#)]
 24 Pour out thine indignation upon them, and let thy wrathful anger take hold of them.
 25 Let their habitation be desolate; *and* let none dwell in their tents. [[Acts 1:20](#)]
 26 For they persecute *him* whom thou hast smitten; and they talk to the grief of those whom thou hast wounded.
 27 Add iniquity unto their iniquity: and let them not come into thy righteousness.
 28 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.
 29 But I *am* poor and sorrowful: let thy salvation, O God, set me up on high.
 30 I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.
 31 *This* also shall please the LORD better than an ox *or* bullock that hath horns and hoofs.
 32 The humble shall see *this*, *and* be glad: and your heart shall live that seek God.
 33 For the LORD heareth the poor, and despiseth not his prisoners.
 34 Let the heaven and earth praise him, the seas, and every thing that moveth therein.
 35 For God will save Zion, and will build the cities of Judah: that they may dwell there, and have it in possession.
 36 The seed also of his servants shall inherit it: and they that love his name shall dwell therein.

O Lord, Do Not Delay (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 70

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David, to bring to remembrance.

1 *Make haste*, O God, to deliver me; make haste to help me, O LORD.
 2 Let them be ashamed and confounded that seek after my soul: let them be turned backward, and put to confusion, that desire my hurt.
 3 Let them be turned back for a reward of their shame that say, Aha, aha.
 4 Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: and let such as love thy salvation say continually, Let God be magnified.
 5 But I *am* poor and needy: make haste unto me, O God: thou *art* my help and my deliverer; O LORD, make no tarrying. [compare Ps 70:1-5 with [Ps 40:13-17](#)]

Great Is Your Steadfast Love (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 86

A Prayer of David.

1 Bow down thine ear, O LORD, hear me: for I *am* poor and needy.
 2 Preserve my soul; for I *am* holy: O thou my God, save thy servant that trusteth in thee.
 3 Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto thee daily.
 4 Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
 5 For thou, Lord, *art* good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.
 6 Give ear, O LORD, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications.
 7 In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me.

8 Among the gods *there is none* like unto thee, O Lord; neither *are there any works* like unto thy works.
9 All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; [[Rev 15:4](#)] and shall glorify thy name.
10 For thou *art great*, and doest wondrous things: thou *art* God alone.
11 Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.
12 I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore.
13 For great *is* thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.
14 O God, the proud are risen against me, and the assemblies of violent *men* have sought after my soul; and have not set thee before them.
15 But thou, O Lord, *art* a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.
16 O turn unto me, and have mercy upon me; give thy strength unto thy servant, and save the son of thine handmaid.
17 Show me a token for good; that they which hate me may see *it*, and be ashamed: because thou, LORD, hast holpen me, and comforted me.

Let Us Sing Songs of Praise (c. 1000 – c. 900 BC)

Psalm 95

[*Attributed to David by the author of Hebrews (cf. Hebrews 4:7).*]

1 O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.
3 For the LORD *is* a great God, and a great King above all gods.
4 In his hand *are* the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills *is* his also.
5 The sea *is* his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry *land*.
6 O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.
7 For he *is* our God; and we *are* the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To day if ye will hear his voice,
8 Harden not your heart, as in the provocation, *and as in* the day of temptation in the wilderness:
9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my work.
10 Forty years long was I grieved with *this* generation, and said, It *is* a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways:
11 Unto whom I swore in my wrath that they should not enter into my rest. [[Heb 3:7-4:11](#)]

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

I Will Walk with Integrity (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 101

A Psalm of David.

- 1 I will sing of mercy and judgment: unto thee, O LORD, will I sing.
- 2 I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way. O when wilt thou come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.
- 3 I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; *it* shall not cleave to me.
- 4 A froward heart shall depart from me: I will not know a wicked *person*.
- 5 Whoso privily slandereth his neighbor, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer.
- 6 Mine eyes *shall be* upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me.
- 7 He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight.
- 8 I will early destroy all the wicked of the land; that I may cut off all wicked doers from the city of the LORD.

Bless the LORD, O My Soul (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 103

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, *bless* his holy name.
- 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:
- 3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;
- 4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;
- 5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good *things*; *so that* thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- 6 The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.
- 7 He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel.
- 8 The LORD *is* merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.
- 9 He will not always chide: neither will he keep *his anger* for ever.
- 10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.
- 11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, *so great* is his mercy toward them that fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, *so far* hath he removed our transgressions from us.
- 13 Like as a father pitieth *his* children, *so* the LORD pitieth them that fear him.
- 14 For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we *are* dust.
- 15 *As for* man, his days *are* as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.
- 16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.
- 17 But the mercy of the LORD *is* from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;
- 18 To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.
- 19 The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.
- 20 Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.
- 21 Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.
- 22 Bless the LORD, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the LORD, O my soul.

With God We Shall Do Valiantly (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 108

Psalm 57:7–11; 60:5–12

A Song or Psalm of David.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 O God, my heart is fixed;
I will sing and give praise, even with my glory. 2 Awake, psaltery and harp:
<i>I myself</i> will awake early. 3 I will praise thee, O LORD, among the people:
and I will sing praises unto thee among the nations. 4 For thy mercy <i>is</i> great above the heavens:
and thy truth <i>reacheth</i> unto the clouds. 5 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens:
and thy glory above all the earth; 6 That thy beloved may be delivered:
save <i>with</i> thy right hand, and answer me. 7 God hath spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 57:7 My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed:
I will sing and give praise. 8 Awake up, my glory; awake, psaltery and harp:
<i>I myself</i> will awake early. 9 I will praise thee, O Lord, among the people:
I will sing unto thee among the nations. 10 For thy mercy <i>is</i> great unto the heavens,
and thy truth unto the clouds. 11 Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens:
<i>let</i> thy glory <i>be</i> above all the earth. 60:5 That thy beloved may be delivered;
save <i>with</i> thy right hand, and hear me. 6 God hath spoken in his holiness; I will rejoice, |
|---|--|

<p>I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth. 8 Gilead <i>is</i> mine; Manasseh <i>is</i> mine; Ephraim also <i>is</i> the strength of mine head; Judah <i>is</i> my lawgiver; 9 Moab <i>is</i> my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe; over Philistia will I triumph. 10 Who will bring me into the strong city? who will lead me into Edom? 11 <i>Wilt</i> not <i>thou</i>, O God, <i>who</i> hast cast us off? and wilt not thou, O God, go forth with our hosts? 12 Give us help from trouble: for vain <i>is</i> the help of man. 13 Through God we shall do valiantly: for he <i>it is that</i> shall tread down our enemies.</p>	<p>I will divide Shechem, and mete out the valley of Succoth. 7 Gilead <i>is</i> mine, and Manasseh <i>is</i> mine; Ephraim also <i>is</i> the strength of mine head; Judah <i>is</i> my lawgiver; 8 Moab <i>is</i> my washpot; over Edom will I cast out my shoe: Philistia, triumph thou because of me. 9 Who will bring me <i>into</i> the strong city? who will lead me into Edom? 10 <i>Wilt</i> not thou, O God, <i>which</i> hadst cast us off? and <i>thou</i>, O God, <i>which</i> didst not go out with our armies? 11 Give us help from trouble: for vain <i>is</i> the help of man. 12 Through God we shall do valiantly: for he <i>it is that</i> shall tread down our enemies.</p>
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Help Me, O Lord My God [Messianic] (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 109

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Hold not thy peace, O God of my praise;
- 2 For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful are opened against me: they have spoken against me with a lying tongue.
- 3 They compassed me about also with words of hatred; and fought against me without a cause.
- 4 For my love they are my adversaries: but I *give myself unto* prayer.
- 5 And they have rewarded me evil for good, and hatred for my love.
- 6 Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand.
- 7 When he shall be judged, let him be condemned: and let his prayer become sin.
- 8 Let his days be few; *and* let another take his office. [[Acts 1:20](#)]
- 9 Let his children be fatherless, and his wife a widow.
- 10 Let his children be continually vagabonds, and beg: let them seek *their bread* also out of their desolate places.
- 11 Let the extortioner catch all that he hath; and let the strangers spoil his labor.
- 12 Let there be none to extend mercy unto him: neither let there be any to favor his fatherless children.
- 13 Let his posterity be cut off; *and* in the generation following let their name be blotted out.
- 14 Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered with the LORD; and let not the sin of his mother be blotted out.
- 15 Let them be before the LORD continually, that he may cut off the memory of them from the earth.
- 16 Because that he remembered not to show mercy, but persecuted the poor and needy man, that he might even slay the broken in heart.
- 17 As he loved cursing, so let it come unto him: as he delighted not in blessing, so let it be far from him.
- 18 As he clothed himself with cursing like as with his garment, so let it come into his bowels like water, and like oil into his bones.
- 19 Let it be unto him as the garment *which* covereth him, and for a girdle wherewith he is girded continually.
- 20 *Let this be* the reward of mine adversaries from the LORD, and of them that speak evil against my soul.
- 21 But do thou for me, O GOD the Lord, for thy name's sake: because thy mercy *is* good, deliver thou me.
- 22 For I *am* poor and needy, and my heart is wounded within me.
- 23 I am gone like the shadow when it declineth: I am tossed up and down as the locust.
- 24 My knees are weak through fasting; and my flesh faileth of fatness.
- 25 I became also a reproach unto them: *when* they looked upon me they shook their heads. [[Matt 27:39](#)]
- 26 Help me, O LORD my God: O save me according to thy mercy:
- 27 That they may know that this *is* thy hand; *that* thou, LORD, hast done it.
- 28 Let them curse, but bless thou: when they arise, let them be ashamed; but let thy servant rejoice.
- 29 Let mine adversaries be clothed with shame, and let them cover themselves with their own confusion, as with a mantle.
- 30 I will greatly praise the LORD with my mouth; yea, I will praise him among the multitude.
- 31 For he shall stand at the right hand of the poor, to save *him* from those that condemn his soul.

Sit at My Right Hand [Messianic] (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 110

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool. [[Matt 22:41–46](#); [Heb 1:13](#)]
- 2 The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.

3 Thy people *shall be* willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth.

4 The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek. [[Heb 5:6; 6:20; 7:17, 21](#)]

5 The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath.

6 He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill *the places* with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries.

7 He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift up the head.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Let Us Go to the House of the LORD (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 122

A Song of degrees of David.

- 1 I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.
- 2 Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:
- 4 Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the LORD.
- 5 For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.
- 7 Peace be within thy walls, *and* prosperity within thy palaces.
- 8 For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace *be* within thee.
- 9 Because of the house of the LORD our God I will seek thy good.

Our Help Is in the Name of the LORD (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 124

A Song of degrees of David.

- 1 *If it had not been* the LORD who was on our side, now may Israel say;
- 2 *If it had not been* the LORD who was on our side, when men rose up against us:
- 3 Then they had swallowed us up quick, when their wrath was kindled against us:
- 4 Then the waters had overwhelmed us, the stream had gone over our soul:
- 5 Then the proud waters had gone over our soul.
- 6 Blessed *be* the LORD, who hath not given us *as* a prey to their teeth.
- 7 Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped.
- 8 Our help *is* in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

I Have Calmed and Quieted My Soul (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 131

A Song of degrees of David.

- 1 LORD, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty: neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me.
- 2 Surely I have behaved and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned of his mother: my soul *is* even as a weaned child.
- 3 Let Israel hope in the LORD from henceforth and for ever.

When Brothers Dwell in Unity (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 133

A Song of degrees of David.

- 1 Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* for brethren to dwell together in unity!
- 2 *It is* like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, *even* Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;
- 3 As the dew of Hermon, *and as the dew* that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, *even* life for evermore.

Give Thanks to the LORD (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 138

A Psalm of David.

- 1 I will praise thee with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto thee.
- 2 I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.
- 3 In the day when I cried thou answeredst me, *and* strengthenedst me *with* strength in my soul.
- 4 All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O LORD, when they hear the words of thy mouth.
- 5 Yea, they shall sing in the ways of the LORD: for great *is* the glory of the LORD.
- 6 Though the LORD *be* high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off.
- 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me: thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me.

8 The LORD will perfect *that which* concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, *endureth* for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.

Search Me, O God, and Know My Heart (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 139

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

1 O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known *me*.
 2 Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off.
 3 Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted *with* all my ways.
 4 For *there is* not a word in my tongue, *but*, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether.
 5 Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me.
 6 *Such* knowledge *is* too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot *attain* unto it.
 7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?
 8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou *art* there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou *art there*.
 9 *If* I take the wings of the morning, *and* dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;
 10 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.
 11 If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.
 12 Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light *are* both alike *to thee*.
 13 For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.
 14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made: marvelous *are* thy works; and *that* my soul knoweth right well.
 15 My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, *and* curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.
 16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all *my members* were written, *which* in continuance were fashioned, when *as yet there was* none of them.
 17 How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!
 18 *If* I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.
 19 Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody men.
 20 For they speak against thee wickedly, *and* thine enemies take *thy name* in vain.
 21 Do not I hate them, O LORD, that hate thee? and am not I grieved with those that rise up against thee?
 22 I hate them with perfect hatred: I count them mine enemies.
 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:
 24 And see if *there be any* wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Deliver Me, O LORD, from Evil Men (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 140

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm of David.

1 Deliver me, O LORD, from the evil man: preserve me from the violent man;
 2 Which imagine mischiefs in *their* heart; continually are they gathered together *for* war.
 3 They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent; adders' poison *is* under their lips. Selah. [[Rom 3:13b](#)]
 4 Keep me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked; preserve me from the violent man; who have purposed to overthrow my goings.
 5 The proud have hid a snare for me, and cords; they have spread a net by the wayside; they have set gins for me. Selah.
 6 I said unto the LORD, Thou *art* my God: hear the voice of my supplications, O LORD.
 7 O GOD the Lord, the strength of my salvation, thou hast covered my head in the day of battle.
 8 Grant not, O LORD, the desires of the wicked: further not his wicked device; *lest* they exalt themselves. Selah.
 9 *As for* the head of those that compass me about, let the mischief of their own lips cover them.
 10 Let burning coals fall upon them: let them be cast into the fire; into deep pits, that they rise not up again.
 11 Let not an evil speaker be established in the earth: evil shall hunt the violent man to overthrow *him*.
 12 I know that the LORD will maintain the cause of the afflicted, *and* the right of the poor.
 13 Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright shall dwell in thy presence.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Give Ear to My Voice (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 141

A Psalm of David.

- 1 LORD, I cry unto thee: make haste unto me; give ear unto my voice, when I cry unto thee.
- 2 Let my prayer be set forth before thee *as* incense; *and* the lifting up of my hands *as* the evening sacrifice.
- 3 Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.
- 4 Incline not my heart to *any* evil thing, to practice wicked works with men that work iniquity: and let me not eat of their dainties.
- 5 Let the righteous smite me; *it shall be* a kindness: and let him reprove me; *it shall be* an excellent oil, *which* shall not break my head: for yet my prayer also *shall be* in their calamities.
- 6 When their judges are overthrown in stony places, they shall hear my words; for they are sweet.
- 7 Our bones are scattered at the grave's mouth, as when one cutteth and cleaveth *wood* upon the earth.
- 8 But mine eyes *are* unto thee, O God the Lord: in thee is my trust; leave not my soul destitute.
- 9 Keep me from the snares *which* they have laid for me, and the gins of the workers of iniquity.
- 10 Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst that I withal escape.

My Soul Thirsts for You (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 143

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Hear my prayer, O LORD, give ear to my supplications: in thy faithfulness answer me, *and* in thy righteousness.
- 2 And enter not into judgment with thy servant: for in thy sight shall no man living be justified.
- 3 For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath smitten my life down to the ground; he hath made me to dwell in darkness, as those that have been long dead.
- 4 Therefore is my spirit overwhelmed within me; my heart within me is desolate.
- 5 I remember the days of old; I meditate on all thy works; I muse on the work of thy hands.
- 6 I stretch forth my hands unto thee: my soul *thirsteth* after thee, as a thirsty land. Selah.
- 7 Hear me speedily, O LORD: my spirit faileth: hide not thy face from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit.
- 8 Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.
- 9 Deliver me, O LORD, from mine enemies: I flee unto thee to hide me.
- 10 Teach me to do thy will; for thou *art* my God: thy spirit *is* good; lead me into the land of uprightness.
- 11 Quicken me, O LORD, for thy name's sake: for thy righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.
- 12 And of thy mercy cut off mine enemies, and destroy all them that afflict my soul: for I *am* thy servant.

My Rock and My Fortress (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 144

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Blessed *be* the LORD my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, *and* my fingers to fight:
- 2 My goodness, and my fortress; my high tower, and my deliverer; my shield, and *he* in whom I trust; who subdueth my people under me.
- 3 LORD, what *is* man, that thou takest knowledge of him! *or* the son of man, that thou makest account of him!
- 4 Man is like to vanity: his days *are* as a shadow that passeth away.
- 5 Bow thy heavens, O LORD, and come down: touch the mountains, and they shall smoke.
- 6 Cast forth lightning, and scatter them: shoot out thine arrows, and destroy them.
- 7 Send thine hand from above; rid me, and deliver me out of great waters, from the hand of strange children;
- 8 Whose mouth speaketh vanity, and their right hand *is* a right hand of falsehood.
- 9 I will sing a new song unto thee, O God: upon a psaltery *and* an instrument of ten strings will I sing praises unto thee.
- 10 *It is he* that giveth salvation unto kings: who delivereth David his servant from the hurtful sword.
- 11 Rid me, and deliver me from the hand of strange children, whose mouth speaketh vanity, and their right hand *is* a right hand of falsehood:
- 12 That our sons *may be* as plants grown up in their youth; *that* our daughters *may be* as corner stones, polished *after* the similitude of a palace:
- 13 *That* our garners *may be* full, affording all manner of store: *that* our sheep may bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our streets:
- 14 *That* our oxen *may be* strong to labour; *that there be* no breaking in, nor going out; *that there be* no complaining in our streets.
- 15 Happy *is that* people, that is in such a case: *yea*, happy *is that* people, whose God *is* the LORD.

Great Is the LORD (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 145

David's Psalm of praise.

- 1 I will extol thee, my God, O king; and I will bless thy name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great *is* the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness *is* unsearchable.
- 4 One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.
- 5 I will speak of the glorious honor of thy majesty, and of thy wondrous works.
- 6 And *men* shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will declare thy greatness.
- 7 They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness.
- 8 The LORD *is* gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.
- 9 The LORD *is* good to all: and his tender mercies *are* over all his works.
- 10 All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee.
- 11 They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power;
- 12 To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.
- 13 Thy kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion *endureth* throughout all generations.
- 14 The LORD upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all *those that be* bowed down.
- 15 The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season.
- 16 Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.
- 17 The LORD *is* righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.
- 18 The LORD *is* nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.
- 19 He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them.
- 20 The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.
- 21 My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD: and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

God Himself Is Judge (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 50

A Psalm by Asaph.

- 1 The mighty God, *even* the LORD, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof.
- 2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined.
- 3 Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about him.
- 4 He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people.
- 5 Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice.
- 6 And the heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God *is* judge himself. Selah.
- 7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, and I will testify against thee: *I am* God, *even* thy God.
- 8 I will not reprove thee for thy sacrifices or thy burnt offerings, *to have been* continually before me.
- 9 I will take no bullock out of thy house, *nor* he goats out of thy folds.
- 10 For every beast of the forest *is* mine, *and* the cattle upon a thousand hills.
- 11 I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field *are* mine.
- 12 If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world *is* mine, and the fullness thereof.
- 13 Will I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats?
- 14 Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:
- 15 And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.
- 16 But unto the wicked God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or *that* thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth?
- 17 Seeing thou hatest instruction, and castest my words behind thee.
- 18 When thou sawest a thief, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers.
- 19 Thou givest thy mouth to evil, and thy tongue frameth deceit.
- 20 Thou sittest *and* speakest against thy brother; thou slanderest thine own mother's son.
- 21 These *things* hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether *such an one* as thyself: *but* I will reprove thee, and set *them* in order before thine eyes.
- 22 Now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear *you* in pieces, and *there be* none to deliver.
- 23 Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth *his* conversation *aright* will I shew the salvation of God.

God Is My Strength and Portion Forever (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 73

A Psalm by Asaph.

- 1 Truly God *is* good to Israel, *even* to such as are of a clean heart.
- 2 But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped.
- 3 For I was envious at the foolish, *when* I saw the prosperity of the wicked. [cf. [Ps 37:1–2, 7–11; 92:6–7; Pro 24:19–20; Jer 12:1–6](#)]
- 4 For *there are* no bands in their death: but their strength *is* firm.
- 5 They *are* not in trouble *as other* men; neither are they plagued like *other* men.
- 6 Therefore pride compasseth them about as a chain; violence covereth them *as* a garment.
- 7 Their eyes stand out with fatness: they have more than heart could wish.
- 8 They are corrupt, and speak wickedly *concerning* oppression: they speak loftily.
- 9 They set their mouth against the heavens, and their tongue walketh through the earth.
- 10 Therefore his people return hither: and waters of a full *cup* are wrung out to them.
- 11 And they say, How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the most High?
- 12 Behold, these *are* the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase *in* riches.
- 13 Verily I have cleansed my heart *in* vain, and washed my hands in innocence.
- 14 For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning.
- 15 If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I should offend *against* the generation of thy children.
- 16 When I thought to know this, it *was* too painful for me;
- 17 Until I went into the sanctuary of God; *then* understood I their end.
- 18 Surely thou didst set them in slippery places: thou castedst them down into destruction.
- 19 How are they *brought* into desolation, as in a moment! they are utterly consumed with terrors.
- 20 As a dream when *one* awaketh; *so*, O Lord, when thou awakest, thou shalt despise their image.
- 21 Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins.
- 22 So foolish *was* I, and ignorant: I *was as* a beast before thee.
- 23 Nevertheless I *am* continually with thee: thou hast holden *me* by my right hand.
- 24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me *to* glory.
- 25 Whom have I in heaven *but thee?* and *there is* none upon earth *that* I desire beside thee.

26 My flesh and my heart faileth: *but* God *is* the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.
 27 For, lo, they that are far from thee shall perish: thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from thee.
 28 But *it is* good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all thy works.

God Will Judge with Equity (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 75

To the chief Musician, Altaschith,

A Psalm or Song of Asaph.

1 Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks, *unto thee* do we give thanks: for *that* thy name is near thy wondrous works declare.
 2 When I shall receive the congregation I will judge uprightly.
 3 The earth and all the inhabitants thereof are dissolved: I bear up the pillars of it. Selah.
 4 I said unto the fools, Deal not foolishly: and to the wicked, Lift not up the horn:
 5 Lift not up your horn on high: speak *not with* a stiff neck.
 6 For promotion *cometh* neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.
 7 But God *is* the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.
 8 For in the hand of the LORD *there is* a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and he poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring *them* out, *and* drink *them*.
 9 But I will declare for ever; I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.
 10 All the horns of the wicked also will I cut off; *but* the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

Who Can Stand Before You? (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 76

To the chief Musician on Neginoth,

A Psalm or Song of Asaph.

1 In Judah *is* God known: his name *is* great in Israel.
 2 In Salem also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion.
 3 There brake he the arrows of the bow, the shield, and the sword, and the battle. Selah.
 4 Thou *art* more glorious *and* excellent than the mountains of prey.
 5 The stouthearted are spoiled, they have slept their sleep: and none of the men of might have found their hands.
 6 At thy rebuke, O God of Jacob, both the chariot and horse are cast into a dead sleep.
 7 Thou, *even* thou, *art* to be feared: and who may stand in thy sight when once thou art angry?
 8 Thou didst cause judgment to be heard from heaven; the earth feared, and was still,
 9 When God arose to judgment, to save all the meek of the earth. Selah.
 10 Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain.
 11 Vow, and pay unto the LORD your God: let all that be round about him bring presents unto him that ought to be feared.
 12 He shall cut off the spirit of princes: *he is* terrible to the kings of the earth.

In the Day of Trouble I Seek the Lord (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 77

To the chief Musician, to Jeduthun,

A Psalm of Asaph.

1 I cried unto God with my voice, *even* unto God with my voice; and he gave ear unto me.
 2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord: my sore ran in the night, and ceased not: my soul refused to be comforted.
 3 I remembered God, and was troubled: I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed. Selah.
 4 Thou holdest mine eyes waking: I am so troubled that I cannot speak.
 5 I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times.
 6 I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search.
 7 Will the Lord cast off for ever? and will he be favorable no more?
 8 Is his mercy clean gone for ever? doth *his* promise fail for evermore?
 9 Hath God forgotten to be gracious? hath he in anger shut up his tender mercies? Selah.
 10 And I said, This *is* my infirmity: *but* I will remember the years of the right hand of the most High.
 11 I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old.
 12 I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings.
 13 Thy way, O God, *is* in the sanctuary: who *is* so great a God as *our* God?

14 Thou *art* the God that doest wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people.
15 Thou hast with *thine* arm redeemed thy people, the sons of Jacob and Joseph. Selah.
16 The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee; they were afraid: the depths also were troubled.
17 The clouds poured out water: the skies sent out a sound: thine arrows also went abroad.
18 The voice of thy thunder *was* in the heaven: the lightnings lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook.
19 Thy way *is* in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known.
20 Thou leddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Chronological Notes

- 1) There are twelve psalms attributed to Asaph (50, 73–83). Asaph was a Levite musician who played a leading role in the music of worship during the time of David (1 Chr 15:17–19; 16:4–5), and whose descendants carried on the family tradition of music (Ezra 3:10). Three of these psalms are connected with the exile to Babylon (74, 79) and the fall of Samaria (80), and will be presented later in that context. The remaining nine psalms will be presented here in their canonical order. I have dated these psalms as “c. David/Solomon” to indicate that they were likely written during the reign of David or Solomon.

Tell the Coming Generation (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 78

Maschil of Asaph.

- 1 Give ear, O my people, *to* my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: [[Matt 13:35](#)]
- 3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.
- 4 We will not hide *them* from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.
- 5 For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: [[Deut 4:9–10; 6:7, 20–25](#)]
- 6 That the generation to come might know *them*, *even* the children *which* should be born; *who* should arise and declare *them* to their children:
- 7 That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:
- 8 And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation *that* set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not stedfast with God.
- 9 The children of Ephraim, *being* armed, *and* carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle.
- 10 They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in his law;
- 11 And forgot his works, and his wonders that he had shewed them.
- 12 Marvelous things did he in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, *in* the field of Zoan.
- 13 He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters to stand as an heap.
- 14 In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.
- 15 He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave *them* drink as *out of* the great depths.
- 16 He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.
- 17 And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness.
- 18 And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust.
- 19 Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?
- 20 Behold, he smote the rock, that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed; can he give bread also? can he provide flesh for his people?
- 21 Therefore the LORD heard *this*, and was wroth: so a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also came up against Israel;
- 22 Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation:
- 23 Though he had commanded the clouds from above, and opened the doors of heaven,
- 24 And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven. [[John 6:31](#)]
- 25 Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full.
- 26 He caused an east wind to blow in the heaven: and by his power he brought in the south wind.
- 27 He rained flesh also upon them as dust, and feathered fowls like as the sand of the sea:
- 28 And he let *it* fall in the midst of their camp, round about their habitations.
- 29 So they did eat, and were well filled: for he gave them their own desire;
- 30 They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat *was* yet in their mouths,
- 31 The wrath of God came upon them, and slew the fattest of them, and smote down the chosen *men* of Israel.
- 32 For all this they sinned still, and believed not for his wondrous works.
- 33 Therefore their days did he consume in vanity, and their years in trouble.
- 34 When he slew them, then they sought him: and they returned and enquired early after God.
- 35 And they remembered that God *was* their rock, and the high God their redeemer.
- 36 Nevertheless they did flatter him with their mouth, and they lied unto him with their tongues.
- 37 For their heart was not right with him, neither were they stedfast in his covenant.
- 38 But he, *being* full of compassion, forgave *their* iniquity, and destroyed *them* not: yea, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath.
- 39 For he remembered that they *were* but flesh; a wind that passeth away, and cometh not again.
- 40 How oft did they provoke him in the wilderness, *and* grieve him in the desert!
- 41 Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.
- 42 They remembered not his hand, *nor* the day when he delivered them from the enemy.
- 43 How he had wrought his signs in Egypt, and his wonders in the field of Zoan:
- 44 And had turned their rivers into blood; and their floods, that they could not drink.
- 45 He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.
- 46 He gave also their increase unto the caterpillar, and their labour unto the locust.
- 47 He destroyed their vines with hail, and their sycamore trees with frost.
- 48 He gave up their cattle also to the hail, and their flocks to hot thunderbolts.
- 49 He cast upon them the fierceness of his anger, wrath, and indignation, and trouble, by sending evil angels *among* them.

50 He made a way to his anger; he spared not their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence;
 51 And smote all the firstborn in Egypt; the chief of *their* strength in the tabernacles of Ham:
 52 But made his own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.
 53 And he led them on safely, so that they feared not: but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.
 54 And he brought them to the border of his sanctuary, *even to* this mountain, *which* his right hand had purchased.
 55 He cast out the heathen also before them, and divided them an inheritance by line, and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.
 56 Yet they tempted and provoked the most high God, and kept not his testimonies:
 57 But turned back, and dealt unfaithfully like their fathers: they were turned aside like a deceitful bow.
 58 For they provoked him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their graven images.
 59 When God heard *this*, he was wroth, and greatly abhorred Israel:
 60 So that he forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent *which* he placed among men;
 61 And delivered his strength into captivity, and his glory into the enemy's hand.
 62 He gave his people over also unto the sword; and was wroth with his inheritance.
 63 The fire consumed their young men; and their maidens were not given to marriage.
 64 Their priests fell by the sword; and their widows made no lamentation.
 65 Then the Lord awaked as one out of sleep, *and* like a mighty man that shouteth by reason of wine.
 66 And he smote his enemies in the hinder parts: he put them to a perpetual reproach.
 67 Moreover he refused the tabernacle of Joseph, and chose not the tribe of Ephraim:
 68 But chose the tribe of Judah, the mount Zion which he loved.
 69 And he built his sanctuary like high *palaces*, like the earth which he hath established for ever.
 70 He chose David also his servant, and took him from the sheepfolds:
 71 From following the ewes great with young he brought him to feed Jacob his people, and Israel his inheritance.
 72 So he fed them according to the integrity of his heart; and guided them by the skillfulness of his hands.

Oh, That My People Would Listen to Me (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 81

To the chief Musician upon Gittith,

A Psalm of Asaph.

1 Sing aloud unto God our strength: make a joyful noise unto the God of Jacob.
 2 Take a psalm, and bring hither the timbrel, the pleasant harp with the psaltery.
 3 Blow up the trumpet in the new moon, in the time appointed, on our solemn feast day.
 4 For this *was* a statute for Israel, *and* a law of the God of Jacob.
 5 This he ordained in Joseph *for* a testimony, when he went out through the land of Egypt: *where* I heard a language *that* I understood not.
 6 I removed his shoulder from the burden: his hands were delivered from the pots.
 7 Thou calledst in trouble, and I delivered thee; I answered thee in the secret place of thunder: I proved thee at the waters of Meribah. Selah.
 8 Hear, O my people, and I will testify unto thee: O Israel, if thou wilt hearken unto me;
 9 There shall no strange god be in thee; neither shalt thou worship any strange god.
 10 I *am* the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it.
 11 But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me.
 12 So I gave them up unto their own hearts' lust: *and* they walked in their own counsels.
 13 Oh that my people had hearkened unto me, *and* Israel had walked in my ways!
 14 I should soon have subdued their enemies, and turned my hand against their adversaries.
 15 The haters of the LORD should have submitted themselves unto him: but their time should have endured for ever.
 16 He should have fed them also with the finest of the wheat: and with honey out of the rock should I have satisfied thee.

Rescue the Weak and Needy (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 82

A Psalm of Asaph.

1 God standeth in the congregation of the mighty; he judgeth among the gods.
 2 How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah.
 3 Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.
 4 Deliver the poor and needy: rid *them* out of the hand of the wicked.
 5 They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: all the foundations of the earth are out of course.

6 I have said, Ye *are* gods; [[John 10:34](#)] and all of you *are* children of the most High.

7 But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes.

8 Arise, O God, judge the earth: for thou shalt inherit all nations.

O God, Do Not Keep Silent (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 83

A Song or Psalm of Asaph.

1 Keep not thou silence, O God: hold not thy peace, and be not still, O God.

2 For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head.

3 They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones.

4 They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from *being* a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance.

5 For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee:

6 The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes;

7 Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre;

8 Assur also is joined with them: they have helped the children of Lot. Selah.

9 Do unto them as *unto* the Midianites; as *to* Sisera, as *to* Jabin, at the brook of Kison:

10 *Which* perished at Endor: they became *as* dung for the earth.

11 Make their nobles like Oreb, and like Zeeb: yea, all their princes as Zebah, and as Zalmunna:

12 Who said, Let us take to ourselves the houses of God in possession.

13 O my God, make them like a wheel; as the stubble before the wind.

14 As the fire burneth a wood, and as the flame setteth the mountains on fire;

15 So persecute them with thy tempest, and make them afraid with thy storm.

16 Fill their faces with shame; that they may seek thy name, O LORD.

17 Let them be confounded and troubled for ever; yea, let them be put to shame, and perish:

18 That *men* may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, *art* the most high over all the earth.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

I Cry Out Day and Night Before You (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 88

**A Song or Psalm for the sons of Korah,
to the chief Musician upon Mahalath Leannoth,
Maschil of Heman the Ezrahite.**

- 1 O LORD God of my salvation, I have cried day *and* night before thee:
- 2 Let my prayer come before thee: incline thine ear unto my cry;
- 3 For my soul is full of troubles: and my life draweth nigh unto the grave.
- 4 I am counted with them that go down into the pit: I am as a man *that hath* no strength:
- 5 Free among the dead, like the slain that lie in the grave, whom thou rememberest no more: and they are cut off from thy hand.
- 6 Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps.
- 7 Thy wrath lieth hard upon me, and thou hast afflicted *me* with all thy waves. Selah.
- 8 Thou hast put away mine acquaintance far from me; thou hast made me an abomination unto them: *I am* shut up, and I cannot come forth.
- 9 Mine eye mourneth by reason of affliction: LORD, I have called daily upon thee, I have stretched out my hands unto thee.
- 10 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? shall the dead arise *and* praise thee? Selah.
- 11 Shall thy lovingkindness be declared in the grave? *or* thy faithfulness in destruction?
- 12 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?
- 13 But unto thee have I cried, O LORD; and in the morning shall my prayer prevent thee.
- 14 LORD, why castest thou off my soul? *why* hidest thou thy face from me?
- 15 *I am* afflicted and ready to die from *my* youth up: *while* I suffer thy terrors I am distracted.
- 16 Thy fierce wrath goeth over me; thy terrors have cut me off.
- 17 They came round about me daily like water; they compassed me about together.
- 18 Lover and friend hast thou put far from me, *and* mine acquaintance into darkness.

I Will Sing of the Steadfast Love of the Lord [Messianic] (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 89

Maschil of Ethan the Ezrahite.

- 1 I will sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations.
- 2 For I have said, Mercy shall be built up for ever: thy faithfulness shalt thou establish in the very heavens.
- 3 I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant,
- 4 Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah.
- 5 And the heavens shall praise thy wonders, O LORD: thy faithfulness also in the congregation of the saints.
- 6 For who in the heaven can be compared unto the LORD? *who* among the sons of the mighty can be likened unto the LORD?
- 7 God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all *them that are* about him.
- 8 O LORD God of hosts, *who is* a strong LORD like unto thee? or to thy faithfulness round about thee?
- 9 Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them.
- 10 Thou hast broken Rahab in pieces, as one that is slain; thou hast scattered thine enemies with thy strong arm.
- 11 The heavens *are* thine, the earth also *is* thine: *as for* the world and the fullness thereof, thou hast founded them.
- 12 The north and the south thou hast created them: Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in thy name.
- 13 Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, *and* high is thy right hand.
- 14 Justice and judgment *are* the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face.
- 15 Blessed *is* the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance.
- 16 In thy name shall they rejoice all the day: and in thy righteousness shall they be exalted.
- 17 For thou *art* the glory of their strength: and in thy favour our horn shall be exalted.
- 18 For the LORD *is* our defense; and the Holy One of Israel *is* our king.
- 19 Then thou spakest in vision to thy holy one, and saidst, I have laid help upon *one that is* mighty; I have exalted *one* chosen out of the people.
- 20 I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him: [\[Acts 13:22\]](#)
- 21 With whom my hand shall be established: mine arm also shall strengthen him.
- 22 The enemy shall not exact upon him; nor the son of wickedness afflict him.
- 23 And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague them that hate him.
- 24 But my faithfulness and my mercy *shall be* with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted.
- 25 I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers.
- 26 He shall cry unto me, Thou *art* my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.
- 27 Also I will make him *my* firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.
- 28 My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him.

29 His seed also will I make *to endure* for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven.
 30 If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments;
 31 If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments;
 32 Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes.
 33 Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail.
 34 My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.
 35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David.
 36 His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me.
 37 It shall be established for ever as the moon, and *as* a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.
 38 But thou hast cast off and abhorred, thou hast been wroth with thine anointed.
 39 Thou hast made void the covenant of thy servant: thou hast profaned his crown *by casting it* to the ground.
 40 Thou hast broken down all his hedges; thou hast brought his strong holds to ruin.
 41 All that pass by the way spoil him: he is a reproach to his neighbors.
 42 Thou hast set up the right hand of his adversaries; thou hast made all his enemies to rejoice.
 43 Thou hast also turned the edge of his sword, and hast not made him to stand in the battle.
 44 Thou hast made his glory to cease, and cast his throne down to the ground.
 45 The days of his youth hast thou shortened: thou hast covered him with shame. Selah.
 46 How long, LORD? wilt thou hide thyself for ever? shall thy wrath burn like fire?
 47 Remember how short my time is: wherefore hast thou made all men in vain?
 48 What man *is he that* liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? Selah.
 49 Lord, where *are* thy former loving-kindnesses, *which* thou swarest unto David in thy truth?
 50 Remember, Lord, the reproach of thy servants; *how* I do bear in my bosom *the reproach of* all the mighty people;
 51 Wherewith thine enemies have reproached, O LORD; wherewith they have reproached the footsteps of thine anointed.
 52 Blessed *be* the LORD for evermore. Amen, and Amen.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Chronological Notes

- 1) Heman the Ezrahite and Ethan the Ezrahite both authored psalms (88–89). Heman was the founder of the choir known as “the sons of Korah,” and was famed for his wisdom (1 Kgs 4:31). Ezrahite was evidently an equivalent of Zerahite, a clan of Judah (1 Chr 2:6), although Heman was also a Levite, with Ephraimite connections (1 Chr 6:33; cf. 1 Sam 1:1). These links, possibly adoptive, between Levi and other tribes, if the Heman of 1 Chronicles 2:6 is rightly identified with the Korahite founder, are not unparalleled: cf. Judges 17:7 and the subsequent affiliations of the Levite in question. Ethan is probably identical with Jeduthun, who founded one of the three choirs (cf. 1 Chr 15:19; 2 Chr 5:12). Ethan shared with Heman a reputation for wisdom, and membership of the same Judahite clan.¹ I have dated these psalms as “c. David/Solomon” to indicate that they were likely written during the reign of David or Solomon.

¹ Derek J. Kidner, “Psalms 1–72,” *TOTC*, 49

Why Are You Cast Down, O My Soul (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 42

To the chief Musician,

Maschil, for the sons of Korah.

- 1 As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.
- 2 My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?
- 3 My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where *is* thy God?
- 4 When I remember these *things*, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.
- 5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and *why* art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him *for* the help of his countenance.
- 6 O my God, my soul is cast down within me: therefore will I remember thee from the land of Jordan, and of the Hermonites, from the hill Mizar.
- 7 Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me.
- 8 *Yet* the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song *shall be* with me, *and* my prayer unto the God of my life.
- 9 I will say unto God my rock, Why hast thou forgotten me? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?
- 10 As with a sword in my bones, mine enemies reproach me; while they say daily unto me, Where *is* thy God?
- 11 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, *who is* the health of my countenance, and my God.

Send Out Your Light and Your Truth (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 43

- 1 Judge me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation: O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man.
- 2 For thou *art* the God of my strength: why dost thou cast me off? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?
- 3 O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.
- 4 Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy: yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God my God.
- 5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, *who is* the health of my countenance, and my God.

Come to Our Help (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 44

To the chief Musician

for the sons of Korah, Maschil.

- 1 We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, *what* work thou didst in their days, in the times of old.
- 2 *How* thou didst drive out the heathen with thy hand, and plantedst them; *how* thou didst afflict the people, and cast them out.
- 3 For they got not the land in possession by their own sword, neither did their own arm save them: but thy right hand, and thine arm, and the light of thy countenance, because thou hadst a favor unto them.
- 4 Thou art my King, O God: command deliverances for Jacob.
- 5 Through thee will we push down our enemies: through thy name will we tread them under that rise up against us.
- 6 For I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my sword save me.
- 7 But thou hast saved us from our enemies, and hast put them to shame that hated us.
- 8 In God we boast all the day long, and praise thy name for ever. Selah.
- 9 But thou hast cast off, and put us to shame; and goest not forth with our armies.
- 10 Thou makest us to turn back from the enemy: and they which hate us spoil for themselves.
- 11 Thou hast given us like sheep *appointed* for meat; and hast scattered us among the heathen.
- 12 Thou sellest thy people for naught, and dost not increase *thy wealth* by their price.
- 13 Thou makest us a reproach to our neighbors, a scorn and a derision to them that are round about us.
- 14 Thou makest us a byword among the heathen, a shaking of the head among the people.
- 15 My confusion *is* continually before me, and the shame of my face hath covered me,
- 16 For the voice of him that reproacheth and blasphemeth; by reason of the enemy and avenger.
- 17 All this is come upon us; yet have we not forgotten thee, neither have we dealt falsely in thy covenant.
- 18 Our heart is not turned back, neither have our steps declined from thy way;
- 19 Though thou hast sore broken us in the place of dragons, and covered us with the shadow of death.
- 20 If we have forgotten the name of our God, or stretched out our hands to a strange god;

- 21 Shall not God search this out? for he knoweth the secrets of the heart.
 22 Yea, for thy sake are we killed all the day long; we are counted as sheep for the slaughter.
 23 Awake, why sleepest thou, O Lord? arise, cast us not off for ever.
 24 Wherefore hidest thou thy face, *and* forgettest our affliction and our oppression?
 25 For our soul is bowed down to the dust: our belly cleaveth unto the earth.
 26 Arise for our help, and redeem us for thy mercies' sake.

Your Throne, O God, Is Forever [Messianic] (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 45

To the chief Musician upon Shoshannim,

for the sons of Korah, Maschil, A Song of loves.

- 1 My heart is indicting a good matter: I speak of the things which I have made touching the king: my tongue *is* the pen of a ready writer.
 2 Thou art fairer than the children of men: grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee for ever.
 3 Gird thy sword upon *thy* thigh, O *most* mighty, with thy glory and thy majesty.
 4 And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness *and* righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.
 5 Thine arrows *are* sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; *whereby* the people fall under thee.
 6 Thy throne, O God, *is* for ever and ever: the scepter of thy kingdom *is* a right scepter.
 7 Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. [[Heb 1:8–9](#)]
 8 All thy garments *smell* of myrrh, and aloes, *and* cassia, out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.
 9 Kings' daughters *were* among thy honorable women: upon thy right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir.
 10 Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house;
 11 So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he *is* thy Lord; and worship thou him.
 12 And the daughter of Tyre *shall be there* with a gift; *even* the rich among the people shall entreat thy favor.
 13 The king's daughter *is* all glorious within: her clothing *is* of wrought gold.
 14 She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework: the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee.
 15 With gladness and rejoicing shall they be brought: they shall enter into the king's palace.
 16 Instead of thy fathers shall be thy children, whom thou mayest make princes in all the earth.
 17 I will make thy name to be remembered in all generations: therefore shall the people praise thee for ever and ever.

God Is Our Fortress (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 46

To the chief Musician

for the sons of Korah, A Song upon Alamoth.

- 1 God *is* our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
 2 Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;
 3 *Though* the waters thereof roar *and* be troubled, *though* the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.
 4 *There is* a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy *place* of the tabernacles of the most High.
 5 God *is* in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, *and that* right early.
 6 The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted.
 7 The LORD of hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah.
 8 Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth.
 9 He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.
 10 Be still, and know that I *am* God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.
 11 The LORD of hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah.

God Is King over All the Earth (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 47

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm for the sons of Korah.

1 O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.

2 For the LORD most high *is* terrible; *he is* a great King over all the earth.

3 He shall subdue the people under us, and the nations under our feet.

4 He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom he loved. Selah.

5 God is gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

6 Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises unto our King, sing praises.

7 For God *is* the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.

8 God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness.

9 The princes of the people are gathered together, *even* the people of the God of Abraham: for the shields of the earth *belong* unto God: he is greatly exalted.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Chronological Notes

- 1) The Psalter contains eleven psalms written by the “sons of Korah”—ten psalms are directly attributed to them (42, 44–49, 84, 85, 87), and Psalm 43 is closely connected to Psalm 42 (compare 42:11 with 43:5). This Levitical family was descended from the rebel leader of that name, whose children were spared—to our great gain—when he died for his rebellion (Num 26:10ff.). One part of this family became the temple doorkeepers and guardians (1 Chr 9:17ff.; cf. Ps 84:10?), and another part the singers and musicians of the temple choir founded under David by Heman, whose fellow-Levites Asaph and Jeduthun (or Ethan) directed the choirs drawn from the other two clans of that tribe (1 Chr 6:31, 33, 39, 44).¹ I have dated these psalms as “c. David/Solomon” to indicate that they were likely written during the reign of David or Solomon.

¹ Derek J. Kidner, “Psalms 1–72,” *TOTC*, 49

Zion, the City of Our God (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 48

A Song and Psalm for the sons of Korah.

- 1 Great *is* the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, *in* the mountain of his holiness.
- 2 Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, *is* mount Zion, *on* the sides of the north, the city of the great King. [[Matt 5:34–35](#)]
- 3 God is known in her palaces for a refuge.
- 4 For, lo, the kings were assembled, they passed by together.
- 5 They saw *it*, *and* so they marveled; they were troubled, *and* hasted away.
- 6 Fear took hold upon them there, *and* pain, as of a woman in travail.
- 7 Thou breakest the ships of Tarshish with an east wind.
- 8 As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God: God will establish it for ever. Selah.
- 9 We have thought of thy lovingkindness, O God, in the midst of thy temple.
- 10 According to thy name, O God, so *is* thy praise unto the ends of the earth: thy right hand is full of righteousness.
- 11 Let mount Zion rejoice, let the daughters of Judah be glad, because of thy judgments.
- 12 Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof.
- 13 Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces; that ye may tell *it* to the generation following.
- 14 For this God *is* our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide *even* unto death.

Why Should I Fear in Times of Trouble (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 49

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm for the sons of Korah.

- 1 Hear this, all ye people; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world:
- 2 Both low and high, rich and poor, together.
- 3 My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart *shall be* of understanding.
- 4 I will incline mine ear to a parable: I will open my dark saying upon the harp.
- 5 Wherefore should I fear in the days of evil, *when* the iniquity of my heels shall compass me about?
- 6 They that trust in their wealth, and boast themselves in the multitude of their riches;
- 7 None *of them* can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him:
- 8 (For the redemption of their soul *is* precious, and it ceaseth for ever:)
- 9 That he should still live for ever, *and* not see corruption.
- 10 For he seeth *that* wise men die, likewise the fool and the brutish person perish, and leave their wealth to others.
- 11 Their inward thought *is*, *that* their houses *shall continue* for ever, *and* their dwelling places to all generations; they call *their* lands after their own names.
- 12 Nevertheless man *being* in honor abideth not: he is like the beasts *that* perish.
- 13 This their way *is* their folly: yet their posterity approve their sayings. Selah.
- 14 Like sheep they are laid in the grave; death shall feed on them; and the upright shall have dominion over them in the morning; and their beauty shall consume in the grave from their dwelling.
- 15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me. Selah.
- 16 Be not thou afraid when one is made rich, when the glory of his house is increased;
- 17 For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him.
- 18 Though while he lived he blessed his soul: and *men* will praise thee, when thou doest well to thyself.
- 19 He shall go to the generation of his fathers; they shall never see light.
- 20 Man *that is* in honor, and understandeth not, is like the beasts *that* perish.

My Soul Longs for the Courts of the LORD (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 84

To the chief Musician upon Gittith,

A Psalm for the sons of Korah.

- 1 How amiable *are* thy tabernacles, O LORD of hosts!
- 2 My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the LORD: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.
- 3 Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, *even* thine altars, O LORD of hosts, my King, and my God.
- 4 Blessed *are* they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah.

5 Blessed *is* the man whose strength *is* in thee; in whose heart *are* the ways *of them*.
 6 *Who* passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools.
 7 They go from strength to strength, *every one of them* in Zion appeareth before God.
 8 O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob. Selah.
 9 Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed.
 10 For a day in thy courts *is* better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.
 11 For the LORD God *is* a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good *thing* will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.
 12 O LORD of hosts, blessed *is* the man that trusteth in thee.

Revive Us Again (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 85

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm for the sons of Korah.

1 LORD, thou hast been favorable unto thy land: thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob.
 2 Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin. Selah.
 3 Thou hast taken away all thy wrath: thou hast turned *thyself* from the fierceness of thine anger.
 4 Turn us, O God of our salvation, and cause thine anger toward us to cease.
 5 Wilt thou be angry with us for ever? wilt thou draw out thine anger to all generations?
 6 Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?
 7 Shew us thy mercy, O LORD, and grant us thy salvation.
 8 I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints: but let them not turn again to folly.
 9 Surely his salvation *is* nigh them that fear him; that glory may dwell in our land.
 10 Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed *each other*.
 11 Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
 12 Yea, the LORD shall give *that which is* good; and our land shall yield her increase.
 13 Righteousness shall go before him; and shall set *us* in the way of his steps.

The LORD Loves the Gates of Zion (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 87

A Psalm or Song for the sons of Korah.

1 His foundation *is* in the holy mountains.
 2 The LORD loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
 3 Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. Selah.
 4 I will make mention of Rahab and Babylon to them that know me: behold Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia; this *man* was born there.
 5 And of Zion it shall be said, This and that man was born in her: and the highest himself shall establish her.
 6 The LORD shall count, when he writeth up the people, *that this man* was born there. Selah.
 7 As well the singers as the players on instruments *shall be there*: all my springs *are* in thee.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

The Way of the Righteous and the Wicked (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 1

- 1 Blessed *is* the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
- 2 But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.
- 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.
- 4 The ungodly *are* not so: but *are* like the chaff which the wind driveth away.
- 5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

The Steadfast Love of the LORD (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 33

- 1 Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: *for* praise is comely for the upright.
- 2 Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery *and* an instrument of ten strings.
- 3 Sing unto him a new song; play skillfully with a loud noise.
- 4 For the word of the LORD *is* right; and all his works *are done* in truth.
- 5 He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.
- 6 By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.
- 7 He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses.
- 8 Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.
- 9 For he spake, and it was *done*; he commanded, and it stood fast.
- 10 The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect.
- 11 The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.
- 12 Blessed *is* the nation whose God *is* the LORD; *and* the people *whom* he hath chosen for his own inheritance.
- 13 The LORD looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men.
- 14 From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth.
- 15 He fashioneth their hearts alike; he considereth all their works.
- 16 There is no king saved by the multitude of an host: a mighty man is not delivered by much strength.
- 17 An horse *is* a vain thing for safety: neither shall he deliver *any* by his great strength.
- 18 Behold, the eye of the LORD *is* upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy;
- 19 To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.
- 20 Our soul waiteth for the LORD: he *is* our help and our shield.
- 21 For our heart shall rejoice in him, because we have trusted in his holy name.
- 22 Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.

How Awesome Are Your Deeds (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 66

To the chief Musician,

A Song or Psalm.

- 1 Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands:
- 2 Sing forth the honor of his name: make his praise glorious.
- 3 Say unto God, How terrible *art thou* in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee.
- 4 All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing *to* thy name. Selah.
- 5 Come and see the works of God: *he is* terrible *in his* doing toward the children of men.
- 6 He turned the sea into dry *land*: they went through the flood on foot: there did we rejoice in him.
- 7 He ruleth by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Selah.
- 8 O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard:
- 9 Which holdeth our soul in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved.
- 10 For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried.
- 11 Thou broughtest us into the net; thou laidst affliction upon our loins.
- 12 Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy *place*.
- 13 I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows,

- 14 Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble.
 15 I will offer unto thee burnt sacrifices of fatlings, with the incense of rams; I will offer bullocks with goats. Selah.
 16 Come *and* hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.
 17 I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue.
 18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear *me*:
 19 *But* verily God hath heard *me*; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer.
 20 Blessed *be* God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.

Make Your Face Shine upon Us (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 67

To the chief Musician on Neginoth,

A Psalm or Song.

- 1 God be merciful unto us, and bless us; *and* cause his face to shine upon us; Selah.
 2 That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.
 3 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.
 4 O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah.
 5 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.
 6 *Then* shall the earth yield her increase; *and* God, *even* our own God, shall bless us.
 7 God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

Forsake Me Not When My Strength Is Spent (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 71

- 1 In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion.
 2 Deliver me in thy righteousness, and cause me to escape: incline thine ear unto me, and save me.
 3 Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou *art* my rock and my fortress.
 4 Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.
 5 For thou *art* my hope, O Lord GOD: *thou art* my trust from my youth.
 6 By thee have I been holden up from the womb: thou art he that took me out of my mother's bowels: my praise *shall be* continually of thee.
 7 I am as a wonder unto many; but thou *art* my strong refuge.
 8 Let my mouth be filled *with* thy praise *and with* thy honor all the day.
 9 Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth.
 10 For mine enemies speak against me; and they that lay wait for my soul take counsel together,
 11 Saying, God hath forsaken him: persecute and take him; for *there is* none to deliver *him*.
 12 O God, be not far from me: O my God, make haste for my help.
 13 Let them be confounded *and* consumed that are adversaries to my soul; let them be covered *with* reproach and dishonor that seek my hurt.
 14 But I will hope continually, and will yet praise thee more and more.
 15 My mouth shall shew forth thy righteousness *and* thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers *thereof*.
 16 I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will make mention of thy righteousness, *even* of thine only.
 17 O God, thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works.
 18 Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto *this* generation, *and* thy power to every one *that is* to come.
 19 Thy righteousness also, O God, *is* very high, who hast done great things: O God, who *is* like unto thee!
 20 *Thou*, which hast shewed me great and sore troubles, shalt quicken me again, and shalt bring me up again from the depths of the earth.
 21 Thou shalt increase my greatness, and comfort me on every side.
 22 I will also praise thee with the psaltery, *even* thy truth, O my God: unto thee will I sing with the harp, O thou Holy One of Israel.
 23 My lips shall greatly rejoice when I sing unto thee; and my soul, which thou hast redeemed.
 24 My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long: for they are confounded, for they are brought unto shame, that seek my hurt.

Chronological Notes

- 1) There are forty-six psalms whose authorship is unknown (i.e., they contain no authorial heading: 1, 33, 66–67, 71, 91–94, 96–100, 102, 104–107, 111–121, 123, 125, 126, 128–130, 132, 134–137, 146–150). Three of these psalms (96, 105, 106)¹ are directly connected with 1 Chronicles 16 (David bringing the ark to Jerusalem) and have already been included in that context. Another two psalms were likely written during the exile to Babylon (137) and after the return to Israel (126)—they will be presented later in that context. I have dated the remaining anonymous psalms as “c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom” to indicate that they could have been written anytime during this period.

¹ Depending on how you translate 1 Chronicles 16:7, these psalms may be attributed to David (NASB—“Then on that day David first assigned Asaph and his relatives to give thanks to the LORD” vs. NET—“That day David first gave to Asaph and his colleagues this song of thanks to the LORD”).

My Refuge and My Fortress (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 91

- 1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 I will say of the LORD, *He is* my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.
- 3 Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, *and* from the noisome pestilence.
- 4 He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth *shall be* thy shield and buckler.
- 5 Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; *nor* for the arrow *that* flieth by day;
- 6 *Nor* for the pestilence *that* walketh in darkness; *nor* for the destruction *that* wasteth at noonday.
- 7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; *but* it shall not come nigh thee.
- 8 Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.
- 9 Because thou hast made the LORD, *which is* my refuge, *even* the most High, thy habitation;
- 10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. [[Matt 4:6](#); [Luke 4:10–11](#)]
- 12 They shall bear thee up in *their* hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.
- 13 Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. [[Luke 10:19](#)]
- 14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I *will be* with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

How Great Are Your Works (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 92

A Psalm or Song for the sabbath day.

- 1 *It is a good thing* to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High:
- 2 To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night,
- 3 Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound.
- 4 For thou, LORD, hast made me glad through thy work: I will triumph in the works of thy hands.
- 5 O LORD, how great are thy works! *and* thy thoughts are very deep.
- 6 A brutish man knoweth not; neither doth a fool understand this.
- 7 When the wicked spring as the grass, and when all the workers of iniquity do flourish; *it is* that they shall be destroyed for ever:
- 8 But thou, LORD, *art most* high for evermore.
- 9 For, lo, thine enemies, O LORD, for, lo, thine enemies shall perish; all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.
- 10 But my horn shalt thou exalt like *the horn of* an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.
- 11 Mine eye also shall see *my desire* on mine enemies, *and* mine ears shall hear *my desire* of the wicked that rise up against me.
- 12 The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
- 13 Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God.
- 14 They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing;
- 15 To shew that the LORD *is* upright: *he is* my rock, and *there is* no unrighteousness in him.

The LORD Reigns (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 93

- 1 The LORD reigneth, he is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed with strength, *wherewith* he hath girded himself: the world also is stablished, that it cannot be moved.
- 2 Thy throne *is* established of old: thou *art* from everlasting.
- 3 The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their waves.
- 4 The LORD on high *is* mightier than the noise of many waters, *yea, than* the mighty waves of the sea.
- 5 Thy testimonies are very sure: holiness becometh thine house, O LORD, for ever.

The LORD Will Not Forsake His People (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 94

- 1 O LORD God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O God, to whom vengeance belongeth, shew thyself.
- 2 Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud.
- 3 LORD, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph?
- 4 *How long* shall they utter *and* speak hard things? *and* all the workers of iniquity boast themselves?
- 5 They break in pieces thy people, O LORD, and afflict thine heritage.

6 They slay the widow and the stranger, and murder the fatherless.
 7 Yet they say, The LORD shall not see, neither shall the God of Jacob regard *it*.
 8 Understand, ye brutish among the people: and ye fools, when will ye be wise?
 9 He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? he that formed the eye, shall he not see?
 10 He that chastiseth the heathen, shall not he correct? he that teacheth man knowledge, *shall not he know?*
 11 The LORD knoweth the thoughts of man, that they *are* vanity. [[1 Cor 3:20](#)]
 12 Blessed *is* the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law;
 13 That thou mayest give him rest from the days of adversity, until the pit be digged for the wicked.
 14 For the LORD will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his inheritance. [[Rom 11:2](#)]
 15 But judgment shall return unto righteousness: and all the upright in heart shall follow it.
 16 Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? *or* who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?
 17 Unless the LORD *had been* my help, my soul had almost dwelt in silence.
 18 When I said, My foot slippeth; thy mercy, O LORD, held me up.
 19 In the multitude of my thoughts within me thy comforts delight my soul.
 20 Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief by a law?
 21 They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous, and condemn the innocent blood.
 22 But the LORD is my defense; and my God *is* the rock of my refuge.
 23 And he shall bring upon them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; *yea*, the LORD our God shall cut them off.

The LORD Reigns (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 97

1 The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad *thereof*.
 2 Clouds and darkness *are* round about him: righteousness and judgment *are* the habitation of his throne.
 3 A fire goeth before him, and burneth up his enemies round about.
 4 His lightnings enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled.
 5 The hills melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
 6 The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.
 7 Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols: worship him, all *ye* gods.
 8 Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O LORD.
 9 For thou, LORD, *art* high above all the earth: thou art exalted far above all gods.
 10 Ye that love the LORD, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.
 11 Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart.
 12 Rejoice in the LORD, ye righteous; and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

Make a Joyful Noise to the LORD (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 98

A Psalm.

1 O sing unto the LORD a new song; for he hath done marvelous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory.
 2 The LORD hath made known his salvation: his righteousness hath he openly shewed in the sight of the heathen.
 3 He hath remembered his mercy and his truth toward the house of Israel: all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
 4 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.
 5 Sing unto the LORD with the harp; with the harp, and the voice of a psalm.
 6 With trumpets and sound of cornet make a joyful noise before the LORD, the King.
 7 Let the sea roar, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.
 8 Let the floods clap *their* hands: let the hills be joyful together
 9 Before the LORD; for he cometh to judge the earth: with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity.

The LORD Our God Is Holy (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 99

1 The LORD reigneth; let the people tremble: he sitteth *between* the cherubims; let the earth be moved.
 2 The LORD *is* great in Zion; and he *is* high above all the people.
 3 Let them praise thy great and terrible name; *for it is* holy.

4 The king's strength also loveth judgment; thou dost establish equity, thou executest judgment and righteousness in Jacob.
5 Exalt ye the LORD our God, and worship at his footstool; *for he is holy.*
6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among them that call upon his name; they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.
7 He spake unto them in the cloudy pillar: they kept his testimonies, and the ordinance *that* he gave them.
8 Thou answeredst them, O LORD our God: thou wast a God that forgavest them, though thou tookest vengeance of their inventions.
9 Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the LORD our God *is* holy.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

His Steadfast Love Endures Forever (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 100

A Psalm of praise.

- 1 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands.
- 2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.
- 3 Know ye that the LORD he is God: *it is he that* hath made us, and not we ourselves; *we are* his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- 4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, *and* into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, *and* bless his name.
- 5 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth *endureth* to all generations.

Do Not Hide Your Face from Me [Messianic] (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 102

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

- 1 Hear my prayer, O LORD, and let my cry come unto thee.
- 2 Hide not thy face from me in the day *when* I am in trouble; incline thine ear unto me: in the day *when* I call answer me speedily.
- 3 For my days are consumed like smoke, and my bones are burned as an hearth.
- 4 My heart is smitten, and withered like grass; so that I forget to eat my bread.
- 5 By reason of the voice of my groaning my bones cleave to my skin.
- 6 I am like a pelican of the wilderness: I am like an owl of the desert.
- 7 I watch, and am as a sparrow alone upon the house top.
- 8 Mine enemies reproach me all the day; *and* they that are mad against me are sworn against me.
- 9 For I have eaten ashes like bread, and mingled my drink with weeping,
- 10 Because of thine indignation and thy wrath: for thou hast lifted me up, and cast me down.
- 11 My days *are* like a shadow that declineth; and I am withered like grass.
- 12 But thou, O LORD, shalt endure for ever; and thy remembrance unto all generations.
- 13 Thou shalt arise, *and* have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yea, the set time, is come.
- 14 For thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favour the dust thereof.
- 15 So the heathen shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth thy glory.
- 16 When the LORD shall build up Zion, he shall appear in his glory.
- 17 He will regard the prayer of the destitute, and not despise their prayer.
- 18 This shall be written for the generation to come: and the people which shall be created shall praise the LORD.
- 19 For he hath looked down from the height of his sanctuary; from heaven did the LORD behold the earth;
- 20 To hear the groaning of the prisoner; to loose those that are appointed to death;
- 21 To declare the name of the LORD in Zion, and his praise in Jerusalem;
- 22 When the people are gathered together, and the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.
- 23 He weakened my strength in the way; he shortened my days.
- 24 I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of my days: thy years *are* throughout all generations.
- 25 Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens *are* the work of thy hands.
- 26 They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed:
- 27 But thou *art* the same, and thy years shall have no end. [[Heb 1:10–12](#)]
- 28 The children of thy servants shall continue, and their seed shall be established before thee.

O LORD My God, You Are Very Great (c. 1000 - c. 900 BC)

Psalm 104

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honor and majesty.
- 2 Who coverest *thyself* with light as *with* a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:
- 3 Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: who maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the wings of the wind:
- 4 Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire: [[Heb 1:7](#)]
- 5 *Who* laid the foundations of the earth, *that* it should not be removed for ever.
- 6 Thou coveredst it with the deep as *with* a garment: the waters stood above the mountains.
- 7 At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away.
- 8 They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys unto the place which thou hast founded for them.
- 9 Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth.
- 10 He sendeth the springs into the valleys, *which* run among the hills.
- 11 They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst.

12 By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, *which* sing among the branches.
 13 He watereth the hills from his chambers: the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works.
 14 He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth;
 15 And wine *that* maketh glad the heart of man, *and* oil to make *his* face to shine, and bread *which* strengtheneth man's heart.
 16 The trees of the LORD are full of *sap*; the cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted;
 17 Where the birds make their nests: *as for* the stork, the fir trees *are* her house.
 18 The high hills *are* a refuge for the wild goats; *and* the rocks for the conies.
 19 He appointed the moon for seasons: the sun knoweth his going down.
 20 Thou makest darkness, and it is night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep *forth*.
 21 The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God.
 22 The sun ariseth, they gather themselves together, and lay them down in their dens.
 23 Man goeth forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening.
 24 O LORD, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.
 25 *So is* this great and wide sea, wherein *are* things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts.
 26 There go the ships: *there is* that leviathan, *whom* thou hast made to play therein.
 27 These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give *them* their meat in due season.
 28 *That* thou givest them they gather: thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good.
 29 Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust.
 30 Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.
 31 The glory of the LORD shall endure for ever: the LORD shall rejoice in his works.
 32 He looketh on the earth, and it trembleth: he toucheth the hills, and they smoke.
 33 I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.
 34 My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the LORD.
 35 Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth, and let the wicked be no more. Bless thou the LORD, O my soul. Praise ye the LORD.

Let the Redeemed of the LORD Say So (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 107

1 O give thanks unto the LORD, for *he is* good: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
 2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say *so*, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;
 3 And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south.
 4 They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way; they found no city to dwell in.
 5 Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them.
 6 Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, *and* he delivered them out of their distresses.
 7 And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation.
 8 Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!
 9 For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness. [\[Luke 1:53\]](#)
 10 Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, *being* bound in affliction and iron;
 11 Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High:
 12 Therefore he brought down their heart with labour; they fell down, and *there was* none to help.
 13 Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, *and* he saved them out of their distresses.
 14 He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and brake their bands in sunder.
 15 Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!
 16 For he hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder.
 17 Fools because of their transgression, and because of their iniquities, are afflicted.
 18 Their soul abhorreth all manner of meat; and they draw near unto the gates of death.
 19 Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, *and* he saveth them out of their distresses.
 20 He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered *them* from their destructions.
 21 Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!
 22 And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.
 23 They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters;
 24 These see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep.
 25 For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof.
 26 They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble.
 27 They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end.
 28 Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses.
 29 He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.
 30 Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven.

31 Oh that *men* would praise the LORD *for* his goodness, and *for* his wonderful works to the children of men!
32 Let them exalt him also in the congregation of the people, and praise him in the assembly of the elders.
33 He turneth rivers into a wilderness, and the watersprings into dry ground;
34 A fruitful land into barrenness, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein.
35 He turneth the wilderness into a standing water, and dry ground into watersprings.
36 And there he maketh the hungry to dwell, that they may prepare a city for habitation;
37 And sow the fields, and plant vineyards, which may yield fruits of increase.
38 He blesseth them also, so that they are multiplied greatly; and suffereth not their cattle to decrease.
39 Again, they are diminished and brought low through oppression, affliction, and sorrow.
40 He poureth contempt upon princes, and causeth them to wander in the wilderness, *where there is* no way.
41 Yet setteth he the poor on high from affliction, and maketh *him* families like a flock.
42 The righteous shall see *it*, and rejoice: and all iniquity shall stop her mouth.
43 Whoso *is* wise, and will observe these *things*, even they shall understand the lovingkindness of the LORD.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Great Are the LORD's Works (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 111

- 1 Praise ye the LORD. I will praise the LORD with *my* whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and *in* the congregation.
- 2 The works of the LORD *are* great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.
- 3 His work *is* honorable and glorious: and his righteousness endureth for ever.
- 4 He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered: the LORD *is* gracious and full of compassion.
- 5 He hath given meat unto them that fear him: he will ever be mindful of his covenant.
- 6 He hath shewed his people the power of his works, that he may give them the heritage of the heathen.
- 7 The works of his hands *are* verity and judgment; all his commandments *are* sure.
- 8 They stand fast for ever and ever, *and are* done in truth and uprightness.
- 9 He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend *is* his name.
- 10 The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do *his commandments*: his praise endureth for ever.

The Righteous Will Never Be Moved (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 112

- 1 Praise ye the LORD. Blessed *is* the man *that* feareth the LORD, *that* delighteth greatly in his commandments.
- 2 His seed shall be mighty upon earth: the generation of the upright shall be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches *shall be* in his house: and his righteousness endureth for ever.
- 4 Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness: *he is* gracious, and full of compassion, and righteous.
- 5 A good man sheweth favour, and lendeth: he will guide his affairs with discretion.
- 6 Surely he shall not be moved for ever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.
- 7 He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD.
- 8 His heart *is* established, he shall not be afraid, until he see *his desire* upon his enemies.
- 9 He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; [[2 Cor 9:9](#)] his horn shall be exalted with honor.
- 10 The wicked shall see *it*, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish.

Who Is like the LORD Our God? (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 113

- 1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise, O ye servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD.
- 2 Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore.
- 3 From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD's name *is* to be praised.
- 4 The LORD *is* high above all nations, *and* his glory above the heavens.
- 5 Who *is* like unto the LORD our God, who dwelleth on high,
- 6 Who humbleth *himself* to behold *the things that are* in heaven, and in the earth!
- 7 He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, *and* lifteth the needy out of the dunghill;
- 8 That he may set *him* with princes, *even* with the princes of his people.
- 9 He maketh the barren woman to keep house, *and to be* a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the LORD.

Tremble at the Presence of the LORD (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 114

- 1 When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language;
- 2 Judah was his sanctuary, *and* Israel his dominion.
- 3 The sea saw *it*, and fled: Jordan was driven back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams, *and* the little hills like lambs.
- 5 What *ailed* thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? thou Jordan, *that* thou wast driven back?
- 6 Ye mountains, *that* ye skipped like rams; *and* ye little hills, like lambs?
- 7 Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob;
- 8 Which turned the rock *into* a standing water, the flint into a fountain of waters.

To Your Name Give Glory (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 115

- 1 Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, *and* for thy truth's sake.
- 2 Wherefore should the heathen say, Where *is* now their God?
- 3 But our God *is* in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.
- 4 Their idols *are* silver and gold, the work of men's hands.
- 5 They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not:
- 6 They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not:
- 7 They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat.
- 8 They that make them are like unto them; *so is* every one that trusteth in them.
- 9 O Israel, trust thou in the LORD: he *is* their help and their shield.
- 10 O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD: he *is* their help and their shield.
- 11 Ye that fear the LORD, trust in the LORD: he *is* their help and their shield.
- 12 The LORD hath been mindful of us: he will bless *us*; he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of Aaron.
- 13 He will bless them that fear the LORD, *both* small and great.
- 14 The LORD shall increase you more and more, you and your children.
- 15 Ye *are* blessed of the LORD which made heaven and earth.
- 16 The heaven, *even* the heavens, *are* the LORD's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.
- 17 The dead praise not the LORD, neither any that go down into silence.
- 18 But we will bless the LORD from this time forth and for evermore. Praise the LORD.

I Love the LORD (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 116

- 1 I love the LORD, because he hath heard my voice *and* my supplications.
- 2 Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon *him* as long as I live.
- 3 The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow.
- 4 Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul.
- 5 Gracious *is* the LORD, and righteous; yea, our God *is* merciful.
- 6 The LORD preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me.
- 7 Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the LORD hath dealt bountifully with thee.
- 8 For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, *and* my feet from falling.
- 9 I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.
- 10 I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted: [[2 Cor 4:13](#)]
- 11 I said in my haste, All men *are* liars.
- 12 What shall I render unto the LORD *for* all his benefits toward me?
- 13 I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.
- 14 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people.
- 15 Precious in the sight of the LORD *is* the death of his saints.
- 16 O LORD, truly I *am* thy servant; I *am* thy servant, *and* the son of thine handmaid: thou hast loosed my bonds.
- 17 I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD.
- 18 I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people,
- 19 In the courts of the LORD's house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD.

The LORD's Faithfulness Endures Forever (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 117

- 1 O praise the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people. [[Rom 15:11](#)]
- 2 For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the LORD *endureth* for ever. Praise ye the LORD.

His Steadfast Love Endures Forever [Messianic] (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 118

- 1 O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is* good: because his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now say, that his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 3 Let the house of Aaron now say, that his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 4 Let them now that fear the LORD say, that his mercy *endureth* for ever.

5 I called upon the LORD in distress: the LORD answered me, *and set me* in a large place.
6 The LORD *is* on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me? [[Heb 13:6](#)]
7 The LORD taketh my part with them that help me: therefore shall I see *my desire* upon them that hate me.
8 *It is* better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.
9 *It is* better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.
10 All nations compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD will I destroy them.
11 They compassed me about; yea, they compassed me about: but in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.
12 They compassed me about like bees; they are quenched as the fire of thorns: for in the name of the LORD I will destroy them.
13 Thou hast thrust sore at me that I might fall: but the LORD helped me.
14 The LORD *is* my strength and song, and *is* become my salvation.
15 The voice of rejoicing and salvation *is* in the tabernacles of the righteous: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly.
16 The right hand of the LORD is exalted: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly.
17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.
18 The LORD hath chastened me sore: but he hath not given me over unto death.
19 Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, *and* I will praise the LORD:
20 This gate of the LORD, into which the righteous shall enter.
21 I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation.
22 The stone *which* the builders refused *is* become the head *stone* of the corner.
23 This *is* the LORD's doing; it *is* marvelous in our eyes. [[Matt 21:42](#); [Mark 12:10, 11](#); [Luke 20:17](#); [Acts 4:11](#); [1 Pet 2:4, 7](#)]
24 This *is* the day *which* the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.
25 Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity.
26 Blessed *be* he that cometh in the name of the LORD: [[Matt 21:9](#); [23:39](#); [Mark 11:9](#); [Luke 13:35](#); [19:38](#); [John 12:13](#)] we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD.
27 God *is* the LORD, which hath shewed us light: bind the sacrifice with cords, *even* unto the horns of the altar.
28 Thou *art* my God, and I will praise thee: *thou art* my God, I will exalt thee.
29 O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is* good: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

I Have Hidden Your Word in My Heart [Psalm 119 – Part 1] (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 119:1–72

Aleph

- 1 Blessed *are* the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD.
- 2 Blessed *are* they that keep his testimonies, *and that* seek him with the whole heart.
- 3 They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways.
- 4 Thou hast commanded *us* to keep thy precepts diligently.
- 5 O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes!
- 6 Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.
- 7 I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments.
- 8 I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly.

Beth

- 9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed *thereto* according to thy word.
- 10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.
- 11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.
- 12 Blessed *art* thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes.
- 13 With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.
- 14 I have rejoiced in the way of thy testimonies, as *much as* in all riches.
- 15 I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways.
- 16 I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.

Gimel

- 17 Deal bountifully with thy servant, *that* I may live, and keep thy word.
- 18 Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.
- 19 I *am* a stranger in the earth: hide not thy commandments from me.
- 20 My soul breaketh for the longing *that it hath* unto thy judgments at all times.
- 21 Thou hast rebuked the proud *that are* cursed, which do err from thy commandments.
- 22 Remove from me reproach and contempt; for I have kept thy testimonies.
- 23 Princes also did sit *and* speak against me: *but* thy servant did meditate in thy statutes.
- 24 Thy testimonies also *are* my delight *and* my counsellors.

Daleth

- 25 My soul cleaveth unto the dust: quicken thou me according to thy word.
- 26 I have declared my ways, and thou heardest me: teach me thy statutes.
- 27 Make me to understand the way of thy precepts: so shall I talk of thy wondrous works.
- 28 My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word.
- 29 Remove from me the way of lying: and grant me thy law graciously.
- 30 I have chosen the way of truth: thy judgments have I laid *before me*.
- 31 I have stuck unto thy testimonies: O LORD, put me not to shame.
- 32 I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart.

He

- 33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it *unto* the end.
- 34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with *my* whole heart.
- 35 Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight.
- 36 Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness.
- 37 Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; *and* quicken thou me in thy way.
- 38 Stablish thy word unto thy servant, who *is devoted* to thy fear.
- 39 Turn away my reproach which I fear: for thy judgments *are* good.
- 40 Behold, I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me in thy righteousness.

Waw

- 41 Let thy mercies come also unto me, O LORD, *even* thy salvation, according to thy word.
- 42 So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproacheth me: for I trust in thy word.
- 43 And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments.
- 44 So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever.
- 45 And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts.

46 I will speak of thy testimonies also before kings, and will not be ashamed.

47 And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved.

48 My hands also will I lift up unto thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in thy statutes.

Zayin

49 Remember the word unto thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to hope.

50 This *is* my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me.

51 The proud have had me greatly in derision: *yet* have I not declined from thy law.

52 I remembered thy judgments of old, O LORD; and have comforted myself.

53 Horror hath taken hold upon me because of the wicked that forsake thy law.

54 Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage.

55 I have remembered thy name, O LORD, in the night, and have kept thy law.

56 This I had, because I kept thy precepts.

Heth

57 *Thou art* my portion, O LORD: I have said that I would keep thy words.

58 I entreated thy favour with *my* whole heart: be merciful unto me according to thy word.

59 I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies.

60 I made haste, and delayed not to keep thy commandments.

61 The bands of the wicked have robbed me: *but* I have not forgotten thy law.

62 At midnight I will rise to give thanks unto thee because of thy righteous judgments.

63 I *am* a companion of all *them* that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts.

64 The earth, O LORD, is full of thy mercy: teach me thy statutes.

Teth

65 Thou hast dealt well with thy servant, O LORD, according unto thy word.

66 Teach me good judgment and knowledge: for I have believed thy commandments.

67 Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word.

68 Thou *art* good, and doest good; teach me thy statutes.

69 The proud have forged a lie against me: *but* I will keep thy precepts with *my* whole heart.

70 Their heart is as fat as grease; *but* I delight in thy law.

71 *It is* good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.

72 The law of thy mouth *is* better unto me than thousands of gold and silver.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Your Word Is a Lamp to My Feet [Psalm 119 – Part 2] (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 119:73–176

Yod

73 Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments.
74 They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because I have hoped in thy word.
75 I know, O LORD, that thy judgments *are* right, and *that* thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me.
76 Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy servant.
77 Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law *is* my delight.
78 Let the proud be ashamed; for they dealt perversely with me without a cause: *but* I will meditate in thy precepts.
79 Let those that fear thee turn unto me, and those that have known thy testimonies.
80 Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed.

Kaph

81 My soul fainteth for thy salvation: *but* I hope in thy word.
82 Mine eyes fail for thy word, saying, When wilt thou comfort me?
83 For I am become like a bottle in the smoke; *yet* do I not forget thy statutes.
84 How many *are* the days of thy servant? when wilt thou execute judgment on them that persecute me?
85 The proud have digged pits for me, which *are* not after thy law.
86 All thy commandments *are* faithful: they persecute me wrongfully; help thou me.
87 They had almost consumed me upon earth; but I forsook not thy precepts.
88 Quicken me after thy lovingkindness; so shall I keep the testimony of thy mouth.

Lamed

89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.
90 Thy faithfulness *is* unto all generations: thou hast established the earth, and it abideth.
91 They continue this day according to thine ordinances: for all *are* thy servants.
92 Unless thy law *had been* my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction.
93 I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me.
94 I *am* thine, save me; for I have sought thy precepts.
95 The wicked have waited for me to destroy me: *but* I will consider thy testimonies.
96 I have seen an end of all perfection: *but* thy commandment *is* exceeding broad.

Mem

97 O how love I thy law! it *is* my meditation all the day.
98 Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they *are* ever with me.
99 I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies *are* my meditation.
100 I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.
101 I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.
102 I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me.
103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! *yea, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!
104 Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.

Nun

105 Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.
106 I have sworn, and I will perform *it*, that I will keep thy righteous judgments.
107 I am afflicted very much: quicken me, O LORD, according unto thy word.
108 Accept, I beseech thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD, and teach me thy judgments.
109 My soul *is* continually in my hand: yet do I not forget thy law.
110 The wicked have laid a snare for me: yet I erred not from thy precepts.
111 Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they *are* the rejoicing of my heart.
112 I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes always, *even unto* the end.

Samech

113 I hate *vain* thoughts: but thy law do I love.
114 Thou *art* my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word.
115 Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God.
116 Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope.
117 Hold thou me up, and I shall be safe: and I will have respect unto thy statutes continually.

118 Thou hast trodden down all them that err from thy statutes: for their deceit *is* falsehood.

119 Thou puttest away all the wicked of the earth *like* dross: therefore I love thy testimonies.

120 My flesh trembleth for fear of thee; and I am afraid of thy judgments.

Ayin

121 I have done judgment and justice: leave me not to mine oppressors.

122 Be surety for thy servant for good: let not the proud oppress me.

123 Mine eyes fail for thy salvation, and for the word of thy righteousness.

124 Deal with thy servant according unto thy mercy, and teach me thy statutes.

125 I *am* thy servant; give me understanding, that I may know thy testimonies.

126 *It is* time for *thee*, LORD, to work: *for* they have made void thy law.

127 Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold.

128 Therefore I esteem all *thy* precepts *concerning* all *things to be* right; *and* I hate every false way.

Pe

129 Thy testimonies *are* wonderful: therefore doth my soul keep them.

130 The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

131 I opened my mouth, and panted: for I longed for thy commandments.

132 Look thou upon me, and be merciful unto me, as thou usest to do unto those that love thy name.

133 Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

134 Deliver me from the oppression of man: so will I keep thy precepts.

135 Make thy face to shine upon thy servant; and teach me thy statutes.

136 Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law.

Tsade

137 Righteous *art* thou, O LORD, and upright *are* thy judgments.

138 Thy testimonies *that* thou hast commanded *are* righteous and very faithful.

139 My zeal hath consumed me, because mine enemies have forgotten thy words.

140 Thy word *is* very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it.

141 I *am* small and despised: *yet* do not I forget thy precepts.

142 Thy righteousness *is* an everlasting righteousness, and thy law *is* the truth.

143 Trouble and anguish have taken hold on me: *yet* thy commandments *are* my delights.

144 The righteousness of thy testimonies *is* everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.

Qoph

145 I cried with *my* whole heart; hear me, O LORD: I will keep thy statutes.

146 I cried unto thee; save me, and I shall keep thy testimonies.

147 I prevented the dawning of the morning, and cried: I hoped in thy word.

148 Mine eyes prevent the *night* watches, that I might meditate in thy word.

149 Hear my voice according unto thy lovingkindness: O LORD, quicken me according to thy judgment.

150 They draw nigh that follow after mischief: they are far from thy law.

151 Thou *art* near, O LORD; and all thy commandments *are* truth.

152 Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever.

Resh

153 Consider mine affliction, and deliver me: for I do not forget thy law.

154 Plead my cause, and deliver me: quicken me according to thy word.

155 Salvation *is* far from the wicked: for they seek not thy statutes.

156 Great *are* thy tender mercies, O LORD: quicken me according to thy judgments.

157 Many *are* my persecutors and mine enemies; *yet* do I not decline from thy testimonies.

158 I beheld the transgressors, and was grieved; because they kept not thy word.

159 Consider how I love thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness.

160 Thy word *is* true *from* the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments *endureth* for ever.

Shin

161 Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart standeth in awe of thy word.

162 I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil.

163 I hate and abhor lying: *but* thy law do I love.

164 Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments.
165 Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.
166 LORD, I have hoped for thy salvation, and done thy commandments.
167 My soul hath kept thy testimonies; and I love them exceedingly.
168 I have kept thy precepts and thy testimonies: for all my ways *are* before thee.

Taw

169 Let my cry come near before thee, O LORD: give me understanding according to thy word.
170 Let my supplication come before thee: deliver me according to thy word.
171 My lips shall utter praise, when thou hast taught me thy statutes.
172 My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments *are* righteousness.
173 Let thine hand help me; for I have chosen thy precepts.
174 I have longed for thy salvation, O LORD; and thy law *is* my delight.
175 Let my soul live, and it shall praise thee; and let thy judgments help me.
176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Deliver Me, O LORD (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 120

A Song of degrees.

- 1 In my distress I cried unto the LORD, and he heard me.
- 2 Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips, *and* from a deceitful tongue.
- 3 What shall be given unto thee? or what shall be done unto thee, thou false tongue?
- 4 Sharp arrows of the mighty, with coals of juniper.
- 5 Woe is me, that I sojourn in Mesech, *that* I dwell in the tents of Kedar!
- 6 My soul hath long dwelt with him that hateth peace.
- 7 I *am* for peace: but when I speak, they *are* for war.

My Help Comes from the LORD (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 121

A Song of degrees.

- 1 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.
- 2 My help *cometh* from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.
- 4 Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The LORD *is* thy keeper: the LORD *is* thy shade upon thy right hand.
- 6 The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.
- 8 The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

Our Eyes Look to the LORD Our God (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 123

A Song of degrees.

- 1 Unto thee lift I up mine eyes, O thou that dwellest in the heavens.
- 2 Behold, as the eyes of servants *look* unto the hand of their masters, *and* as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; so our eyes *wait* upon the LORD our God, until that he have mercy upon us.
- 3 Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us: for we are exceedingly filled with contempt.
- 4 Our soul is exceedingly filled with the scorning of those that are at ease, *and* with the contempt of the proud.

The LORD Surrounds His People (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 125

A Song of degrees.

- 1 They that trust in the LORD *shall be* as mount Zion, *which* cannot be removed, *but* abideth for ever.
- 2 As the mountains *are* round about Jerusalem, so the LORD *is* round about his people from henceforth even for ever.
- 3 For the rod of the wicked shall not rest upon the lot of the righteous; lest the righteous put forth their hands unto iniquity.
- 4 Do good, O LORD, unto *those that be* good, and to *them that are* upright in their hearts.
- 5 As for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways, the LORD shall lead them forth with the workers of iniquity: *but* peace *shall be* upon Israel.

Blessed Is Everyone Who Fears the LORD (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 128

A Song of degrees.

- 1 Blessed *is* every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways.
- 2 For thou shalt eat the labor of thine hands: happy *shalt* thou *be*, and *it shall be* well with thee.
- 3 Thy wife *shall be* as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table.
- 4 Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the LORD.
- 5 The LORD shall bless thee out of Zion: and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life.
- 6 Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children, *and* peace upon Israel.

They Have Afflicted Me from My Youth (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 129

A Song of degrees.

- 1 Many a time have they afflicted me from my youth, may Israel now say:
- 2 Many a time have they afflicted me from my youth: yet they have not prevailed against me.
- 3 The plowers plowed upon my back: they made long their furrows.
- 4 The LORD *is* righteous: he hath cut asunder the cords of the wicked.
- 5 Let them all be confounded and turned back that hate Zion.
- 6 Let them be as the grass *upon* the housetops, which withereth afore it groweth up:
- 7 Wherewith the mower filleth not his hand; nor he that bindeth sheaves his bosom.
- 8 Neither do they which go by say, The blessing of the LORD *be* upon you: we bless you in the name of the LORD.

My Soul Waits for the LORD (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 130

A Song of degrees.

- 1 Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O LORD.
- 2 Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.
- 3 If thou, LORD, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?
- 4 But *there is* forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.
- 5 I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope.
- 6 My soul *waiteth* for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: *I say, more than* they that watch for the morning.
- 7 Let Israel hope in the LORD: for with the LORD *there is* mercy, and with him *is* plenteous redemption.
- 8 And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

The LORD Has Chosen Zion (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 132

A Song of degrees.

- 1 LORD, remember David, *and* all his afflictions:
- 2 How he sware unto the LORD, *and* vowed unto the mighty *God* of Jacob;
- 3 Surely I will not come into the tabernacle of my house, nor go up into my bed;
- 4 I will not give sleep to mine eyes, *or* slumber to mine eyelids,
- 5 Until I find out a place for the LORD, an habitation for the mighty *God* of Jacob.
- 6 Lo, we heard of it at Ephratah: we found it in the fields of the wood.
- 7 We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool.
- 8 Arise, O LORD, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength.
- 9 Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy.
- 10 For thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of thine anointed.
- 11 The LORD hath sworn *in* truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.
- 12 If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore.
- 13 For the LORD hath chosen Zion; he hath desired *it* for his habitation.
- 14 This *is* my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.
- 15 I will abundantly bless her provision: I will satisfy her poor with bread.
- 16 I will also clothe her priests with salvation: and her saints shall shout aloud for joy.
- 17 There will I make the horn of David to bud: I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.
- 18 His enemies will I clothe with shame: but upon himself shall his crown flourish.

Come, Bless the LORD (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 134

A Song of degrees.

- 1 Behold, bless ye the LORD, all ye servants of the LORD, which by night stand in the house of the LORD.
- 2 Lift up your hands *in* the sanctuary, and bless the LORD.
- 3 The LORD that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion.

Your Name, O LORD, Endures Forever (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 135

1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the name of the LORD; praise *him*, O ye servants of the LORD.
2 Ye that stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God,
3 Praise the LORD; for the LORD *is* good: sing praises unto his name; for *it is* pleasant.
4 For the LORD hath chosen Jacob unto himself, *and* Israel for his peculiar treasure.
5 For I know that the LORD *is* great, and *that* our Lord *is* above all gods.
6 Whatsoever the LORD pleased, *that* did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places.
7 He causeth the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings for the rain; he bringeth the wind out of his treasuries.
8 Who smote the firstborn of Egypt, both of man and beast.
9 *Who* sent tokens and wonders into the midst of thee, O Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his servants.
10 Who smote great nations, and slew mighty kings;
11 Sihon king of the Amorites, and Og king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan:
12 And gave their land *for* an heritage, an heritage unto Israel his people.
13 Thy name, O LORD, *endureth* for ever; *and* thy memorial, O LORD, throughout all generations.
14 For the LORD will judge his people, and he will repent himself concerning his servants.
15 The idols of the heathen *are* silver and gold, the work of men's hands.
16 They have mouths, but they speak not; eyes have they, but they see not;
17 They have ears, but they hear not; neither is there *any* breath in their mouths.
18 They that make them are like unto them: *so is* every one that trusteth in them.
19 Bless the LORD, O house of Israel: bless the LORD, O house of Aaron:
20 Bless the LORD, O house of Levi: ye that fear the LORD, bless the LORD.
21 Blessed be the LORD out of Zion, which dwelleth at Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

His Steadfast Love Endures Forever (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 136

- 1 O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is* good: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 2 O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 3 O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 4 To him who alone doeth great wonders: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 5 To him that by wisdom made the heavens: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 6 To him that stretched out the earth above the waters: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 7 To him that made great lights: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
- 8 The sun to rule by day: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
- 9 The moon and stars to rule by night: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 10 To him that smote Egypt in their firstborn: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
- 11 And brought out Israel from among them: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
- 12 With a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 13 To him which divided the Red sea into parts: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
- 14 And made Israel to pass through the midst of it: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
- 15 But overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red sea: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 16 To him which led his people through the wilderness: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 17 To him which smote great kings: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
- 18 And slew famous kings: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
- 19 Sihon king of the Amorites: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
- 20 And Og the king of Bashan: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
- 21 And gave their land for an heritage: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
- 22 *Even* an heritage unto Israel his servant: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 23 Who remembered us in our low estate: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:
- 24 And hath redeemed us from our enemies: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 25 Who giveth food to all flesh: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.
- 26 O give thanks unto the God of heaven: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.

Put Not Your Trust in Princes (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 146

- 1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise the LORD, O my soul.
- 2 While I live will I praise the LORD: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being.
- 3 Put not your trust in princes, *nor* in the son of man, in whom *there is* no help.
- 4 His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish.
- 5 Happy *is he* that *hath* the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope *is* in the LORD his God:
- 6 Which made heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that therein *is*: [[Acts 4:24b](#); [14:15b](#)] which keepeth truth for ever:
- 7 Which executeth judgment for the oppressed: which giveth food to the hungry. The LORD looseth the prisoners:
- 8 The LORD openeth *the eyes of* the blind: the LORD raiseth them that are bowed down: the LORD loveth the righteous:
- 9 The LORD preserveth the strangers; he relieveth the fatherless and widow: but the way of the wicked he turneth upside down.
- 10 The LORD shall reign for ever, *even* thy God, O Zion, unto all generations. Praise ye the LORD.

Praise the Name of the LORD (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 148

- 1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise ye the LORD from the heavens: praise him in the heights.
- 2 Praise ye him, all his angels: praise ye him, all his hosts.
- 3 Praise ye him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light.
- 4 Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that *be* above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the name of the LORD: for he commanded, and they were created.
- 6 He hath also stablished them for ever and ever: he hath made a decree which shall not pass.
- 7 Praise the LORD from the earth, ye dragons, and all deeps:
- 8 Fire, and hail; snow, and vapor; stormy wind fulfilling his word:
- 9 Mountains, and all hills; fruitful trees, and all cedars:
- 10 Beasts, and all cattle; creeping things, and flying fowl:
- 11 Kings of the earth, and all people; princes, and all judges of the earth:

12 Both young men, and maidens; old men, and children:

13 Let them praise the name of the LORD: for his name alone is excellent; his glory *is* above the earth and heaven.

14 He also exalteth the horn of his people, the praise of all his saints; *even* of the children of Israel, a people near unto him. Praise ye the LORD.

Sing to the LORD a New Song (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 149

1 Praise ye the LORD. Sing unto the LORD a new song, *and* his praise in the congregation of saints.

2 Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

3 Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp.

4 For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

5 Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds.

6 *Let* the high *praises* of God *be* in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand;

7 To execute vengeance upon the heathen, *and* punishments upon the people;

8 To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron;

9 To execute upon them the judgment written: this honor have all his saints. Praise ye the LORD.

Let Everything Praise the LORD (c. David/Solomon/Divided Kingdom)

Psalm 150

1 Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness.

3 Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp.

4 Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs.

5 Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.

6 Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Adonijah's Attempted Coup D'état (971t BC)

1 Kings 1:1–37

Abishag Provides Warmth for David

1 Now king David was old *and* stricken in years; and they covered him with clothes, but he gat no heat.

2 Wherefore his servants said unto him, Let there be sought for my lord the king a young virgin: and let her stand before the king, and let her cherish him, and let her lie in thy bosom, that my lord the king may get heat.

3 So they sought for a fair damsel throughout all the coasts of Israel, and found Abishag a Shunammite, and brought her to the king.

4 And the damsel *was* very fair, and cherished the king, and ministered to him: but the king knew her not.

Adonijah Lays the Groundwork for His Coup D'état

5 Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, I will be king: and he prepared him chariots and horsemen, and fifty men to run before him.

6 And his father had not displeased him at any time in saying, Why hast thou done so? and he also *was a very goodly man*; and *his mother* bare him after Absalom.

7 And he conferred with Joab the son of Zeruiah, and with Abiathar the priest: and they following Adonijah helped *him*.

8 But Zadok the priest, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and Nathan the prophet, and Shimei, and Rei, and the mighty men which *belonged* to David, were not with Adonijah.

Adonijah Makes His Move

9 And Adonijah slew sheep and oxen and fat cattle by the stone of Zohelath, which *is* by Enrogel, and called all his brethren the king's sons, and all the men of Judah the king's servants:

10 But Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah, and the mighty men, and Solomon his brother, he called not.

Nathan the Prophet Uses Bathsheba to Inform David

11 Wherefore Nathan spake unto Bathsheba the mother of Solomon, saying, Hast thou not heard that Adonijah the son of Haggith doth reign, and David our lord knoweth *it* not?

12 Now therefore come, let me, I pray thee, give thee counsel, that thou mayest save thine own life, and the life of thy son Solomon.

13 Go and get thee in unto king David, and say unto him, Didst not thou, my lord, O king, swear unto thine handmaid, saying, Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne? why then doth Adonijah reign?

14 Behold, while thou yet talkest there with the king, I also will come in after thee, and confirm thy words.

15 And Bathsheba went in unto the king into the chamber: and the king was very old; and Abishag the Shunammite ministered unto the king.

16 And Bathsheba bowed, and did obeisance unto the king. And the king said, What wouldest thou?

17 And she said unto him, My lord, thou swarest by the LORD thy God unto thine handmaid, *saying*, Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne.

18 And now, behold, Adonijah reigneth; and now, my lord the king, thou knowest *it* not:

19 And he hath slain oxen and fat cattle and sheep in abundance, and hath called all the sons of the king, and Abiathar the priest, and Joab the captain of the host: but Solomon thy servant hath he not called.

20 And thou, my lord, O king, the eyes of all Israel *are* upon thee, that thou shouldest tell them who shall sit on the throne of my lord the king after him.

21 Otherwise it shall come to pass, when my lord the king shall sleep with his fathers, that I and my son Solomon shall be counted offenders.

22 And, lo, while she yet talked with the king, Nathan the prophet also came in.

23 And they told the king, saying, Behold Nathan the prophet. And when he was come in before the king, he bowed himself before the king with his face to the ground.

24 And Nathan said, My lord, O king, hast thou said, Adonijah shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne?

25 For he is gone down this day, and hath slain oxen and fat cattle and sheep in abundance, and hath called all the king's sons, and the captains of the host, and Abiathar the priest; and, behold, they eat and drink before him, and say, God save king Adonijah.

26 But me, *even* me thy servant, and Zadok the priest, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and thy servant Solomon, hath he not called.

27 Is this thing done by my lord the king, and thou hast not shewed *it* unto thy servant, who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?

David Takes Action

28 Then king David answered and said, Call me Bathsheba. And she came into the king's presence, and stood before the king.

29 And the king swore, and said, As the LORD liveth, that hath redeemed my soul out of all distress,

30 Even as I swore unto thee by the LORD God of Israel, saying, Assuredly Solomon thy son shall reign after me, and he shall sit upon my throne in my stead; even so will I certainly do this day.

31 Then Bathsheba bowed with *her* face to the earth, and did reverence to the king, and said, Let my lord king David live for ever.
 32 And king David said, Call me Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada. And they came before the king.
 33 The king also said unto them, Take with you the servants of your lord, and cause Solomon my son to ride upon mine own mule, and bring him down to Gihon:
 34 And let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him there king over Israel: and blow ye with the trumpet, and say, God save king Solomon.
 35 Then ye shall come up after him, that he may come and sit upon my throne; for he shall be king in my stead: and I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and over Judah.
 36 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered the king, and said, Amen: the LORD God of my lord the king say so *too*.
 37 As the LORD hath been with my lord the king, even so be he with Solomon, and make his throne greater than the throne of my lord king David.

Solomon's First Crowning (971t BC)

1 Kings 1:38–53

Solomon is Crowned King of Israel

38 So Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites, and the Pelethites, went down, and caused Solomon to ride upon king David's mule, and brought him to Gihon.
 39 And Zadok the priest took an horn of oil out of the tabernacle, and anointed Solomon. And they blew the trumpet; and all the people said, God save king Solomon.
 40 And all the people came up after him, and the people piped with pipes, and rejoiced with great joy, so that the earth rent with the sound of them.

Adonijah Panics When He Realizes Solomon Has Been Anointed King

41 And Adonijah and all the guests that *were* with him heard *it* as they had made an end of eating. And when Joab heard the sound of the trumpet, he said, Wherefore *is this* noise of the city being in an uproar?
 42 And while he yet spake, behold, Jonathan the son of Abiathar the priest came: and Adonijah said unto him, Come in; for thou *art* a valiant man, and bringest good tidings.
 43 And Jonathan answered and said to Adonijah, Verily our lord king David hath made Solomon king.
 44 And the king hath sent with him Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, and the Cherethites, and the Pelethites, and they have caused him to ride upon the king's mule:
 45 And Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet have anointed him king in Gihon: and they are come up from thence rejoicing, so that the city rang again. This *is* the noise that ye have heard.
 46 And also Solomon sitteth on the throne of the kingdom.
 47 And moreover the king's servants came to bless our lord king David, saying, God make the name of Solomon better than thy name, and make his throne greater than thy throne. And the king bowed himself upon the bed.
 48 And also thus said the king, Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel, which hath given *one* to sit on my throne this day, mine eyes even seeing *it*.
 49 And all the guests that *were* with Adonijah were afraid, and rose up, and went every man his way.
 50 And Adonijah feared because of Solomon, and arose, and went, and caught hold on the horns of the altar.

Solomon Shows Adonijah Mercy

51 And it was told Solomon, saying, Behold, Adonijah feareth king Solomon: for, lo, he hath caught hold on the horns of the altar, saying, Let king Solomon swear unto me to day that he will not slay his servant with the sword.
 52 And Solomon said, If he will shew himself a worthy man, there shall not an hair of him fall to the earth: but if wickedness shall be found in him, he shall die.
 53 So king Solomon sent, and they brought him down from the altar. And he came and bowed himself to king Solomon: and Solomon said unto him, Go to thine house.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Chronological Notes

1) For the dates of the kings of Israel and Judah, I will be following the work of Rodger C. Young:

A) "When Did Solomon Die?" *JETS* 46/4 (Dec 2003): 589–603.

- B) “When Did Jerusalem Fall?” *JETS* 47/1 (Mar 2004): 21–38.
 - C) “When Was Samaria Captured? The Need for Precision in Biblical Chronologies,” *JETS* 47/4 (Dec 2004): 577–95.
 - D) “Tables of Reign Lengths from the Hebrew Court Records,” *JETS* 48/2 (June 2005): 225–48.
- 2) If a chronological date ends with a “t” (e.g., 971t BC), it indicates that the calendar year is reckoned from Tishri to Tishri (from the seventh month to the seventh month). If a date ends with an “n” (e.g., 841n BC), it indicates that the calendar year is reckoned from Nisan to Nisan (from the first month to the first month).

David's Final Decrees—Divisions of the Levites (c. 971t–970t BC)

1 Chronicles 23

Introductory Statement

1 So when David was old and full of days, he made Solomon his son king over Israel. [*Chronicles does not record Adonijah's attempted coup d'état or Solomon's first crowning; however, 1 Chronicles 29:22 does make tacit reference to the first crowning when it says that Solomon was made king for a "second time".*]

Divisions of the Levites

2 And he gathered together all the princes of Israel, with the priests and the Levites.

3 Now the Levites were numbered from the age of thirty years and upward: and their number by their polls, man by man, was thirty and eight thousand.

4 Of which, twenty and four thousand *were* to set forward the work of the house of the LORD; and six thousand *were* officers and judges:

5 Moreover four thousand *were* porters; and four thousand praised the LORD with the instruments which I made, *said David*, to praise *therewith*.

6 And David divided them into courses among the sons of Levi, *namely*, Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

Gershon

7 Of the Gershonites *were*, Laadan, and Shimei.

8 The sons of Laadan; the chief *was* Jehiel, and Zetham, and Joel, three.

9 The sons of Shimei; Shelomith, and Haziël, and Haran, three. These *were* the chief of the fathers of Laadan.

10 And the sons of Shimei *were*, Jahath, Zina, and Jeush, and Beriah. These four *were* the sons of Shimei.

11 And Jahath was the chief, and Zizah the second: but Jeush and Beriah had not many sons; therefore they were in one reckoning, according to *their father's* house.

Kohath

12 The sons of Kohath; Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel, four.

13 The sons of Amram; Aaron and Moses: and Aaron was separated, that he should sanctify the most holy things, he and his sons for ever, to burn incense before the LORD, to minister unto him, and to bless in his name for ever.

14 Now *concerning* Moses the man of God, his sons were named of the tribe of Levi.

15 The sons of Moses *were*, Gershom, and Eliezer.

16 Of the sons of Gershom, Shebuel *was* the chief.

17 And the sons of Eliezer *were*, Rehabiah the chief. And Eliezer had none other sons; but the sons of Rehabiah were very many.

18 Of the sons of Izhar; Shelomith the chief.

19 Of the sons of Hebron; Jeriah the first, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, and Jekameam the fourth.

20 Of the sons of Uzziel; Michah the first, and Jesiah the second.

Merari

21 The sons of Merari; Mahli, and Mushi. The sons of Mahli; Eleazar, and Kish.

22 And Eleazar died, and had no sons, but daughters: and their brethren the sons of Kish took them.

23 The sons of Mushi; Mahli, and Eder, and Jeremoth, three.

24 These *were* the sons of Levi after the house of their fathers; *even* the chief of the fathers, as they were counted by number of names by their polls, that did the work for the service of the house of the LORD, from the age of twenty years and upward.

A Change in the Nature of Levitical Service (Temple vs. Tabernacle)

25 For David said, The LORD God of Israel hath given rest unto his people, that they may dwell in Jerusalem for ever:

26 And also unto the Levites; they shall no *more* carry the tabernacle, nor any vessels of it for the service thereof.

Non-Priestly Assignments

27 For by the last words of David the Levites *were* numbered from twenty years old and above:

28 Because their office *was* to wait on the sons of Aaron for the service of the house of the LORD, in the courts, and in the chambers, and in the purifying of all holy things, and the work of the service of the house of God;

29 Both for the showbread, and for the fine flour for meat offering, and for the unleavened cakes, and for *that which is baked in the pan*, and for that which is fried, and for all manner of measure and size;

30 And to stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD, and likewise at even;

31 And to offer all burnt sacrifices unto the LORD in the sabbaths, in the new moons, and on the set feasts, by number, according to the order commanded unto them, continually before the LORD:

32 And that they should keep the charge of the tabernacle of the congregation, and the charge of the holy *place*, and the charge of

the sons of Aaron their brethren, in the service of the house of the LORD.

David's Final Decrees—Divisions of the Sons of Aaron (c. 971t–970t BC)

1 Chronicles 24:1–19

1 Now *these are* the divisions of the sons of Aaron. The sons of Aaron; Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.
 2 But Nadab and Abihu died before their father, and had no children: therefore Eleazar and Ithamar executed the priest's office.
 3 And David distributed them, both Zadok of the sons of Eleazar, and Ahimelech of the sons of Ithamar, according to their offices in their service.
 4 And there were more chief men found of the sons of Eleazar than of the sons of Ithamar; and *thus* were they divided. Among the sons of Eleazar *there were* sixteen chief men of the house of *their* fathers, and eight among the sons of Ithamar according to the house of their fathers.
 5 Thus were they divided by lot, one sort with another; for the governors of the sanctuary, and governors *of the house* of God, were of the sons of Eleazar, and of the sons of Ithamar.
 6 And Shemaiah the son of Nethaneel the scribe, *one* of the Levites, wrote them before the king, and the princes, and Zadok the priest, and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, and *before* the chief of the fathers of the priests and Levites: one principal household being taken for Eleazar, and *one* taken for Ithamar.
 7 Now the first lot came forth to Jehoiarib, the second to Jedaiah,
 8 The third to Harim, the fourth to Seorim,
 9 The fifth to Malchijah, the sixth to Mijamin,
 10 The seventh to Hakkoz, the eighth to Abijah, [cf. [Luke 1:5](#)]
 11 The ninth to Jeshua, the tenth to Shecaniah,
 12 The eleventh to Eliashib, the twelfth to Jakim,
 13 The thirteenth to Huppah, the fourteenth to Jeshebeab,
 14 The fifteenth to Bilgah, the sixteenth to Immer,
 15 The seventeenth to Hezir, the eighteenth to Aphses,
 16 The nineteenth to Pethahiah, the twentieth to Jehezkel,
 17 The one and twentieth to Jachin, the two and twentieth to Gamul,
 18 The three and twentieth to Delaiah, the four and twentieth to Maaziah.
 19 These *were* the orderings of them in their service to come into the house of the LORD, according to their manner, under Aaron their father, as the LORD God of Israel had commanded him.

David's Final Decrees—Divisions of Additional Levites (c. 971t–970t BC)

1 Chronicles 24:20–31

20 And the rest of the sons of Levi *were these*: Of the sons of Amram; Shubael: of the sons of Shubael; Jehdeiah.
 21 Concerning Rehabiah: of the sons of Rehabiah, the first *was* Isshiah.
 22 Of the Izharites; Shelomoth: of the sons of Shelomoth; Jahath.
 23 And the sons *of Hebron*; Jeriah *the first*, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, Jekameam the fourth.
 24 *Of* the sons of Uzziel; Michah: of the sons of Michah; Shamir.
 25 The brother of Michah *was* Isshiah: of the sons of Isshiah; Zechariah.
 26 The sons of Merari *were* Mahli and Mushi: the sons of Jaaziah; Beno.
 27 The sons of Merari by Jaaziah; Beno, and Shoham, and Zaccur, and Ibri.
 28 Of Mahli *came* Eleazar, who had no sons.
 29 Concerning Kish: the son of Kish *was* Jerahmeel.
 30 The sons also of Mushi; Mahli, and Eder, and Jerimoth. These *were* the sons of the Levites after the house of their fathers.
 31 These likewise cast lots over against their brethren the sons of Aaron in the presence of David the king, and Zadok, and Ahimelech, and the chief of the fathers of the priests and Levites, even the principal fathers over against their younger brethren.

David's Final Decrees—Divisions of the Musicians (c. 971t–970t BC)

1 Chronicles 25

The Music Leaders' Sons

1 Moreover David and the captains of the host separated to the service of the sons of Asaph, and of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, with psalteries, and with cymbals: and the number of the workmen according to their service was:
 2 Of the sons of Asaph; Zaccur, and Joseph, and Nethaniah, and Asarelah, the sons of Asaph under the hands of Asaph, which prophesied according to the order of the king.

3 Of Jeduthun: the sons of Jeduthun; Gedaliah, and Zeri, and Jeshaiah, Hashabiah, and Mattithiah, six, under the hands of their father Jeduthun, who prophesied with a harp, to give thanks and to praise the LORD.

4 Of Heman: the sons of Heman; Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Shebuel, and Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti, and Romamtiezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, *and* Mahazioth:

5 All these *were* the sons of Heman the king's seer in the words of God, to lift up the horn. And God gave to Heman fourteen sons and three daughters.

6 All these *were* under the hands of their father for song *in* the house of the LORD, with cymbals, psalteries, and harps, for the service of the house of God, according to the king's order to Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman.

7 So the number of them, with their brethren that were instructed in the songs of the LORD, *even* all that were cunning, was two hundred fourscore and eight.

Responsibilities of the Musicians

8 And they cast lots, *ward* against *ward*, as well the small as the great, the teacher as the scholar.

9 Now the first lot came forth for Asaph to Joseph: the second to Gedaliah, who with his brethren and sons *were* twelve:

10 The third to Zaccur, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

11 The fourth to Izri, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

12 The fifth to Nethaniah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

13 The sixth to Bukkiah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

14 The seventh to Jesharelah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

15 The eighth to Jeshaiah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

16 The ninth to Mattaniah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

17 The tenth to Shimei, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

18 The eleventh to Azareel, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

19 The twelfth to Hashabiah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

20 The thirteenth to Shubael, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

21 The fourteenth to Mattithiah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

22 The fifteenth to Jeremoth, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

23 The sixteenth to Hananiah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

24 The seventeenth to Joshbekashah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

25 The eighteenth to Hanani, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

26 The nineteenth to Mallothi, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

27 The twentieth to Eliathah, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

28 The one and twentieth to Hothir, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

29 The two and twentieth to Giddalti, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

30 The three and twentieth to Mahazioth, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve:

31 The four and twentieth to Romamtiezer, *he*, his sons, and his brethren, *were* twelve.

David's Final Decrees—Divisions of the Gatekeepers (c. 971t–970t BC)

1 Chronicles 26:1–19

Genealogical Based List of Gatekeepers

1 Concerning the divisions of the porters: Of the Korhites *was* Meshelemiah the son of Kore, of the sons of Asaph.

2 And the sons of Meshelemiah *were*, Zechariah the firstborn, Jediael the second, Zebadiah the third, Jathniel the fourth,

3 Elam the fifth, Jehohanan the sixth, Elioenai the seventh.

4 Moreover the sons of Obededom *were*, Shemaiah the firstborn, Jehozabad the second, Joah the third, and Sacar the fourth, and Nethaneel the fifth,

5 Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the seventh, Peulthai the eighth: for God blessed him.

6 Also unto Shemaiah his son *were* sons born, that ruled throughout the house of their father: for they *were* mighty men of valour.

7 The sons of Shemaiah; Othni, and Rephael, and Obed, Elzabad, whose brethren *were* strong men, Elihu, and Semachiah.

8 All these of the sons of Obededom: they and their sons and their brethren, able men for strength for the service, *were* threescore and two of Obededom.

9 And Meshelemiah had sons and brethren, strong men, eighteen.

10 Also Hosah, of the children of Merari, had sons; Simri the chief, (*for though* he was not the firstborn, yet his father made him the chief;)

11 Hilkiyah the second, Tebaliah the third, Zechariah the fourth: all the sons and brethren of Hosah *were* thirteen.

Responsibilities of the Gatekeepers

12 Among these *were* the divisions of the porters, *even* among the chief men, *having* wards one against another, to minister in the

house of the LORD.

13 And they cast lots, as well the small as the great, according to the house of their fathers, for every gate.

14 And the lot eastward fell to Shelemiah. Then for Zechariah his son, a wise counsellor, they cast lots; and his lot came out northward.

15 To Obededom southward; and to his sons the house of Asuppim.

16 To Shuppim and Hosah *the lot came forth* westward, with the gate Shallecheth, by the causeway of the going up, ward against ward.

17 Eastward *were* six Levites, northward four a day, southward four a day, and toward Asuppim two *and* two.

18 At Parbar westward, four at the causeway, *and* two at Parbar.

19 These *are* the divisions of the porters among the sons of Kore, and among the sons of Merari.

David's Final Decrees—Treasurers and Other Officials (c. 971t–970t BC)

1 Chronicles 26:20–32

Treasurers and Storehouses

20 And of the Levites, Ahijah *was* over the treasures of the house of God, and over the treasures of the dedicated things.

21 *As concerning* the sons of Laadan; the sons of the Gershonite Laadan, chief fathers, *even* of Laadan the Gershonite, *were* Jehieli.

22 The sons of Jehieli; Zetham, and Joel his brother, *which were* over the treasures of the house of the LORD.

23 Of the Amramites, *and* the Izharites, the Hebronites, *and* the Uzzielites:

24 And Shebuel the son of Gershom, the son of Moses, *was* ruler of the treasures.

25 And his brethren by Eliezer; Rehabiah his son, and Jeshaiah his son, and Joram his son, and Zichri his son, and Shelomith his son.

26 Which Shelomith and his brethren *were* over all the treasures of the dedicated things, which David the king, and the chief fathers, the captains over thousands and hundreds, and the captains of the host, had dedicated.

27 Out of the spoils won in battles did they dedicate to maintain the house of the LORD.

28 And all that Samuel the seer, and Saul the son of Kish, and Abner the son of Ner, and Joab the son of Zeruiah, had dedicated; *and* whosoever had dedicated *any thing*, *it was* under the hand of Shelomith, and of his brethren.

Other Officials

29 Of the Izharites, Chenaniah and his sons *were* for the outward business over Israel, for officers and judges.

30 *And* of the Hebronites, Hashabiah and his brethren, men of valor, a thousand and seven hundred, *were* officers among them of Israel on this side Jordan westward in all the business of the LORD, and in the service of the king.

31 Among the Hebronites *was* Jerijah the chief, *even* among the Hebronites, according to the generations of his fathers. In the fortieth year of the reign of David they were sought for, and there were found among them mighty men of valor at Jazer of Gilead.

32 And his brethren, men of valor, *were* two thousand and seven hundred chief fathers, whom king David made rulers over the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, for every matter pertaining to God, and affairs of the king.

David's Final Decrees—Civil and Military Arrangements (c. 971t–970t BC)

1 Chronicles 27

The Commanders of the Monthly Relays

1 Now the children of Israel after their number, *to wit*, the chief fathers and captains of thousands and hundreds, and their officers that served the king in any matter of the courses, which came in and went out month by month throughout all the months of the year, of every course *were* twenty and four thousand.

2 Over the first course for the first month *was* Jashobeam the son of Zabdiel: and in his course *were* twenty and four thousand.

3 Of the children of Perez *was* the chief of all the captains of the host for the first month.

4 And over the course of the second month *was* Dodai an Ahohite, and of his course *was* Mikloth also the ruler: in his course likewise *were* twenty and four thousand.

5 The third captain of the host for the third month *was* Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, a chief priest: and in his course *were* twenty and four thousand.

6 This *is that* Benaiah, *who was* mighty among the thirty, and above the thirty: and in his course *was* Ammizabad his son.

7 The fourth *captain* for the fourth month *was* Asahel the brother of Joab, and Zebadiah his son after him: and in his course *were* twenty and four thousand.

8 The fifth captain for the fifth month *was* Shamhuth the Izrahite: and in his course *were* twenty and four thousand.

9 The sixth *captain* for the sixth month *was* Ira the son of Ikesh the Tekoite: and in his course *were* twenty and four thousand.

10 The seventh *captain* for the seventh month *was* Helez the Pelonite, of the children of Ephraim: and in his course *were* twenty and four thousand.

11 The eighth *captain* for the eighth month *was* Sibbecai the Hushathite, of the Zarhites: and in his course *were* twenty and four thousand.

12 The ninth *captain* for the ninth month *was* Abiezer the Anetothite, of the Benjamites: and in his course *were* twenty and four thousand.

13 The tenth *captain* for the tenth month *was* Maharai the Netophathite, of the Zarhites: and in his course *were* twenty and four thousand.

14 The eleventh *captain* for the eleventh month *was* Benaiah the Pirathonite, of the children of Ephraim: and in his course *were* twenty and four thousand.

15 The twelfth *captain* for the twelfth month *was* Heldai the Netophathite, of Othniel: and in his course *were* twenty and four thousand.

The Officers of the Tribes

16 Furthermore over the tribes of Israel: the ruler of the Reubenites *was* Eliezer the son of Zichri: of the Simeonites, Shephatiah the son of Maachah:

17 Of the Levites, Hashabiah the son of Kemuel: of the Aaronites, Zadok:

18 Of Judah, Elihu, *one* of the brethren of David: of Issachar, Omri the son of Michael:

19 Of Zebulun, Ishmaiah the son of Obadiah: of Naphtali, Jerimoth the son of Azriel:

20 Of the children of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Azariah: of the half tribe of Manasseh, Joel the son of Pedaiah:

21 Of the half *tribe* of Manasseh in Gilead, Iddo the son of Zechariah: of Benjamin, Jaasiel the son of Abner:

22 Of Dan, Azareel the son of Jeroham. These *were* the princes of the tribes of Israel.

23 But David took not the number of them from twenty years old and under: because the LORD had said he would increase Israel like to the stars of the heavens.

24 Joab the son of Zeruiah began to number, but he finished not, because there fell wrath for it against Israel; neither was the number put in the account of the chronicles of king David.

The Stewards of Crown Property

25 And over the king's treasures *was* Azmaveth the son of Adiel: and over the storehouses in the fields, in the cities, and in the villages, and in the castles, *was* Jehonathan the son of Uziah:

26 And over them that did the work of the field for tillage of the ground *was* Ezri the son of Chelub:

27 And over the vineyards *was* Shimei the Ramathite: over the increase of the vineyards for the wine cellars *was* Zabdi the Shiphmite:

28 And over the olive trees and the sycamore trees that *were* in the low plains *was* Baalhanan the Gederite: and over the cellars of oil *was* Joash:

29 And over the herds that fed in Sharon *was* Shitrai the Sharonite: and over the herds *that were* in the valleys *was* Shaphat the son of Adlai:

30 Over the camels also *was* Obil the Ishmaelite: and over the asses *was* Jehdeiah the Meronothite:

31 And over the flocks *was* Jaziz the Hagerite. All these *were* the rulers of the substance which *was* king David's.

David's Personal Counselors

32 Also Jonathan David's uncle *was* a counsellor, a wise man, and a scribe: and Jehiel the son of Hachmoni *was* with the king's sons:

33 And Ahithophel *was* the king's counsellor: and Hushai the Archite *was* the king's companion:

34 And after Ahithophel *was* Jehoiada the son of Benaiah, and Abiathar: and the general of the king's army *was* Joab.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Chronological Notes

- 1) Although Chronicles does not record the attempted coup d'état by Adonijah or Solomon's first crowning, it makes tacit reference to the events of 1 Kings 1:28–40 when it says that Solomon was made king for the "second time" (cf. 1 Chr 29:22). According to the MT¹, Solomon was later crowned for a second time, ostensibly as a more formal sequel to the rather hurried ceremony described in 1 Kings 1:28–40.² In support of the MT, it should be noted that there are substantial differences between

¹ The words are lacking in LXX^B and P, and some commentators dismiss them as a later gloss (cf. Sara Japhet, "I & II Chronicles," *The Old Testament Library*, 514). Williamson, while commenting "this may be so," offers an "alternative explanation" and posits the position taken here, i.e., 1 Chr 29:22 makes tacit reference to 1 Kgs 1:28–40 (cf. H. G. M. Williamson, *1 and 2 Chronicles*, 187).

² This view is held by many commentators: Alfred Edersheim, *History of Judah and Israel from the Birth of Solomon to the Reign of Ahab*, 55–56; H. L. Ellison, "I and II Chronicles," *The New Bible Commentary*, 382–83; Frederick J. Mabie, "1 and 2 Chronicles," *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, Rev. Ed., 154; John A. Thompson, "1, 2 Chronicles," *The New American Commentary*, 199 and Martin Selman, "1 Chronicles," *Tyndale Old Testament Commentary*, 273.

the account in 1 Kings 1 and 1 Chronicles 29. “The great public assembly and the thousands of sacrifices (1 Chr 29:21) would have been impossible in the context of the ceremony at Gihon. The Chronicler was in any case not ignorant of the earlier account. There are several allusions to it, including Solomon’s appointment as ruler (v. 22; ‘prince’, NRSV, RSV, REB, NEB; cf. 1 Kgs 1:35), and the pledged ‘allegiance’ (v. 24, NRSV, RSV) of all David’s sons. The framework of 1 Chronicles 22–29 is also based on 1 Kings 2:1–12, and verse 23 follows 1 Kings 2:12 closely. Finally, Solomon could not have been involved in David’s temple preparations unless his succession was secure. In the light of all this, it seems more probable that Solomon was actually anointed twice (cf. David’s three anointings, 1 Sam. 16:13; 2 Sam. 2:4; 5:3). Typically, Chronicles has replaced the rather personal account in Kings by emphasizing all Israel’s role in the succession (vv. 21, 23, 25, 26).”³

³ Selman, 273.

David's Final Public Instructions to Israel and Solomon (c. 971t–970t BC)

1 Chronicles 28:1–29:20

The National Convocation—David's Address to the People and to Solomon

[This section resumes the narrative of 1 Chronicles 22:17–23:1]

28:1 And David assembled all the princes of Israel, the princes of the tribes, and the captains of the companies that ministered to the king by course, and the captains over the thousands, and captains over the hundreds, and the stewards over all the substance and possession of the king, and of his sons, with the officers, and with the mighty men, and with all the valiant men, unto Jerusalem.

2 Then David the king stood up upon his feet, and said, Hear me, my brethren, and my people: *As for me*, I *had* in mine heart to build an house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and for the footstool of our God, and had made ready for the building:

3 But God said unto me, Thou shalt not build an house for my name, because thou *hast been* a man of war, and hast shed blood.

4 Howbeit the LORD God of Israel chose me before all the house of my father to be king over Israel for ever: for he hath chosen Judah *to be* the ruler; and of the house of Judah, the house of my father; and among the sons of my father he liked me to make *me* king over all Israel:

5 And of all my sons, (for the LORD hath given me many sons,) he hath chosen Solomon my son to sit upon the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel.

6 And he said unto me, Solomon thy son, he shall build my house and my courts: for I have chosen him *to be* my son, and I will be his father.

7 Moreover I will establish his kingdom for ever, if he be constant to do my commandments and my judgments, as at this day.

8 Now therefore in the sight of all Israel the congregation of the LORD, and in the audience of our God, keep and seek for all the commandments of the LORD your God: that ye may possess this good land, and leave *it* for an inheritance for your children after you for ever.

9 And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.

10 Take heed now; for the LORD hath chosen thee to build an house for the sanctuary: be strong, and do *it*.

The Presentation of the Temple Plans to Solomon

11 Then David gave to Solomon his son the pattern of the porch, and of the houses thereof, and of the treasuries thereof, and of the upper chambers thereof, and of the inner parlors thereof, and of the place of the mercy seat,

12 And the pattern of all that he had by the spirit, of the courts of the house of the LORD, and of all the chambers round about, of the treasuries of the house of God, and of the treasuries of the dedicated things:

13 Also for the courses of the priests and the Levites, and for all the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and for all the vessels of service in the house of the LORD.

14 *He gave* of gold by weight for *things* of gold, for all instruments of all manner of service; *silver also* for all instruments of silver by weight, for all instruments of every kind of service:

15 Even the weight for the candlesticks of gold, and for their lamps of gold, by weight for every candlestick, and for the lamps thereof: and for the candlesticks of silver by weight, *both* for the candlestick, and *also* for the lamps thereof, according to the use of every candlestick.

16 And by weight *he gave* gold for the tables of showbread, for every table; and *likewise* silver for the tables of silver:

17 Also pure gold for the flesh-hooks, and the bowls, and the cups: and for the golden basins *he gave gold* by weight for every basin; and *likewise silver* by weight for every basin of silver:

18 And for the altar of incense refined gold by weight; and gold for the pattern of the chariot of the cherubims, that spread out *their wings*, and covered the ark of the covenant of the LORD.

19 All *this*, said David, the LORD made me understand in writing by *his* hand upon me, *even* all the works of this pattern.

Concluding Exhortation

20 And David said to Solomon his son, Be strong and of good courage, and do *it*: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, *even* my God, *will be* with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.

21 And, behold, the courses of the priests and the Levites, *even they shall be with thee* for all the service of the house of God: and *there shall be* with thee for all manner of workmanship every willing skillful man, for any manner of service: also the princes and all the people *will be* wholly at thy commandment.

David's Personal Contribution Toward the Construction of the Temple

29:1 Furthermore David the king said unto all the congregation, Solomon my son, whom alone God hath chosen, *is yet* young and tender, and the work *is* great: for the palace *is* not for man, but for the LORD God.

2 Now I have prepared with all my might for the house of my God the gold for *things to be made* of gold, and the silver for *things* of silver, and the brass for *things* of brass, the iron for *things* of iron, and wood for *things* of wood; onyx stones, and *stones* to be set,

glistening stones, and of divers colors, and all manner of precious stones, and marble stones in abundance.

3 Moreover, because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of mine own proper good, of gold and silver, *which* I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house,

4 *Even* three thousand talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the houses *withal*:

5 The gold for *things* of gold, and the silver for *things* of silver, and for all manner of work *to be made* by the hands of artificers. And who *then* is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the LORD?

The People's Contributions Toward the Construction of the Temple

6 Then the chief of the fathers and princes of the tribes of Israel, and the captains of thousands and of hundreds, with the rulers of the king's work, offered willingly,

7 And gave for the service of the house of God of gold five thousand talents and ten thousand drams, and of silver ten thousand talents, and of brass eighteen thousand talents, and one hundred thousand talents of iron.

8 And they with whom *precious* stones were found gave *them* to the treasure of the house of the LORD, by the hand of Jehiel the Gershonite.

9 Then the people rejoiced, for that they offered willingly, because with perfect heart they offered willingly to the LORD: and David the king also rejoiced with great joy.

David Leads the People in Worship

10 Wherefore David blessed the LORD before all the congregation: and David said, Blessed *be* thou, LORD God of Israel our father, for ever and ever.

11 Thine, O LORD, *is* the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all *that is* in the heaven and in the earth *is thine*; thine *is* the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.

12 Both riches and honor *come* of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand *is* power and might; and in thine hand *it is* to make great, and to give strength unto all.

13 Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

14 But who *am* I, and what *is* my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things *come* of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.

15 For we *are* strangers before thee, and sojourners, as *were* all our fathers: our days on the earth *are* as a shadow, and *there is* none abiding.

16 O LORD our God, all this store that we have prepared to build thee an house for thine holy name *cometh* of thine hand, and *is* all thine own.

17 I know also, my God, that thou triest the heart, and hast pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of mine heart I have willingly offered all these things: and now have I seen with joy thy people, which are present here, to offer willingly unto thee.

18 O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, keep this for ever in the imagination of the thoughts of the heart of thy people, and prepare their heart unto thee:

19 And give unto Solomon my son a perfect heart, to keep thy commandments, thy testimonies, and thy statutes, and to do all *these things*, and to build the palace, *for* the which I have made provision.

20 And David said to all the congregation, Now bless the LORD your God. And all the congregation blessed the LORD God of their fathers, and bowed down their heads, and worshipped the LORD, and the king.

Solomon's Second Crowning (c. 969t BC)

1 Chronicles 29:21–22

21 And they sacrificed sacrifices unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings unto the LORD, on the morrow after that day, *even* a thousand bullocks, a thousand rams, *and* a thousand lambs, with their drink offerings, and sacrifices in abundance for all Israel:

22 And did eat and drink before the LORD on that day with great gladness. And they made Solomon the son of David king the second time, and anointed *him* unto the LORD *to be* the chief governor, and Zadok *to be* priest.

David's Last Private Message to Solomon (c. 969t BC)

1 Kings 2:1–9

Keep the Law

1 Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die; and he charged Solomon his son, saying,

2 I go the way of all the earth: be thou strong therefore, and shew thyself a man;

3 And keep the charge of the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, to keep his statutes, and his commandments, and his judgments, and his testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself:

4 That the LORD may continue his word which he spake concerning me, saying, If thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said he) a man on the throne of Israel.

One Friend and Two Enemies

5 Moreover thou knowest also what Joab the son of Zeruiah did to me, *and* what he did to the two captains of the hosts of Israel, unto Abner the son of Ner, and unto Amasa the son of Jether, whom he slew, and shed the blood of war in peace, and put the blood of war upon his girdle that *was* about his loins, and in his shoes that *were* on his feet.

6 Do therefore according to thy wisdom, and let not his hoar head go down to the grave in peace.

7 But shew kindness unto the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be of those that eat at thy table: for so they came to me when I fled because of Absalom thy brother.

8 And, behold, *thou hast* with thee Shimei the son of Gera, a Benjamite of Bahurim, which cursed me with a grievous curse in the day when I went to Mahanaim: but he came down to meet me at Jordan, and I swore to him by the LORD, saying, I will not put thee to death with the sword.

9 Now therefore hold him not guiltless: for thou *art* a wise man, and knowest what thou oughtest to do unto him; but his hoar head bring thou down to the grave with blood.

David's Last Oracle (c. 969t BC)

2 Samuel 23:1–7

1 Now these *be* the last words of David. David the son of Jesse said, and the man *who was* raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, said,

2 The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word *was* in my tongue.

3 The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men *must be* just, ruling in the fear of God.

4 And *he shall be* as the light of the morning, *when* the sun riseth, *even* a morning without clouds; *as* the tender grass *springing* out of the earth by clear shining after rain.

5 Although my house *be* not so with God; yet he hath made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all *things*, and sure: for *this is* all my salvation, and all *my* desire, although he make *it* not to grow.

6 But *the sons* of Belial *shall be* all of them as thorns thrust away, because they cannot be taken with hands:

7 But the man *that* shall touch them must be fenced with iron and the staff of a spear; and they shall be utterly burned with fire in the *same* place.

The Death of King David (c. 969t BC)

1 Kings 2:10–11

11 And the days that David reigned over Israel *were* forty years: seven years reigned he in Hebron, and thirty and three years reigned he in Jerusalem.

10 So David slept with his fathers,

and was buried in the city of David.

1 Chronicles 29:26–30

26 Thus David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel.

27 And the time that he reigned over Israel *was* forty years; seven years reigned he in Hebron, and thirty and three *years* reigned he in Jerusalem.

28 And he died in a good old age, full of days, riches, and honor:

and Solomon his son reigned in his stead.

29 Now the acts of David the king, first and last, behold, they *are* written in the book of Samuel the seer, and in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the book of Gad the seer,

30 With all his reign and his might, and the times that went over him, and over Israel, and over all the kingdoms of the countries.

Scripture quotations are from *The King James Version (KJV)*. The KJV is in the public domain.

Solomon Reigns as King of Israel (c. 969t BC)

1 Kings 2:12	1 Chronicles 29:23–25	2 Chronicles 1:1
<p>12 Then sat Solomon upon the throne of David his father; and his kingdom was established greatly.</p>	<p>23 Then Solomon sat on the throne of the LORD as king instead of David his father, and prospered; and all Israel obeyed him. 24 And all the princes, and the mighty men, and all the sons likewise of king David, submitted themselves unto Solomon the king. 25 And the LORD magnified Solomon exceedingly in the sight of all Israel, and bestowed upon him <i>such</i> royal majesty as had not been on any king before him in Israel.</p>	<p>1 And Solomon the son of David was strengthened in his kingdom, and the LORD his God <i>was</i> with him, and magnified him exceedingly.</p>

Solomon Secures His Throne (c. 969t/968t BC)

1 Kings 2:13–38

Adonijah's Last Attempt to Gain the Throne

13 And Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. And she said, Comest thou peaceably? And he said, Peaceably.

14 He said moreover, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And she said, Say on.

15 And he said, Thou knowest that the kingdom was mine, and *that* all Israel set their faces on me, that I should reign: howbeit the kingdom is turned about, and is become my brother's: for it was his from the LORD.

16 And now I ask one petition of thee, deny me not. And she said unto him, Say on.

17 And he said, Speak, I pray thee, unto Solomon the king, (for he will not say thee nay,) that he give me Abishag the Shunammite to wife.

18 And Bathsheba said, Well; I will speak for thee unto the king.

19 Bathsheba therefore went unto king Solomon, to speak unto him for Adonijah. And the king rose up to meet her, and bowed himself unto her, and sat down on his throne, and caused a seat to be set for the king's mother; and she sat on his right hand.

20 Then she said, I desire one small petition of thee; *I pray thee*, say me not nay. And the king said unto her, Ask on, my mother: for I will not say thee nay.

21 And she said, Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to Adonijah thy brother to wife.

22 And king Solomon answered and said unto his mother, And why dost thou ask Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? ask for him the kingdom also; for he *is* mine elder brother; even for him, and for Abiathar the priest, and for Joab the son of Zeruiah. [[2 Sam 16:21–22](#)]

23 Then king Solomon swore by the LORD, saying, God do so to me, and more also, if Adonijah have not spoken this word against his own life.

24 Now therefore, *as* the LORD liveth, which hath established me, and set me on the throne of David my father, and who hath made me an house, as he promised, Adonijah shall be put to death this day.

25 And king Solomon sent by the hand of Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he fell upon him that he died.

Abiathar is Banished

26 And unto Abiathar the priest said the king, Get thee to Anathoth, unto thine own fields; for thou *art* worthy of death: but I will not at this time put thee to death, because thou barest the ark of the Lord GOD before David my father, and because thou hast been afflicted in all wherein my father was afflicted.

27 So Solomon thrust out Abiathar from being priest unto the LORD; that he might fulfil the word of the LORD, which he spake concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh. [[1 Sam 2:27–36](#)]

Joab is Executed

28 Then tidings came to Joab: for Joab had turned after Adonijah, though he turned not after Absalom. And Joab fled unto the tabernacle of the LORD, and caught hold on the horns of the altar. [[Exod 21:12–14](#)]

29 And it was told king Solomon that Joab was fled unto the tabernacle of the LORD; and, behold, *he is* by the altar. Then Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, Go, fall upon him.

30 And Benaiah came to the tabernacle of the LORD, and said unto him, Thus saith the king, Come forth. And he said, Nay; but I will die here. And Benaiah brought the king word again, saying, Thus said Joab, and thus he answered me.

31 And the king said unto him, Do as he hath said, and fall upon him, and bury him; that thou mayest take away the innocent blood,

which Joab shed, from me, and from the house of my father.

32 And the LORD shall return his blood upon his own head, who fell upon two men more righteous and better than he, and slew them with the sword, my father David not knowing *thereof, to wit*, Abner the son of Ner, captain of the host of Israel, and Amasa the son of Jether, captain of the host of Judah. [[2 Sam 3:27; 20:10](#)]

33 Their blood shall therefore return upon the head of Joab, and upon the head of his seed for ever: but upon David, and upon his seed, and upon his house, and upon his throne, shall there be peace for ever from the LORD. [[2 Sam 21:1–14](#)]

34 So Benaiah the son of Jehoiada went up, and fell upon him, and slew him: and he was buried in his own house in the wilderness.

35 And the king put Benaiah the son of Jehoiada in his room over the host: and Zadok the priest did the king put in the room of Abiathar.

Shimei is Confined to Jerusalem

36 And the king sent and called for Shimei, and said unto him, Build thee an house in Jerusalem, and dwell there, and go not forth thence any whither.

37 For it shall be, *that* on the day thou goest out, and passest over the brook Kidron, thou shalt know for certain that thou shalt surely die: thy blood shall be upon thine own head.

38 And Shimei said unto the king, The saying *is* good: as my lord the king hath said, so will thy servant do. And Shimei dwelt in Jerusalem many days.

Solomon's Political Alliance With Egypt (c. 969t/968t BC)

1 Kings 3:1; 9:16

3:1 And Solomon made affinity with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh's daughter, and brought her into the city of David, until he had made an end of building his own house, and the house of the LORD, and the wall of Jerusalem round about.

9:16 For Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up, and taken Gezer, and burnt it with fire, and slain the Canaanites that dwelt in the city, and given it *for* a present unto his daughter, Solomon's wife.

Solomon's Prayer for Wisdom (c. 969t/968t BC)

1 Kings 3:2–15

2 Chronicles 1:2–13

2 Only the people sacrificed in high places, because there was no house built unto the name of the LORD, until those days.

3 And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places.

4 And the king

went to Gibeon to sacrifice there;
for that *was* the great high place:

a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar.

5 In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

6 And Solomon said,
Thou hast shewed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne,

2 Then Solomon spake unto all Israel, to the captains of thousands and of hundreds, and to the judges, and to every governor in all Israel, the chief of the fathers.

3 So Solomon,

and all the congregation with him,

went to the high place that *was* at Gibeon;

for there was the tabernacle of the congregation of God, which Moses the servant of the LORD had made in the wilderness.

4 But the ark of God had David brought up from Kirjathjearim to *the place which* David had prepared for it: for he had pitched a tent for it at Jerusalem.

5 Moreover the brazen altar, that Bezaleel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, he put before the tabernacle of the LORD: and Solomon and the congregation sought unto it.

6 And Solomon went up thither to the brazen altar before the LORD, which *was* at the tabernacle of the congregation, and offered a thousand burnt offerings upon it.

7 In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee.

8 And Solomon said unto God,

Thou hast shewed great mercy unto David my father,

and hast made me to reign in his stead.

<p>as <i>it is</i> this day. 7 And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I <i>am but</i> a little child: I know not <i>how</i> to go out or come in. 8 And thy servant <i>is</i> in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. 9 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people? 10 And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. 11 And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; 12 Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. 13 And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honor: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days. 14 And if thou wilt walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days. 15 And Solomon awoke; and, behold, <i>it was</i> a dream. And he came to Jerusalem, and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings, and offered peace offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.</p>	<p>9 Now, O LORD God, let thy promise unto David my father be established: for thou hast made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude. 10 Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people: for who can judge this thy people, <i>that is so great</i>? 11 And God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honor, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king: 12 Wisdom and knowledge <i>is</i> granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honor, such as none of the kings have had that <i>have been</i> before thee, neither shall there any after thee have the like. 13 Then Solomon came <i>from his journey</i> to the high place that <i>was</i> at Gibeon to Jerusalem, from before the tabernacle of the congregation, and reigned over Israel.</p>
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The First Demonstration of Solomon's Wisdom (c. 968t BC)

1 Kings 3:16–28

16 Then came there two women, *that were* harlots, unto the king, and stood before him.
17 And the one woman said, O my lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house.
18 And it came to pass the third day after that I was delivered, that this woman was delivered also: and we *were* together; *there was*
no stranger with us in the house, save we two in the house.
19 And this woman's child died in the night; because she overlaid it.
20 And she arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me, while thine handmaid slept, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her
dead child in my bosom.
21 And when I rose in the morning to give my child suck, behold, it was dead: but when I had considered it in the morning, behold, it
was not my son, which I did bear.
22 And the other woman said, Nay; but the living *is* my son, and the dead *is* thy son. And this said, No; but the dead *is* thy son, and
the living *is* my son. Thus they spake before the king.
23 Then said the king, The one saith, This *is* my son that liveth, and thy son *is* the dead: and the other saith, Nay; but thy son *is* the
dead, and my son *is* the living.
24 And the king said, Bring me a sword. And they brought a sword before the king.
25 And the king said, Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other.

26 Then spake the woman whose the living child *was* unto the king, for her bowels yearned upon her son, and she said, O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it. But the other said, Let it be neither mine nor thine, *but* divide it.
 27 Then the king answered and said, Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she *is* the mother thereof.
 28 And all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had judged; and they feared the king: for they saw that the wisdom of God *was* in him, to do judgment.

Solomon's Government (c. 968t BC)

1 Kings 4:1–19

The King's Court

1 So king Solomon was king over all Israel.
 2 And these *were* the princes which he had; Azariah the son of Zadok the priest,
 3 Elihoreph and Ahiah, the sons of Shisha, scribes; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud, the recorder.
 4 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada *was* over the host: and Zadok and Abiathar *were* the priests:
 5 And Azariah the son of Nathan *was* over the officers: and Zabud the son of Nathan *was* principal officer, *and* the king's friend:
 6 And Ahishar *was* over the household: and Adoniram the son of Abda *was* over the tribute.

The King's Governors

7 And Solomon had twelve officers over all Israel, which provided victuals for the king and his household: each man his month in a year made provision.
 8 And these *are* their names: The son of Hur, in mount Ephraim:
 9 The son of Dekar, in Makaz, and in Shaalbim, and Bethshemesh, and Elonbethhanan:
 10 The son of Heseb, in Aruboth; to him *pertained* Sochoh, and all the land of Hepher:
 11 The son of Abinadab, in all the region of Dor; which had Taphath the daughter of Solomon to wife:
 12 Baana the son of Ahilud; to him *pertained* Taanach and Megiddo, and all Bethshean, which *is* by Zartanah beneath Jezreel, from Bethshean to Abelmeholah, *even* unto the place that *is* beyond Jokneam:
 13 The son of Geber, in Ramothgilead; to him *pertained* the towns of Jair the son of Manasseh, which *are* in Gilead; to him *also* *pertained* the region of Argob, which *is* in Bashan, threescore great cities with walls and brazen bars:
 14 Ahinadab the son of Iddo *had* Mahanaim:
 15 Ahimaaz *was* in Naphtali; he also took Basmath the daughter of Solomon to wife:
 16 Baanah the son of Hushai *was* in Asher and in Aloth:
 17 Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah, in Issachar:
 18 Shimei the son of Elah, in Benjamin:
 19 Geber the son of Uri *was* in the country of Gilead, *in* the country of Sihon king of the Amorites, and of Og king of Bashan; and *he* *was* the only officer which *was* in the land.

Scripture quotations are from The King James Version (KJV). The KJV is in the public domain.

Chronological Notes

- 1) The demise of Shimei fits nicely within the narrative framework of 1 Kings 2 and its theme of the consolidation of Solomon's power. However, strictly speaking, his death did not occur until "three years later" (1 Kgs 2:39)—after the foundation of the Temple had been laid (1 Kgs 6:1; Ziv 967t BC). Therefore his fatal mistake will be presented later in the readings.
- 2) Abiathar was deposed and banished very early in Solomon's reign (within the first four years). His inclusion as priest in 1 Kings 4:4b is likely due to respect for the significant role he played during the United Kingdom era—thus the list should not be considered as having been made prior to his banishment.