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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
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Hushai and Ahithophel (c. 974 BC)

2 Samuel 16:15–17:29

Ahithophel Gives Absalom Wise Advice

16:15 Then Absalom and all the people, the men of Israel, entered Jerusalem, and Ahithophel with him.

16 Now it came about when Hushai the Archite, David's friend, came to Absalom, that Hushai said to Absalom, "*Long live the king! Long live the king!*"

17 Absalom said to Hushai, "Is this your loyalty to your friend? Why did you not go with your friend?"

18 Then Hushai said to Absalom, "No! For whom the LORD, this people, and all the men of Israel have chosen, his I will be, and with him I will remain.

19 Besides, whom should I serve? *Should I not serve* in the presence of his son? As I have served in your father's presence, so I will be in your presence."

20 Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, "Give your advice. What shall we do?"

21 Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Go in to your father's concubines, whom he has left to keep the house; then all Israel will hear that you have made yourself odious to your father. The hands of all who are with you will also be strengthened."

22 So they pitched a tent for Absalom on the roof, and Absalom went in to his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel.

23 The advice of Ahithophel, which he gave in those days, *was* as if one inquired of the word of God; so was all the advice of Ahithophel *regarded* by both David and Absalom.

17:1 Furthermore, Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Please let me choose 12,000 men that I may arise and pursue David tonight.

2 I will come upon him while he is weary and exhausted and terrify him, so that all the people who are with him will flee. Then I will strike down the king alone,

3 and I will bring back all the people to you. The return of everyone depends on the man you seek; *then* all the people will be at peace."

4 So the plan pleased Absalom and all the elders of Israel.

God Helps Hushai Frustrate the Wise Advice of Ahithophel

5 Then Absalom said, "Now call Hushai the Archite also, and let us hear what he has to say."

6 When Hushai had come to Absalom, Absalom said to him, "Ahithophel has spoken thus. Shall we carry out his plan? If not, you speak."

7 So Hushai said to Absalom, "This time the advice that Ahithophel has given is not good."

8 Moreover, Hushai said, "You know your father and his men, that they are mighty men and they are fierce, like a bear robbed of her cubs in the field. And your father is an expert in warfare, and will not spend the night with the people.

9 Behold, he has now hidden himself in one of the caves or in another place; and it will be when he falls on them at the first attack, that whoever hears *it* will say, 'There has been a slaughter among the people who follow Absalom.'

10 And even the one who is valiant, whose heart is like the heart of a lion, will completely lose heart; for all Israel knows that your father is a mighty man and those who are with him are valiant men.

11 But I counsel that all Israel be surely gathered to you, from Dan even to Beersheba, as the sand that is by the sea in abundance, and that you personally go into battle.

12 So we shall come to him in one of the places where he can be found, and we will fall on him as the dew falls on the ground; and of him and of all the men who are with him, not even one will be left.

13 If he withdraws into a city, then all Israel shall bring ropes to that city, and we will drag it into the valley until not even a small stone is found there."

14 Then 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 ordained to thwart the good counsel of Ahithophel, so that the LORD might bring calamity on Absalom.

Hushai Sends Word to David

15 Then Hushai said to Zadok and to Abiathar the priests, "This is what Ahithophel counseled Absalom and the elders of Israel, and this is what I have counseled.

16 Now therefore, send quickly and tell David, saying, 'Do not spend the night at the fords of the wilderness, but by all means cross over, or else the king and all the people who are with him will be destroyed.'"

17 Now Jonathan and Ahimaaz were staying at En-rogel, and a maidservant would go and tell them, and they would go and tell King David, for they could not be seen entering the city.

18 But a lad did see them and told Absalom; so the two of them departed quickly and came to the house of a man in Bahurim, who had a well in his courtyard, and they went down into it.

19 And the woman took a covering and spread it over the well's mouth and scattered grain on it, so that nothing was known.

20 Then Absalom's servants came to the woman at the house and said, "Where are Ahimaaz and Jonathan?" And the woman said to them, "They have crossed the brook of water." And when they searched and could not find *them*, they returned to Jerusalem.

21 It came about after they had departed that they came up out of the well and went and told King David; and they said to David, "Arise and cross over the water quickly for thus Ahithophel has counseled against you."

22 Then David and all the people who *were* with him arose and crossed the Jordan; and by dawn not even one remained who had not crossed the Jordan.

Ahithophel Foresees Disaster and Hangs Himself

23 Now when Ahithophel saw that his counsel was not followed, he saddled *his* donkey and arose and went to his home, to his city, and set his house in order, and strangled himself; thus he died and was buried in the grave of his father.

Absalom Begins His Pursuit of David

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

25 Absalom set Amasa over the army in place of Joab. Now Amasa was the son of a man whose name was Ithra the Israelite, who went in to Abigail the daughter of Nahash, sister of Zeruiah, Joab's mother.

26 And Israel and Absalom camped in the land of Gilead.

27 Now when David had come to Mahanaim, Shobi the son of Nahash from Rabbah of the sons of Ammon, Machir the son of Ammiel from Lo-debar, and Barzillai the Gileadite from Rogelim,

28 brought beds, basins, pottery, wheat, barley, flour, parched *grain*, beans, lentils, parched *seeds*,

29 honey, curds, sheep, and cheese of the herd, for David and for the people who *were* with him, to eat; for they said, "The people are 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, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly;
My soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You,
In a dry and weary land where there is no water.
- 2 Thus I have seen You in the sanctuary,
To see Your power and Your glory.
- 3 Because Your lovingkindness is better than life,
My lips will praise You.
- 4 So I will bless You as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands in Your name.
- 5 My soul is satisfied as with marrow and fatness,
And my mouth offers praises with joyful lips.
- 6 When I remember You on my bed,
I meditate on You in the night watches,
- 7 For You have been my help,
And in the shadow of Your wings I sing for joy.
- 8 My soul clings to You;
Your right hand upholds me.
- 9 But those who seek my life to destroy it,
Will go into the depths of the earth.
- 10 They will be delivered over to the power of the sword;
They will be a prey for foxes.
- 11 But the king will rejoice in God;
Everyone who swears by Him will glory,
For the mouths of those who speak lies will be stopped.

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

Psalm 3

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

- 1 O LORD, how my adversaries have increased!
Many are rising up against me.
- 2 Many are saying of my soul,
"There is no deliverance for him in God." *Selah.*
- 3 But You, O LORD, are a shield about me,
My glory, and the One who lifts my head.
- 4 I was crying to the LORD with my voice,

- And He answered me from His holy mountain. *Selah*.
- 5 I lay down and slept;
I awoke, for the LORD sustains me.
- 6 I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people
Who have set themselves against me round about.
- 7 Arise, O LORD; save me, O my God!
For You have smitten all my enemies on the cheek;
You have shattered the teeth of the wicked.
- 8 Salvation belongs to the LORD;
Your blessing *be* upon Your 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 Then David numbered the people who were with him and set over them commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds.

2 David sent the people out, one third under the command of Joab, one third under the command of Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and one third under the command of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said to the people, "I myself will surely go out with you also."

3 But the people said, "You should not go out; for if we indeed flee, they will not care about us; even if half of us die, they will not care about us. But you are worth ten thousand of us; therefore now it is better that you *be ready* to help us from the city."

4 Then the king said to them, "Whatever seems best to you I will do." So the king stood beside the gate, and all the people went out by hundreds and thousands.

5 The king charged Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, "*Deal* gently for my sake with the young man Absalom." And all the people heard when the king charged all the commanders concerning Absalom.

David's Army Defeats Absalom's Forces

6 Then the people went out into the field against Israel, and the battle took place in the forest of Ephraim.

7 The people of Israel were defeated there before the servants of David, and the slaughter there that day was great, 20,000 men.

8 For the battle there was spread over the whole countryside, and the forest devoured more people that day than the sword devoured.

Joab Kills Absalom

9 Now Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. For Absalom was riding on *his* mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great oak. And his head caught fast in the oak, so he was left hanging between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him kept going.

10 When a certain man saw *it*, he told Joab and said, "Behold, I saw Absalom hanging in an oak."

11 Then Joab said to the man who had told him, "Now behold, you saw *him*! Why then did you not strike him there to the ground? And I would have given you ten *pieces* of silver and a belt."

12 The man said to Joab, "Even if I should receive a thousand *pieces* of silver in my hand, I would not put out my hand against the king's son; for in our hearing the king charged you and Abishai and Ittai, saying, 'Protect for me the young man Absalom!'

13 Otherwise, if I had dealt treacherously against his life (and there is nothing hidden from the king), then you yourself would have stood aloof."

14 Then Joab said, "I will not waste time here with you." So he took three spears 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 who carried Joab's armor gathered around and struck Absalom and killed him.

16 Then Joab blew the trumpet, and the people returned from pursuing Israel, for Joab restrained the people.

17 They took Absalom and cast him into a deep pit in the forest and erected over him a very great heap of stones. And all Israel fled, each to his tent.

18 Now Absalom in his lifetime had taken and set up for himself a pillar which is in the King's Valley, for he said, "I have no son to preserve my name." So he named the pillar after his own name, and it is called Absalom's Monument to this day.

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

19 Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said, "Please let me run and bring the king news that the LORD has freed him from the hand of his enemies."

20 But Joab said to him, "You are not the man to carry news this day, but you shall carry news another day; however, you shall carry no news today because the king's son is dead."

21 Then Joab said to the Cushite, "Go, tell the king what you have seen." So the Cushite bowed to Joab and ran.

22 Now Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said once more to Joab, "But whatever happens, please let me also run after the Cushite." And Joab said, "Why would you run, my son, since you will have no reward for going?"

23 "But whatever happens," *he said*, "I will run." So he said to him, "Run." Then Ahimaaz ran by way of the plain and passed up the Cushite.

24 Now David was sitting between the two gates; and the watchman went up to the roof of the gate by the wall, and raised his eyes and looked, and behold, a man running by himself.

25 The watchman called and told the king. And the king said, "If he is by himself there is good news in his mouth." And he came nearer and nearer.

26 Then the watchman saw another man running; and the watchman called to the gatekeeper and said, "Behold, *another* man running by himself." And the king said, "This one also is bringing good news."

27 The watchman said, "I think the running of the first one is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok." And the king said, "This is a good man and comes with good news."

28 Ahimaaz called and said to the king, "All is well." And he prostrated himself before the king with his face to the ground. And he said, "Blessed is the LORD your God, who has delivered up the men who lifted their hands against my lord the king."

29 The king said, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" And Ahimaaz answered, "When Joab sent the king's servant, and your servant, I saw a great tumult, but I did not know what *it was*."

30 Then the king said, "Turn aside and stand here." So he turned aside and stood still.

31 Behold, the Cushite arrived, and the Cushite said, "Let my lord the king receive good news, for the LORD has freed you this day from the hand of all those who rose up against you."

32 Then the king said to the Cushite, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" And the Cushite answered, "Let the enemies of my lord the king, and all who rise up against you for evil, be as that young man!"

David Grieves Absalom's Death

33 The king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And thus he said as he walked, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

19:1 Then it was told Joab, "Behold, the king is weeping and mourns for Absalom."

2 The victory that day was turned to mourning for all the people, for the people heard *it* said that day, "The king is grieved for his son."

3 So the people went by stealth into the city that day, as people who are humiliated steal away when they flee in battle.

4 The king covered his face and cried out with a loud voice, "O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

Joab Angrily Confronts David

5 Then Joab came into the house to the king and said, "Today you have covered with shame the faces of all your servants, who today have saved your life and the lives of your sons and daughters, the lives of your wives, and the lives of your concubines, 6 by loving those who hate you, and by hating those who love you. For you have shown today that princes and servants are nothing to you; for I know this day that if Absalom were alive and all of us were dead today, then you would be pleased. 7 Now therefore arise, go out and speak kindly to your servants, for I swear by the LORD, if you do not go out, surely not a man will pass the night with you, and this will be worse for you than all the evil that has come upon you from your youth until now." 8a So the king arose and sat in the gate. When they told all the people, saying, "Behold, the king is sitting in the gate," then all the people came before the king.

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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 Now Israel had fled, each to his tent.

9 All the people were quarreling throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, “The king delivered us from the hand of our enemies and saved us from the hand of the Philistines, but now he has fled out of the land from Absalom.

10 However, Absalom, whom we anointed over us, has died in battle. Now then, why are you silent about bringing the king back?”

David Reaches Out to Judah and Punishes Joab for His Insubordination

11 Then King David sent to Zadok and Abiathar the priests, saying, “Speak to the elders of Judah, saying, ‘Why are you the last to bring the king back to his house, since the word of all Israel has come to the king, *even* to his house?’

12 You are my brothers; you are my bone and my flesh. Why then should you be the last to bring back the king?’

13 Say to Amasa, ‘Are you not my bone and my flesh? May God do so to me, and more also, if you will not be commander of the army before me continually in place of Joab.’”

14 Thus he turned the hearts of all the men of Judah as one man, so that they sent *word* to the king, *saying*, “Return, you and all your servants.”

Shimei Meets David at the Jordan River and Begg Forgiveness

15 The king then returned and came as far as the Jordan. And Judah came to Gilgal in order to go to meet the king, to bring the king across the Jordan.

16 Then Shimei the son of Gera, the Benjamite who was from Bahurim, hurried and came down with the men of Judah to meet King David.

17 There were a thousand men of Benjamin with him, with Ziba the servant of the house of Saul, and his fifteen sons and his twenty servants with him; and they rushed to the Jordan before the king.

18 Then they kept crossing the ford to bring over the king’s household, and to do what was good in his sight. And Shimei the son of Gera fell down before the king as he was about to cross the Jordan.

19 So he said to the king, “Let not my lord consider me guilty, nor remember what your servant did wrong on the day when my lord the king came out from Jerusalem, so that the king would take *it* to heart.

20 For your servant knows that I have sinned; therefore behold, I have come today, the first of all the house of Joseph to go down to meet my lord the king.”

21 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah said, “Should not Shimei be put to death for this, because he cursed the LORD’s anointed?”

22 David then said, “What have I to do with you, O sons of Zeruiah, that you should this day be an adversary to me? Should any man be put to death in Israel today? For do I not know that I am king over Israel today?”

23 The king said to Shimei, “You shall not die.” Thus the king swore to him.

Mephibosheth Accuses Ziba of Slander

24 Then Mephibosheth the son of Saul came down to meet the king; and he had neither cared for his feet, nor trimmed his mustache, nor washed his clothes, from the day the king departed until the day he came *home* in peace.

25 It was when he came from Jerusalem to meet the king, that the king said to him, “Why did you not go with me, Mephibosheth?”

26 So he answered, “O my lord, the king, my servant deceived me; for your servant said, ‘I will saddle a donkey for myself that I may ride on it and go with the king,’ because your servant is lame.

27 Moreover, he has slandered your servant to my lord the king; but my lord the king is like the angel of God, therefore do what is good in your sight.

28 For all my father’s household was nothing but dead men before my lord the king; yet you set your servant among those who ate at your own table. What right do I have yet that I should complain anymore to the king?”

29 So the king said to him, “Why do you still speak of your affairs? I have decided, ‘You and Ziba shall divide the land.’”

30 Mephibosheth said to the king, “Let him even take it all, since my lord the king has come safely to his own house.”

David Expresses His Gratitude to Barzillai

31 Now Barzillai the Gileadite had come down from Rogelim; and he went on to the Jordan with the king to escort him over the Jordan.

32 Now Barzillai was very old, being eighty years old; and he had sustained the king while he stayed at Mahanaim, for he was a very great man.

33 The king said to Barzillai, “You cross over with me and I will sustain you in Jerusalem with me.”

34 But Barzillai said to the king, “How long have I yet to live, that I should go up with the king to Jerusalem?”

35 I am now eighty years old. Can I distinguish between good and bad? Or can your servant taste what I eat or what I drink? Or can I hear anymore the voice of singing men and women? Why then should your servant be an added burden to my lord the king?

36 Your servant would merely cross over the Jordan with the king. Why should the king compensate me *with* this reward?

37 Please let your servant return, that I may die in my own city near the grave of my father and my mother. However, here is your servant Chimham, let him cross over with my lord the king, and do for him what is good in your sight.”

38 The king answered, “Chimham shall cross over with me, and I will do for him what is good in your sight; and whatever you require of me, I will do for you.”

39 All the people crossed over the Jordan and the king crossed too. The king then kissed Barzillai and blessed him, and he returned to his place.

40a Now 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 and also half the people of Israel accompanied the king.

41 And behold, all the men of Israel came to the king and said to the king, “Why had our brothers the men of Judah stolen you away, and brought the king and his household and all David's men with him over the Jordan?”

42 Then all the men of Judah answered the men of Israel, “Because the king is a close relative to us. Why then are you angry about this matter? Have we eaten at all at the king's *expense*, or has anything been taken for us?”

43 But the men of Israel answered the men of Judah and said, “We have ten parts in the king, therefore we also have more *claim* on David than you. Why then did you treat us with contempt? Was it not our advice first to bring back our king?” Yet the words of the men of Judah were harsher than the words of the men of Israel.

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

20:1 Now a worthless fellow happened to be there whose name was Sheba, the son of Bichri, a Benjamite; and he blew the trumpet and said, “We have no portion in David, Nor do we have inheritance in the son of Jesse; Every man to his tents, O Israel!”

2a So all the men of Israel withdrew from following David *and* followed Sheba the son of Bichri;

David Returns to Jerusalem With the Men of Judah

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

3 Then David came to his house at Jerusalem, and the king took the ten women, the concubines whom he had left to keep the house, and placed them under guard and provided them with sustenance, but did not go in to them. So they were shut up until the day of their death, living as widows.

David Sends Amasa to Mobilize the Men of Judah

4 Then the king said to Amasa, “Call out the men of Judah for me within three days, and be present here yourself.”

5 So Amasa went to call out *the men of Judah*, but he delayed longer than the set time which he had appointed him.

David Sends Abishai to Deal With Sheba

6 And David said to Abishai, “Now Sheba the son of Bichri will do us more harm than Absalom; take your LORD's servants and pursue him, so that he does not find for himself fortified cities and escape from our sight.”

7 So Joab's men went out after him, along with the Cherethites and the Pelethites and all the mighty men; and they went out from Jerusalem to pursue Sheba the son of Bichri.

Joab Kills Amasa and Takes Command

8 When they were at the large stone which is in Gibeon, Amasa came to meet them. Now Joab was dressed in his military attire, and over it was a belt with a sword in its sheath fastened at his waist; and as he went forward, it fell out.

9 Joab said to Amasa, “Is it well with you, my brother?” And Joab took Amasa by the beard with his right hand to kiss him.

10 But Amasa was not on guard against the sword which was in Joab's hand so he struck him in the belly with it and poured out his inward parts on the ground, and did not *strike* him again, and he died. Then Joab and Abishai his brother pursued Sheba the son of Bichri.

11 Now there stood by him one of Joab's young men, and said, “Whoever favors Joab and whoever is for David, *let him* follow Joab.”

12 But Amasa lay wallowing in *his* blood in the middle of the highway. And when the man saw that all the people stood still, he removed Amasa from the highway into the field and threw a garment over him when he saw that everyone who came by him stood still.

13 As soon as he was removed from the highway, all the men passed on after Joab to pursue Sheba the son of Bichri.

Sheba Hides in Abel and Joab Besieges the City

14 Now he went through all the tribes of Israel to Abel, even Beth-maacah, and all the Berites; and they were gathered together and also went after him.

15 They came and besieged him in Abel Beth-maacah, and they cast up a siege ramp against the city, and it stood by the rampart; and all the people who were with Joab were wreaking destruction in order to topple the wall.

16 Then a wise woman called from the city, "Hear, hear! Please tell Joab, 'Come here that I may speak with you.'"

17 So he approached her, and the woman said, "Are you Joab?" And he answered, "I am." Then she said to him, "Listen to the words of your maidservant." And he answered, "I am listening."

18 Then she spoke, saying, "Formerly they used to say, 'They will surely ask *advice* at Abel,' and thus they ended *the dispute*."

19 I am of those who are peaceable *and* faithful in Israel. You are seeking to destroy a city, even a mother in Israel. Why would you swallow up the inheritance of the LORD?"

20 Joab replied, "Far be it, far be it from me that I should swallow up or destroy!"

21 Such is not the case. But a man from the hill country of Ephraim, Sheba the son of Bichri by name, has lifted up his hand against King David. Only hand him over, and I will depart from the city." And the woman said to Joab, "Behold, his head will be thrown to you over the wall."

22 Then the woman wisely came to all the people. And they cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri and threw it to Joab. So he blew the trumpet, and they were dispersed from the city, each to his tent. Joab also returned to the king at Jerusalem.

David's Administration After the Rebellions of Absalom and Sheba

23 Now Joab was over the whole army of Israel, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites;

24 and Adoram was over the forced labor, and Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud was the recorder;

25 and Sheva was scribe, and Zadok and Abiathar were priests;

26 and Ira the Jairite was also a priest to David.

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

2 Samuel 24

1 Now again the anger of the LORD burned against Israel, and it incited David against them to say, "Go, number Israel and Judah."

2 The king said to Joab the commander of the army who was with him, "Go about now through all the tribes of Israel, from Dan to Beersheba, and register the people, that I may know the number of the people."

3 But Joab said to the king, "Now may the LORD your God add to the people a hundred times as many as they are, while the eyes of my lord the king *still* see;

but why does my lord the king delight in this thing?"

4 Nevertheless, the king's word prevailed against Joab and against the commanders of the army. So Joab and the commanders of the army went out from the presence of the king to register the people of Israel.

5 They crossed the Jordan and camped in Aroer, on the right side of the city that is in the middle of the valley of Gad and toward Jazer.

6 Then they came to Gilead and to the land of Tahtim-hodshi, and they came to Dan-jaan and around to Sidon,

7 and came to the fortress of Tyre and to all the cities of the Hivites and of the Canaanites, and they went out to the south of Judah, to Beersheba.

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

9 And Joab gave the number of the registration of the people to the king; and there were in Israel eight hundred thousand valiant men who drew the sword, and the men of Judah were five hundred thousand men.

10 Now David's heart troubled him after he had numbered the people. So David said to the LORD, "I have sinned greatly in what I have done. But now, O LORD, please take away the iniquity of Your servant, for I have acted very foolishly."

11 When David arose in the morning, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying,

12 "Go and speak to David, 'Thus the LORD says, "I am offering you three things; choose for yourself one of them, which I will do to you.'""

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

"Shall seven years of famine come to you in your land? Or will you flee three months before your foes while they pursue you? Or shall there be three days' pestilence in your land?"

Now consider and see what answer I shall return to Him who sent me."

14 Then David said to Gad, "I am in great distress. Let us now fall into the hand of the LORD for His mercies are great, but do not let me fall into the hand of man."

1 Chronicles 21

1 Then Satan stood up against Israel and moved David to number Israel.

2 So David said to Joab and to the princes of the people, "Go, number Israel from Beersheba even to Dan, and bring me *word* that I may know their number."

3 Joab said, "May the LORD add to His people a hundred times as many as they are!

But, my lord the king, are they not all my LORD's servants? Why does my lord seek this thing? Why should he be a cause of guilt to Israel?" [cf. [Exod 30:12](#)]

4 Nevertheless, the king's word prevailed against Joab.

Therefore, Joab departed and went throughout all Israel, and came to Jerusalem.

5 Joab gave the number of the census of *all* the people to David. And all Israel were 1,100,000 men who drew the sword; and Judah was 470,000 men who drew the sword.

6 But he did not number Levi and Benjamin among them, for the king's command was abhorrent to Joab.

7 God was displeased with this thing, so He struck Israel.

8 David said to God, "I have sinned greatly, in that I have done this thing. But now, please take away the iniquity of Your servant, for I have done very foolishly."

9 The LORD spoke to Gad, David's seer, saying,

10 "Go and speak to David, saying, 'Thus says the LORD, "I offer you three things; choose for yourself one of them, which I will do to you.'""

11 So Gad came to David and said to him, "Thus says the LORD, 'Take for yourself

12 either three years of famine, or three months to be swept away before your foes, while the sword of your enemies overtakes *you*, or else three days of the sword of the LORD, even pestilence in the land, and the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the territory of Israel.'

Now, therefore, consider what answer I shall return to Him who sent me."

13 David said to Gad, "I am in great distress; please let me fall into the hand of the LORD, for His mercies are very great. But do not let me fall into the hand of man."

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

16 When the angel stretched out his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD relented from the calamity and said to the angel who destroyed the people, "It is enough! Now relax your hand!" And the angel of the LORD was by the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

17 Then David spoke to the LORD when he saw the angel who was striking down the people,

and said,

"Behold, it is I who have sinned, and it is I who have done wrong; but these sheep, what have they done? Please let Your hand be against me and against my father's house."

18 So Gad came to David that day and said to him, "Go up, erect an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite."

19 David went up according to the word of Gad, just as the LORD had commanded.

20 Araunah looked down and saw the king and his servants crossing over toward him; and Araunah went out and bowed his face to the ground before the king.

21 Then Araunah said, "Why has my lord the king come to his servant?"

And David said, "To buy the threshing floor from you, in order to build an altar to the LORD,

that the plague may be held back from the people."

22 Araunah said to David, "Let my lord the king take and offer up what is good in his sight.

Look, the oxen for the burnt offering, the threshing sledges and the yokes of the oxen for the wood.

23 Everything, O king, Araunah gives to the king." And Araunah said to the king, "May the LORD your God accept you."

24 However, the king said to Araunah, "No, but I will surely buy *it* from you for a price, for I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God which cost me nothing."

So David bought the threshing floor

and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

25 David built there an altar to the LORD and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.

Thus the LORD was moved by prayer for the land,

14 So the LORD sent a pestilence on Israel;

70,000 men of Israel fell.

15 And God sent an angel to Jerusalem to destroy it; but as he was about to destroy *it*, the LORD saw and was sorry over the calamity, and said to the destroying angel, "It is enough; now relax your hand." And the angel of the LORD was standing by the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.

16 Then David lifted up his eyes and saw the angel of the LORD standing between earth and heaven, with his drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders, covered with sackcloth, fell on their faces.

17 David said to God,

"Is it not I who commanded to count the people? Indeed, I am the one who has sinned and done very wickedly, but these sheep, what have they done?"

O LORD my God, please let Your hand be against me and my father's household,

but not against Your 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 build an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.

19 So David went up at the word of Gad, which he spoke in the name of the LORD.

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

21 As David came to Ornan, Ornan looked and saw David,

and went out from the threshing floor and prostrated himself before David with his face to the ground.

22 Then David said to Ornan, "Give me the site of *this* threshing floor, that I may build on it an altar to the LORD; for the full price you shall give it to me, that the plague may be restrained from the people."

23 Ornan said to David, "Take *it* for yourself; and let my lord the king do what is good in his sight.

See, I will give the oxen for burnt offerings and the threshing sledges for wood

and the wheat for the grain offering;

I will give *it* all."

24 But King David said to Ornan, "No, but I will surely buy *it* for the full price; for I will not take what is yours for the LORD, or offer a burnt offering which costs me nothing."

25 So David gave Ornan

600 shekels of gold by weight for the site.

26 Then David built an altar to the LORD there and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.

And he called to the LORD and He answered him with fire from

and the plague was held back from Israel.

heaven on the altar of burnt offering.

27 The LORD commanded the angel,
and he put his sword back in its sheath.

28 At that time, when David saw that the LORD had answered
him on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite, he offered
sacrifice there.

29 For the tabernacle of the LORD, which Moses had made in the
wilderness, and the altar of burnt offering *were* in the high place
at Gibeon at that time.

30 But David could not go before it to inquire of God, for he was
terrified by the sword of the angel of the LORD.

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 burnt offering for Israel."

2 So David gave orders to gather the foreigners who were in the land of Israel, and he set stonecutters to hew out stones to build the house of God.

3 David prepared large quantities of iron to make the nails for the doors of the gates and for the clamps, and more bronze than could be weighed;

4 and timbers of cedar logs beyond number, for the Sidonians and Tyrians brought large quantities of cedar timber to David.

5 David said, "My son Solomon is young and inexperienced, and the house that is to be built for the LORD shall be exceedingly magnificent, famous and glorious throughout all lands. *Therefore* now I will make preparation for it." So David made ample preparations before his death.

David's Private Charge to Solomon

6 Then he called for his son Solomon, and charged him to build a house for the LORD God of Israel.

7 David said to Solomon, "My son, I had intended to build a house to the name of the LORD my God.

8 But the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'You have shed much blood and have waged great wars; you shall not build a house to My name, because you have shed so much blood on the earth before Me.

9 Behold, a son will be born to you, who shall be a man of rest; and I will give him rest from all his enemies on every side; for his name shall be Solomon, and I will give peace and quiet to Israel in his days.

10 He shall build a 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 forever.'

11 Now, my son, the LORD be with you that you may be successful, and build the house of the LORD your God just as He has spoken concerning you.

12 Only the LORD give you discretion and understanding, and give you charge over Israel, so that you may keep the law of the LORD your God.

13 Then you will prosper, if you are careful to observe the statutes and the ordinances which the LORD commanded Moses concerning Israel. Be strong and courageous, do not fear nor be dismayed.

14 Now behold, with great pains I have prepared for the house of the LORD 100,000 talents of gold and 1,000,000 talents of silver, and bronze and iron beyond weight, for they are in great quantity; also timber and stone I have prepared, and you may add to them.

15 Moreover, there are many workmen with you, stonecutters and masons of stone and carpenters, and all men who are skillful in every kind of work.

16 Of the gold, the silver and the bronze and the iron there is no limit. Arise and work, and may the LORD be with you."

David's Charge to the Leaders of Israel

17 David also commanded all the leaders of Israel to help his son Solomon, *saying*,

18 "Is not the LORD your God with you? And has He not given you rest on every side? For He has given the inhabitants of the land into my 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 the sanctuary of the LORD God, so that you may bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD and the holy vessels of God into the house that is to be built for the name of the LORD."

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 are the nations in an uproar
And the peoples devising a vain thing?
- 2 The kings of the earth take their stand
And the rulers take counsel together
Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, [[Acts 4:25–26](#)]
- 3 "Let us tear their fetters apart
And cast away their cords from us!"
- 4 He who sits in the heavens laughs,
The Lord scoffs at them.
- 5 Then He will speak to them in His anger
And terrify them in His fury, saying,
- 6 "But as for Me, I have installed My King
Upon Zion, My holy mountain."
- 7 "I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD:
He said to Me, 'You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You. [[Acts 13:33](#); [Heb 1:5](#); [5:5](#)]
- 8 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance,
And the very ends of the earth as Your possession.
- 9 'You shall break them with a rod of iron, [[Rev 2:26–28](#)]
You shall shatter them like earthenware."
- 10 Now therefore, O kings, show discernment;
Take warning, O judges of the earth.
- 11 Worship the LORD with reverence
And rejoice with trembling.
- 12 Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish *in* the way,
For His wrath may soon be kindled.
How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!

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

Psalm 4

For the choir director; on stringed instruments.

A psalm of David.

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!
You have relieved me in my distress;
Be gracious to me and hear my prayer.
- 2 O sons of men, how long will my honor become a reproach?
How long will you love what is worthless and aim at deception? *Selah.*
- 3 But know that the LORD has set apart the godly man for Himself;
The LORD hears when I call to Him.
- 4 Tremble, and do not sin; [cf. [Eph 4:26](#)]
Meditate in your heart upon your bed, and be still. *Selah.*
- 5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness,
And trust in the LORD.
- 6 Many are saying, "Who will show us *any* good?"
Lift up the light of Your countenance upon us, O LORD!
- 7 You have put gladness in my heart,
More than when their grain and new wine abound.
- 8 In peace I will both lie down and sleep,
For You alone, O LORD, make me to dwell in safety.

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

Psalm 5

For the choir director; for flute accompaniment.

A psalm of David.

- 1 Give ear to my words, O LORD,
Consider my groaning.
- 2 Heed the sound of my cry for help, my King and my God,
For to You I pray.
- 3 In the morning, O LORD, You will hear my voice;
In the morning I will order *my prayer* to You and *eagerly* watch.
- 4 For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness;
No evil dwells with You.
- 5 The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes;
You hate all who do iniquity.
- 6 You destroy those who speak falsehood;
The LORD abhors the man of bloodshed and deceit.
- 7 But as for me, by Your abundant lovingkindness I will enter Your house,
At Your holy temple I will bow in reverence for You.
- 8 O LORD, lead me in Your righteousness because of my foes;
Make Your way straight before me.
- 9 There is nothing reliable in what they say;
Their inward part is destruction *itself*.
Their throat is an open grave;
They flatter with their tongue. [[Rom 3:13](#)]
- 10 Hold them guilty, O God;
By their own devices let them fall!
In the multitude of their transgressions thrust them out,
For they are rebellious against You.
- 11 But let all who take refuge in You be glad,
Let them ever sing for joy;
And may You shelter them,
That those who love Your name may exult in You.
- 12 For it is You who blesses the righteous man, O LORD,
You surround him with favor as with a shield.

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

Psalm 6

For the choir director; with stringed instruments, upon an eight-string lyre.

A psalm of David.

- 1 O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your anger,
Nor chasten me in Your wrath.
- 2 Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I *am* pining away;
Heal me, O LORD, for my bones are dismayed.
- 3 And my soul is greatly dismayed;
But You, O LORD—how long?
- 4 Return, O LORD, rescue my soul;
Save me because of Your lovingkindness.
- 5 For there is no mention of You in death;
In Sheol who will give You thanks?
- 6 I am weary with my sighing;
Every night I make my bed swim,
I dissolve my couch with my tears.
- 7 My eye has wasted away with grief;
It has become old because of all my adversaries.
- 8 Depart from me, all you who do iniquity,
For the LORD has heard the voice of my weeping.
- 9 The LORD has heard my supplication,

- The LORD receives my prayer.
 10 All my enemies will be ashamed and greatly dismayed;
 They shall turn back, they will suddenly be ashamed.

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

Psalm 7

A Shiggaion of David, which he sang to the LORD concerning Cush, a Benjamite.

- 1 O LORD my God, in You I have taken refuge;
Save me from all those who pursue me, and deliver me,
- 2 Or he will tear my soul like a lion,
Dragging me away, while there is none to deliver.
- 3 O LORD my God, if I have done this,
If there is injustice in my hands,
- 4 If I have rewarded evil to my friend,
Or have plundered him who without cause was my adversary,
- 5 Let the enemy pursue my soul and overtake it;
And let him trample my life down to the ground
And lay my glory in the dust. *Selah.*
- 6 Arise, O LORD, in Your anger;
Lift up Yourself against the rage of my adversaries,
And arouse Yourself for me; You have appointed judgment.
- 7 Let the assembly of the peoples encompass You,
And over them return on high.
- 8 The LORD judges the peoples;
Vindicate me, O LORD, according to my righteousness and my integrity that is in me.
- 9 O let the evil of the wicked come to an end, but establish the righteous;
For the righteous God tries the hearts and minds.
- 10 My shield is with God,
Who saves the upright in heart.
- 11 God is a righteous judge,
And a God who has indignation every day.
- 12 If a man does not repent, He will sharpen His sword;
He has bent His bow and made it ready.
- 13 He has also prepared for Himself deadly weapons;
He makes His arrows fiery shafts.
- 14 Behold, he travails with wickedness,
And he conceives mischief and brings forth falsehood.
- 15 He has dug a pit and hollowed it out,
And has fallen into the hole which he made.
- 16 His mischief will return upon his own head,
And his violence will descend upon his own pate.
- 17 I will give thanks to 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

For the choir director; on the Gittith.

A psalm of David.

- 1 O LORD, our Lord,
How majestic is Your name in all the earth,
Who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens!
- 2 From the mouth of infants and nursing babes You have established strength [[Matt 21:15-17](#)]
Because of Your adversaries,
To make the enemy and the revengeful cease.
- 3 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,
The moon and the stars, which You have ordained;

- 4 What is man that You take thought of him,
And the son of man that You care for him? [[Heb 2:5–9](#)]
- 5 Yet You have made him a little lower than God,
And You crown him with glory and majesty!
- 6 You make him to rule over the works of Your hands;
You have put all things under his feet, [[1 Cor 15:27–28](#); [Eph 1:22](#)]
- 7 All sheep and oxen,
And also the beasts of the field,
- 8 The birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea,
Whatever passes through the paths of the seas.
- 9 O LORD, our Lord,
How majestic is Your name in all the earth!

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

Psalm 9

For the choir director; on Muth-labben.

A psalm of David.

- 1 I will give thanks to the LORD with all my heart;
I will tell of all Your wonders.
- 2 I will be glad and exult in You;
I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.
- 3 When my enemies turn back,
They stumble and perish before You.
- 4 For You have maintained my just cause;
You have sat on the throne judging righteously.
- 5 You have rebuked the nations, You have destroyed the wicked;
You have blotted out their name forever and ever.
- 6 The enemy has come to an end in perpetual ruins,
And You have uprooted the cities;
The very memory of them has perished.
- 7 But the LORD abides forever;
He has established His throne for judgment,
8 And He will judge the world in righteousness;
He will execute judgment for the peoples with equity.
- 9 The LORD also will be a stronghold for the oppressed,
A stronghold in times of trouble;
- 10 And those who know Your name will put their trust in You,
For You, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.
- 11 Sing praises to the LORD, who dwells in Zion;
Declare among the peoples His deeds.
- 12 For He who requires blood remembers them;
He does not forget the cry of the afflicted.
- 13 Be gracious to me, O LORD;
See my affliction from those who hate me,
You who lift me up from the gates of death,
- 14 That I may tell of all Your praises,
That in the gates of the daughter of Zion
I may rejoice in Your salvation.
- 15 The nations have sunk down in the pit which they have made;
In the net which they hid, their own foot has been caught.
- 16 The LORD has made Himself known;
He has executed judgment.
In the work of his own hands the wicked is snared. *Higgaion Selah.*
- 17 The wicked will return to Sheol,
Even all the nations who forget God.
- 18 For the needy will not always be forgotten,
Nor the hope of the afflicted perish forever.

- 19 Arise, O LORD, do not let man prevail;
Let the nations be judged before You.
- 20 Put them in fear, O LORD;
Let the nations know that they are 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.*]

- 1 Why do You stand afar off, O LORD?
Why do You hide *Yourself* in times of trouble?
- 2 In pride the wicked hotly pursue the afflicted;
Let them be caught in the plots which they have devised.
- 3 For the wicked boasts of his heart's desire,
And the greedy man curses *and* spurns the LORD.
- 4 The wicked, in the haughtiness of his countenance, does not seek *Him*.
All his thoughts are, "There is no God."
- 5 His ways prosper at all times;
Your judgments are on high, out of his sight;
As for all his adversaries, he snorts at them.
- 6 He says to himself, "I will not be moved;
Throughout all generations I will not be in adversity."
- 7 His mouth is full of curses and deceit and oppression;
Under his tongue is mischief and wickedness. [[Rom 3:14](#)]
- 8 He sits in the lurking places of the villages;
In the hiding places he kills the innocent;
His eyes stealthily watch for the unfortunate.
- 9 He lurks in a hiding place as a lion in his lair;
He lurks to catch the afflicted;
He catches the afflicted when he draws him into his net.
- 10 He crouches, he bows down,
And the unfortunate fall by his mighty ones.
- 11 He says to himself, "God has forgotten;
He has hidden His face; He will never see it."
- 12 Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up Your hand.
Do not forget the afflicted.
- 13 Why has the wicked spurned God?
He has said to himself, "You will not require *it*."
- 14 You have seen *it*, for You have beheld mischief and vexation to take it into Your hand.
The unfortunate commits *himself* to You;
You have been the helper of the orphan.
- 15 Break the arm of the wicked and the evildoer,
Seek out his wickedness until You find none.
- 16 The LORD is King forever and ever;
Nations have perished from His land.
- 17 O LORD, You have heard the desire of the humble;
You will strengthen their heart, You will incline Your ear
- 18 To vindicate the orphan and the oppressed,
So that man who is of the earth will no longer cause terror.

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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 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

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 In the LORD I take refuge;
How can you say to my soul, "Flee as a bird to your mountain;
- 2 For, behold, the wicked bend the bow,
They make ready their arrow upon the string
To shoot in darkness at the upright in heart.
- 3 If the foundations are 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 test the sons of men.
- 5 The LORD tests the righteous and the wicked,
And the one who loves violence His soul hates.
- 6 Upon the wicked He will rain snares;
Fire and brimstone and burning wind will be the portion of their cup.
- 7 For the LORD is righteous, He loves righteousness;
The upright will behold His face.

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

Psalm 12

For the choir director; upon an eight-stringed lyre.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Help, LORD, for the godly man ceases to be,
For the faithful disappear from among the sons of men.
- 2 They speak falsehood to one another;
With flattering lips and with a double heart they speak.
- 3 May the LORD cut off all flattering lips,
The tongue that speaks great things;
- 4 Who have said, "With our tongue we will prevail;
Our lips are our own; who is lord over us?"
- 5 "Because of the devastation of the afflicted, because of the groaning of the needy,
Now I will arise," says the LORD; "I will set him in the safety for which he longs."
- 6 The words of the LORD are pure words;
As silver tried in a furnace on the earth, refined seven times.
- 7 You, O LORD, will keep them;
You will preserve him from this generation forever.
- 8 The wicked strut about on every side
When vileness is exalted among the sons of men.

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

Psalm 13

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 How long, O LORD? Will You forget me forever?
How long will You hide Your face from me?
- 2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul,
Having sorrow in my heart all the day?
How long will my enemy be exalted over me?
- 3 Consider *and* answer me, O LORD my God;
Enlighten my eyes, or I will sleep the *sleep of* death,
- 4 And my enemy will say, "I have overcome him,"
And my adversaries will rejoice when I am shaken.
- 5 But I have trusted in Your lovingkindness;
My heart shall rejoice in Your salvation.

- 6 I will sing to the LORD,
Because He has dealt bountifully with me.

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

Psalm 14

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."
They are corrupt, they have committed abominable deeds;
There is no one who does good. [[Rom 3:10–12](#)]
- 2 The LORD has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men
To see if there are any who understand,
Who seek after God.
- 3 They have all turned aside, together they have become corrupt;
There is no one who does good, not even one.
- 4 Do all the workers of wickedness not know,
Who eat up my people *as* they eat bread,
And do not call upon the Lord?
- 5 There they are in great dread,
For God is with the righteous generation.
- 6 You would put to shame the counsel of the afflicted,
But the LORD is his refuge.
- 7 Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion!
When the LORD restores His captive people,
Jacob will rejoice, Israel will be glad.

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

Psalm 15

A Psalm of David.

- 1 O LORD, who may abide in Your tent?
Who may dwell on Your holy hill?
- 2 He who walks with integrity, and works righteousness,
And speaks truth in his heart.
- 3 He does not slander with his tongue,
Nor does evil to his neighbor,
Nor takes up a reproach against his friend;
- 4 In whose eyes a reprobate is despised,
But who honors those who fear the LORD;
He swears to his own hurt and does not change;
- 5 He does not put out his money at interest,
Nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
He who does these things will never be shaken.

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

Psalm 16

A Mikhtam of David.

- 1 Preserve me, O God, for I take refuge in You.
- 2 I said to the LORD, "You are my Lord;
I have no good besides You."
- 3 As for the saints who are in the earth,
They are the majestic ones in whom is all my delight.
- 4 The sorrows of those who have bartered for another *god* will be multiplied;
I shall not pour out their drink offerings of blood,
Nor will I take their names upon my lips.
- 5 The LORD is the portion of my inheritance and my cup;
You support my lot.

- 6 The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places;
Indeed, my heritage is beautiful to me.
- 7 I will bless the LORD who has counseled me;
Indeed, my mind instructs me in the night.
- 8 I have set the LORD continually before me;
Because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
- 9 Therefore my heart is glad and my glory rejoices;
My flesh also will dwell securely.
- 10 For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol;
Nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay.
- 11 You will make known to me the path of life;
In Your presence is fullness of joy;
In Your right hand there are pleasures forever. [[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 a just cause, O LORD, give heed to my cry;
Give ear to my prayer, which is not from deceitful lips.
- 2 Let my judgment come forth from Your presence;
Let Your eyes look with equity.
- 3 You have tried my heart;
You have visited *me* by night;
You have tested me and You find nothing;
I have purposed that my mouth will not transgress.
- 4 As for the deeds of men, by the word of Your lips
I have kept from the paths of the violent.
- 5 My steps have held fast to Your paths.
My feet have not slipped.
- 6 I have called upon You, for You will answer me, O God;
Incline Your ear to me, hear my speech.
- 7 Wondrously show Your lovingkindness,
O Savior of those who take refuge at Your right hand
From those who rise up *against them*.
- 8 Keep me as the apple of the eye;
Hide me in the shadow of Your wings
- 9 From the wicked who despoil me,
My deadly enemies who surround me.
- 10 They have closed their unfeeling *heart*,
With their mouth they speak proudly.
- 11 They have now surrounded us in our steps;
They set their eyes to cast *us* down to the ground.
- 12 He is like a lion that is eager to tear,
And as a young lion lurking in hiding places.
- 13 Arise, O LORD, confront him, bring him low;
Deliver my soul from the wicked with Your sword,
- 14 From men with Your hand, O LORD,
From men of the world, whose portion is in *this* life,
And whose belly You fill with Your treasure;
They are satisfied with children,
And leave their abundance to their babes.
- 15 As for me, I shall behold Your face in righteousness;
I will be satisfied with Your likeness when I awake.

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

Psalm 19

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The heavens are telling of the glory of God;
And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.
- 2 Day to day pours forth speech,
And night to night reveals knowledge.
- 3 There is no speech, nor are there words;
Their voice is not heard.
- 4 Their line has gone out through all the earth,
And their utterances to the end of the world. [[Rom 1:19–20; 10:17–18](#)]
In them He has placed a tent for the sun,
5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber;
It rejoices as a strong man to run his course.
- 6 Its rising is from one end of the heavens,
And its circuit to the other end of them;
And there is nothing hidden from its heat.
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;
The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.
- 8 The precepts 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 forever;
The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether.
- 10 They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold;
Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.
- 11 Moreover, by them Your servant is warned;
In keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can discern *his* errors? Acquit me of hidden *faults*.
- 13 Also keep back Your servant from presumptuous *sins*;
Let them not rule over me;
Then I will be blameless,
And I shall be acquitted of great transgression.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
Be acceptable in Your sight,
O LORD, my rock and my Redeemer.

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

Psalm 20

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble!
May the name of the God of Jacob set you *securely* on high!
- 2 May He send you help from the sanctuary
And support you from Zion!
- 3 May He remember all your meal offerings
And find your burnt offering acceptable! *Selah*.
- 4 May He grant you your heart's desire
And fulfill all your counsel!
- 5 We will sing for joy over your victory,
And in the name of our God we will set up our banners.
May the LORD fulfill all your petitions.
- 6 Now I know that the LORD saves His anointed;
He will answer him from His holy heaven
With the saving strength of His right hand.
- 7 Some *boast* in chariots and some in horses,
But we will boast in the name of the LORD, our God.

- 8 They have bowed down and fallen,
But we have risen and stood upright.
- 9 Save, O LORD;
May the King answer us in the day we call.

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

Psalm 21

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 O LORD, in Your strength the king will be glad,
And in Your salvation how greatly he will rejoice!
- 2 You have given him his heart's desire,
And You have not withheld the request of his lips. *Selah.*
- 3 For You meet him with the blessings of good things;
You set a crown of fine gold on his head.
- 4 He asked life of You,
You gave it to him,
Length of days forever and ever.
- 5 His glory is great through Your salvation,
Splendor and majesty You place upon him.
- 6 For You make him most blessed forever;
You make him joyful with gladness in Your presence.
- 7 For the king trusts in the LORD,
And through the lovingkindness of the Most High he will not be shaken.
- 8 Your hand will find out all your enemies;
Your right hand will find out those who hate you.
- 9 You will make them as a fiery oven in the time of your anger;
The LORD will swallow them up in His wrath,
And fire will devour them.
- 10 Their offspring You will destroy from the earth,
And their descendants from among the sons of men.
- 11 Though they intended evil against You
And devised a plot,
They will not succeed.
- 12 For You will make them turn their back;
You will aim with Your bowstrings at their faces.
- 13 Be exalted, O LORD, in Your strength;
We will sing and praise Your power.

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

Psalm 22

For the choir director; upon Ajeleth Hashshahar.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?
Far from my deliverance are the words of my groaning. [[Matt 27:46](#); [Mark 15:34](#)]
- 2 O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer;
And by night, but I have no rest.
- 3 Yet You are holy,
O You who are enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- 4 In You our fathers trusted;
They trusted and You delivered them.
- 5 To You they cried out and were delivered;
In You they trusted and were not disappointed.
- 6 But I am a worm and not a man,
A reproach of men and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me sneer at me;

- They separate with the lip, they wag the head, *saying*, [\[Matt 27:39; Mark 15:29; Luke 23:35\]](#)
- 8 “Commit *yourself* to the LORD; let Him deliver him;
Let Him rescue him, because He delights in him.” [\[Matt 27:43\]](#)
- 9 Yet You are He who brought me forth from the womb;
You made me trust *when* upon my mother’s breasts.
- 10 Upon You I was cast from birth;
You have been my God from my mother’s womb.
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near;
For there is none to help.
- 12 Many bulls have surrounded me;
Strong *bulls* of Bashan have encircled me.
- 13 They open wide their mouth at me,
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 within me.
- 15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd,
And my tongue cleaves to my jaws;
And You lay me in the dust of death.
- 16 For dogs have surrounded me;
A band of evildoers has encompassed me;
They pierced my hands and my feet.
- 17 I can count all my bones.
They look, they stare at me;
- 18 They divide my garments among them,
And for my clothing they cast lots. [\[John 19:24; Matt 27:35; Mark 15:24; Luke 23:34\]](#)
- 19 But You, O LORD, be not far off;
O You my help, hasten to my assistance.
- 20 Deliver my soul from the sword,
My only *life* from the power of the dog.
- 21 Save me from the lion’s mouth;
From the horns of the wild oxen You answer me.
- 22 I will tell of Your name to my brethren;
In the midst of the assembly I will praise You. [\[Hebrews 2:10–12\]](#)
- 23 You who fear the LORD, praise Him;
All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him,
And stand in awe of Him, all you descendants of Israel.
- 24 For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted;
Nor has He hidden His face from him;
But when he cried to Him for help, He heard.
- 25 From You *comes* my praise in the great assembly;
I shall pay my vows before those who fear Him.
- 26 The afflicted will eat and be satisfied;
Those who seek Him will praise the LORD.
Let your heart live forever!
- 27 All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD,
And all the families of the nations will worship before You.
- 28 For the kingdom is the LORD’s
And He rules over the nations.
- 29 All the prosperous of the earth will eat and worship,
All those who go down to the dust will bow before Him,
Even he who cannot keep his soul alive.
- 30 Posterity will serve Him;
It will be told of the Lord to the *coming* generation.
- 31 They will come and will declare His righteousness
To a people who will be born, that He has performed *it*.

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 makes me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside quiet waters.
- 3 He restores my soul;
He guides me in the paths of righteousness
For His name's sake.
- 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I fear no evil, for You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You have anointed my head with oil;
My cup overflows.
- 6 Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life,
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

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

Psalm 24

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The earth is the LORD's, and all it contains,
The world, and those who dwell in it. [[1 Cor 10:24–26](#)]
- 2 For He has founded it upon the seas
And established it upon the rivers.
- 3 Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD?
And who may stand in His holy place?
- 4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
Who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood
And has not sworn deceitfully.
- 5 He shall receive a blessing from the LORD
And righteousness from the God of his salvation.
- 6 This is the generation of those who seek Him,
Who seek Your face—even Jacob. *Selah.*
- 7 Lift up your heads, O gates,
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
That the King of glory may come in!
- 8 Who is the King of glory?
The LORD strong and mighty,
The LORD mighty in battle.
- 9 Lift up your heads, O gates,
And lift *them* up, O ancient doors,
That the King of glory may 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 To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
- 2 O my God, in You I trust,
Do not let me be ashamed;
Do not let my enemies exult over me.
- 3 Indeed, none of those who wait for You will be ashamed;
Those who deal treacherously without cause will be ashamed.
- 4 Make me know Your ways, O LORD;
Teach me Your paths.
- 5 Lead me in Your truth and teach me,
For You are the God of my salvation;
For You I wait all the day.
- 6 Remember, O LORD, Your compassion and Your lovingkindnesses,
For they have been from of old.
- 7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
According to Your lovingkindness remember me,
For Your goodness' sake, O LORD.
- 8 Good and upright is the LORD;
Therefore He instructs sinners in the way.
- 9 He leads the humble in justice,
And He teaches the humble His way.
- 10 All the paths of the LORD are lovingkindness and truth
To those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.
- 11 For Your name's sake, O LORD,
Pardon my iniquity, for it is great.
- 12 Who is the man who fears the LORD?
He will instruct him in the way he should choose.
- 13 His soul will abide in prosperity,
And his descendants will inherit the land.
- 14 The secret of the LORD is for those who fear Him,
And He will make them know His covenant.
- 15 My eyes are continually toward the LORD,
For He will pluck my feet out of the net.
- 16 Turn to me and be gracious to me,
For I am lonely and afflicted.
- 17 The troubles of my heart are enlarged;
Bring me out of my distresses.
- 18 Look upon my affliction and my trouble,
And forgive all my sins.
- 19 Look upon my enemies, for they are many,
And they hate me with violent hatred.
- 20 Guard my soul and deliver me;
Do not let me be ashamed, for I take refuge in You.
- 21 Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,
For I wait for You.
- 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 Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity,
And I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.
- 2 Examine me, O LORD, and try me;
Test my mind and my heart.

- 3 For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes,
And I have walked in Your truth.
- 4 I do not sit with deceitful men,
Nor will I go with pretenders.
- 5 I hate the assembly of evildoers,
And I will not sit with the wicked.
- 6 I shall wash my hands in innocence,
And I will go about Your altar, O LORD,
- 7 That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving
And declare all Your wonders.
- 8 O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house
And the place where Your glory dwells.
- 9 Do not take my soul away *along* with sinners,
Nor my life with men of bloodshed,
- 10 In whose hands is a wicked scheme,
And whose right hand is full of bribes.
- 11 But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity;
Redeem me, and be gracious to me.
- 12 My foot stands on a level place;
In the congregations I shall 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 defense of my life;
Whom shall I dread?
- 2 When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh,
My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell.
- 3 Though a host encamp against me,
My heart will not fear;
Though war arise against me,
In *spite of* this I shall be confident.
- 4 One thing I have asked from the LORD, that I shall seek:
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 meditate in His temple.
- 5 For in the day of trouble He will conceal me in His tabernacle;
In the secret place of His tent He will hide me;
He will lift me up on a rock.
- 6 And now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me,
And I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD.
- 7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice,
And be gracious to me and answer me.
- 8 *When You said, "Seek My face,"* my heart said to You,
"Your face, O LORD, I shall seek."
- 9 Do not hide Your face from me,
Do not turn Your servant away in anger;
You have been my help;
Do not abandon me nor forsake me,
O God of my salvation!
- 10 For my father and my mother have forsaken me,
But the LORD will take me up.
- 11 Teach me Your way, O LORD,
And lead me in a level path

- Because of my foes.
- 12 Do not deliver me over to the desire of my adversaries,
For false witnesses have risen against me,
And such as breathe out violence.
- 13 *I would have despaired* unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD
In the land of the living.
- 14 Wait for the LORD;
Be strong and let your heart take courage;
Yes, wait for the LORD.

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

Psalm 28

A Psalm of David.

- 1 To You, O LORD, I call;
My rock, do not be deaf to me,
For if You are silent to me,
I will become like those who go down to the pit.
- 2 Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry to You for help,
When I lift up my hands toward Your holy sanctuary.
- 3 Do not drag me away with the wicked
And with those who work iniquity,
Who speak peace with their neighbors,
While evil is in their hearts.
- 4 Requite them according to their work and according to the evil of their practices;
Requite them according to the deeds of their hands;
Repay them their recompense.
- 5 Because they do not regard the works of the LORD
Nor the deeds of His hands,
He will tear them down and not build them up.
- 6 Blessed be the LORD,
Because He has heard the voice of my supplication.
- 7 The LORD is my strength and my shield;
My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped;
Therefore my heart exults,
And with my song I shall thank Him.
- 8 The LORD is their strength,
And He is a saving defense to His anointed.
- 9 Save Your people and bless Your inheritance;
Be their shepherd also, and carry them forever.

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

Psalm 29

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, O sons of the mighty,
Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due to His name;
Worship the LORD in holy array.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;
The God of glory thunders,
The LORD is over many waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is powerful,
The voice of the LORD is majestic.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
Yes, the LORD breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
And Sirion like a young wild ox.

- 7 The voice of the LORD hews out flames of fire.
 8 The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
 The LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
 9 The voice of the LORD makes the deer to calve
 And strips the forests bare;
 And in His temple everything says, "Glory!"
 10 The LORD sat *as King* at the flood;
 Yes, the LORD sits as King forever.
 11 The LORD will give strength to His people;
 The LORD will bless His people with peace.

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

Psalm 30

A Psalm; a Song at the Dedication of the House. A Psalm of David.

- 1 I will extol You, O LORD, for You have lifted me up,
 And have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
 2 O LORD my God,
 I cried to You for help, and You healed me.
 3 O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol;
 You have kept me alive, that I would not go down to the pit.
 4 Sing praise to the LORD, you His godly ones,
 And give thanks to His holy name.
 5 For His anger is but for a moment,
 His favor is for a lifetime;
 Weeping may last for the night,
 But a shout of joy *comes* in the morning.
 6 Now as for me, I said in my prosperity,
 "I will never be moved."
 7 O LORD, by Your favor You have made my mountain to stand strong;
 You hid Your face, I was dismayed.
 8 To You, O LORD, I called,
 And to the Lord I made supplication:
 9 "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
 Will the dust praise You? Will it declare Your faithfulness?
 10 "Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me;
 O LORD, be my helper."
 11 You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
 You have loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness,
 12 That *my* soul may sing praise to You and not be silent.
 O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

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

Psalm 31

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 In You, O LORD, I have taken refuge;
Let me never be ashamed;
In Your righteousness deliver me.
- 2 Incline Your ear to me, rescue me quickly;
Be to me a rock of strength,
A stronghold to save me.
- 3 For You are my rock and my fortress;
For Your name's sake You will lead me and guide me.
- 4 You will pull me out of the net which they have secretly laid for me,
For You are my strength.
- 5 Into Your hand I commit my spirit; [[Luke 23:46](#)]
You have ransomed me, O LORD, God of truth.
- 6 I hate those who regard vain idols,
But I trust in the LORD. [[Jonah 2:8](#)]
- 7 I will rejoice and be glad in Your lovingkindness,
Because You have seen my affliction;
You have known the troubles of my soul,
- 8 And You have not given me over into the hand of the enemy;
You have set my feet in a large place.
- 9 Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress;
My eye is wasted away from grief, my soul and my body *also*.
- 10 For my life is spent with sorrow
And my years with sighing;
My strength has failed because of my iniquity,
And my body has wasted away.
- 11 Because of all my adversaries, I have become a reproach,
Especially to my neighbors,
And an object of dread to my acquaintances;
Those who see me in the street flee 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,
Terror is on every side;
While they took counsel together against me,
They schemed to take away my life. [[Jer 20:10](#)]
- 14 But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD,
I say, "You are my God."
- 15 My times are in Your hand;
Deliver me from the hand of my enemies and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make Your face to shine upon Your servant;
Save me in Your lovingkindness.
- 17 Let me not be put to shame, O LORD, for I call upon You;
Let the wicked be put to shame, let them be silent in Sheol.
- 18 Let the lying lips be mute,
Which speak arrogantly against the righteous
With pride and contempt.
- 19 How great is Your goodness,
Which You have stored up for those who fear You,
Which You have wrought for those who take refuge in You,
Before the sons of men!
- 20 You hide them in the secret place of Your presence from the conspiracies of man;
You keep them secretly in a shelter from the strife of tongues.
- 21 Blessed be the LORD,
For He has made marvelous His lovingkindness to me in a besieged city.

- 22 As for me, I said in my alarm,
 “I am cut off from before Your eyes”;
 Nevertheless You heard the voice of my supplications
 When I cried to You.
- 23 O love the LORD, all you His godly ones!
 The LORD preserves the faithful
 And fully recompenses the proud doer.
- 24 Be strong and let your heart take courage,
 All you who hope in the LORD.

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

Psalm 35

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me;
 Fight against those who fight against me.
- 2 Take hold of buckler and shield
 And rise up for my help.
- 3 Draw also the spear and the battle-axe to meet those who pursue me;
 Say to my soul, “I am your salvation.”
- 4 Let those be ashamed and dishonored who seek my life;
 Let those be turned back and humiliated who devise evil against me.
- 5 Let them be like chaff before the wind,
 With the angel of the LORD driving *them* on.
- 6 Let their way be dark and slippery,
 With the angel of the LORD pursuing them.
- 7 For without cause they hid their net for me;
 Without cause they dug a pit for my soul.
- 8 Let destruction come upon him unawares,
 And let the net which he hid catch himself;
 Into that very destruction let him fall.
- 9 And my soul shall rejoice in the LORD;
 It shall exult in His salvation.
- 10 All my bones will say, “LORD, who is like You,
 Who delivers the afflicted from him who is too strong for him,
 And the afflicted and the needy from him who robs him?”
- 11 Malicious witnesses rise up;
 They ask me of things that I do not know.
- 12 They repay me evil for good,
 To the bereavement 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 kept returning to my bosom.
- 14 I went about as though it were my friend or brother;
 I bowed down mourning, as one who sorrows for a mother.
- 15 But at my stumbling they rejoiced and gathered themselves together;
 The smiters whom I did not know gathered together against me,
 They slandered me without ceasing.
- 16 Like godless jesters at a feast,
 They gnashed at me with their teeth.
- 17 Lord, how long will You look on?
 Rescue my soul from their ravages,
 My only *life* from the lions.
- 18 I will give You thanks in the great congregation;
 I will praise You among a mighty throng.
- 19 Do not let those who are wrongfully my enemies rejoice over me;
 Nor let those who hate me without cause wink maliciously. [\[John 15:24-25\]](#)
- 20 For they do not speak peace,

- But they devise deceitful words against those who are quiet in the land.
- 21 They opened their mouth wide against me;
They said, “Aha, aha, our eyes have seen it!”
- 22 You have seen it, O LORD, do not keep silent;
O Lord, do not be far from me.
- 23 Stir up Yourself, and awake to my right
And to my cause, my God and my Lord.
- 24 Judge me, O LORD my God, according to Your righteousness,
And do not let them rejoice over me.
- 25 Do not let them say in their heart, “Aha, our desire!”
Do not let them say, “We have swallowed him up!”
- 26 Let those be ashamed and humiliated altogether who rejoice at my distress;
Let those be clothed with shame and dishonor who magnify themselves over me.
- 27 Let them shout for joy and rejoice, who favor my vindication;
And let them say continually, “The LORD be magnified,
Who delights in the prosperity of His servant.”
- 28 And my tongue shall declare Your righteousness
And Your praise all day long.

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

Psalm 36

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David the servant of the LORD.

- 1 Transgression speaks to the ungodly within his heart;
There is no fear of God before his eyes. [[Rom 3:18](#)]
- 2 For it flatters him in his *own* eyes
Concerning the discovery of his iniquity *and* the hatred *of it*.
- 3 The words of his mouth are wickedness and deceit;
He has ceased to be wise *and* to do good.
- 4 He plans wickedness upon his bed;
He sets himself on a path that is not good;
He does not despise evil.
- 5 Your lovingkindness, O LORD, extends to the heavens,
Your faithfulness *reaches* to the skies.
- 6 Your righteousness is like the mountains of God;
Your judgments are *like* a great deep.
O LORD, You preserve man and beast.
- 7 How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God!
And the children of men take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.
- 8 They drink their fill of the abundance of Your house;
And You give them to drink of the river of Your delights.
- 9 For with You is the fountain of life;
In Your light we see light.
- 10 O continue Your lovingkindness to those who know You,
And Your righteousness to the upright in heart.
- 11 Let not the foot of pride come upon me,
And let not the hand of the wicked drive me away.
- 12 There the doers of iniquity have fallen;
They have been thrust down and cannot rise.

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

Psalm 37

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Do not fret because of evildoers,
Be not envious toward wrongdoers.
- 2 For they will wither quickly like the grass

- And fade like the green herb.
- 3 Trust in the LORD and do good;
Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness.
- 4 Delight yourself in the LORD;
And He will give you the desires of your heart.
- 5 Commit your way to the LORD,
Trust also in Him, and He will do it.
- 6 He will bring forth your righteousness as the light
And your judgment as the noonday.
- 7 Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for Him;
Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way,
Because of the man who carries out wicked schemes.
- 8 Cease from anger and forsake wrath;
Do not fret; *it leads* only to evildoing.
- 9 For evildoers will be cut off,
But those who wait for the LORD, they will inherit the land.
- 10 Yet a little while and the wicked man will be no more;
And you will look carefully for his place and he will not be *there*.
- 11 But the humble will inherit the land
And will delight themselves in abundant prosperity.
- 12 The wicked plots against the righteous
And gnashes at him with his teeth.
- 13 The Lord laughs at him,
For He sees his day is coming.
- 14 The wicked have drawn the sword and bent their bow
To cast down the afflicted and the needy,
To slay those who are upright in conduct.
- 15 Their sword will enter their own heart,
And their bows will be broken.
- 16 Better is the little of the righteous
Than the abundance of many wicked.
- 17 For the arms of the wicked will be broken,
But the LORD sustains the righteous.
- 18 The LORD knows the days of the blameless,
And their inheritance will be forever.
- 19 They will not be ashamed in the time of evil,
And in the days of famine they will have abundance.
- 20 But the wicked will perish;
And the enemies of the LORD will be like the glory of the pastures,
They vanish—like smoke they vanish away.
- 21 The wicked borrows and does not pay back,
But the righteous is gracious and gives.
- 22 For those blessed by Him will inherit the land,
But those cursed by Him will be cut off.
- 23 The steps of a man are established by the LORD,
And He delights in his way.
- 24 When he falls, he will not be hurled headlong,
Because the LORD is the One who holds his hand.
- 25 I have been young and now I am old,
Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken
Or his descendants begging bread.
- 26 All day long he is gracious and lends,
And his descendants are a blessing.
- 27 Depart from evil and do good,
So you will abide forever.
- 28 For the LORD loves justice
And does not forsake His godly ones;
They are preserved forever,

- But the descendants of the wicked will be cut off.
- 29 The righteous will inherit the land
And dwell in it forever.
- 30 The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom,
And his tongue speaks justice.
- 31 The law of his God is in his heart;
His steps do not slip.
- 32 The wicked spies upon the righteous
And seeks to kill him.
- 33 The LORD will not leave him in his hand
Or let him be condemned when he is judged.
- 34 Wait for the LORD and keep His way,
And He will exalt you to inherit the land;
When the wicked are cut off, you will see it.
- 35 I have seen a wicked, violent man
Spreading himself like a luxuriant tree in its native soil.
- 36 Then he passed away, and lo, he was no more;
I sought for him, but he could not be found.
- 37 Mark the blameless man, and behold the upright;
For the man of peace will have a posterity.
- 38 But transgressors will be altogether destroyed;
The posterity of the wicked will be cut off.
- 39 But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;
He is their strength in time of trouble.
- 40 The LORD helps them and delivers them;
He delivers them from the wicked and saves them,
Because they take refuge in Him.

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

Psalm 38

A Psalm of David, for a memorial.

- 1 O LORD, rebuke me not in Your wrath,
And chasten me not in Your burning anger.
- 2 For Your arrows have sunk deep into me,
And Your hand has pressed down on me.
- 3 There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your indignation;
There is no health in my bones because of my sin.
- 4 For my iniquities are gone over my head;
As a heavy burden they weigh too much for me.
- 5 My wounds grow foul *and* fester
Because of my folly.
- 6 I am bent over and greatly bowed down;
I go mourning all day long.
- 7 For my loins are filled with burning,
And there is no soundness in my flesh.
- 8 I am benumbed and badly crushed;
I groan because of the agitation of my heart.
- 9 Lord, all my desire is before You;
And my sighing is not hidden from You.
- 10 My heart throbs, my strength fails me;
And the light of my eyes, even that has gone from me.
- 11 My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague;
And my kinsmen stand afar off.
- 12 Those who seek my life lay snares *for me*;
And those who seek to injure me have threatened destruction,
And they devise treachery all day long.
- 13 But I, like a deaf man, do not hear;
And *I am* like a mute man who does not open his mouth.
- 14 Yes, I am like a man who does not hear,
And in whose mouth are no arguments.
- 15 For I hope in You, O LORD;
You will answer, O Lord my God.
- 16 For I said, "May they not rejoice over me,
Who, when my foot slips, would magnify themselves against me."
- 17 For I am ready to fall,
And my sorrow is continually before me.
- 18 For I confess my iniquity;
I am full of anxiety because of my sin.
- 19 But my enemies are vigorous *and* strong,
And many are those who hate me wrongfully.
- 20 And those who repay evil for good,
They oppose me, because I follow what is good.
- 21 Do not forsake me, O LORD;
O my God, do not be 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

For the choir director, for Jeduthun.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 I said, "I will guard my ways
That I may not sin with my tongue;
I will guard my mouth as with a muzzle
While the wicked are in my presence."

- 2 I was mute and silent,
I refrained *even* from good,
And my sorrow grew worse.
- 3 My heart was hot within me,
While I was musing the fire burned;
Then I spoke with my tongue:
- 4 “LORD, make me to know my end
And what is the extent of my days;
Let me know how transient I am.
- 5 “Behold, You have made my days *as* handbreadths,
And my lifetime as nothing in Your sight;
Surely every man at his best is a mere breath. *Selah*.
- 6 “Surely every man walks about as a phantom;
Surely they make an uproar for nothing;
He amasses *riches* and does not know who will gather them.
- 7 “And now, Lord, for what do I wait?
My hope is in You.
- 8 “Deliver me from all my transgressions;
Make me not the reproach of the foolish.
- 9 “I have become mute, I do not open my mouth,
Because it is You who have done *it*.
- 10 “Remove Your plague from me;
Because of the opposition of Your hand I am perishing.
- 11 “With reproofs You chasten a man for iniquity;
You consume as a moth what is precious to him;
Surely every man is a mere breath. *Selah*.
- 12 “Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry;
Do not be silent at my tears;
For I am a stranger with You,
A sojourner like all my fathers.
- 13 “Turn Your gaze away from me, that I may smile *again*
Before I depart and am no more.”

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

Psalm 40

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 I waited patiently for the LORD;
And He inclined to me and heard my cry.
- 2 He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the miry clay,
And He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm.
- 3 He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;
Many will see and fear
And will trust in the LORD.
- 4 How blessed is the man who has made the LORD his trust,
And has not turned to the proud, nor to those who lapse into falsehood.
- 5 Many, O LORD my God, are the wonders which You have done,
And Your thoughts toward us;
There is none to compare with You.
If I would declare and speak of them,
They would be too numerous to count.
- 6 Sacrifice and meal offering You have not desired;
My ears You have opened; [or “But a body you have prepared for me” – LXX]
Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required. [[Heb 10:5–6](#)]
- 7 Then I said, “Behold, I come;
In the scroll of the book it is written of me.
- 8 I delight to do Your will, O my God; [[Heb 10:7–9](#)]

Your Law is within my heart.”

- 9 I have proclaimed glad tidings of righteousness in the great congregation;
Behold, I will not restrain my lips,
O LORD, You know.
- 10 I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart;
I have spoken of Your faithfulness and Your salvation;
I have not concealed Your lovingkindness and Your truth from the great congregation.
- 11 You, O LORD, will not withhold Your compassion from me;
Your lovingkindness and Your truth will continually preserve me.
- 12 For evils beyond number have surrounded me;
My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to see;
They are more numerous than the hairs of my head,
And my heart has failed me.
- 13 Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me;
Make haste, O LORD, to help me.
- 14 Let those be ashamed and humiliated together
Who seek my life to destroy it;
Let those be turned back and dishonored
Who delight in my hurt.
- 15 Let those be appalled because of their shame
Who say to me, “Aha, aha!”
- 16 Let all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You;
Let those who love Your salvation say continually,
“The LORD be magnified!”
- 17 Since I am afflicted and needy,
Let the Lord be mindful of me.
You are my help and my deliverer;
Do not delay, O my God.

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

Psalm 41

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 How blessed is he who considers the helpless;
The LORD will deliver him in a day of trouble.
- 2 The LORD will protect him and keep him alive,
And he shall be called blessed upon the earth;
And do not give him over to the desire of his enemies.
- 3 The LORD will sustain him upon his sickbed;
In his illness, You restore him to health.
- 4 As for me, I said, “O LORD, be gracious to me;
Heal my soul, for I have sinned against You.”
- 5 My enemies speak evil against me,
“When will he die, and his name perish?”
- 6 And when he comes to see *me*, he speaks falsehood;
His heart gathers wickedness to itself;
When he goes outside, he tells it.
- 7 All who hate me whisper together against me;
Against me they devise my hurt, *saying*,
- 8 “A wicked thing is poured out upon him,
That when he lies down, he will not rise up again.”
- 9 Even my close friend in whom I trusted,
Who ate my bread,
Has lifted up his heel against me. [[John 13:18](#)]
- 10 But You, O LORD, be gracious to me and raise me up,
That I may repay them.
- 11 By this I know that You are pleased with me,

- Because my enemy does not shout in triumph over me.
- 12 As for me, You uphold me in my integrity,
And You set me in Your presence forever.
- 13 Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
From everlasting to everlasting.
Amen and Amen.

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

Psalm 53

For the choir director; according to Mahalath.

A Maskil of David.

- 1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God,"
They are corrupt, and have committed abominable injustice;
There is no one who does good.
- 2 God has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men
To see if there is anyone who understands,
Who seeks after God.
- 3 Every one of them has turned aside; together they have become corrupt;
There is no one who does good, not even one. [[Rom 3:10–12](#)]
- 4 Have the workers of wickedness no knowledge,
Who eat up My people *as though* they ate bread
And have not called upon God?
- 5 There they were in great fear *where* no fear had been;
For God scattered the bones of him who encamped against you;
You put *them* to shame, because God had rejected them.
- 6 Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion!
When God restores His captive people,
Let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

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

Psalm 55

For the choir director; on stringed instruments.

A Maskil of David.

- 1 Give ear to my prayer, O God;
And do not hide Yourself from my supplication.
- 2 Give heed to me and answer me;
I am restless in my complaint and am surely distracted,
- 3 Because of the voice of the enemy,
Because of the pressure of the wicked;
For they bring down trouble upon me
And in anger they bear a grudge against me.
- 4 My heart is in anguish within me,
And the terrors of death have fallen upon me.
- 5 Fear and trembling come upon me,
And horror has overwhelmed me.
- 6 I said, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove!
I would fly away and be at rest.
- 7 "Behold, I would wander far away,
I would lodge in the wilderness. *Selah.*
- 8 "I would hasten to my place of refuge
From the stormy wind *and* tempest."
- 9 Confuse, O Lord, divide their tongues,
For I have seen violence and strife in the city.
- 10 Day and night they go around her upon her walls,
And iniquity and mischief are in her midst.
- 11 Destruction is in her midst;
Oppression and deceit do not depart from her streets.
- 12 For it is not an enemy who reproaches me,
Then I could bear *it*;
Nor is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me,
Then I could hide myself from him.
- 13 But it is you, a man my equal,
My companion and my familiar friend;
- 14 We who had sweet fellowship together
Walked in the house of God in the throng.
- 15 Let death come deceitfully upon them;
Let them go down alive to Sheol,
For evil is in their dwelling, in their midst.
- 16 As for me, I shall call upon God,
And the LORD will save me.
- 17 Evening and morning and at noon, I will complain and murmur,
And He will hear my voice.
- 18 He will redeem my soul in peace from the battle *which is* against me,
For they are many *who strive* with me.
- 19 God will hear and answer them—
Even the one who sits enthroned from of old— *Selah.*
With whom there is no change,
And who do not fear God.
- 20 He has put forth his hands against those who were at peace with him;
He has violated his covenant.
- 21 His speech was smoother than butter,
But his heart was war;
His words were softer than oil,
Yet they were drawn swords.
- 22 Cast your burden upon the LORD and He will sustain you;
He will never allow the righteous to be shaken. [[1 Pet 5:6–7](#)]
- 23 But You, O God, will bring them down to the pit of destruction;

Men of bloodshed and deceit will not live out half their days.
But I will trust in You.

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

Psalm 58

For the choir director; set to Al-tashheth.

A Mikhtam of David.

- 1 Do you indeed speak righteousness, O gods?
Do you judge uprightly, O sons of men?
- 2 No, in heart you work unrighteousness;
On earth you weigh out the violence of your hands.
- 3 The wicked are estranged from the womb;
These who speak lies go astray from birth.
- 4 They have venom like the venom of a serpent;
Like a deaf cobra that stops up its ear,
5 So that it does not hear the voice of charmers,
Or a skillful caster of spells.
- 6 O God, shatter their teeth in their mouth;
Break out the fangs of the young lions, O LORD.
- 7 Let them flow away like water that runs off;
When he aims his arrows, let them be as headless shafts.
- 8 *Let them be* as a snail which melts away as it goes along,
Like the miscarriages of a woman which never see the sun.
- 9 Before your pots can feel *the fire of thorns*
He will sweep them away with a whirlwind, the green and the burning alike.
- 10 The righteous will rejoice when he sees the vengeance;
He will wash his feet in the blood of the wicked.
- 11 And men will say, "Surely there is a reward for the righteous;
Surely there is a God who judges on earth!"

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

Psalm 61

For the choir director; on a stringed instrument.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Hear my cry, O God;
Give heed to my prayer.
- 2 From the end of the earth I call to You when my heart is faint;
Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.
- 3 For You have been a refuge for me,
A tower of strength against the enemy.
- 4 Let me dwell in Your tent forever;
Let me take refuge in the shelter of Your wings. *Selah.*
- 5 For You have heard my vows, O God;
You have given *me* the inheritance of those who fear Your name.
- 6 You will prolong the king's life;
His years will be as many generations.
- 7 He will abide before God forever;
Appoint lovingkindness and truth that they may preserve him.
- 8 So I will sing praise to Your name forever,
That I may pay my vows day by day.

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

Psalm 62

For the choir director; according to Jeduthun.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 My soul *waits* in silence for God only;
From Him is my salvation.
- 2 He only is my rock and my salvation,
My stronghold; I shall not be greatly shaken.
- 3 How long will you assail a man,
That you may murder *him*, all of you,
Like a leaning wall, like a tottering fence?
- 4 They have counseled only to thrust him down from his high position;
They delight in falsehood;
They bless with their mouth,
But inwardly they curse. *Selah.*
- 5 My soul, wait in silence for God only,
For my hope is from Him.
- 6 He only is my rock and my salvation,
My stronghold; I shall not be shaken.
- 7 On God my salvation and my glory *rest*;
The rock of my strength, my refuge is in God.
- 8 Trust in Him at all times, O people;
Pour out your heart before Him;
God is a refuge for us. *Selah.*
- 9 Men of low degree are only vanity and men of rank are a lie;
In the balances they go up;
They are together lighter than breath.
- 10 Do not trust in oppression
And do not vainly hope in robbery;
If riches increase, do not set *your* heart *upon them*.
- 11 Once God has spoken;
Twice I have heard this:
That power belongs to God;
- 12 And lovingkindness is Yours, O Lord,
For You recompense a man according to his work. [[Matt 16:27](#); [Rom 2:6](#)]

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

Psalm 64

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint;
Preserve my life from dread of the enemy.
- 2 Hide me from the secret counsel of evildoers,
From the tumult of those who do iniquity,
Who have sharpened their tongue like a sword.
They aimed bitter speech *as* their arrow,
- 4 To shoot from concealment at the blameless;
Suddenly they shoot at him, and do not fear.
- 5 They hold fast to themselves an evil purpose;
They talk of laying snares secretly;
They say, "Who can see them?"
- 6 They devise injustices, *saying*,
"We are ready with a well-conceived plot";
For the inward thought and the heart of a man are deep.
- 7 But God will shoot at them with an arrow;
Suddenly they will be wounded.
- 8 So they will make him stumble;

- Their own tongue is against them;
All who see them will shake the head.
- 9 Then all men will fear,
And they will declare the work of God,
And will consider what He has done.
- 10 The righteous man will be glad in the LORD and will take refuge in Him;
And all the upright in heart will glory.

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

Psalm 65

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David. A Song.

- 1 There will be silence before You, *and* praise in Zion, O God,
And to You the vow will be performed.
- 2 O You who hear prayer,
To You all men come.
- 3 Iniquities prevail against me;
As for our transgressions, You forgive them.
- 4 How blessed is the one whom You choose and bring near *to You*
To dwell in Your courts.
We will be satisfied with the goodness of Your house,
Your holy temple.
- 5 By awesome *deeds* You answer us in righteousness, O God of our salvation,
You who are the trust of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest sea;
- 6 Who establishes the mountains by His strength,
Being girded with might;
- 7 Who stills the roaring of the seas,
The roaring of their waves,
And the tumult of the peoples.
- 8 They who dwell in the ends *of the earth* stand in awe of Your signs;
You make the dawn and the sunset shout for joy.
- 9 You visit the earth and cause it to overflow;
You greatly enrich it;
The stream of God is full of water;
You prepare their grain, for thus You prepare the earth.
- 10 You water its furrows abundantly,
You settle its ridges,
You soften it with showers,
You bless its growth.
- 11 You have crowned the year with Your bounty,
And Your paths drip *with* fatness.
- 12 The pastures of the wilderness drip,
And the hills gird themselves with rejoicing.
- 13 The meadows are clothed with flocks
And the valleys are covered with grain;
They shout for joy, yes, they sing.

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

Psalm 68

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David. A Song.

- 1 Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered,
And let those who hate Him flee before Him.
- 2 As smoke is driven away, so drive *them* away;
As wax melts before the fire,
So let the wicked perish before God.
- 3 But let the righteous be glad; let them exult before God;
Yes, let them rejoice with gladness.
- 4 Sing to God, sing praises to His name;
Lift up *a song* for Him who rides through the deserts,
Whose name is the LORD, and exult before Him.
- 5 A father of the fatherless and a judge for the widows,
Is God in His holy habitation.
- 6 God makes a home for the lonely;
He leads out the prisoners into prosperity,
Only the rebellious dwell in a parched land.
- 7 O God, when You went forth before Your people,
When You marched through the wilderness, *Selah*.
- 8 The earth quaked;
The heavens also dropped *rain* at the presence of God;
Sinai itself *quaked* at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You shed abroad a plentiful rain, O God;
You confirmed Your inheritance when it was parched.
- 10 Your creatures settled in it;
You provided in Your goodness for the poor, O God.
- 11 The Lord gives the command;
The women who proclaim the *good* tidings are a great host:
- 12 “Kings of armies flee, they flee,
And she who remains at home will divide the spoil!”
- 13 When you lie down among the sheepfolds,
You are like the wings of a dove covered with silver,
And its pinions with glistening gold.
- 14 When the Almighty scattered the kings there,
It was snowing in Zalmon.
- 15 A mountain of God is the mountain of Bashan;
A mountain *of many* peaks is the mountain of Bashan.
- 16 Why do you look with envy, O mountains with *many* peaks,
At the mountain which God has desired for His abode?
Surely the LORD will dwell *there* forever.
- 17 The chariots of God are myriads, thousands upon thousands;
The Lord is among them *as at* Sinai, in holiness.
- 18 You have ascended on high, You have led captive *Your* captives;
You have received gifts among men,
Even *among* the rebellious also, that the LORD God may dwell *there*. [\[Eph 4:7–10\]](#)
- 19 Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears our burden,
The God *who* is our salvation. *Selah*.
- 20 God is to us a God of deliverances;
And to GOD the Lord belong escapes from death.
- 21 Surely God will shatter the head of His enemies,
The hairy crown of him who goes on in his guilty deeds.
- 22 The Lord said, “I will bring *them* back from Bashan.
I will bring *them* back from the depths of the sea;
- 23 That your foot may shatter *them* in blood,
The tongue of your dogs *may have* its portion from *your* enemies.”
- 24 They have seen Your procession, O God,

- The procession of my God, my King, into the sanctuary.
- 25 The singers went on, the musicians after *them*,
In the midst of the maidens beating tambourines.
- 26 Bless God in the congregations,
Even the LORD, *you who are* of the fountain of Israel.
- 27 There is Benjamin, the youngest, ruling them,
The princes of Judah *in* their throng,
The princes of Zebulun, the princes of Naphtali.
- 28 Your God has commanded your strength;
Show Yourself strong, O God, who have acted on our behalf.
- 29 Because of Your temple at Jerusalem
Kings will bring gifts to You.
- 30 Rebuke the beasts in the reeds,
The herd of bulls with the calves of the peoples,
Trampling under foot the pieces of silver;
He has scattered the peoples who delight in war.
- 31 Envoys will come out of Egypt;
Ethiopia will quickly stretch out her hands to God.
- 32 Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth,
Sing praises to the Lord, *Selah*.
- 33 To Him who rides upon the highest heavens,
which are from ancient times;
Behold, He speaks forth with His voice, a mighty voice.
- 34 Ascribe strength to God;
His majesty is over Israel
And His strength is in the skies.
- 35 O God, *You are* awesome from Your sanctuary.
The God of Israel Himself gives strength and power to the people.
Blessed be God!

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

Psalm 69

For the choir director; according to Shoshannim.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Save me, O God,
For the waters have threatened my life.
- 2 I have sunk in deep mire, and there is no foothold;
I have come into deep waters, and a flood overflows me.
- 3 I am weary with my crying; my throat is parched;
My eyes fail while I wait for my God.
- 4 Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head; [[John 15:23–25](#)]
Those who would destroy me are powerful, being wrongfully my enemies;
What I did not steal, I then have to restore.
- 5 O God, it is You who knows my folly,
And my wrongs are not hidden from You.
- 6 May those who wait for You not be ashamed through me, O Lord God of hosts;
May those who seek You not be dishonored through me, O God of Israel,
- 7 Because for Your sake I have borne reproach;
Dishonor has covered my face.
- 8 I have become estranged from my brothers
And an alien to my mother's sons.
- 9 For zeal for Your house has consumed me, [[John 2:14–17](#)]
And the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me. [[Rom 15:1–4](#)]
- 10 When I wept in my soul with fasting,
It became my reproach.
- 11 When I made sackcloth my clothing,
I became a byword to them.

- 12 Those who sit in the gate talk about me,
And I *am* the song of the drunkards.
- 13 But as for me, my prayer is to You, O LORD, at an acceptable time;
O God, in the greatness of Your lovingkindness,
Answer me with Your saving truth.
- 14 Deliver me from the mire and do not let me sink;
May I be delivered from my foes and from the deep waters.
- 15 May the flood of water not overflow me
Nor the deep swallow me up,
Nor the pit shut its mouth on me.
- 16 Answer me, O LORD, for Your lovingkindness is good;
According to the greatness of Your compassion, turn to me,
- 17 And do not hide Your face from Your servant,
For I am in distress; answer me quickly.
- 18 Oh draw near to my soul *and* redeem it;
Ransom me because of my enemies!
- 19 You know my reproach and my shame and my dishonor;
All my adversaries are before You.
- 20 Reproach has broken my heart and I am so sick.
And I looked for sympathy, but there was none,
And for comforters, but I found none.
- 21 They also gave me gall for my food
And for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. [[Matt 27:34, 48; Mark 15:36; Luke 23:36; John 19:28–29](#)]
- 22 May their table before them become a snare;
And when they are in peace, *may it become* a trap.
- 23 May their eyes grow dim so that they cannot see,
And make their loins shake continually. [[Rom 11:9–10](#)]
- 24 Pour out Your indignation on them,
And may Your burning anger overtake them.
- 25 May their camp be desolate;
May none dwell in their tents. [[Acts 1:20](#)]
- 26 For they have persecuted him whom You Yourself have smitten,
And they tell of the pain of those whom You have wounded.
- 27 Add iniquity to their iniquity,
And may they not come into Your righteousness.
- 28 May they be blotted out of the book of life
And may they not be recorded with the righteous.
- 29 But I am afflicted and in pain;
May Your salvation, O God, set me *securely* on high.
- 30 I will praise the name of God with song
And magnify Him with thanksgiving.
- 31 And it will please the LORD better than an ox
Or a young bull with horns and hoofs.
- 32 The humble have seen *it and* are glad;
You who seek God, let your heart revive.
- 33 For the LORD hears the needy
And does not despise His *who are* prisoners.
- 34 Let heaven and earth praise Him,
The seas and everything that moves in them.
- 35 For God will save Zion and build the cities of Judah,
That they may dwell there and possess it.
- 36 The descendants of His servants will inherit it,
And those who love His name will dwell in it.

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

Psalm 70

*For the choir director.***A Psalm of David; for a memorial.**

- 1 O God, *hasten* to deliver me;
O LORD, hasten to my help!
- 2 Let those be ashamed and humiliated
Who seek my life;
Let those be turned back and dishonored
Who delight in my hurt.
- 3 Let those be turned back because of their shame
Who say, "Aha, aha!"
- 4 Let all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You;
And let those who love Your salvation say continually,
"Let God be magnified."
- 5 But I am afflicted and needy;
Hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O LORD, do not delay. [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 Incline Your ear, O LORD, *and* answer me;
For I am afflicted and needy.
- 2 Preserve my soul, for I am a godly man;
O You my God, save Your servant who trusts in You.
- 3 Be gracious to me, O Lord,
For to You I cry all day long.
- 4 Make glad the soul of Your servant,
For to You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
- 5 For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive,
And abundant in lovingkindness to all who call upon You.
- 6 Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;
And give heed to the voice of my supplications!
- 7 In the day of my trouble I shall call upon You,
For You will answer me.
- 8 There is no one like You among the gods, O Lord,
Nor are there any works like Yours.
- 9 All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, [[Rev 15:4](#)]
- 10 For You are great and do wondrous deeds;
You alone are God.
- 11 Teach me Your way, O LORD;
I will walk in Your truth;
Unite my heart to fear Your name.
- 12 I will give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
And will glorify Your name forever.
- 13 For Your lovingkindness toward me is great,
And You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.
- 14 O God, arrogant men have risen up against me,
And a band of violent men have sought my life,
And they have not set You before them.
- 15 But You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,
Slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness and truth.
- 16 Turn to me, and be gracious to me;
Oh grant Your strength to Your servant,
And save the son of Your handmaid.

- 17 Show me a sign for good,
That those who hate me may see *it* and be ashamed,
Because You, O LORD, have helped 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 for joy to the LORD,
Let us shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving,
Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.
- 3 For the LORD is a great God
And a great King above all gods,
- 4 In whose hand are the depths of the earth,
The peaks of the mountains are His also.
- 5 The sea is His, for it was He who made it,
And His hands formed the dry land.
- 6 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.
Today, if you would hear His voice,
- 8 Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
As in the day of Massah in the wilderness,
- 9 “When your fathers tested Me,
They tried Me, though they had seen My work.
- 10 “For forty years I loathed *that* generation,
And said they are a people who err in their heart,
And they do not know My ways.
- 11 “Therefore I swore in My anger,
Truly they shall not enter into My rest.” [[Heb 3:7–4:11](#)]

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

Psalm 101

A Psalm of David.

- 1 I will sing of lovingkindness and justice,
To You, O LORD, I will sing praises.
- 2 I will give heed to the blameless way.
When will You come to me?
I will walk within my house in the integrity of my heart.
- 3 I will set no worthless thing before my eyes;
I hate the work of those who fall away;
It shall not fasten its grip on me.
- 4 A perverse heart shall depart from me;
I will know no evil.
- 5 Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, him I will destroy;
No one who has a haughty look and an arrogant heart will I endure.
- 6 My eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me;
He who walks in a blameless way is the one who will minister to me.
- 7 He who practices deceit shall not dwell within my house;
He who speaks falsehood shall not maintain his position before me.
- 8 Every morning I will destroy all the wicked of the land,
So as to cut off from the city of the LORD all those who do iniquity.

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 none of His benefits;
- 3 Who pardons all your iniquities,
Who heals all your diseases;
- 4 Who redeems your life from the pit,
Who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion;
- 5 Who satisfies your years with good things,
So that your youth is renewed like the eagle.
- 6 The LORD performs righteous deeds
And judgments for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made known His ways to Moses,
His acts to the sons of Israel.
- 8 The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness.
- 9 He will not always strive *with us*,
Nor will He keep *His anger* forever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
Nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.
- 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
So great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west,
So far has He removed our transgressions from us.
- 13 Just as a father has compassion on *his* children,
So the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.
- 14 For He Himself knows our frame;
He is mindful that we are *but* dust.
- 15 As for man, his days are like grass;
As a flower of the field, so he flourishes.
- 16 When the wind has passed over it, it is no more,
And its place acknowledges it no longer.

- 17 But the lovingkindness of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him,
And His righteousness to children's children,
18 To those who keep His covenant
And remember His precepts to do them.
19 The LORD has established His throne in the heavens,
And His sovereignty rules over all.
20 Bless the LORD, you His angels,
Mighty in strength, who perform His word,
Obeying the voice of His word!
21 Bless the LORD, all you His hosts,
You who serve Him, doing His will.
22 Bless the LORD, all you works of His,
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, a Psalm of David.	
1 My heart is steadfast, O God; I will sing, I will sing praises, even with my soul.	57:7 My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises!
2 Awake, harp and lyre; I will awaken the dawn!	8 Awake, my glory! Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn.
3 I will give thanks to You, O LORD, among the peoples, And I will sing praises to You among the nations.	9 I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to You among the nations.
4 For Your lovingkindness is great above the heavens, And Your truth <i>reaches</i> to the skies.	10 For Your lovingkindness is great to the heavens And Your truth to the clouds.
5 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, And Your glory above all the earth.	11 Be exalted above the heavens, O God; <i>Let Your glory be</i> above all the earth.
6 That Your beloved may be delivered, Save with Your right hand, and answer me!	60:5 That Your beloved may be delivered, Save with Your right hand, and answer us!
7 God has spoken in His holiness: "I will exult, I will portion out Shechem And measure out the valley of Succoth.	6 God has spoken in His holiness: "I will exult, I will portion out Shechem and measure out the valley of Succoth.
8 "Gilead is Mine, Manasseh is Mine; Ephraim also is the helmet of My head; Judah is My scepter.	7 "Gilead is Mine, and Manasseh is Mine; Ephraim also is the helmet of My head; Judah is My scepter.
9 "Moab is My washbowl; Over Edom I shall throw My shoe; Over Philistia I will shout aloud."	8 "Moab is My washbowl; Over Edom I shall throw My shoe; Shout loud, O Philistia, because of Me!"
10 Who will bring me into the besieged city? Who will lead me to Edom?	9 Who will bring me into the besieged city? Who will lead me to Edom?
11 Have not You Yourself, O God, rejected us? And will You not go forth with our armies, O God?	10 Have not You Yourself, O God, rejected us? And will You not go forth with our armies, O God?
12 Oh give us help against the adversary, For deliverance by man is in vain.	11 O give us help against the adversary, For deliverance by man is in vain.
13 Through God we will do valiantly, And it is He who shall tread down our adversaries.	12 Through God we shall do valiantly, And it is He who will tread down our adversaries.

Help Me, O Lord My God [Messianic] (c. 1022 – c. 969t bc)

Psalm 109

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David.

- 1 O God of my praise,
Do not be silent!
2 For they have opened the wicked and deceitful mouth against me;

They have spoken against me with a lying tongue.
3 They have also surrounded me with words of hatred,
And fought against me without cause.
4 In return for my love they act as my accusers;
But I am *in* prayer.
5 Thus they have repaid me evil for good
And hatred for my love.
6 Appoint a wicked man over him,
And let an accuser stand at his right hand.
7 When he is judged, let him come forth guilty,
And let his prayer become sin.
8 Let his days be few;
Let another take his office. [[Acts 1:20](#)]
9 Let his children be fatherless
And his wife a widow.
10 Let his children wander about and beg;
And let them seek *sustenance* far from their ruined homes.
11 Let the creditor seize all that he has,
And let strangers plunder the product of his labor.
12 Let there be none to extend lovingkindness to him,
Nor any to be gracious to his fatherless children.
13 Let his posterity be cut off;
In a following generation let their name be blotted out.
14 Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered before the LORD,
And do not let the sin of his mother be blotted out.
15 Let them be before the LORD continually,
That He may cut off their memory from the earth;
16 Because he did not remember to show lovingkindness,
But persecuted the afflicted and needy man,
And the despondent in heart, to put *them* to death.
17 He also loved cursing, so it came to him;
And he did not delight in blessing, so it was far from him.
18 But he clothed himself with cursing as with his garment,
And it entered into his body like water
And like oil into his bones.
19 Let it be to him as a garment with which he covers himself,
And for a belt with which he constantly girds himself.
20 Let this be the reward of my accusers from the LORD,
And of those who speak evil against my soul.
21 But You, O GOD, the Lord, deal *kindly* with me for Your name's sake;
Because Your lovingkindness is good, deliver me;
22 For I am afflicted and needy,
And my heart is wounded within me.
23 I am passing like a shadow when it lengthens;
I am shaken off like the locust.
24 My knees are weak from fasting,
And my flesh has grown lean, without fatness.
25 I also have become a reproach to them;
When they see me, they wag their head. [[Matt 27:39](#)]
26 Help me, O LORD my God;
Save me according to Your lovingkindness.
27 And let them know that this is Your hand;
You, LORD, have done it.
28 Let them curse, but You bless;
When they arise, they shall be ashamed,
But Your servant shall be glad.
29 Let my accusers be clothed with dishonor,
And let them cover themselves with their own shame as with a robe.

- 30 With my mouth I will give thanks abundantly to the LORD;
And in the midst of many I will praise Him.
- 31 For He stands at the right hand of the needy,
To save him from those who judge his soul.

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

Psalm 110

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The LORD says to my Lord:
“Sit at My right hand
Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.” [[Matt 22:41–46](#); [Heb 1:13](#)]
- 2 The LORD will stretch forth Your strong scepter from Zion, *saying*,
“Rule in the midst of Your enemies.”
- 3 Your people will volunteer freely in the day of Your power;
In holy array, from the womb of the dawn,
Your youth are to You *as* the dew.
- 4 The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind,
“You are a priest forever
According to the order of Melchizedek.” [[Heb 5:6](#); [6:20](#); [7:17, 21](#)]
- 5 The Lord is at Your right hand;
He will shatter kings in the day of His wrath.
- 6 He will judge among the nations,
He will fill *them* with corpses,
He will shatter the chief men over a broad country.
- 7 He will drink from the brook by the wayside;
Therefore He will lift up *His* head.

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

Psalm 122

A Song of Ascents, of David.

- 1 I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the LORD.”
- 2 Our feet are standing
Within your gates, O Jerusalem,
- 3 Jerusalem, that is built
As a city that is compact together;
- 4 To which the tribes go up, even the tribes of the LORD—
An ordinance for Israel—
To give thanks to the name of the LORD.
- 5 For there thrones were set for judgment,
The thrones of the house of David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
“May they prosper who love you.
- 7 “May peace be within your walls,
And prosperity within your palaces.”
- 8 For the sake of my brothers and my friends,
I will now say, “May peace be within you.”
- 9 For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek your good.

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

Psalm 124

A Song of Ascents, of David.

- 1 “Had it not been the LORD who was on our side,”
Let Israel now say,
- 2 “Had it not been the LORD who was on our side
When men rose up against us,
3 Then they would have swallowed us alive,
When their anger was kindled against us;
4 Then the waters would have engulfed us,
The stream would have swept over our soul;
5 Then the raging waters would have swept over our soul.”
- 6 Blessed be the LORD,
Who has not given us to be torn by their teeth.
- 7 Our soul has escaped as a bird out of the snare of the trapper;
The snare is broken and we have escaped.
- 8 Our help is in the name of the LORD,
Who made heaven and earth.

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

Psalm 131

A Song of Ascents, of David.

- 1 O LORD, my heart is not proud, nor my eyes haughty;
Nor do I involve myself in great matters,
Or in things too difficult for me.
- 2 Surely I have composed and quieted my soul;
Like a weaned child *rests* against his mother,
My soul is like a weaned child within me.
- 3 O Israel, hope in the LORD
From this time forth and forever.

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

Psalm 133

A Song of Ascents, of David.

- 1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
For brothers to dwell together in unity!
- 2 It is like the precious oil upon the head,
Coming down upon the beard,
Even Aaron's beard,
Coming down upon the edge of his robes.
- 3 It is like the dew of Hermon
Coming down upon the mountains of Zion;
For there the LORD commanded the blessing—life forever.

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

Psalm 138

A Psalm of David.

- 1 I will give You thanks with all my heart;
I will sing praises to You before the gods.
- 2 I will bow down toward Your holy temple
And give thanks to Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth;
For You have magnified Your word according to all Your name.
- 3 On the day I called, You answered me;
You made me bold with strength in my soul.
- 4 All the kings of the earth will give thanks to You, O LORD,
When they have heard the words of Your mouth.
- 5 And they will sing of the ways of the LORD,
For great is the glory of the LORD.
- 6 For though the LORD is exalted,
Yet He regards the lowly,
But the haughty He knows from afar.
- 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me;
You will stretch forth Your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
And Your right hand will save me.
- 8 The LORD will accomplish what concerns me;
Your lovingkindness, O LORD, is everlasting;
Do not forsake the works of Your hands.

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

Psalm 139

*For the choir director.***A Psalm of David.**

- 1 O LORD, You have searched me and known *me*.
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
You understand my thought from afar.
- 3 You scrutinize my path and my lying down,
And are intimately acquainted with all my ways.
- 4 Even before there is a word on my tongue,
Behold, O LORD, You know it all.
- 5 You have enclosed me behind and before,
And laid Your hand upon me.
- 6 *Such* knowledge is too wonderful for me;
It is *too* high, I cannot attain to it.
- 7 Where can I go from Your Spirit?
Or where can I flee from Your presence?
- 8 If I ascend to heaven, You are there;

If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there.

9 If I take the wings of the dawn,
If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea,

10 Even there Your hand will lead me,
And Your right hand will lay hold of me.

11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me,
And the light around me will be night,"

12 Even the darkness is not dark to You,
And the night is as bright as the day.
Darkness and light are alike *to You*.

13 For You formed my inward parts;
You wove me in my mother's womb.

14 I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
Wonderful are Your works,
And my soul knows it very well.

15 My frame was not hidden from You,
When I was made in secret,
And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth;

16 Your eyes have seen my unformed substance;
And in Your book were all written
The days that were ordained *for me*,
When as yet there was not one of them.

17 How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!

18 If I should count them, they would outnumber the sand.
When I awake, I am still with You.

19 O that You would slay the wicked, O God;
Depart from me, therefore, men of bloodshed.

20 For they speak against You wickedly,
And Your enemies take *Your name* in vain.

21 Do I not hate those who hate You, O LORD?
And do I not loathe those who rise up against You?

22 I hate them with the utmost hatred;
They have become my enemies.

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart;
Try me and know my anxious thoughts;

24 And see if there be any hurtful way in me,
And lead me in the everlasting way.

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

Psalm 140

For the choir director.

A Psalm of David.

1 Rescue me, O LORD, from evil men;
Preserve me from violent men

2 Who devise evil things in *their* hearts;
They continually stir up wars.

3 They sharpen their tongues as a serpent;
Poison of a viper is under their lips. *Selah.* [\[Rom 3:13b\]](#)

4 Keep me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked;
Preserve me from violent men
Who have purposed to trip up my feet.

5 The proud have hidden a trap for me, and cords;
They have spread a net by the wayside;
They have set snares for me. *Selah.*

6 I said to the LORD, "You are my God;
Give ear, O LORD, to the voice of my supplications.

- 7 "O God the Lord, the strength of my salvation,
You have covered my head in the day of battle.
- 8 "Do not grant, O LORD, the desires of the wicked;
Do not promote his *evil* device, *that* they *not* be exalted. *Selah*.
- 9 "As for the head of those who surround me,
May the mischief of their lips cover them.
- 10 "May burning coals fall upon them;
May they be cast into the fire,
Into deep pits from which they cannot rise.
- 11 "May a slanderer not be established in the earth;
May evil hunt the violent man speedily."
- 12 I know that the LORD will maintain the cause of the afflicted
And justice for the poor.
- 13 Surely the righteous will give thanks to Your name;
The upright will dwell in Your presence.

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

Psalm 141

A Psalm of David.

- 1 O LORD, I call upon You; hasten to me!
Give ear to my voice when I call to You!
- 2 May my prayer be counted as incense before You;
The lifting up of my hands as the evening offering.
- 3 Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth;
Keep watch over the door of my lips.
- 4 Do not incline my heart to any evil thing,
To practice deeds of wickedness
With men who do iniquity;
And do not let me eat of their delicacies.
- 5 Let the righteous smite me in kindness and reprove me;
It is oil upon the head;
Do not let my head refuse it,
For still my prayer is against their wicked deeds.
- 6 Their judges are thrown down by the sides of the rock,
And they hear my words, for they are pleasant.
- 7 As when one plows and breaks open the earth,
Our bones have been scattered at the mouth of Sheol.
- 8 For my eyes are toward You, O God, the Lord;
In You I take refuge; do not leave me defenseless.
- 9 Keep me from the jaws of the trap which they have set for me,
And from the snares of those who do iniquity.
- 10 Let the wicked fall into their own nets,
While I pass by safely.

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!
Answer me in Your faithfulness, in Your righteousness!
- 2 And do not enter into judgment with Your servant,
For in Your sight no man living is righteous.
- 3 For the enemy has persecuted my soul;
He has crushed my life to the ground;
He has made me dwell in dark places, like those who have long been dead.
- 4 Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed within me;
My heart is appalled within me.
- 5 I remember the days of old;
I meditate on all Your doings;
I muse on the work of Your hands.
- 6 I stretch out my hands to You;
My soul *longs* for You, as a parched land. *Selah*.
- 7 Answer me quickly, O LORD, my spirit fails;
Do not hide Your face from me,
Or I will become like those who go down to the pit.
- 8 Let me hear Your lovingkindness in the morning;
For I trust in You;
Teach me the way in which I should walk;
For to You I lift up my soul.
- 9 Deliver me, O LORD, from my enemies;
I take refuge in You.
- 10 Teach me to do Your will,
For You are my God;

- Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground.
- 11 For the sake of Your name, O LORD, revive me.
In Your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble.
- 12 And in Your lovingkindness, cut off my enemies
And destroy all those who afflict my soul,
For I am Your servant.

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

Psalm 144

A Psalm of David.

- 1 Blessed be the LORD, my rock,
Who trains my hands for war,
And my fingers for battle;
- 2 My lovingkindness and my fortress,
My stronghold and my deliverer,
My shield and He in whom I take refuge,
Who subdues my people under me.
- 3 O LORD, what is man, that You take knowledge of him?
Or the son of man, that You think of him?
- 4 Man is like a mere breath;
His days are like a passing shadow.
- 5 Bow Your heavens, O LORD, and come down;
Touch the mountains, that they may smoke.
- 6 Flash forth lightning and scatter them;
Send out Your arrows and confuse them.
- 7 Stretch forth Your hand from on high;
Rescue me and deliver me out of great waters,
Out of the hand of aliens
- 8 Whose mouths speak deceit,
And whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.
- 9 I will sing a new song to You, O God;
Upon a harp of ten strings I will sing praises to You,
- 10 Who gives salvation to kings,
Who rescues David His servant from the evil sword.
- 11 Rescue me and deliver me out of the hand of aliens,
Whose mouth speaks deceit
And whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.
- 12 Let our sons in their youth be as grown-up plants,
And our daughters as corner pillars fashioned as for a palace;
- 13 Let our garners be full, furnishing every kind of produce,
And our flocks bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our fields;
- 14 Let our cattle bear
Without mishap and without loss,
Let there be no outcry in our streets!
- 15 How blessed are the people who are so situated;
How blessed are the people whose God is the LORD!

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

Psalm 145

A Psalm of Praise, of David.

- 1 I will extol You, my God, O King,
And I will bless Your name forever and ever.
- 2 Every day I will bless You,
And I will praise Your name forever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised,
And His greatness is unsearchable.

- 4 One generation shall praise Your works to another,
And shall declare Your mighty acts.
- 5 On the glorious splendor of Your majesty
And on Your wonderful works, I will meditate.
- 6 Men shall speak of the power of Your awesome acts,
And I will tell of Your greatness.
- 7 They shall eagerly utter the memory of Your abundant goodness
And will shout joyfully of Your righteousness.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and merciful;
Slow to anger and great in lovingkindness.
- 9 The LORD is good to all,
And His mercies are over all His works.
- 10 All Your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD,
And Your godly ones shall bless You.
- 11 They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom
And talk of Your power;
- 12 To make known to the sons of men Your mighty acts
And the glory of the majesty of Your kingdom.
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
And Your dominion *endures* throughout all generations.
- 14 The LORD sustains all who fall
And raises up all who are bowed down.
- 15 The eyes of all look to You,
And You give them their food in due time.
- 16 You open Your hand
And satisfy the desire of every living thing.
- 17 The LORD is righteous in all His ways
And kind in all His deeds.
- 18 The LORD is near to all who call upon Him,
To all who call upon Him in truth.
- 19 He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him;
He will also hear their cry and will save them.
- 20 The LORD keeps all who love Him,
But all the wicked He will destroy.
- 21 My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
And all flesh will bless His holy name forever and ever.

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God Himself Is Judge (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 50

A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 The Mighty One, God, the LORD, has spoken,
And summoned the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,
God has shone forth.
- 3 May our God come and not keep silence;
Fire devours before Him,
And it is very tempestuous around Him.
- 4 He summons the heavens above,
And the earth, to judge His people:
- 5 “Gather My godly ones to Me,
Those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.”
- 6 And the heavens declare His righteousness,
For God Himself is judge. *Selah*.
- 7 “Hear, O My people, and I will speak;
O Israel, I will testify against you;
I am God, your God.
- 8 “I do not reprove you for your sacrifices,
And your burnt offerings are continually before Me.
- 9 “I shall take no young bull out of your house
Nor male goats out of your folds.
- 10 “For every beast of the forest is Mine,
The cattle on a thousand hills.
- 11 “I know every bird of the mountains,
And everything that moves in the field is Mine.
- 12 “If I were hungry I would not tell you,
For the world is Mine, and all it contains.
- 13 “Shall I eat the flesh of bulls
Or drink the blood of male goats?
- 14 “Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving
And pay your vows to the Most High;
- 15 Call upon Me in the day of trouble;
I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me.”
- 16 But to the wicked God says,
“What right have you to tell of My statutes
And to take My covenant in your mouth?
- 17 “For you hate discipline,
And you cast My words behind you.
- 18 “When you see a thief, you are pleased with him,
And you associate with adulterers.
- 19 “You let your mouth loose in evil
And your tongue frames deceit.
- 20 “You sit and speak against your brother;
You slander your own mother’s son.
- 21 “These things you have done and I kept silence;
You thought that I was just like you;
I will reprove you and state *the case* in order before your eyes.
- 22 “Now consider this, you who forget God,
Or I will tear *you* in pieces, and there will be none to deliver.
- 23 “He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me;
And to him who orders *his way aright* I shall show the salvation of God.”

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

Psalm 73

A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 Surely God is good to Israel,
To those who are pure in heart!
- 2 But as for me, my feet came close to stumbling,
My steps had almost slipped.
- 3 For I was envious of the arrogant
As 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 pains in their death,
And their body is fat.
- 5 They are not in trouble *as other* men,
Nor are they plagued like mankind.
- 6 Therefore pride is their necklace;
The garment of violence covers them.
- 7 Their eye bulges from fatness;
The imaginations of *their* heart run riot.
- 8 They mock and wickedly speak of oppression;
They speak from on high.
- 9 They have set their mouth against the heavens,
And their tongue parades through the earth.
- 10 Therefore his people return to this place,
And waters of abundance are drunk by them.
- 11 They say, "How does God know?
And is there knowledge with the Most High?"
- 12 Behold, these are the wicked;
And always at ease, they have increased *in* wealth.
- 13 Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure
And washed my hands in innocence;
- 14 For I have been stricken all day long
And chastened every morning.
- 15 If I had said, "I will speak thus,"
Behold, I would have betrayed the generation of Your children.
- 16 When I pondered to understand this,
It was troublesome in my sight
- 17 Until I came into the sanctuary of God;
Then I perceived their end.
- 18 Surely You set them in slippery places;
You cast them down to destruction.
- 19 How they are destroyed in a moment!
They are utterly swept away by sudden terrors!
- 20 Like a dream when one awakes,
O Lord, when aroused, You will despise their form.
- 21 When my heart was embittered
And I was pierced within,
- 22 Then I was senseless and ignorant;
I was *like* a beast before You.
- 23 Nevertheless I am continually with You;
You have taken hold of my right hand.
- 24 With Your counsel You will guide me,
And afterward receive me to glory.
- 25 Whom have I in heaven *but* You?
And besides You, I desire nothing on earth.
- 26 My flesh and my heart may fail,
But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
- 27 For, behold, those who are far from You will perish;
You have destroyed all those who are unfaithful to You.
- 28 But as for me, the nearness of God is my good;

I have made the Lord GOD my refuge,
That I may tell of all Your works.

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

Psalm 75

For the choir director; set to Al-tashheth.

A Psalm of Asaph, a Song.

- 1 We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks,
For Your name is near;
Men declare Your wondrous works.
- 2 “When I select an appointed time,
It is I who judge with equity.
- 3 “The earth and all who dwell in it melt;
It is I who have firmly set its pillars. *Selah.*
- 4 “I said to the boastful, ‘Do not boast,’
And to the wicked, ‘Do not lift up the horn;
5 Do not lift up your horn on high,
Do not speak with insolent pride.’”
- 6 For not from the east, nor from the west,
Nor from the desert *comes* exaltation;
7 But God is the Judge;
He puts down one and exalts another.
- 8 For a cup is in the hand of the LORD, and the wine foams;
It is well mixed, and He pours out of this;
Surely all the wicked of the earth must drain *and* drink down its dregs.
- 9 But as for me, I will declare *it* forever;
I will sing praises to the God of Jacob.
- 10 And all the horns of the wicked He will cut off,
But the horns of the righteous will be lifted up.

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

Psalm 76

For the choir director; on stringed instruments.

A Psalm of Asaph, a Song.

- 1 God is known in Judah;
His name is great in Israel.
- 2 His tabernacle is in Salem;
His dwelling place also is in Zion.
- 3 There He broke the flaming arrows,
The shield and the sword and the weapons of war. *Selah.*
- 4 You are resplendent,
More majestic than the mountains of prey.
- 5 The stouthearted were plundered,
They sank into sleep;
And none of the warriors could use his hands.
- 6 At Your rebuke, O God of Jacob,
Both rider and horse were cast into a dead sleep.
- 7 You, even You, are to be feared;
And who may stand in Your presence when once You are angry?
- 8 You caused judgment to be heard from heaven;
The earth feared and was still
- 9 When God arose to judgment,
To save all the humble of the earth. *Selah.*
- 10 For the wrath of man shall praise You;
With a remnant of wrath You will gird Yourself.
- 11 Make vows to the LORD your God and fulfill *them*;

- Let all who are around Him bring gifts to Him who is to be feared.
- 12 He will cut off the spirit of princes;
He is feared by the kings of the earth.

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

Psalm 77

For the choir director; according to Jeduthun.

A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 My voice *rises* to God, and I will cry aloud;
My voice *rises* to God, and He will hear me.
- 2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord;
In the night my hand was stretched out without weariness;
My soul refused to be comforted.
- 3 *When* I remember God, then I am disturbed;
When I sigh, then my spirit grows faint. *Selah.*
- 4 You have held my eyelids *open*;
I am so troubled that I cannot speak.
- 5 I have considered the days of old,
The years of long ago.
- 6 I will remember my song in the night;
I will meditate with my heart,
And my spirit ponders:
- 7 Will the Lord reject forever?
And will He never be favorable again?
- 8 Has His lovingkindness ceased forever?
Has *His* promise come to an end forever?
- 9 Has God forgotten to be gracious,
Or has He in anger withdrawn His compassion? *Selah.*
- 10 Then I said, "It is my grief,
That the right hand of the Most High has changed."
- 11 I shall remember the deeds of the LORD;
Surely I will remember Your wonders of old.
- 12 I will meditate on all Your work
And muse on Your deeds.
- 13 Your way, O God, is holy;
What god is great like our God?
- 14 You are the God who works wonders;
You have made known Your strength among the peoples.
- 15 You have by Your power redeemed Your people,
The sons of Jacob and Joseph. *Selah.*
- 16 The waters saw You, O God;
The waters saw You, they were in anguish;
The deeps also trembled.
- 17 The clouds poured out water;
The skies gave forth a sound;
Your arrows flashed here and there.
- 18 The sound of Your thunder was in the whirlwind;
The lightnings lit up the world;
The earth trembled and shook.
- 19 Your way was in the sea
And Your paths in the mighty waters,
And Your footprints may not be known.
- 20 You led Your people like a flock
By the hand of Moses and Aaron.

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

A Maskil of Asaph.

- 1 Listen, O my people, to my instruction;
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 conceal them from their children,
But tell to the generation to come the praises of the LORD,
And His strength and His wondrous works that He has done.
- 5 For He established a testimony in Jacob
And appointed a law in Israel,
Which He commanded our fathers
That they should teach them to their children, [[Deut 4:9–10; 6:7, 20–25](#)]
- 6 That the generation to come might know, *even* the children *yet* to be born,
That they may arise and tell *them* to their children,
- 7 That they should put their confidence in God
And not forget the works of God,
But keep His commandments,
- 8 And not be like their fathers,
A stubborn and rebellious generation,
A generation that did not prepare its heart
And whose spirit was not faithful to God.
- 9 The sons of Ephraim were archers equipped with bows,
Yet they turned back in the day of battle.
- 10 They did not keep the covenant of God
And refused to walk in His law;
- 11 They forgot His deeds
And His miracles that He had shown them.
- 12 He wrought wonders before 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 stand up like a heap.
- 14 Then He led them with the cloud by day
And all the night with a light of fire.
- 15 He split the rocks in the wilderness
And gave *them* abundant drink like the ocean depths.
- 16 He brought forth streams also from the rock
And caused waters to run down like rivers.
- 17 Yet they still continued to sin against Him,
To rebel against the Most High in the desert.
- 18 And in their heart they put God to the test
By asking food according to their desire.
- 19 Then they spoke against God;
They said, “Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?”
- 20 “Behold, He struck the rock so that waters gushed out,
And streams were overflowing;
Can He give bread also?
Will He provide meat for His people?”
- 21 Therefore the LORD heard and was full of wrath;
And a fire was kindled against Jacob
And anger also mounted against Israel,
- 22 Because they did not believe in God
And did not trust in His salvation.
- 23 Yet He commanded the clouds above
And opened the doors of heaven;

24 He rained down manna upon them to eat
And gave them food from heaven. [[John 6:31](#)]

25 Man did eat the bread of angels;
He sent them food in abundance.

26 He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens
And by His power He directed the south wind.

27 When He rained meat upon them like the dust,
Even winged fowl like the sand of the seas,

28 Then He let *them* fall in the midst of their camp,
Round about their dwellings.

29 So they ate and were well filled,
And their desire He gave to them.

30 Before they had satisfied their desire,
While their food was in their mouths,

31 The anger of God rose against them
And killed some of their stoutest ones,
And subdued the choice men of Israel.

32 In spite of all this they still sinned
And did not believe in His wonderful works.

33 So He brought their days to an end in futility
And their years in sudden terror.

34 When He killed them, then they sought Him,
And returned and searched diligently for God;
35 And they remembered that God was their rock,
And the Most High God their Redeemer.

36 But they deceived Him with their mouth
And lied to Him with their tongue.

37 For their heart was not steadfast toward Him,
Nor were they faithful in His covenant.

38 But He, being compassionate, forgave *their* iniquity and did not destroy *them*;
And often He restrained His anger
And did not arouse all His wrath.

39 Thus He remembered that they were but flesh,
A wind that passes and does not return.

40 How often they rebelled against Him in the wilderness
And grieved Him in the desert!

41 Again and again they tempted God,
And pained the Holy One of Israel.

42 They did not remember His power,
The day when He redeemed them from the adversary,

43 When He performed His signs in Egypt
And His marvels in the field of Zoan,
44 And turned their rivers to blood,
And their streams, they could not drink.

45 He sent among them swarms of flies which devoured them,
And frogs which destroyed them.

46 He gave also their crops to the grasshopper
And the product of their labor to the locust.

47 He destroyed their vines with hailstones
And their sycamore trees with frost.

48 He gave over their cattle also to the hailstones
And their herds to bolts of lightning.

49 He sent upon them His burning anger,
Fury and indignation and trouble,
A band of destroying angels.

50 He leveled a path for His anger;
He did not spare their soul from death,
But gave over their life to the plague,

- 51 And smote all the firstborn in Egypt,
The first *issue* of their virility in the tents of Ham.
- 52 But He led forth His own people like sheep
And guided them in the wilderness like a flock;
- 53 He led them safely, so that they did not fear;
But the sea engulfed their enemies.
- 54 So He brought them to His holy land,
To this hill country which His right hand had gained.
- 55 He also drove out the nations before them
And apportioned them for an inheritance by measurement,
And made the tribes of Israel dwell in their tents.
- 56 Yet they tempted and rebelled against the Most High God
And did not keep His testimonies,
- 57 But turned back and acted treacherously like their fathers;
They turned aside like a treacherous bow.
- 58 For they provoked Him with their high places
And aroused His jealousy with their graven images.
- 59 When God heard, He was filled with wrath
And greatly abhorred Israel;
- 60 So that He abandoned the dwelling place at Shiloh,
The tent which He had pitched among men,
- 61 And gave up His strength to captivity
And His glory into the hand of the adversary.
- 62 He also delivered His people to the sword,
And was filled with wrath at His inheritance.
- 63 Fire devoured His young men,
And His virgins had no wedding songs.
- 64 His priests fell by the sword,
And His widows could not weep.
- 65 Then the Lord awoke as *if from* sleep,
Like a warrior overcome by wine.
- 66 He drove His adversaries backward;
He put on them an everlasting reproach.
- 67 He also rejected the tent of Joseph,
And did not choose the tribe of Ephraim,
- 68 But chose the tribe of Judah,
Mount Zion which He loved.
- 69 And He built His sanctuary like the heights,
Like the earth which He has founded forever.
- 70 He also chose David His servant
And took him from the sheepfolds;
- 71 From the care of the ewes with suckling lambs He brought him
To shepherd Jacob His people,
And Israel His inheritance.
- 72 So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart,
And guided them with his skillful hands.

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

Psalm 81

For the choir director; on the Gittith.

A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 Sing for joy to God our strength;
Shout joyfully to the God of Jacob.
- 2 Raise a song, strike the timbrel,
The sweet sounding lyre with the harp.
- 3 Blow the trumpet at the new moon,
At the full moon, on our feast day.

- 4 For it is a statute for Israel,
An ordinance of the God of Jacob.
- 5 He established it for a testimony in Joseph
When he went throughout the land of Egypt.
I heard a language that I did not know:
- 6 “I relieved his shoulder of the burden,
His hands were freed from the basket.
- 7 “You called in trouble and I rescued you;
I answered you in the hiding place of thunder;
I proved you at the waters of Meribah. *Selah*.
- 8 “Hear, O My people, and I will admonish you;
O Israel, if you would listen to Me!
- 9 “Let there be no strange god among you;
Nor shall you worship any foreign god.
- 10 “I, the LORD, am your God,
Who brought you up from the land of Egypt;
Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.
- 11 “But My people did not listen to My voice,
And Israel did not obey Me.
- 12 “So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their heart,
To walk in their own devices.
- 13 “Oh that My people would listen to Me,
That Israel would walk in My ways!
- 14 “I would quickly subdue their enemies
And turn My hand against their adversaries.
- 15 “Those who hate the LORD would pretend obedience to Him,
And their time of *punishment* would be forever.
- 16 “But I would feed you with the finest of the wheat,
And with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.”

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

Psalm 82

A Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 God takes His stand in His own congregation;
He judges in the midst of the rulers.
- 2 How long will you judge unjustly
And show partiality to the wicked? *Selah*.
- 3 Vindicate the weak and fatherless;
Do justice to the afflicted and destitute.
- 4 Rescue the weak and needy;
Deliver *them* out of the hand of the wicked.
- 5 They do not know nor do they understand;
They walk about in darkness;
All the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- 6 I said, “You are gods, [[John 10:34](#)]
And all of you are sons of the Most High.
- 7 “Nevertheless you will die like men
And fall like *any* one of the princes.”
- 8 Arise, O God, judge the earth!
For it is You who possesses all the nations.

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

Psalm 83

A Song, a Psalm of Asaph.

- 1 O God, do not remain quiet;
Do not be silent and, O God, do not be still.

2 For behold, Your enemies make an uproar,
And those who hate You have exalted themselves.

3 They make shrewd plans against Your people,
And conspire together against Your treasured ones.

4 They have said, "Come, and let us wipe them out as a nation,
That the name of Israel be remembered no more."

5 For they have conspired together with one mind;
Against You they make a covenant:

6 The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites,
Moab and the Hagrites;

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

8 Assyria also has joined with them;
They have become a help to the children of Lot. *Selah.*

9 Deal with them as with Midian,
As with Sisera *and* Jabin at the torrent of Kishon,
10 Who were destroyed at En-dor,
Who became as dung for the ground.

11 Make their nobles like Oreb and Zeeb
And all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna,
12 Who said, "Let us possess for ourselves
The pastures of God."

13 O my God, make them like the whirling dust,
Like chaff before the wind.

14 Like fire that burns the forest
And like a flame that sets the mountains on fire,

15 So pursue them with Your tempest
And terrify them with Your storm.

16 Fill their faces with dishonor,
That they may seek Your name, O LORD.

17 Let them be ashamed and dismayed forever,
And let them be humiliated and perish,

18 That they may know that You alone, whose name is the LORD,
Are the Most High over all the earth.

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

Psalm 88

A Song. A Psalm of the sons of Korah.

For the choir director; according to Mahalath Leannoth.

A Maskil of Heman the Ezrahite.

- 1 O LORD, the God of my salvation,
I have cried out by day and in the night before You.
- 2 Let my prayer come before You;
Incline Your ear to my cry!
- 3 For my soul has had enough troubles,
And my life has drawn near to Sheol.
- 4 I am reckoned among those who go down to the pit;
I have become like a man without strength,
- 5 Forsaken among the dead,
Like the slain who lie in the grave,
Whom You remember no more,
And they are cut off from Your hand.
- 6 You have put me in the lowest pit,
In dark places, in the depths.
- 7 Your wrath has rested upon me,
And You have afflicted me with all Your waves. *Selah.*
- 8 You have removed my acquaintances far from me;
You have made me an object of loathing to them;
I am shut up and cannot go out.
- 9 My eye has wasted away because of affliction;
I have called upon You every day, O LORD;
I have spread out my hands to You.
- 10 Will You perform wonders for the dead?
Will the departed spirits rise *and* praise You? *Selah.*
- 11 Will Your lovingkindness be declared in the grave,
Your faithfulness in Abaddon?
- 12 Will Your wonders be made known in the darkness?
And Your righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?
- 13 But I, O LORD, have cried out to You for help,
And in the morning my prayer comes before You.
- 14 O LORD, why do You reject my soul?
Why do You hide Your face from me?
- 15 I was afflicted and about to die from my youth on;
I suffer Your terrors; I am overcome.
- 16 Your burning anger has passed over me;
Your terrors have destroyed me.
- 17 They have surrounded me like water all day long;
They have encompassed me altogether.
- 18 You have removed lover and friend far from me;
My acquaintances are *in* darkness.

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

Psalm 89

A Maskil of Ethan the Ezrahite.

- 1 I will sing of the lovingkindness of the LORD forever;
To all generations I will make known Your faithfulness with my mouth.
- 2 For I have said, "Lovingkindness will be built up forever;
In the heavens You will establish Your faithfulness."
- 3 "I have made a covenant with My chosen;
I have sworn to David My servant,
- 4 I will establish your seed forever
And build up your throne to all generations." *Selah.*

5 The heavens will praise Your wonders, O LORD;
Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the holy ones.

6 For who in the skies is comparable to the LORD?
Who among the sons of the mighty is like the LORD,

7 A God greatly feared in the council of the holy ones,
And awesome above all those who are around Him?

8 O LORD God of hosts, who is like You, O mighty LORD?
Your faithfulness also surrounds You.

9 You rule the swelling of the sea;
When its waves rise, You still them.

10 You Yourself crushed Rahab like one who is slain;
You scattered Your enemies with Your mighty arm.

11 The heavens are Yours, the earth also is Yours;
The world and all it contains, You have founded them.

12 The north and the south, You have created them;
Tabor and Hermon shout for joy at Your name.

13 You have a strong arm;
Your hand is mighty, Your right hand is exalted.

14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne;
Lovingkindness and truth go before You.

15 How blessed are the people who know the joyful sound!
O LORD, they walk in the light of Your countenance.

16 In Your name they rejoice all the day,
And by Your righteousness they are exalted.

17 For You are the glory of their strength,
And by Your favor our horn is exalted.

18 For our shield belongs to the LORD,
And our king to the Holy One of Israel.

19 Once You spoke in vision to Your godly ones,
And said, "I have given help to one who is mighty;
I have exalted one chosen from the people.

20 "I have found David My servant;
With My holy oil I have anointed him, [[Acts 13:22](#)]

21 With whom My hand will be established;
My arm also will strengthen him.

22 "The enemy will not deceive him,
Nor the son of wickedness afflict him.

23 "But I shall crush his adversaries before him,
And strike those who hate him.

24 "My faithfulness and My lovingkindness will be with him,
And in My name his horn will be exalted.

25 "I shall also set his hand on the sea
And his right hand on the rivers.

26 "He will cry to Me, 'You are my Father,
My God, and the rock of my salvation.'

27 "I also shall make him *My* firstborn,
The highest of the kings of the earth.

28 "My lovingkindness I will keep for him forever,
And My covenant shall be confirmed to him.

29 "So I will establish his descendants forever
And his throne as the days of heaven.

30 "If his sons forsake My law
And do not walk in My judgments,

31 If they violate My statutes
And do not keep My commandments,

32 Then I will punish their transgression with the rod
And their iniquity with stripes.

33 "But I will not break off My lovingkindness from him,

Nor deal falsely in My faithfulness.
 34 “My covenant I will not violate,
 Nor will I alter the utterance of My lips.
 35 “Once I have sworn by My holiness;
 I will not lie to David.
 36 “His descendants shall endure forever
 And his throne as the sun before Me.
 37 “It shall be established forever like the moon,
 And the witness in the sky is faithful.” *Selah*.
 38 But You have cast off and rejected,
 You have been full of wrath against Your anointed.
 39 You have spurned the covenant of Your servant;
 You have profaned his crown in the dust.
 40 You have broken down all his walls;
 You have brought his strongholds to ruin.
 41 All who pass along the way plunder him;
 He has become a reproach to his neighbors.
 42 You have exalted the right hand of his adversaries;
 You have made all his enemies rejoice.
 43 You also turn back the edge of his sword
 And have not made him stand in battle.
 44 You have made his splendor to cease
 And cast his throne to the ground.
 45 You have shortened the days of his youth;
 You have covered him with shame. *Selah*.
 46 How long, O LORD?
 Will You hide Yourself forever?
 Will Your wrath burn like fire?
 47 Remember what my span of life is;
 For what vanity You have created all the sons of men!
 48 What man can live and not see death?
 Can he deliver his soul from the power of Sheol? *Selah*.
 49 Where are Your former lovingkindnesses, O Lord,
 Which You swore to David in Your faithfulness?
 50 Remember, O Lord, the reproach of Your servants;
 How I bear in my bosom *the reproach of* all the many peoples,
 51 With which Your enemies have reproached, O LORD,
 With which they have reproached the footsteps of Your anointed.
 52 Blessed be the LORD forever!
 Amen and Amen.

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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

For the choir director.

A Maskil of the sons of Korah.

- 1 As the deer pants for the water brooks,
So my soul pants for You, O God.
- 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God;
When shall I come and appear before God?
- 3 My tears have been my food day and night,
While *they* say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"
- 4 These things I remember and I pour out my soul within me.
For I used to go along with the throng *and* lead them in procession to the house of God,
With the voice of joy and thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.
- 5 Why are you in despair, O my soul?
And *why* have you become disturbed within me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise Him
For the help of His presence.
- 6 O my God, my soul is in despair within me;
Therefore I remember You from the land of the Jordan
And the peaks of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.
- 7 Deep calls to deep at the sound of Your waterfalls;
All Your breakers and Your waves have rolled over me.
- 8 The LORD will command His lovingkindness in the daytime;
And His song will be with me in the night,
A prayer to the God of my life.
- 9 I will say to God my rock, "Why have You forgotten me?
Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?"
- 10 As a shattering of my bones, my adversaries revile me,
While they say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"
- 11 Why are you in despair, O my soul?
And why have you become disturbed within me?
Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him,
The help of my countenance and my God.

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

Psalm 43

- 1 Vindicate me, O God, and plead my case against an ungodly nation;
O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man!
- 2 For You are the God of my strength; why have You rejected me?
Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?
- 3 O send out Your light and Your truth, let them lead me;
Let them bring me to Your holy hill
And to Your dwelling places.
- 4 Then I will go to the altar of God,
To God my exceeding joy;
And upon the lyre I shall praise You, O God, my God.
- 5 Why are you in despair, O my soul?
And why are you disturbed within me?
Hope in God, for I shall again praise Him,
The help of my countenance and my God.

Come to Our Help (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 44

For the choir director.

A Maskil of the sons of Korah.

- 1 O God, we have heard with our ears,

Our fathers have told us
The work that You did in their days,
In the days of old.

2 You with Your own hand drove out the nations;
Then You planted them;
You afflicted the peoples,
Then You spread them abroad.

3 For by their own sword they did not possess the land,
And their own arm did not save them,
But Your right hand and Your arm and the light of Your presence,
For You favored them.

4 You are my King, O God;
Command victories for Jacob.

5 Through You we will push back our adversaries;
Through Your name we will trample down those who rise up against us.

6 For I will not trust in my bow,
Nor will my sword save me.

7 But You have saved us from our adversaries,
And You have put to shame those who hate us.

8 In God we have boasted all day long,
And we will give thanks to Your name forever. *Selah*.

9 Yet You have rejected *us* and brought us to dishonor,
And do not go out with our armies.

10 You cause us to turn back from the adversary;
And those who hate us have taken spoil for themselves.

11 You give us as sheep to be eaten
And have scattered us among the nations.

12 You sell Your people cheaply,
And have not profited by their sale.

13 You make us a reproach to our neighbors,
A scoffing and a derision to those around us.

14 You make us a byword among the nations,
A laughingstock among the peoples.

15 All day long my dishonor is before me
And my humiliation has overwhelmed me,

16 Because of the voice of him who reproaches and reviles,
Because of the presence of the enemy and the avenger.

17 All this has come upon us, but we have not forgotten You,
And we have not dealt falsely with Your covenant.

18 Our heart has not turned back,
And our steps have not deviated from Your way,

19 Yet You have crushed us in a place of jackals
And covered us with the shadow of death.

20 If we had forgotten the name of our God
Or extended our hands to a strange god,

21 Would not God find this out?
For He knows the secrets of the heart.

22 But for Your sake we are killed all day long;
We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered. [[Rom 8:35–37](#)]

23 Arouse Yourself, why do You sleep, O Lord?
Awake, do not reject us forever.

24 Why do You hide Your face
And forget our affliction and our oppression?

25 For our soul has sunk down into the dust;
Our body cleaves to the earth.

26 Rise up, be our help,
And redeem us for the sake of Your lovingkindness.

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

Psalm 45

For the choir director; according to the Shoshannim.

A Maskil of the sons of Korah. A Song of Love.

- 1 My heart overflows with a good theme;
I address my verses to the King;
My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.
- 2 You are fairer than the sons of men;
Grace is poured upon Your lips;
Therefore God has blessed You forever.
- 3 Gird Your sword on *Your* thigh, O Mighty One,
In Your splendor and Your majesty!
- 4 And in Your majesty ride on victoriously,
For the cause of truth and meekness *and* righteousness;
Let Your right hand teach You awesome things.
- 5 Your arrows are sharp;
The peoples fall under You;
Your arrows are in the heart of the King's enemies.
- 6 Your throne, O God, is forever and ever;
A scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your kingdom.
- 7 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You
With the oil of joy above Your fellows. [[Heb 1:8–9](#)]
- 8 All Your garments are *fragrant with* myrrh and aloes *and* cassia;
Out of ivory palaces stringed instruments have made You glad.
- 9 Kings' daughters are among Your noble ladies;
At Your right hand stands the queen in gold from Ophir.
- 10 Listen, O daughter, give attention and incline your ear:
Forget your people and your father's house;
- 11 Then the King will desire your beauty.
Because He is your Lord, bow down to Him.
- 12 The daughter of Tyre *will come* with a gift;
The rich among the people will seek your favor.
- 13 The King's daughter is all glorious within;
Her clothing is interwoven with gold.
- 14 She will be led to the King in embroidered work;
The virgins, her companions who follow her,
Will be brought to You.
- 15 They will be led forth with gladness and rejoicing;
They will enter into the King's palace.
- 16 In place of your fathers will be your sons;
You shall make them princes in all the earth.
- 17 I will cause Your name to be remembered in all generations;
Therefore the peoples will give You thanks forever and ever.

God Is Our Fortress (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 46

For the choir director.

A Psalm of the sons of Korah, set to Alamoth. A Song.

- 1 God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change
And though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea;
- 3 Though its waters roar *and* foam,
Though the mountains quake at its swelling pride. *Selah.*
- 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
The holy dwelling places of the Most High.

- 5 God is in the midst of her, she will not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.
- 6 The nations made an uproar, the kingdoms tottered;
He raised His voice, the earth melted.
- 7 The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold. *Selah.*
- 8 Come, behold the works of the LORD,
Who has wrought desolations in the earth.
- 9 He makes wars to cease to the end of the earth;
He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two;
He burns the chariots with fire.
- 10 “Cease *striving* and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”
- 11 The LORD of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our stronghold. *Selah.*

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

Psalm 47

For the choir director.

A Psalm of the sons of Korah.

- 1 O clap your hands, all peoples;
Shout to God with the voice of joy.
- 2 For the LORD Most High is to be feared,
A great King over all the earth.
- 3 He subdues peoples under us
And nations under our feet.
- 4 He chooses our inheritance for us,
The glory of Jacob whom He loves. *Selah.*
- 5 God has ascended with a shout,
The LORD, with the sound of a trumpet.
- 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises;
Sing praises to our King, sing praises.
- 7 For God is the King of all the earth;
Sing praises with a skillful psalm.
- 8 God reigns over the nations,
God sits on His holy throne.
- 9 The princes of the people have assembled themselves *as* the people of the God of Abraham,
For the shields of the earth belong to God;
He is highly exalted.

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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; a Psalm of the sons of Korah.

- 1 Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
In the city of our God, His holy mountain.
- 2 Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth,
Is Mount Zion *in* the far north,
The city of the great King. [[Matt 5:34–35](#)]
- 3 God, in her palaces,
Has made Himself known as a stronghold.
- 4 For, lo, the kings assembled themselves,
They passed by together.
- 5 They saw *it*, then they were amazed;
They were terrified, they fled in alarm.
- 6 Panic seized them there,
Anguish, as of a woman in childbirth.
- 7 With the east wind
You break the ships of Tarshish.
- 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 her forever. *Selah*.
- 9 We have thought on Your lovingkindness, O God,
In the midst of Your temple.
- 10 As is Your name, O God,
So is Your praise to the ends of the earth;
Your right hand is full of righteousness.
- 11 Let Mount Zion be glad,
Let the daughters of Judah rejoice
Because of Your judgments.
- 12 Walk about Zion and go around her;
Count her towers;
- 13 Consider her ramparts;
Go through her palaces,
That you may tell *it* to the next generation.
- 14 For such is God,
Our God forever and ever;
He will guide us until death.

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

Psalm 49

*For the choir director.***A Psalm of the sons of Korah.**

- 1 Hear this, all peoples;
Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,
- 2 Both low and high,
Rich and poor together.
- 3 My mouth will speak wisdom,
And the meditation of my heart *will be* understanding.
- 4 I will incline my ear to a proverb;
I will express my riddle on the harp.
- 5 Why should I fear in days of adversity,
When the iniquity of my foes surrounds me,
- 6 Even those who trust in their wealth
And boast in the abundance of their riches?
- 7 No man can by any means redeem *his* brother
Or give to God a ransom for him—
- 8 For the redemption of his soul is costly,
And he should cease *trying* forever—

- 9 That he should live on eternally,
That he should not undergo decay.
- 10 For he sees *that even* wise men die;
The stupid and the senseless alike perish
And leave their wealth to others.
- 11 Their inner thought is *that* their houses are forever
And their dwelling places to all generations;
They have called their lands after their own names.
- 12 But man in *his* pomp will not endure;
He is like the beasts that perish.
- 13 This is the way of those who are foolish,
And of those after them who approve their words. *Selah.*
- 14 As sheep they are appointed for Sheol;
Death shall be their shepherd;
And the upright shall rule over them in the morning,
And their form shall be for Sheol to consume
So that they have no habitation.
- 15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of Sheol,
For He will receive me. *Selah.*
- 16 Do not be afraid when a man becomes rich,
When the glory of his house is increased;
- 17 For when he dies he will carry nothing away;
His glory will not descend after him.
- 18 Though while he lives he congratulates himself—
And though *men* praise you when you do well for yourself—
- 19 He shall go to the generation of his fathers;
They will never see the light.
- 20 Man in *his* pomp, yet without understanding,
Is like the beasts that perish.

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

Psalm 84

For the choir director; on the Gittith.

A Psalm of the sons of Korah.

- 1 How lovely are Your dwelling places,
O LORD of hosts!
- 2 My soul longed and even yearned for the courts of the LORD;
My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.
- 3 The bird also has found a house,
And the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young,
Even Your altars, O LORD of hosts,
My King and my God.
- 4 How blessed are those who dwell in Your house!
They are ever praising You. *Selah.*
- 5 How blessed is the man whose strength is in You,
In whose heart are the highways *to Zion!*
- 6 Passing through the valley of Baca they make it a spring;
The early rain also covers it with blessings.
- 7 They go from strength to strength,
Every one of them appears before God in Zion.
- 8 O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
Give ear, O God of Jacob! *Selah.*
- 9 Behold our shield, O God,
And look upon the face of Your anointed.
- 10 For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand *outside.*
I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God
Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.
- 11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield;

- The LORD gives grace and glory;
No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.
- 12 O LORD of hosts,
How blessed is the man who trusts in You!

Revive Us Again (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 85

For the choir director.

A Psalm of the sons of Korah.

- 1 O LORD, You showed favor to Your land;
You restored the captivity of Jacob.
- 2 You forgave the iniquity of Your people;
You covered all their sin. *Selah.*
- 3 You withdrew all Your fury;
You turned away from Your burning anger.
- 4 Restore us, O God of our salvation,
And cause Your indignation toward us to cease.
- 5 Will You be angry with us forever?
Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?
- 6 Will You not Yourself revive us again,
That Your people may rejoice in You?
- 7 Show us Your lovingkindness, O LORD,
And grant us Your salvation.
- 8 I will hear what God the LORD will say;
For He will speak peace to His people, to His godly ones;
But let them not turn back to folly.
- 9 Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,
That glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Lovingkindness and truth have met together;
Righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth springs from the earth,
And righteousness looks down from heaven.
- 12 Indeed, the LORD will give what is good,
And our land will yield its produce.
- 13 Righteousness will go before Him
And will make His footsteps into a way.

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

Psalm 87

A Psalm of the sons of Korah. A Song.

- 1 His foundation is in the holy mountains.
- 2 The LORD loves the gates of Zion
More than all the *other* dwelling places of Jacob.
- 3 Glorious things are spoken of you,
O city of God. *Selah.*
- 4 "I shall mention Rahab and Babylon among those who know Me;
Behold, Philistia and Tyre with Ethiopia:
'This one was born there.'"
- 5 But of Zion it shall be said, "This one and that one were born in her";
And the Most High Himself will establish her.
- 6 The LORD will count when He registers the peoples,
'This one was born there.' *Selah.*
- 7 Then those who sing as well as those who play the flutes *shall say*,
'All my springs of joy are in you.'

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

Psalm 1

- 1 How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor stand in the path of sinners,
Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!
- 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD,
And in His law he meditates day and night.
- 3 He will be like a tree *firmly* planted by streams of water,
Which yields its fruit in its season
And its leaf does not wither;
And in whatever he does, he prospers.
- 4 The wicked are not so,
But they are like chaff which the wind drives away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked will perish.

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

Psalm 33

- 1 Sing for joy in the LORD, O you righteous ones;
Praise is becoming to the upright.
- 2 Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre;
Sing praises to Him with a harp of ten strings.
- 3 Sing to Him a new song;
Play skillfully with a shout of joy.
- 4 For the word of the LORD is upright,
And all His work is *done* in faithfulness.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice;
The earth is full of the lovingkindness of the LORD.
- 6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
And by the breath of His mouth all their host.
- 7 He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap;
He lays up the deeps 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 spoke, and it was done;
He commanded, and it stood fast.
- 10 The LORD nullifies the counsel of the nations;
He frustrates the plans of the peoples.
- 11 The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
The plans of His heart from generation to generation.
- 12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,
The people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.
- 13 The LORD looks from heaven;
He sees all the sons of men;
- 14 From His dwelling place He looks out
On all the inhabitants of the earth,
He who fashions the hearts of them all,
He who understands all their works.
- 16 The king is not saved by a mighty army;
A warrior is not delivered by great strength.
- 17 A horse is a false hope for victory;
Nor does it deliver anyone by its great strength.
- 18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him,
On those who hope for His lovingkindness,
- 19 To deliver their soul from death

- And to keep them alive in famine.
- 20 Our soul waits for the LORD;
He is our help and our shield.
- 21 For our heart rejoices in Him,
Because we trust in His holy name.
- 22 Let Your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us,
According as we have hoped in You.

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

Psalm 66

For the choir director.

A Song. A Psalm.

- 1 Shout joyfully to God, all the earth;
2 Sing the glory of His name;
Make His praise glorious.
- 3 Say to God, "How awesome are Your works!
Because of the greatness of Your power Your enemies will give feigned obedience to You.
- 4 "All the earth will worship You,
And will sing praises to You;
They will sing praises to Your name." *Selah.*
- 5 Come and see the works of God,
Who is awesome in His deeds toward the sons of men.
- 6 He turned the sea into dry land;
They passed through the river on foot;
There let us rejoice in Him!
- 7 He rules by His might forever;
His eyes keep watch on the nations;
Let not the rebellious exalt themselves. *Selah.*
- 8 Bless our God, O peoples,
And sound His praise abroad,
9 Who keeps us in life
And does not allow our feet to slip.
- 10 For You have tried us, O God;
You have refined us as silver is refined.
- 11 You brought us into the net;
You laid an oppressive burden upon our loins.
- 12 You made men ride over our heads;
We went through fire and through water,
Yet You brought us out into *a place of abundance.*
- 13 I shall come into Your house with burnt offerings;
I shall pay You my vows,
14 Which my lips uttered
And my mouth spoke when I was in distress.
- 15 I shall offer to You burnt offerings of fat beasts,
With the smoke of rams;
I shall make *an offering of bulls with male goats.* *Selah.*
- 16 Come *and* hear, all who fear God,
And I will tell of what He has done for my soul.
- 17 I cried to Him with my mouth,
And He was extolled with my tongue.
- 18 If I regard wickedness in my heart,
The Lord will not hear;
19 But certainly God has heard;
He has given heed to the voice of my prayer.
- 20 Blessed be God,
Who has not turned away my prayer
Nor His lovingkindness from me.

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

Psalm 67

For the choir director; with stringed instruments.

A Psalm. A Song.

- 1 God be gracious to us and bless us,
And cause His face to shine upon us— *Selah*.
- 2 That Your way may be known on the earth,
Your salvation among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise You, O God;
Let all the peoples praise You.
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy;
For You will judge the peoples with uprightness
And guide the nations on the earth. *Selah*.
- 5 Let the peoples praise You, O God;
Let all the peoples praise You.
- 6 The earth has yielded its produce;
God, our God, blesses us.
- 7 God blesses us,
That all the ends of the earth may fear Him.

Forsake Me Not When My Strength Is Spent (c. 1022 – c. 969t BC)

Psalm 71

- 1 In You, O LORD, I have taken refuge;
Let me never be ashamed.
- 2 In Your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
Incline Your ear to me and save me.
- 3 Be to me a rock of habitation to which I may continually come;
You have given commandment to save me,
For You are my rock and my fortress.
- 4 Rescue me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked,
Out of the grasp of the wrongdoer and ruthless man,
- 5 For You are my hope;
O Lord GOD, *You are* my confidence from my youth.
- 6 By You I have been sustained from *my* birth;
You are He who took me from my mother's womb;
My praise is continually of You.
- 7 I have become a marvel to many,
For You are my strong refuge.
- 8 My mouth is filled with Your praise
And with Your glory all day long.
- 9 Do not cast me off in the time of old age;
Do not forsake me when my strength fails.
- 10 For my enemies have spoken against me;
And those who watch for my life have consulted together,
- 11 Saying, "God has forsaken him;
Pursue and seize him, for there is no one to deliver."
- 12 O God, do not be far from me;
O my God, hasten to my help!
- 13 Let those who are adversaries of my soul be ashamed *and* consumed;
Let them be covered with reproach and dishonor, who seek to injure me.
- 14 But as for me, I will hope continually,
And will praise You yet more and more.
- 15 My mouth shall tell of Your righteousness
And of Your salvation all day long;
For I do not know the sum *of them*.
- 16 I will come with the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD;
I will make mention of Your righteousness, Yours alone.

- 17 O God, You have taught me from my youth,
And I still declare Your wondrous deeds.
- 18 And even when *I am* old and gray, O God, do not forsake me,
Until I declare Your strength to *this* generation,
Your power to all who are to come.
- 19 For Your righteousness, O God, *reaches* to the heavens,
You who have done great things;
O God, who is like You?
- 20 You who have shown me many troubles and distresses
Will revive me again,
And will bring me up again from the depths of the earth.
- 21 May You increase my greatness
And turn *to* comfort me.
- 22 I will also praise You with a harp,
Even Your truth, O my God;
To You I will sing praises with the lyre,
O Holy One of Israel.
- 23 My lips will shout for joy when I sing praises to You;
And my soul, which You have redeemed.
- 24 My tongue also will utter Your righteousness all day long;
For they are ashamed, for they are humiliated who seek my hurt.

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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 who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
Will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress,
My God, in whom I trust!"
- 3 For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper
And from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He will cover you with His pinions,
And under His wings you may seek refuge;
His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark.
- 5 You will not be afraid of the terror by night,
Or of the arrow that flies by day;
- 6 Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
Or of the destruction that lays waste at noon.
- 7 A thousand may fall at your side
And ten thousand at your right hand,
But it shall not approach you.
- 8 You will only look on with your eyes
And see the recompense of the wicked.
- 9 For you have made the LORD, my refuge,
Even the Most High, your dwelling place.
- 10 No evil will befall you,
Nor will any plague come near your tent.
- 11 For He will give His angels charge concerning you,
To guard you in all your ways. [[Matt 4:6; Luke 4:10-11](#)]
- 12 They will bear you up in their hands,
That you do not strike your foot against a stone.
- 13 You will tread upon the lion and cobra,
The young lion and the serpent you will trample down. [[Luke 10:19](#)]
- 14 "Because he has loved Me, therefore I will deliver him;
I will set him *securely* on high, because he has known My name.
- 15 "He will call upon Me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and honor him.
- 16 "With a long life I will satisfy him
And let him see My salvation."

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

Psalm 92

A Psalm, a Song for the Sabbath day.

- 1 It is good to give thanks to the LORD
And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;
- 2 To declare Your lovingkindness in the morning
And Your faithfulness by night,
- 3 With the ten-stringed lute and with the harp,
With resounding music upon the lyre.
- 4 For You, O LORD, have made me glad by what You have done,
I will sing for joy at the works of Your hands.
- 5 How great are Your works, O LORD!
Your thoughts are very deep.
- 6 A senseless man has no knowledge,
Nor does a stupid man understand this:
- 7 That when the wicked sprouted up like grass
And all who did iniquity flourished,
It *was only* that they might be destroyed forevermore.
- 8 But You, O LORD, are on high forever.

- 9 For, behold, Your enemies, O LORD,
For, behold, Your enemies will perish;
All who do iniquity will be scattered.
- 10 But You have exalted my horn like *that of* the wild ox;
I have been anointed with fresh oil.
- 11 And my eye has looked *exultantly* upon my foes,
My ears hear of the evildoers who rise up against me.
- 12 The righteous man will flourish like the palm tree,
He will grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
- 13 Planted in the house of the LORD,
They will flourish in the courts of our God.
- 14 They will still yield fruit in old age;
They shall be full of sap and very green,
- 15 To declare 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 reigns, He is clothed with majesty;
The LORD has clothed and girded Himself with strength;
Indeed, the world is firmly established, it will not be moved.
- 2 Your throne is established from of old;
You are from everlasting.
- 3 The floods have lifted up, O LORD,
The floods have lifted up their voice,
The floods lift up their pounding waves.
- 4 More than the sounds of many waters,
Than the mighty breakers of the sea,
The LORD on high is mighty.
- 5 Your testimonies are fully confirmed;
Holiness befits Your house,
O LORD, forevermore.

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

Psalm 94

- 1 O LORD, God of vengeance,
God of vengeance, shine forth!
- 2 Rise up, O Judge of the earth,
Render recompense to the proud.
- 3 How long shall the wicked, O LORD,
How long shall the wicked exult?
- 4 They pour forth *words*, they speak arrogantly;
All who do wickedness vaunt themselves.
- 5 They crush Your people, O LORD,
And afflict Your heritage.
- 6 They slay the widow and the stranger
And murder the orphans.
- 7 They have said, "The LORD does not see,
Nor does the God of Jacob pay heed."
- 8 Pay heed, you senseless among the people;
And when will you understand, stupid ones?
- 9 He who planted the ear, does He not hear?
He who formed the eye, does He not see?
- 10 He who chastens the nations, will He not rebuke,
Even He who teaches man knowledge?
- 11 The LORD knows the thoughts of man,

- That they are a *mere* breath. [[1 Cor 3:20](#)]
- 12 Blessed is the man whom You chasten, O LORD,
And whom You teach out of Your law;
- 13 That You may grant him relief from the days of adversity,
Until a pit is dug for the wicked.
- 14 For the LORD will not abandon His people,
Nor will He forsake His inheritance. [[Rom 11:2](#)]
- 15 For judgment will again be righteous,
And all the upright in heart will follow it.
- 16 Who will stand up for me against evildoers?
Who will take his stand for me against those who do wickedness?
- 17 If the LORD had not been my help,
My soul would soon have dwelt in *the abode of* silence.
- 18 If I should say, "My foot has slipped,"
Your lovingkindness, O LORD, will hold me up.
- 19 When my anxious thoughts multiply within me,
Your consolations delight my soul.
- 20 Can a throne of destruction be allied with You,
One which devises mischief by decree?
- 21 They band themselves together against the life of the righteous
And condemn the innocent to death.
- 22 But the LORD has been my stronghold,
And my God the rock of my refuge.
- 23 He has brought back their wickedness upon them
And will destroy them in their evil;
The LORD our God will destroy them.

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

Psalm 97

- 1 The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;
Let the many islands be glad.
- 2 Clouds and thick darkness surround Him;
Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.
- 3 Fire goes before Him
And burns up His adversaries round about.
- 4 His lightnings lit up the world;
The earth saw and trembled.
- 5 The mountains 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 peoples have seen His glory.
- 7 Let all those be ashamed who serve graven images,
Who boast themselves of idols;
Worship Him, all you gods.
- 8 Zion heard *this* and was glad,
And the daughters of Judah have rejoiced
Because of Your judgments, O LORD.
- 9 For You are the LORD Most High over all the earth;
You are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 Hate evil, you who love the LORD,
Who preserves the souls of His godly ones;
He delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light is sown *like seed* for the righteous
And gladness for the upright in heart.
- 12 Be glad in the LORD, you righteous ones,
And give thanks to His holy name.

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

Psalm 98

A Psalm.

- 1 O sing to the LORD a new song,
For He has done wonderful things,
His right hand and His holy arm have gained the victory for Him.
- 2 The LORD has made known His salvation;
He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- 3 He has remembered His lovingkindness and His faithfulness to the house of Israel;
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- 4 Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth;
Break forth and sing for joy and sing praises.
- 5 Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
With the lyre and the sound of melody.
- 6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn
Shout joyfully before the King, the LORD.
- 7 Let the sea roar and all it contains,
The world and those who dwell in it.
- 8 Let the rivers clap their hands,
Let the mountains sing together for joy
- 9 Before the LORD, for He is coming to judge the earth;
He will judge the world with righteousness
And the peoples with equity.

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

Psalm 99

- 1 The LORD reigns, let the peoples tremble;
He is enthroned *above* the cherubim, let the earth shake!
- 2 The LORD is great in Zion,
And He is exalted above all the peoples.
- 3 Let them praise Your great and awesome name;
Holy is He.
- 4 The strength of the King loves justice;
You have established equity;
You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.
- 5 Exalt the LORD our God
And worship at His footstool;
Holy is He.
- 6 Moses and Aaron were among His priests,
And Samuel was among those who called on His name;
They called upon the LORD and He answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;
They kept His testimonies
And the statute that He gave them.
- 8 O LORD our God, You answered them;
You were a forgiving God to them,
And yet an avenger of their *evil* deeds.
- 9 Exalt the LORD our God
And worship at His holy hill,
For holy is the LORD our God.

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

Psalm 100

A Psalm for Thanksgiving.

- 1 Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth.
- 2 Serve the LORD with gladness;
Come before Him with joyful singing.
- 3 Know that the LORD Himself is God;
It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves;
We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.
- 4 Enter His gates with thanksgiving
And His courts with praise.
Give thanks to Him, bless His name.
- 5 For the LORD is good;
His lovingkindness is everlasting
And His faithfulness 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 faint and pours out his complaint before the LORD.

- 1 Hear my prayer, O LORD!
And let my cry for help come to You.
- 2 Do not hide Your face from me in the day of my distress;
Incline Your ear to me;
In the day when I call answer me quickly.
- 3 For my days have been consumed in smoke,
And my bones have been scorched like a hearth.
- 4 My heart has been smitten like grass and has withered away,
Indeed, I forget to eat my bread.
- 5 Because of the loudness of my groaning
My bones cling to my flesh.
- 6 I resemble a pelican of the wilderness;
I have become like an owl of the waste places.
- 7 I lie awake,
I have become like a lonely bird on a housetop.
- 8 My enemies have reproached me all day long;
Those who deride me have used my *name* as a curse.
- 9 For I have eaten ashes like bread
And mingled my drink with weeping
- 10 Because of Your indignation and Your wrath,
For You have lifted me up and cast me away.
- 11 My days are like a lengthened shadow,
And I wither away like grass.
- 12 But You, O LORD, abide forever,
And Your name to all generations.
- 13 You will arise *and* have compassion on Zion;
For it is time to be gracious to her,
For the appointed time has come.
- 14 Surely Your servants find pleasure in her stones
And feel pity for her dust.
- 15 So the nations will fear the name of the LORD
And all the kings of the earth Your glory.
- 16 For the LORD has built up Zion;
He has appeared in His glory.
- 17 He has regarded the prayer of the destitute
And has not despised their prayer.
- 18 This will be written for the generation to come,
That a people yet to be created may praise the LORD.

- 19 For He looked down from His holy height;
From heaven the LORD gazed upon the earth,
20 To hear the groaning of the prisoner,
To set free those who were doomed to death,
21 That *men* may tell of the name of the LORD in Zion
And His praise in Jerusalem,
22 When the peoples are gathered together,
And the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.
23 He has weakened my strength in the way;
He has shortened my days.
24 I say, "O my God, do not take me away in the midst of my days,
Your years are throughout all generations.
25 "Of old You founded the earth,
And the heavens are the work of Your hands.
26 "Even they will perish, but You endure;
And all of them will wear out like a garment;
Like clothing You will change them and they will be changed.
27 "But You are the same,
And Your years will not come to an end. [[Heb 1:10-12](#)]
28 "The children of Your servants will continue,
And their descendants will be established before You."

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, You are very great;
You are clothed with splendor and majesty,
2 Covering Yourself with light as with a cloak,
Stretching out heaven like a *tent* curtain.
3 He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters;
He makes the clouds His chariot;
He walks upon the wings of the wind;
4 He makes the winds His messengers,
Flaming fire His ministers. [[Heb 1:7](#)]
5 He established the earth upon its foundations,
So that it will not totter forever and ever.
6 You covered it with the deep as with a garment;
The waters were standing above the mountains.
7 At Your rebuke they fled,
At the sound of Your thunder they hurried away.
8 The mountains rose; the valleys sank down
To the place which You established for them.
9 You set a boundary that they may not pass over,
So that they will not return to cover the earth.
10 He sends forth springs in the valleys;
They flow between the mountains;
11 They give drink to every beast of the field;
The wild donkeys quench their thirst.
12 Beside them the birds of the heavens dwell;
They lift up *their* voices among the branches.
13 He waters the mountains from His upper chambers;
The earth is satisfied with the fruit of His works.
14 He causes the grass to grow for the cattle,
And vegetation for the labor of man,
So that he may bring forth food from the earth,
15 And wine which makes man's heart glad,
So that he may make *his* face glisten with oil,

And food which sustains man's heart.
 16 The trees of the LORD drink their fill,
 The cedars of Lebanon which He planted,
 17 Where the birds build their nests,
And the stork, whose home is the fir trees.
 18 The high mountains are for the wild goats;
 The cliffs are a refuge for the shephanim.
 19 He made the moon for the seasons;
 The sun knows the place of its setting.
 20 You appoint darkness and it becomes night,
 In which all the beasts of the forest prowl about.
 21 The young lions roar after their prey
 And seek their food from God.
 22 *When* the sun rises they withdraw
 And lie down in their dens.
 23 Man goes forth to his work
 And to his labor until evening.
 24 O LORD, how many are Your works!
 In wisdom You have made them all;
 The earth is full of Your possessions.
 25 There is the sea, great and broad,
 In which are swarms without number,
 Animals both small and great.
 26 There the ships move along,
And Leviathan, which You have formed to sport in it.
 27 They all wait for You
 To give them their food in due season.
 28 You give to them, they gather *it* up;
 You open Your hand, they are satisfied with good.
 29 You hide Your face, they are dismayed;
 You take away their spirit, they expire
 And return to their dust.
 30 You send forth Your Spirit, they are created;
 And You renew the face of the ground.
 31 Let the glory of the LORD endure forever;
 Let the LORD be glad in His works;
 32 He looks at the earth, and it trembles;
 He touches the mountains, and they smoke.
 33 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
 I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.
 34 Let my meditation be pleasing to Him;
 As for me, I shall be glad in the LORD.
 35 Let sinners be consumed from the earth
 And let the wicked be no more.
 Bless the LORD, O my soul.
 Praise the LORD!

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

Psalm 107

1 Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
 For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
 2 Let the redeemed of the LORD say *so*,
 Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the adversary
 3 And gathered from the lands,
 From the east and from the west,
 From the north and from the south.
 4 They wandered in the wilderness in a desert region;

They did not find a way to an inhabited city.
5 *They were* hungry and thirsty;
Their soul fainted within them.
6 Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble;
He delivered them out of their distresses.
7 He led them also by a straight way,
To go to an inhabited city.
8 Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness,
And for His wonders to the sons of men!
9 For He has satisfied the thirsty soul,
And the hungry soul He has filled with what is good. [[Luke 1:53](#)]
10 There were those who dwelt in darkness and in the shadow of death,
Prisoners in misery and chains,
11 Because they had rebelled against the words of God
And spurned the counsel of the Most High.
12 Therefore He humbled their heart with labor;
They stumbled and there was none to help.
13 Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble;
He saved them out of their distresses.
14 He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death
And broke their bands apart.
15 Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness,
And for His wonders to the sons of men!
16 For He has shattered gates of bronze
And cut bars of iron asunder.
17 Fools, because of their rebellious way,
And because of their iniquities, were afflicted.
18 Their soul abhorred all kinds of food,
And they drew near to the gates of death.
19 Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble;
He saved them out of their distresses.
20 He sent His word and healed them,
And delivered *them* from their destructions.
21 Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness,
And for His wonders to the sons of men!
22 Let them also offer sacrifices of thanksgiving,
And tell of His works with joyful singing.
23 Those who go down to the sea in ships,
Who do business on great waters;
24 They have seen the works of the LORD,
And His wonders in the deep.
25 For He spoke and raised up a stormy wind,
Which lifted up the waves of the sea.
26 They rose up to the heavens, they went down to the depths;
Their soul melted away in *their* misery.
27 They reeled and staggered like a drunken man,
And were at their wits' end.
28 Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
And He brought them out of their distresses.
29 He caused the storm to be still,
So that the waves of the sea were hushed.
30 Then they were glad because they were quiet,
So He guided them to their desired haven.
31 Let them give thanks to the LORD for His lovingkindness,
And for His wonders to the sons of men!
32 Let them extol Him also in the congregation of the people,
And praise Him at the seat of the elders.
33 He changes rivers into a wilderness

And springs of water into a thirsty ground;
34 A fruitful land into a salt waste,
Because of the wickedness of those who dwell in it.
35 He changes a wilderness into a pool of water
And a dry land into springs of water;
36 And there He makes the hungry to dwell,
So that they may establish an inhabited city,
37 And sow fields and plant vineyards,
And gather a fruitful harvest.
38 Also He blesses them and they multiply greatly,
And He does not let their cattle decrease.
39 When they are diminished and bowed down
Through oppression, misery and sorrow,
40 He pours contempt upon princes
And makes them wander in a pathless waste.
41 But He sets the needy securely on high away from affliction,
And makes *his* families like a flock.
42 The upright see it and are glad;
But all unrighteousness shuts its mouth.
43 Who is wise? Let him give heed to these things,
And consider the lovingkindnesses of the LORD.

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

Psalm 111

- 1 Praise the LORD!
I will give thanks to the LORD with all *my* heart,
In the company of the upright and in the assembly.
- 2 Great are the works of the LORD;
They are studied by all who delight in them.
- 3 Splendid and majestic is His work,
And His righteousness endures forever.
- 4 He has made His wonders to be remembered;
The LORD is gracious and compassionate.
- 5 He has given food to those who fear Him;
He will remember His covenant forever.
- 6 He has made known to His people the power of His works,
In giving them the heritage of the nations.
- 7 The works of His hands are truth and justice;
All His precepts are sure.
- 8 They are upheld forever and ever;
They are performed in truth and uprightness.
- 9 He has sent redemption to His people;
He has ordained His covenant forever;
Holy and awesome is His name.
- 10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
A good understanding have all those who do *His commandments*;
His praise endures forever.

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

Psalm 112

- 1 Praise the LORD!
How blessed is the man who fears the LORD,
Who greatly delights in His commandments.
- 2 His descendants will be mighty on earth;
The generation of the upright will be blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches are in his house,
And his righteousness endures forever.
- 4 Light arises in the darkness for the upright;
He is gracious and compassionate and righteous.
- 5 It is well with the man who is gracious and lends;
He will maintain his cause in judgment.
- 6 For he will never be shaken;
The righteous will be remembered forever.
- 7 He will not fear evil tidings;
His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
- 8 His heart is upheld, he will not fear,
Until he looks *with satisfaction* on his adversaries.
- 9 He has given freely to the poor,
His righteousness endures forever; [[2 Cor 9:9](#)]
His horn will be exalted in honor.
- 10 The wicked will see it and be vexed,
He will gnash his teeth and melt away;
The desire of the wicked will perish.

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

Psalm 113

- 1 Praise the LORD!
Praise, O servants of the LORD,
Praise the name of the LORD.
- 2 Blessed be the name of the LORD
From this time forth and forever.
- 3 From the rising of the sun to its setting
The name of the LORD is to be praised.
- 4 The LORD is high above all nations;
His glory is above the heavens.
- 5 Who is like the LORD our God,
Who is enthroned on high,
6 Who humbles Himself to behold
The things that are in heaven and in the earth?
- 7 He raises the poor from the dust
And lifts the needy from the ash heap,
8 To make *them* sit with princes,
With the princes of His people.
- 9 He makes the barren woman abide in the house
As a joyful mother of children.
Praise the LORD!

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

Psalm 114

- 1 When Israel went forth from Egypt,
The house of Jacob from a people of strange language,
- 2 Judah became His sanctuary,
Israel, His dominion.
- 3 The sea looked and fled;
The Jordan turned back.
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams,
The hills, like lambs.
- 5 What ails you, O sea, that you flee?
O Jordan, that you turn back?
- 6 O mountains, that you skip like rams?
O hills, like lambs?
- 7 Tremble, O earth, before the Lord,
Before the God of Jacob,
- 8 Who turned the rock into a pool of water,
The flint into a fountain of water.

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

Psalm 115

- 1 Not to us, O LORD, not to us,
But to Your name give glory
Because of Your lovingkindness, because of Your truth.
- 2 Why should the nations say,
“Where, now, is their God?”
- 3 But our God is in the heavens;
He does whatever He pleases.
- 4 Their idols are silver and gold,
The work of man’s hands.
- 5 They have mouths, but they cannot speak;
They have eyes, but they cannot see;

- 6 They have ears, but they cannot hear;
They have noses, but they cannot smell;
- 7 They have hands, but they cannot feel;
They have feet, but they cannot walk;
They cannot make a sound with their throat.
- 8 Those who make them will become like them,
Everyone who trusts in them.
- 9 O Israel, trust 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 You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD;
He is their help and their shield.
- 12 The LORD has 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 those who fear the LORD,
The small together with the great.
- 14 May the LORD give you increase,
You and your children.
- 15 May you be blessed of the LORD,
Maker of heaven and earth.
- 16 The heavens are the heavens of the LORD,
But the earth He has given to the sons of men.
- 17 The dead do not praise the LORD,
Nor *do* any who go down into silence;
- 18 But as for us, we will bless the LORD
From this time forth and forever.
Praise the LORD!

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

Psalm 116

- 1 I love the LORD, because He hears
My voice *and* my supplications.
- 2 Because He has inclined His ear to me,
Therefore I shall call *upon Him* as long as I live.
- 3 The cords of death encompassed me
And the terrors of Sheol came upon me;
I found distress and sorrow.
- 4 Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
“O LORD, I beseech You, save my life!”
- 5 Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
Yes, our God is compassionate.
- 6 The LORD preserves the simple;
I was brought low, and He saved me.
- 7 Return to your rest, O my soul,
For the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.
- 8 For You have rescued my soul from death,
My eyes from tears,
My feet from stumbling.
- 9 I shall walk before the LORD
In the land of the living.
- 10 I believed when I said,
“I am greatly afflicted.” [[2 Cor 4:13](#)]
- 11 I said in my alarm,
“All men are liars.”
- 12 What shall I render to the LORD

- For all His benefits toward me?
 13 I shall lift up the cup of salvation
 And call upon the name of the LORD.
 14 I shall pay my vows to the LORD,
 Oh *may it be* in the presence of all His people.
 15 Precious in the sight of the LORD
 Is the death of His godly ones.
 16 O LORD, surely I am Your servant,
 I am Your servant, the son of Your handmaid,
 You have loosed my bonds.
 17 To You I shall offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
 And call upon the name of the LORD.
 18 I shall pay my vows to the LORD,
 Oh *may it be* in the presence of all His people,
 19 In the courts of the LORD's house,
 In the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
 Praise the LORD!

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

Psalm 117

- 1 Praise the LORD, all nations;
 Laud Him, all peoples! [[Rom 15:11](#)]
 2 For His lovingkindness is great toward us,
 And the truth of the LORD is everlasting.
 Praise the LORD!

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

Psalm 118

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
 For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
 2 Oh let Israel say,
 "His lovingkindness is everlasting."
 3 Oh let the house of Aaron say,
 "His lovingkindness is everlasting."
 4 Oh let those who fear the LORD say,
 "His lovingkindness is everlasting."
 5 From *my* distress I called upon the LORD;
 The LORD answered me *and set me* in a large place.
 6 The LORD is for me; I will not fear;
 What can man do to me? [[Heb 13:6](#)]
 7 The LORD is for me among those who help me;
 Therefore I will look *with satisfaction* on those who hate me.
 8 It is better to take refuge in the LORD
 Than to trust in man.
 9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD
 Than to trust in princes.
 10 All nations surrounded me;
 In the name of the LORD I will surely cut them off.
 11 They surrounded me, yes, they surrounded me;
 In the name of the LORD I will surely cut them off.
 12 They surrounded me like bees;
 They were extinguished as a fire of thorns;
 In the name of the LORD I will surely cut them off.
 13 You pushed me violently so that I was falling,
 But the LORD helped me.
 14 The LORD is my strength and song,

- And He has become my salvation.
- 15 The sound of joyful shouting and salvation is in the tents of the righteous;
The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.
- 16 The right hand of the LORD is exalted;
The right hand of the LORD does valiantly.
- 17 I will not die, but live,
And tell of the works of the LORD.
- 18 The LORD has disciplined me severely,
But He has not given me over to death.
- 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness;
I shall enter through them, I shall give thanks to the LORD.
- 20 This is the gate of the LORD;
The righteous will enter through it.
- 21 I shall give thanks to You, for You have answered me,
And You have become my salvation.
- 22 The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief corner *stone*.
- 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 has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- 25 O LORD, do save, we beseech You;
O LORD, we beseech You, do send prosperity!
- 26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD;
We have blessed you from the house of the LORD. [[Matt 21:9](#); [23:39](#); [Mark 11:9](#); [Luke 13:35](#); [19:38](#); [John 12:13](#)]
- 27 The LORD is God, and He has given us light;
Bind the festival sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar.
- 28 You are my God, and I give thanks to You;
You are my God, I extol You.
- 29 Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

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

Psalm 119:1–72

Aleph

- 1 How blessed are those whose way is blameless,
Who walk in the law of the LORD.
- 2 How blessed are those who observe His testimonies,
Who seek Him with all *their* heart.
- 3 They also do no unrighteousness;
They walk in His ways.
- 4 You have ordained Your precepts,
That we should keep *them* diligently.
- 5 Oh that my ways may be established
To keep Your statutes!
- 6 Then I shall not be ashamed
When I look upon all Your commandments.
- 7 I shall give thanks to You with uprightness of heart,
When I learn Your righteous judgments.
- 8 I shall keep Your statutes;
Do not forsake me utterly!

Beth

- 9 How can a young man keep his way pure?
By keeping *it* according to Your word.
- 10 With all my heart I have sought You;
Do not let me wander from Your commandments.
- 11 Your word I have treasured in my heart,
That I may not sin against You.
- 12 Blessed are You, O LORD;
Teach me Your statutes.
- 13 With my lips I have told of
All the ordinances of Your mouth.
- 14 I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies,
As much as in all riches.
- 15 I will meditate on Your precepts
And regard Your ways.
- 16 I shall delight in Your statutes;
I shall not forget Your word.

Gimel

- 17 Deal bountifully with Your servant,
That I may live and keep Your word.
- 18 Open my eyes, that I may behold
Wonderful things from Your law.
- 19 I am a stranger in the earth;
Do not hide Your commandments from me.
- 20 My soul is crushed with longing
After Your ordinances at all times.
- 21 You rebuke the arrogant, the cursed,
Who wander from Your commandments.
- 22 Take away reproach and contempt from me,
For I observe Your testimonies.
- 23 Even though princes sit *and* talk against me,
Your servant meditates on Your statutes.
- 24 Your testimonies also are my delight;
They are my counselors.

Daleth

- 25 My soul cleaves to the dust;
Revive me according to Your word.
- 26 I have told of my ways, and You have answered me;
Teach me Your statutes.
- 27 Make me understand the way of Your precepts,
So I will meditate on Your wonders.
- 28 My soul weeps because of grief;
Strengthen me according to Your word.
- 29 Remove the false way from me,
And graciously grant me Your law.
- 30 I have chosen the faithful way;
I have placed Your ordinances *before me*.
- 31 I cling to Your testimonies;
O LORD, do not put me to shame!
- 32 I shall run the way of Your commandments,
For You will enlarge my heart.

He

- 33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes,
And I shall observe it to the end.
- 34 Give me understanding, that I may observe Your law
And keep it with all *my* heart.
- 35 Make me walk in the path of Your commandments,
For I delight in it.
- 36 Incline my heart to Your testimonies
And not to *dishonest* gain.
- 37 Turn away my eyes from looking at vanity,
And revive me in Your ways.
- 38 Establish Your word to Your servant,
As that which produces reverence for You.
- 39 Turn away my reproach which I dread,
For Your ordinances are good.
- 40 Behold, I long for Your precepts;
Revive me through Your righteousness.

Waw

- 41 May Your lovingkindnesses also come to me, O LORD,
Your salvation according to Your word;
- 42 So I will have an answer for him who reproaches me,
For I trust in Your word.
- 43 And do not take the word of truth utterly out of my mouth,
For I wait for Your ordinances.
- 44 So I will keep Your law continually,
Forever and ever.
- 45 And I will walk at liberty,
For I seek Your precepts.
- 46 I will also speak of Your testimonies before kings
And shall not be ashamed.
- 47 I shall delight in Your commandments,
Which I love.
- 48 And I shall lift up my hands to Your commandments,
Which I love;
And I will meditate on Your statutes.

Zayin

- 49 Remember the word to Your servant,
In which You have made me hope.

- 50 This is my comfort in my affliction,
That Your word has revived me.
- 51 The arrogant utterly deride me,
Yet I do not turn aside from Your law.
- 52 I have remembered Your ordinances from of old, O LORD,
And comfort myself.
- 53 Burning indignation has seized me because of the wicked,
Who forsake Your law.
- 54 Your statutes are my songs
In the house of my pilgrimage.
- 55 O LORD, I remember Your name in the night,
And keep Your law.
- 56 This has become mine,
That I observe Your precepts.

Heth

- 57 The LORD is my portion;
I have promised to keep Your words.
- 58 I sought Your favor with all *my* heart;
Be gracious to me according to Your word.
- 59 I considered my ways
And turned my feet to Your testimonies.
- 60 I hastened and did not delay
To keep Your commandments.
- 61 The cords of the wicked have encircled me,
But I have not forgotten Your law.
- 62 At midnight I shall rise to give thanks to You
Because of Your righteous ordinances.
- 63 I am a companion of all those who fear You,
And of those who keep Your precepts.
- 64 The earth is full of Your lovingkindness, O LORD;
Teach me Your statutes.

Teth

- 65 You have dealt well with Your servant,
O LORD, according to Your word.
- 66 Teach me good discernment and knowledge,
For I believe in Your commandments.
- 67 Before I was afflicted I went astray,
But now I keep Your word.
- 68 You are good and do good;
Teach me Your statutes.
- 69 The arrogant have forged a lie against me;
With all *my* heart I will observe Your precepts.
- 70 Their heart is covered with fat,
But I delight in Your law.
- 71 It is good for me that I was afflicted,
That I may learn Your statutes.
- 72 The law of Your mouth is better to me
Than thousands of gold and silver *pieces*.

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

Psalm 119:73–176

Yod

- 73 Your hands made me and fashioned me;
Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.
- 74 May those who fear You see me and be glad,
Because I wait for Your word.
- 75 I know, O LORD, that Your judgments are righteous,
And that in faithfulness You have afflicted me.
- 76 O may Your lovingkindness comfort me,
According to Your word to Your servant.
- 77 May Your compassion come to me that I may live,
For Your law is my delight.
- 78 May the arrogant be ashamed, for they subvert me with a lie;
But I shall meditate on Your precepts.
- 79 May those who fear You turn to me,
Even those who know Your testimonies.
- 80 May my heart be blameless in Your statutes,
So that I will not be ashamed.

Kaph

- 81 My soul languishes for Your salvation;
I wait for Your word.
- 82 My eyes fail *with longing* for Your word,
While I say, “When will You comfort me?”
- 83 Though I have become like a wineskin in the smoke,
I do not forget Your statutes.
- 84 How many are the days of Your servant?
When will You execute judgment on those who persecute me?
- 85 The arrogant have dug pits for me,
Men who are not in accord with Your law.
- 86 All Your commandments are faithful;
They have persecuted me with a lie; help me!
- 87 They almost destroyed me on earth,
But as for me, I did not forsake Your precepts.
- 88 Revive me according to Your lovingkindness,
So that I may keep the testimony of Your mouth.

Lamed

- 89 Forever, O LORD,
Your word is settled in heaven.
- 90 Your faithfulness *continues* throughout all generations;
You established the earth, and it stands.
- 91 They stand this day according to Your ordinances,
For all things are Your servants.
- 92 If Your law had not been my delight,
Then I would have perished in my affliction.
- 93 I will never forget Your precepts,
For by them You have revived me.
- 94 I am Yours, save me;
For I have sought Your precepts.
- 95 The wicked wait for me to destroy me;
I shall diligently consider Your testimonies.
- 96 I have seen a limit to all perfection;
Your commandment is exceedingly broad.

Mem

- 97 O how I love Your law!
It is my meditation all the day.
- 98 Your commandments make me wiser than my enemies,
For they are ever mine.
- 99 I have more insight than all my teachers,
For Your testimonies are my meditation.
- 100 I understand more than the aged,
Because I have observed Your precepts.
- 101 I have restrained my feet from every evil way,
That I may keep Your word.
- 102 I have not turned aside from Your ordinances,
For You Yourself have taught me.
- 103 How sweet are Your words to my taste!
Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth!
- 104 From Your precepts I get understanding;
Therefore I hate every false way.

Nun

- 105 Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path.
- 106 I have sworn and I will confirm it,
That I will keep Your righteous ordinances.
- 107 I am exceedingly afflicted;
Revive me, O LORD, according to Your word.
- 108 O accept the freewill offerings of my mouth, O LORD,
And teach me Your ordinances.
- 109 My life is continually in my hand,
Yet I do not forget Your law.
- 110 The wicked have laid a snare for me,
Yet I have not gone astray from Your precepts.
- 111 I have inherited Your testimonies forever,
For they are the joy of my heart.
- 112 I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes
Forever, *even* to the end.

Samech

- 113 I hate those who are double-minded,
But I love Your law.
- 114 You are my hiding place and my shield;
I wait for Your word.
- 115 Depart from me, evildoers,
That I may observe the commandments of my God.
- 116 Sustain me according to Your word, that I may live;
And do not let me be ashamed of my hope.
- 117 Uphold me that I may be safe,
That I may have regard for Your statutes continually.
- 118 You have rejected all those who wander from Your statutes,
For their deceitfulness is useless.
- 119 You have removed all the wicked of the earth *like* dross;
Therefore I love Your testimonies.
- 120 My flesh trembles for fear of You,
And I am afraid of Your judgments.

Ayin

- 121 I have done justice and righteousness;
Do not leave me to my oppressors.
- 122 Be surety for Your servant for good;

- Do not let the arrogant oppress me.
123 My eyes fail *with longing* for Your salvation
And for Your righteous word.
124 Deal with Your servant according to Your lovingkindness
And teach me Your statutes.
125 I am Your servant; give me understanding,
That I may know Your testimonies.
126 It is time for the LORD to act,
For they have broken Your law.
127 Therefore I love Your commandments
Above gold, yes, above fine gold.
128 Therefore I esteem right all *Your* precepts concerning everything,
I hate every false way.

Pe

- 129 Your testimonies are wonderful;
Therefore my soul observes them.
130 The unfolding of Your words gives light;
It gives understanding to the simple.
131 I opened my mouth wide and panted,
For I longed for Your commandments.
132 Turn to me and be gracious to me,
After Your manner with those who love Your name.
133 Establish my footsteps in Your word,
And do not let any iniquity have dominion over me.
134 Redeem me from the oppression of man,
That I may keep Your precepts.
135 Make Your face shine upon Your servant,
And teach me Your statutes.
136 My eyes shed streams of water,
Because they do not keep Your law.

Tsade

- 137 Righteous are You, O LORD,
And upright are Your judgments.
138 You have commanded Your testimonies in righteousness
And exceeding faithfulness.
139 My zeal has consumed me,
Because my adversaries have forgotten Your words.
140 Your word is very pure,
Therefore Your servant loves it.
141 I am small and despised,
Yet I do not forget Your precepts.
142 Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness,
And Your law is truth.
143 Trouble and anguish have come upon me,
Yet Your commandments are my delight.
144 Your testimonies are righteous forever;
Give me understanding that I may live.

Qoph

- 145 I cried with all my heart; answer me, O LORD!
I will observe Your statutes.
146 I cried to You; save me
And I shall keep Your testimonies.
147 I rise before dawn and cry for help;
I wait for Your words.
148 My eyes anticipate the night watches,

That I may meditate on Your word.

- 149 Hear my voice according to Your lovingkindness;
Revive me, O LORD, according to Your ordinances.
- 150 Those who follow after wickedness draw near;
They are far from Your law.
- 151 You are near, O LORD,
And all Your commandments are truth.
- 152 Of old I have known from Your testimonies
That You have founded them forever.

Resh

- 153 Look upon my affliction and rescue me,
For I do not forget Your law.
- 154 Plead my cause and redeem me;
Revive me according to Your word.
- 155 Salvation is far from the wicked,
For they do not seek Your statutes.
- 156 Great are Your mercies, O LORD;
Revive me according to Your ordinances.
- 157 Many are my persecutors and my adversaries,
Yet I do not turn aside from Your testimonies.
- 158 I behold the treacherous and loathe *them*,
Because they do not keep Your word.
- 159 Consider how I love Your precepts;
Revive me, O LORD, according to Your lovingkindness.
- 160 The sum of Your word is truth,
And every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting.

Shin

- 161 Princes persecute me without cause,
But my heart stands in awe of Your words.
- 162 I rejoice at Your word,
As one who finds great spoil.
- 163 I hate and despise falsehood,
But I love Your law.
- 164 Seven times a day I praise You,
Because of Your righteous ordinances.
- 165 Those who love Your law have great peace,
And nothing causes them to stumble.
- 166 I hope for Your salvation, O LORD,
And do Your commandments.
- 167 My soul keeps Your testimonies,
And I love them exceedingly.
- 168 I keep Your precepts and Your testimonies,
For all my ways are before You.

Taw

- 169 Let my cry come before You, O LORD;
Give me understanding according to Your word.
- 170 Let my supplication come before You;
Deliver me according to Your word.
- 171 Let my lips utter praise,
For You teach me Your statutes.
- 172 Let my tongue sing of Your word,
For all Your commandments are righteousness.
- 173 Let Your hand be ready to help me,
For I have chosen Your precepts.
- 174 I long for Your salvation, O LORD,

And Your law is my delight.

175 Let my soul live that it may praise You,
And let Your ordinances help me.

176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek Your servant,
For I do not forget Your commandments.

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

Psalm 120

A Song of Ascents.

- 1 In my trouble I cried to the LORD,
And He answered me.
- 2 Deliver my soul, O LORD, from lying lips,
From a deceitful tongue.
- 3 What shall be given to you, and what more shall be done to you,
You deceitful tongue?
- 4 Sharp arrows of the warrior,
With the *burning* coals of the broom tree.
- 5 Woe is me, for I sojourn in Meshech,
For I dwell among the tents of Kedar!
- 6 Too long has my soul had its dwelling
With those who hate 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 Ascents.

- 1 I will lift up my eyes to the mountains;
From where shall my help come?
- 2 My help *comes* from the LORD,
Who made heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not allow your foot to slip;
He who keeps you will not slumber.
- 4 Behold, He who keeps Israel
Will neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The LORD is your keeper;
The LORD is your shade on your right hand.
- 6 The sun will not smite you by day,
Nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD will protect you from all evil;
He will keep your soul.
- 8 The LORD will guard your going out and your coming in
From this time forth and forever.

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

Psalm 123

A Song of Ascents.

- 1 To You I lift up my eyes,
O You who are enthroned in the heavens!
- 2 Behold, as the eyes of servants *look* to the hand of their master,
As the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
So our eyes *look* to the LORD our God,
Until He is gracious to us.
- 3 Be gracious to us, O LORD, be gracious to us,
For we are greatly filled with contempt.
- 4 Our soul is greatly filled
With the scoffing of those who 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 Ascents.

- 1 Those who trust in the LORD
Are as Mount Zion, which cannot be moved but abides forever.
- 2 As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
So the LORD surrounds His people
From this time forth and forever.
- 3 For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest upon the land of the righteous,
So that the righteous will not put forth their hands to do wrong.
- 4 Do good, O LORD, to those who are good
And to those who are upright in their hearts.
- 5 But as for those who turn aside to their crooked ways,
The LORD will lead them away with the doers of iniquity.
Peace be upon Israel.

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

Psalm 128

A Song of Ascents.

- 1 How blessed is everyone who fears the LORD,
Who walks in His ways.
- 2 When you shall eat of the fruit of your hands,
You will be happy and it will be well with you.
- 3 Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine
Within your house,
Your children like olive plants
Around your table.
- 4 Behold, for thus shall the man be blessed
Who fears the LORD.
- 5 The LORD bless you from Zion,
And may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.
- 6 Indeed, may you see your children's children.
Peace be upon Israel!

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

Psalm 129

A Song of Ascents.

- 1 "Many times they have persecuted me from my youth up,"
Let Israel now say,
- 2 "Many times they have persecuted me from my youth up;
Yet they have not prevailed against me.
- 3 "The plowers plowed upon my back;
They lengthened their furrows."
- 4 The LORD is righteous;
He has cut in two the cords of the wicked.
- 5 May all who hate Zion
Be put to shame and turned backward;
- 6 Let them be like grass upon the housetops,
Which withers before it grows up;
- 7 With which the reaper does not fill his hand,
Or the binder of sheaves his bosom;
- 8 Nor do those who pass 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 Ascents.

- 1 Out of the depths I have cried to You, O LORD.
- 2 Lord, hear my voice!
Let Your ears be attentive
To the voice of my supplications.
- 3 If You, LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?
- 4 But there is forgiveness with You,
That You may be feared.
- 5 I wait for the LORD, my soul does wait,
And in His word do I hope.
- 6 My soul *waits* for the Lord
More than the watchmen for the morning;
Indeed, more than the watchmen for the morning.
- 7 O Israel, hope in the LORD;
For with the LORD there is lovingkindness,
And with Him is abundant redemption.
- 8 And He will redeem Israel
From all his iniquities.

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

Psalm 132

A Song of Ascents.

- 1 Remember, O LORD, on David's behalf,
All his affliction;
- 2 How he swore to the LORD
And vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob,
- 3 "Surely I will not enter my house,
Nor lie on my bed;
- 4 I will not give sleep to my eyes
Or slumber to my eyelids,
- 5 Until I find a place for the LORD,
A dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob."
- 6 Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah,
We found it in the field of Jaar.
- 7 Let us go into His dwelling place;
Let us worship at His footstool.
- 8 Arise, O LORD, to Your resting place,
You and the ark of Your strength.
- 9 Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness,
And let Your godly ones sing for joy.
- 10 For the sake of David Your servant,
Do not turn away the face of Your anointed.
- 11 The LORD has sworn to David
A truth from which He will not turn back:
"Of the fruit of your body I will set upon your throne.
- 12 "If your sons will keep My covenant
And My testimony which I will teach them,
Their sons also shall sit upon your throne forever."
- 13 For the LORD has chosen Zion;
He has desired it for His habitation.
- 14 "This is My resting place forever;
Here I will dwell, for I have desired it.
- 15 "I will abundantly bless her provision;
I will satisfy her needy with bread.

- 16 “Her priests also I will clothe with salvation,
And her godly ones will sing aloud for joy.
17 “There I will cause the horn of David to spring forth;
I have prepared a lamp for Mine anointed.
18 “His enemies I will clothe with shame,
But upon himself his crown shall shine.”

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

Psalm 134

A Song of Ascents.

- 1 Behold, bless the LORD, all servants of the LORD,
Who serve by night in the house of the LORD!
2 Lift up your hands to the sanctuary
And bless the LORD.
3 May the LORD bless you from Zion,
He who made heaven and earth.

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

Psalm 135

- 1 Praise the LORD!
Praise the name of the LORD;
Praise *Him*, O servants of the LORD,
2 You who 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 to His name, for it is lovely.
4 For the LORD has chosen Jacob for Himself,
Israel for His own possession.
5 For I know that the LORD is great
And that our Lord is above all gods.
6 Whatever the LORD pleases, He does,
In heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deeps.
7 He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth;
Who makes lightnings for the rain,
Who brings forth the wind from His treasures.
8 He smote the firstborn of Egypt,
Both of man and beast.
9 He sent signs and wonders into your midst, O Egypt,
Upon Pharaoh and all his servants.
10 He smote many nations
And slew mighty kings,
11 Sihon, king of the Amorites,
And Og, king of Bashan,
And all the kingdoms of Canaan;
12 And He gave their land as a heritage,
A heritage to Israel His people.
13 Your name, O LORD, is everlasting,
Your remembrance, O LORD, throughout all generations.
14 For the LORD will judge His people
And will have compassion on His servants.
15 The idols of the nations are *but* silver and gold,
The work of man’s hands.
16 They have mouths, but they do not speak;
They have eyes, but they do not see;
17 They have ears, but they do not hear,
Nor is there any breath at all in their mouths.

- 18 Those who make them will be like them,
Yes, everyone who trusts in them.
- 19 O house of Israel, bless the LORD;
O house of Aaron, bless the LORD;
- 20 O house of Levi, bless the LORD;
You who revere the LORD, bless the LORD.
- 21 Blessed be the LORD from Zion,
Who dwells in Jerusalem.
Praise the LORD!

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

Psalm 136

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- 2 Give thanks to the God of gods,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- 3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- 4 To Him who alone does great wonders,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting;
- 5 To Him who made the heavens with skill,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting;
- 6 To Him who spread out the earth above the waters,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting;
- 7 To Him who made *the* great lights,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting:
- 8 The sun to rule by day,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- 9 The moon and stars to rule by night,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- 10 To Him who smote the Egyptians in their firstborn,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- 11 And brought Israel out from their midst,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- 12 With a strong hand and an outstretched arm,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- 13 To Him who divided the Red Sea asunder,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- 14 And made Israel pass through the midst of it,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting;
- 15 But He overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- 16 To Him who led His people through the wilderness,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting;
- 17 To Him who smote great kings,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- 18 And slew mighty kings,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting:
- 19 Sihon, king of the Amorites,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- 20 And Og, king of Bashan,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- 21 And gave their land as a heritage,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- 22 Even a heritage to Israel His servant,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- 23 Who remembered us in our low estate,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting,
- 24 And has rescued us from our adversaries,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting;
- 25 Who gives food to all flesh,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.
- 26 Give thanks to the God of heaven,
For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

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

Psalm 146

- 1 Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD, O my soul!
- 2 I will praise the LORD while I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- 3 Do not trust in princes,
In mortal man, in whom there is no salvation.
- 4 His spirit departs, he returns to the earth;
In that very day his thoughts perish.
- 5 How blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
Whose hope is in the LORD his God,
- 6 Who made heaven and earth,
The sea and all that is in them; [[Acts 4:24b](#); [14:15b](#)]
Who keeps faith forever;
- 7 Who executes justice for the oppressed;
Who gives food to the hungry.
The LORD sets the prisoners free.
- 8 The LORD opens *the eyes of* the blind;
The LORD raises up those who are bowed down;
The LORD loves the righteous;
- 9 The LORD protects the strangers;
He supports the fatherless and the widow,
But He thwarts the way of the wicked.
- 10 The LORD will reign forever,
Your God, O Zion, to all generations.
Praise the LORD!

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

Psalm 148

- 1 Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD from the heavens;
Praise Him in the heights!
- 2 Praise Him, all His angels;
Praise Him, all His hosts!
- 3 Praise Him, sun and moon;
Praise Him, all stars of light!
- 4 Praise Him, highest heavens,
And the waters that are above the heavens!
- 5 Let them praise the name of the LORD,
For He commanded and they were created.
- 6 He has also established them forever and ever;
He has made a decree which will not pass away.
- 7 Praise the LORD from the earth,
Sea monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and clouds;
Stormy wind, fulfilling His word;
- 9 Mountains and all hills;
Fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Beasts and all cattle;
Creeping things and winged fowl;
- 11 Kings of the earth and all peoples;
Princes and all judges of the earth;
- 12 Both young men and virgins;
Old men and children.
- 13 Let them praise the name of the LORD,
For His name alone is exalted;

- His glory is above earth and heaven.
- 14 And He has lifted up a horn for His people,
Praise for all His godly ones;
Even for the sons of Israel, a people near to Him.
Praise the LORD!

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

Psalm 149

- 1 Praise the LORD!
Sing to the LORD a new song,
And His praise in the congregation of the godly ones.
- 2 Let Israel be glad in his Maker;
Let the sons of Zion rejoice in their King.
- 3 Let them praise His name with dancing;
Let them sing praises to Him with timbrel and lyre.
- 4 For the LORD takes pleasure in His people;
He will beautify the afflicted ones with salvation.
- 5 Let the godly ones exult in glory;
Let them sing for joy on 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 on the nations
And punishment on the peoples,
- 8 To bind their kings with chains
And their nobles with fetters of iron,
- 9 To execute on them the judgment written;
This is an honor for all His godly ones.
Praise the LORD!

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

Psalm 150

- 1 Praise the LORD!
Praise God in His sanctuary;
Praise Him in His mighty expanse.
- 2 Praise Him for His mighty deeds;
Praise Him according to His excellent greatness.
- 3 Praise Him with trumpet sound;
Praise Him with harp and lyre.
- 4 Praise Him with timbrel and dancing;
Praise Him with stringed instruments and pipe.
- 5 Praise Him with loud cymbals;
Praise Him with resounding cymbals.
- 6 Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.
Praise the LORD!

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

1 Kings 1:1–37

Abishag Provides Warmth for David

1 Now King David was old, advanced in age; and they covered him with clothes, but he could not keep warm.

2 So his servants said to him, "Let them seek a young virgin for my lord the king, and let her attend the king and become his nurse; and let her lie in your bosom, that my lord the king may keep warm."

3 So they searched for a beautiful girl throughout all the territory of Israel, and found Abishag the Shunammite, and brought her to the king.

4 The girl was very beautiful; and she became the king's nurse and served him, but the king did not cohabit with her.

Adonijah Lays the Groundwork for His Coup D'état

5 Now Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, "I will be king." So he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen with fifty men to run before him. [\[2 Sam 15:1\]](#)

6 His father had never crossed him at any time by asking, "Why have you done so?" And he was also a very handsome man, and he was born after Absalom.

7 He had conferred with Joab the son of Zeruiah and with Abiathar the priest; and following Adonijah they helped him.

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

Adonijah Makes His Move

9 Adonijah sacrificed sheep and oxen and fatlings by the stone of Zohelath, which is beside En-rogel; and he invited all his brothers, the king's sons, and all the men of Judah, the king's servants.

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

Nathan the Prophet Uses Bathsheba to Inform David

11 Then Nathan spoke to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon, saying, "Have you not heard that Adonijah the son of Haggith has become king, and David our lord does not know *it*?"

12 So now come, please let me give you counsel and save your life and the life of your son Solomon.

13 Go at once to King David and say to him, 'Have you not, my lord, O king, sworn to your maidservant, saying, "Surely Solomon your son shall be king after me, and he shall sit on my throne"? Why then has Adonijah become king?'

14 "Behold, while you are still there speaking with the king, I will come in after you and confirm your words."

15 So Bathsheba went in to the king in the bedroom. Now the king was very old, and Abishag the Shunammite was ministering to the king.

16 Then Bathsheba bowed and prostrated herself before the king. And the king said, "What do you wish?"

17 She said to him, "My lord, you swore to your maidservant by the LORD your God, *saying*, 'Surely your son Solomon shall be king after me and he shall sit on my throne.'

18 Now, behold, Adonijah is king; and now, my lord the king, you do not know *it*.

19 He has sacrificed oxen and fatlings and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the sons of the king and Abiathar the priest and Joab the commander of the army, but he has not invited Solomon your servant.

20 As for you now, my lord the king, the eyes of all Israel are on you, to tell them who shall sit on the throne of my lord the king after him.

21 Otherwise it will come about, as soon as my lord the king sleeps with his fathers, that I and my son Solomon will be considered offenders."

22 Behold, while she was still speaking with the king, Nathan the prophet came in.

23 They told the king, saying, "Here is Nathan the prophet." And when he came in before the king, he prostrated himself before the king with his face to the ground.

24 Then Nathan said, "My lord the king, have you said, 'Adonijah shall be king after me, and he shall sit on my throne'?"

25 For he has gone down today and has sacrificed oxen and fatlings and sheep in abundance, and has invited all the king's sons and the commanders of the army and Abiathar the priest, and behold, they are eating and drinking before him; and they say, 'Long live King Adonijah!'

26 But me, *even* me your servant, and Zadok the priest and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada and your servant Solomon, he has not invited.

27 Has this thing been done by my lord the king, and you have not shown to your servants who should sit on the throne of my lord the king after him?"

David Takes Action

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

29 The king vowed and said, "As the LORD lives, who has redeemed my life from all distress,

30 surely as I vowed to you by the LORD the God of Israel, saying, 'Your son Solomon shall be king after me, and he shall sit on my throne in my place'; I will indeed do so this day."

31 Then Bathsheba bowed with her face to the ground, and prostrated herself before the king and said, "May my lord King David live forever."

32 Then King David said, "Call to me Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada." And they came into the king's presence.

33 The king said to them, "Take with you the servants of your lord, and have my son Solomon ride on my own mule, and bring him down to Gihon.

34 Let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him there as king over Israel, and blow the trumpet and say, 'Long live King Solomon!'

35 Then you shall come up after him, and he shall come and sit on my throne and be king in my place; for I have appointed him to be ruler over Israel and Judah."

36 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada answered the king and said, "Amen! Thus may the LORD, the God of my lord the king, say.

37 As the LORD has been with my lord the king, so may He be 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, Nathan the prophet, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the Cherethites, and the Pelethites went down and had Solomon ride on King David's mule, and brought him to Gihon.

39 Zadok the priest then took the horn of oil from the tent and anointed Solomon. Then they blew the trumpet, and all the people said, "Long live King Solomon!"

40 All the people went up after him, and the people were playing on flutes and rejoicing with great joy, so that the earth shook at their noise.

Adonijah Panics When He Realizes Solomon Has Been Anointed King

41 Now Adonijah and all the guests who *were* with him heard *it* as they finished eating. When Joab heard the sound of the trumpet, he said, "Why is the city making such an uproar?"

42 While he was still speaking, behold, Jonathan the son of Abiathar the priest came. Then Adonijah said, "Come in, for you are a valiant man and bring good news."

43 But Jonathan replied to Adonijah, "No! Our lord King David has made Solomon king.

44 The king has also sent with him Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the Cherethites, and the Pelethites; and they have made him ride on the king's mule.

45 Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet have anointed him king in Gihon, and they have come up from there rejoicing, so that the city is in an uproar. This is the noise which you have heard.

46 Besides, Solomon has even taken his seat on the throne of the kingdom.

47 Moreover, the king's servants came to bless our lord King David, saying, 'May your God make the name of Solomon better than your name and his throne greater than your throne!' And the king bowed himself on the bed.

48 The king has also said thus, 'Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who has granted one to sit on my throne today while my own eyes see *it*.'"

49 Then all the guests of Adonijah were terrified; and they arose and each went on his way.

50 And Adonijah was afraid of Solomon, and he arose, went and took hold of the horns of the altar. [\[Exod 21:12–14\]](#)

Solomon Shows Adonijah Mercy

51 Now it was told Solomon, saying, "Behold, Adonijah is afraid of King Solomon, for behold, he has taken hold of the horns of the altar, saying, 'Let King Solomon swear to me today that he will not put his servant to death with the sword.'"

52 Solomon said, "If he is a worthy man, not one of his hairs will fall to the ground; but if wickedness is found in him, he will die."

53 So King Solomon sent, and they brought him down from the altar. And he came and prostrated himself before King Solomon, and Solomon said to him, "Go to your house."

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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 Recorders,” *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 Now when David reached old age, he made his son Solomon king over Israel.

Divisions of the Levites

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

3 The Levites were numbered from thirty years old and upward, and their number by census of men was 38,000.

4 Of these, 24,000 were to oversee the work of the house of the LORD; and 6,000 *were* officers and judges,

5 and 4,000 *were* gatekeepers, and 4,000 *were* praising the LORD with the instruments which David made for giving praise.

6 David divided them into divisions according to the sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

Gershon

7 Of the Gershonites *were* Ladan and Shimei.

8 The sons of Ladan *were* Jehiel the first and Zetham and Joel, three.

9 The sons of Shimei *were* Shelomoth and Haziel and Haran, three. These were the heads of the fathers' *households* of Ladan.

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

11 Jahath was the first and Zizah the second; but Jeush and Beriah did not have many sons, so they became a father's household, one class.

Kohath

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

13 The sons of Amram were Aaron and Moses. And Aaron was set apart to sanctify him as most holy, he and his sons forever, to burn incense before the LORD, to minister to Him and to bless in His name forever.

14 But *as for* Moses the man of God, his sons were named among the tribe of Levi.

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

16 The son of Gershom *was* Shebuel the chief.

17 The son of Eliezer was Rehabiah the chief; and Eliezer had no other sons, but the sons of Rehabiah were very many.

18 The son of Izhar was Shelomith the chief.

19 The sons of Hebron *were* Jeriah the first, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third and Jekameam the fourth.

20 The sons of Uzziel *were* Micah the first and Isshiah the second.

Merari

21 The sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi. The sons of Mahli *were* Eleazar and Kish.

22 Eleazar died and had no sons, but daughters only, so their brothers, the sons of Kish, took them *as wives*.

23 The sons of Mushi *were* three: Mahli, Eder and Jeremoth.

24 These were the sons of Levi according to their fathers' households, *even* the heads of the fathers' *households* of those of them who were counted, in the number of names by their census, doing the work for the service of the house of the LORD, from twenty years old and upward.

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

25 For David said, "The LORD God of Israel has given rest to His people, and He dwells in Jerusalem forever.

26 Also, the Levites will no longer need to carry the tabernacle and all its utensils for its service."

Non-Priestly Assignments

27 For by the last words of David the sons of Levi *were* numbered from twenty years old and upward.

28 For their office is to assist the sons of Aaron with the service of the house of the LORD, in the courts and in the chambers and in the purifying of all holy things, even the work of the service of the house of God,

29 and with the showbread, and the fine flour for a grain offering, and unleavened wafers, or *what is baked in* the pan or what is well-mixed, and all measures of volume and size.

30 They are to stand every morning to thank and to praise the LORD, and likewise at evening,

31 and to offer all burnt offerings to the LORD, on the sabbaths, the new moons and the fixed festivals in the number *set* by the ordinance concerning them, continually before the LORD.

32 Thus they are to keep charge of the tent of meeting, and charge of the holy place, and charge of the sons of Aaron their relatives, for 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 the divisions of the descendants of Aaron *were these*: the sons of Aaron *were* Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.
- 2 But Nadab and Abihu died before their father and had no sons. So Eleazar and Ithamar served as priests.
- 3 David, with Zadok of the sons of Eleazar and Ahimelech of the sons of Ithamar, divided them according to their offices for their ministry.
- 4 Since more chief men were found from the descendants of Eleazar than the descendants of Ithamar, they divided them thus: *there were* sixteen heads of fathers' households of the descendants of Eleazar and eight of the descendants of Ithamar, according to their fathers' households.
- 5 Thus they were divided by lot, the one as the other; for they were officers of the sanctuary and officers of God, both from the descendants of Eleazar and the descendants of Ithamar.
- 6 Shemaiah, the son of Nethanel the scribe, from the Levites, recorded them in the presence of the king, the princes, Zadok the priest, Ahimelech the son of Abiathar, and the heads of the fathers' *households* of the priests and of the Levites; one father's household taken for Eleazar and one taken for Ithamar.
- 7 Now the first lot came out for Jehoiarib, the second for Jedaiah,
- 8 the third for Harim, the fourth for Seorim,
- 9 the fifth for Malchijah, the sixth for Mijamin,
- 10 the seventh for Hakkoz, the eighth for Abijah, [cf. [Luke 1:5](#)]
- 11 the ninth for Jeshua, the tenth for Shecaniah,
- 12 the eleventh for Eliashib, the twelfth for Jakim,
- 13 the thirteenth for Huppah, the fourteenth for Jeshebeab,
- 14 the fifteenth for Bilgah, the sixteenth for Immer,
- 15 the seventeenth for Hezir, the eighteenth for Happizez,
- 16 the nineteenth for Pethahiah, the twentieth for Jehezkel,
- 17 the twenty-first for Jachin, the twenty-second for Gamul,
- 18 the twenty-third for Delaiah, the twenty-fourth for Maaziah.
- 19 These were their offices for their ministry when *they* came in to the house of the LORD according to the ordinance *given* to them through Aaron their father, just 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 Now for the rest of the sons of Levi: of the sons of Amram, Shubael; of the sons of Shubael, Jehdeiah.
- 21 Of Rehabiah: of the sons of Rehabiah, Isshiah the first.
- 22 Of the Izharites, Shelomoth; of the sons of Shelomoth, Jahath.
- 23 The sons of *Hebron*: Jeriah *the first*, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, Jekameam the fourth.
- 24 *Of* the sons of Uzziel, Micah; of the sons of Micah, Shamir.
- 25 The brother of Micah, Isshiah; of the sons of Isshiah, Zechariah.
- 26 The sons of Merari, Mahli and Mushi; the sons of Jaaziah, Beno.
- 27 The sons of Merari: by Jaaziah *were* Beno, Shoham, Zaccur and Ibri.
- 28 By Mahli: Eleazar, who had no sons.
- 29 By Kish: the sons of Kish, Jerahmeel.
- 30 The sons of Mushi: Mahli, Eder and Jerimoth. These *were* the sons of the Levites according to their fathers' households.
- 31 These also cast lots just as their relatives the sons of Aaron in the presence of David the king, Zadok, Ahimelech, and the heads of the fathers' *households* of the priests and of the Levites—the head of fathers' *households* as well as those of his younger brother.

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

1 Chronicles 25

The Music Leaders' Sons

- 1 Moreover, David and the commanders of the army set apart for the service *some* of the sons of Asaph and of Heman and of Jeduthun, who *were* to prophesy with lyres, harps and cymbals; and the number of those who performed their service was:
- 2 Of the sons of Asaph: Zaccur, Joseph, Nethaniah and Asharelah; the sons of Asaph *were* under the direction of Asaph, who prophesied under the direction of the king.
- 3 Of Jeduthun, the sons of Jeduthun: Gedaliah, Zeri, Jeshaiyah, Shimei, Hashabiah and Mattithiah, six, under the direction of their father Jeduthun with the harp, who prophesied in giving thanks and praising the LORD.
- 4 Of Heman, the sons of Heman: Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Shebuel and Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti and

Romamti-ezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, Mahazioth.

5 All these *were* the sons of Heman the king's seer to exalt him according to the words of God, for God gave fourteen sons and three daughters to Heman.

6 All these were under the direction of their father to sing in the house of the LORD, with cymbals, harps and lyres, for the service of the house of God. Asaph, Jeduthun and Heman *were* under the direction of the king.

7 Their number who were trained in singing to the LORD, with their relatives, all who were skillful, *was* 288.

Responsibilities of the Musicians

8 They cast lots for their duties, all alike, the small as well as the great, the teacher *as well* as the pupil.

9 Now the first lot came out for Asaph to Joseph, the second for Gedaliah, he with his relatives and sons *were* twelve;

10 the third to Zaccur, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

11 the fourth to Izri, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

12 the fifth to Nethaniah, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

13 the sixth to Bukkiah, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

14 the seventh to Jesharelah, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

15 the eighth to Jeshaiiah, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

16 the ninth to Mattaniah, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

17 the tenth to Shimei, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

18 the eleventh to Azarel, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

19 the twelfth to Hashabiah, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

20 for the thirteenth, Shubael, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

21 for the fourteenth, Mattithiah, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

22 for the fifteenth to Jeremoth, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

23 for the sixteenth to Hananiah, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

24 for the seventeenth to Joshbekashah, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

25 for the eighteenth to Hanani, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

26 for the nineteenth to Mallothi, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

27 for the twentieth to Eliathah, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

28 for the twenty-first to Hothir, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

29 for the twenty-second to Giddalti, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

30 for the twenty-third to Mahazioth, his sons and his relatives, twelve;

31 for the twenty-fourth to Romamti-ezer, his sons and his relatives, twelve.

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

1 Chronicles 26:1–19

Genealogical Based List of Gatekeepers

1 For the divisions of the gatekeepers *there were* of the Korahites, Meshelemiah the son of Kore, of the sons of Asaph.

2 Meshelemiah had sons: Zechariah the firstborn, Jediael the second, Zebadiah the third, Jathniel the fourth,

3 Elam the fifth, Johanan the sixth, Eliehoenai the seventh.

4 Obed-edom had sons: Shemaiah the firstborn, Jehozabad the second, Joah the third, Sacar the fourth, Nethanel the fifth,

5 Ammiel the sixth, Issachar the seventh *and* Peullethai the eighth; God had indeed blessed him.

6 Also to his son Shemaiah sons were born who ruled over the house of their father, for they were mighty men of valor.

7 The sons of Shemaiah *were* Othni, Rephael, Obed and Elzabad, whose brothers, Elihu and Semachiah, were valiant men.

8 All these *were* of the sons of Obed-edom; they and their sons and their relatives *were* able men with strength for the service, 62 from Obed-edom.

9 Meshelemiah had sons and relatives, 18 valiant men.

10 Also Hosah, *one* of the sons of Merari had sons: Shimri the first (although he was not the firstborn, his father made him first),

11 Hilkiyah the second, Tebaliah the third, Zechariah the fourth; all the sons and relatives of Hosah *were* 13.

Responsibilities of the Gatekeepers

12 To these divisions of the gatekeepers, the chief men, *were given* duties like their relatives to minister in the house of the LORD.

13 They cast lots, the small and the great alike, according to their fathers' households, for every gate.

14 The lot to the east fell to Shelemiah. Then they cast lots *for* his son Zechariah, a counselor with insight, and his lot came out to the north.

15 For Obed-edom *it fell* to the south, and to his sons went the storehouse.

16 For Shuppim and Hosah *it was* to the west, by the gate of Shallecheth, on the ascending highway. Guard corresponded to guard.

17 On the east there were six Levites, on the north four daily, on the south four daily, and at the storehouse two by two.

18 At the Parbar on the west *there were* four at the highway and two at the Parbar.
 19 These were the divisions of the gatekeepers of the sons of Korah and of 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 The Levites, their relatives, had charge of the treasures of the house of God and of the treasures of the dedicated gifts.
 21 The sons of Ladan, the sons of the Gershonites belonging to Ladan, *namely*, the Jehielites, *were* the heads of the fathers' *households*, belonging to Ladan the Gershonite.
 22 The sons of Jehieli, Zetham and Joel his brother, had charge of the treasures of the house of the LORD.
 23 As for the Amramites, the Izharites, the Hebronites and the Uzzielites,
 24 Shebuel the son of Gershom, the son of Moses, was officer over the treasures.
 25 His relatives by Eliezer *were* Rehabiah his son, Jeshaiiah his son, Joram his son, Zichri his son and Shelomoth his son.
 26 This Shelomoth and his relatives had charge of all the treasures of the dedicated gifts which King David and the heads of the fathers' *households*, the commanders of thousands and hundreds, and the commanders of the army, had dedicated.
 27 They dedicated part of the spoil won in battles to repair the house of the LORD.
 28 And all that Samuel the seer had dedicated and Saul the son of Kish, Abner the son of Ner and Joab the son of Zeruiah, everyone who had dedicated *anything*, *all of this* was in the care of Shelomoth and his relatives.

Other Officials

29 As for the Izharites, Chenaniah and his sons were *assigned* to outside duties for Israel, as officers and judges.
 30 As for the Hebronites, Hashabiah and his relatives, 1,700 capable men, had charge of the affairs of Israel west of the Jordan, for all the work of the LORD and the service of the king.
 31 As for the Hebronites, Jerijah the chief (these Hebronites were investigated according to their genealogies and fathers' *households*, in the fortieth year of David's reign, and men of outstanding capability were found among them at Jazer of Gilead)
 32 and his relatives, capable men, *were* 2,700 in number, heads of fathers' *households*. And King David made them overseers of the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of the Manassites concerning all the affairs of God and 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 *this is* the enumeration of the sons of Israel, the heads of fathers' *households*, the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and their officers who served the king in all the affairs of the divisions which came in and went out month by month throughout all the months of the year, each division *numbering* 24,000:
 2 Jashobeam the son of Zabdiel had charge of the first division for the first month; and in his division *were* 24,000.
 3 *He was* from the sons of Perez, *and was* chief of all the commanders of the army for the first month.
 4 Dodai the Ahohite and his division had charge of the division for the second month, Mikloth *being* the chief officer; and in his division *were* 24,000.
 5 The third commander of the army for the third month *was* Benaiah, the son of Jehoiada the priest, *as* chief; and in his division *were* 24,000.
 6 This Benaiah *was* the mighty man of the thirty, and had charge of thirty; and over his division was Ammizabad his son.
 7 The fourth for the fourth month *was* Asahel the brother of Joab, and Zebadiah his son after him; and in his division *were* 24,000.
 8 The fifth for the fifth month *was* the commander Shamhuth the Izrahite; and in his division *were* 24,000.
 9 The sixth for the sixth month *was* Ira the son of Ikkesh the Tekoite; and in his division *were* 24,000.
 10 The seventh for the seventh month *was* Helez the Pelonite of the sons of Ephraim; and in his division *were* 24,000.
 11 The eighth for the eighth month *was* Sibbecai the Hushathite of the Zerahites; and in his division *were* 24,000.
 12 The ninth for the ninth month *was* Abiezer the Anathothite of the Benjamites; and in his division *were* 24,000.
 13 The tenth for the tenth month *was* Maharai the Netophathite of the Zerahites; and in his division *were* 24,000.
 14 The eleventh for the eleventh month *was* Benaiah the Pirathonite of the sons of Ephraim; and in his division *were* 24,000.
 15 The twelfth for the twelfth month *was* Heldai the Netophathite of Othniel; and in his division *were* 24,000.

The Officers of the Tribes

16 Now in charge of the tribes of Israel: chief officer for the Reubenites was Eliezer the son of Zichri; for the Simeonites, Shephatiah the son of Maacah;
 17 for Levi, Hashabiah the son of Kemuel; for Aaron, Zadok;
 18 for Judah, Elihu, *one* of David's brothers; for Issachar, Omri the son of Michael;

19 for Zebulun, Ishmaiah the son of Obadiah; for Naphtali, Jeremoth the son of Azriel;

20 for the sons of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Azaziah; for the half-tribe of Manasseh, Joel the son of Pedaiiah;

21 for the half-tribe of Manasseh in Gilead, Iddo the son of Zechariah; for Benjamin, Jaasiel the son of Abner;

22 for Dan, Azarel the son of Jeroham. These *were* the princes of the tribes of Israel.

23 But David did not count those twenty years of age and under, because the LORD had said He would multiply Israel as the stars of heaven.

24 Joab the son of Zeruiah had begun to count *them*, but did not finish; and because of this, wrath came upon Israel, and the number was not included in the account of the chronicles of King David.

The Stewards of Crown Property

25 Now Azmaveth the son of Adiel had charge of the king's storehouses. And Jonathan the son of Uzziah had charge of the storehouses in the country, in the cities, in the villages and in the towers.

26 Ezri the son of Chelub had charge of the agricultural workers who tilled the soil.

27 Shimei the Ramathite had charge of the vineyards; and Zabdi the Shiphmite had charge of the produce of the vineyards *stored* in the wine cellars.

28 Baal-hanan the Gederite had charge of the olive and sycamore trees in the Shephelah; and Joash had charge of the stores of oil.

29 Shitrai the Sharonite had charge of the cattle which were grazing in Sharon; and Shaphat the son of Adlai had charge of the cattle in the valleys.

30 Obil the Ishmaelite had charge of the camels; and Jehdeiah the Meronothite had charge of the donkeys.

31 Jaziz the Hagrite had charge of the flocks. All these were overseers of the property which belonged to King David.

David's Personal Counselors

32 Also Jonathan, David's uncle, *was* a counselor, a man of understanding, and a scribe; and Jehiel the son of Hachmoni tutored the king's sons.

33 Ahithophel *was* counselor to the king; and Hushai the Archite *was* the king's friend.

34 Jehoiada the son of Benaiah, and Abiathar succeeded Ahithophel; and Joab was the commander of the king's army.

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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 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

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.

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

28:1 Now David assembled at Jerusalem all the officials of Israel, the princes of the tribes, and the commanders of the divisions that served the king, and the commanders of thousands, and the commanders of hundreds, and the overseers of all the property and livestock belonging to the king and his sons, with the officials and the mighty men, even all the valiant men.

2 Then King David rose to his feet and said, "Listen to me, my brethren and my people; I *had* intended to build a permanent home for the ark of the covenant of the LORD and for the footstool of our God. So I had made preparations to build *it*."

3 But God said to me, 'You shall not build a house for My name because you are a man of war and have shed blood.'

4 Yet, the LORD, the God of Israel, chose me from all the house of my father to be king over Israel forever. For He has chosen Judah to be a leader; and in the house of Judah, my father's house, and among the sons of my father He took pleasure in me to make *me* king over all Israel.

5 Of all my sons (for the LORD has given me many sons), He has chosen my son Solomon to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel.

6 He said to me, 'Your son Solomon is the one who shall build My house and My courts; for I have chosen him to be a son to Me, and I will be a father to him.'

7 I will establish his kingdom forever if he resolutely performs My commandments and My ordinances, as is done now.'

8 So now, in the sight of all Israel, the assembly of the LORD, and in the hearing of our God, observe and seek after all the commandments of the LORD your God so that you may possess the good land and bequeath *it* to your sons after you forever.

9 As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a whole heart and a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever.

10 Consider now, for the LORD has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary; be courageous and act."

The Presentation of the Temple Plans to Solomon

11 Then David gave to his son Solomon the plan of the porch *of the temple*, its buildings, its storehouses, its upper rooms, its inner rooms and the room for the mercy seat;

12 and the plan of all that he had in mind, for the courts of the house of the LORD, and for all the surrounding rooms, for the storehouses of the house of God and for the storehouses of the dedicated things;

13 also for the divisions of the priests and the Levites and for all the work of the service of the house of the LORD and for all the utensils of service in the house of the LORD;

14 for the golden *utensils*, the weight of gold for all utensils for every kind of service; for the silver utensils, the weight *of silver* for all utensils for every kind of service;

15 and the weight *of gold* for the golden lampstands and their golden lamps, with the weight of each lampstand and its lamps; and *the weight of silver* for the silver lampstands, with the weight of each lampstand and its lamps according to the use of each lampstand;

16 and the gold by weight for the tables of showbread, for each table; and silver for the silver tables;

17 and the forks, the basins, and the pitchers of pure gold; and for the golden bowls with the weight for each bowl; and for the silver bowls with the weight for each bowl;

18 and for the altar of incense refined gold by weight; and gold for the model of the chariot, *even* the cherubim 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, all the details of this pattern."

Concluding Exhortation

20 Then David said to his son Solomon, "Be strong and courageous, and act; do not fear nor be dismayed, for the LORD God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you nor forsake you until all the work for the service of the house of the LORD is finished.

21 Now behold, *there are* the divisions of the priests and the Levites for all the service of the house of God, and every willing man of any skill will be with you in all the work for all kinds of service. The officials also and all the people will be entirely at your command."

David's Personal Contribution Toward the Construction of the Temple

29:1 Then King David said to the entire assembly, "My son Solomon, whom alone God has chosen, is still young and inexperienced and the work is great; for the temple is not for man, but for the LORD God.

2 Now with all my ability I have provided for the house of my God the gold for the *things of gold*, and the silver for the *things of silver*, and the bronze for the *things of bronze*, the iron for the *things of iron*, and wood for the *things of wood*, onyx stones and inlaid *stones*, stones of antimony and stones of various colors, and all kinds of precious stones and alabaster in abundance.

3 Moreover, in my delight in the house of my God, the treasure I have of gold and silver, I give to the house of my God, over and above all that I have already provided for the holy temple,

4 *namely*, 3,000 talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and 7,000 talents of refined silver, to overlay the walls of the buildings;

5 of gold for the *things of gold* and of silver for the *things of silver*, that is, for all the work done by the craftsmen. Who then is willing to consecrate himself this day to the LORD?"

The People's Contributions Toward the Construction of the Temple

6 Then the rulers of the fathers' *households*, and the princes of the tribes of Israel, and the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, with the overseers over the king's work, offered willingly;

7 and for the service for the house of God they gave 5,000 talents and 10,000 darics of gold, and 10,000 talents of silver, and 18,000 talents of brass, and 100,000 talents of iron.

8 Whoever possessed *precious stones* gave them to the treasury of the house of the LORD, in care of Jehiel the Gershonite.

9 Then the people rejoiced because they had offered so willingly, for they made their offering to the LORD with a whole heart, and King David also rejoiced greatly.

David Leads the People in Worship

10 So David blessed the LORD in the sight of all the assembly; and David said, "Blessed are You, O LORD God of Israel our father, forever and ever.

11 "Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; Yours is the dominion, O LORD, and You exalt Yourself as head over all.

12 Both riches and honor *come* from You, and You rule over all, and in Your hand is power and might; and it lies in Your hand to make great and to strengthen everyone.

13 Now therefore, our God, we thank You, and praise Your glorious name.

14 But who am I and who are my people that we should be able to offer as generously as this? For all things come from You, and from Your hand we have given You.

15 For we are sojourners before You, and tenants, as all our fathers were; our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no hope.

16 O LORD our God, all this abundance that we have provided to build You a house for Your holy name, it is from Your hand, and all is Yours.

17 Since I know, O my God, that You try the heart and delight in uprightness, I, in the integrity of my heart, have willingly offered all these *things*; so now with joy I have seen Your people, who are present here, make *their* offerings willingly to You.

18 O LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, our fathers, preserve this forever in the intentions of the heart of Your people, and direct their heart to You;

19 and give to my son Solomon a perfect heart to keep Your commandments, Your testimonies and Your statutes, and to do *them* all, and to build the temple, for which I have made provision."

20 Then David said to all the assembly, "Now bless the LORD your God." And all the assembly blessed the LORD, the God of their fathers, and bowed low and did homage to the LORD and to the king.

Solomon's Second Crowning (c. 969t BC)

1 Chronicles 29:21–22

21 On the next day they made sacrifices to the LORD and offered burnt offerings to the LORD, 1,000 bulls, 1,000 rams *and* 1,000 lambs, with their drink offerings and sacrifices in abundance for all Israel.

22 So they ate and drank that day before the LORD with great gladness. And they made Solomon the son of David king a second time, and they anointed *him* as ruler for the LORD and Zadok as priest.

David's Last Private Message to Solomon (c. 969t BC)

1 Kings 2:1–9

Keep the Law

1 As David's time to die drew near, he charged Solomon his son, saying,

2 "I am going the way of all the earth. Be strong, therefore, and show yourself a man.

3 Keep the charge of the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies, according to what is written in the Law of Moses, that you may succeed in all that you do and wherever you turn,

4 so that the LORD may carry out His promise which He spoke concerning me, saying, 'If your sons are careful of their way, to walk before Me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.'

One Friend and Two Enemies

5 Now you also know what Joab the son of Zeruiah did to me, what he did to the two commanders of the armies of Israel, to Abner the son of Ner, and to Amasa the son of Jether, whom he killed; he also shed the blood of war in peace. And he put the blood of war on his belt about his waist, and on his sandals on his feet.

6 So act according to your wisdom, and do not let his gray hair go down to Sheol in peace.

7 But show kindness to the sons of Barzillai the Gileadite, and let them be among those who eat at your table; for they assisted me when I fled from Absalom your brother.

8 Behold, there is with you Shimei the son of Gera the Benjamite, of Bahurim; now it was he who cursed me with a violent curse on the day I went to Mahanaim. But when he came down to me at the Jordan, I swore to him by the LORD, saying, 'I will not put you to death with the sword.'

9 Now therefore, do not let him go unpunished, for you are a wise man; and you will know what you ought to do to him, and you will bring his gray hair down to Sheol with blood."

David's Last Oracle (c. 969t BC)

2 Samuel 23:1-7

1 Now these are the last words of David.

David the son of Jesse declares,
The man who was raised on high declares,
The anointed of the God of Jacob,
And the sweet psalmist of Israel,

2 "The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me,
And His word was on my tongue.

3 "The God of Israel said,
The Rock of Israel spoke to me,
'He who rules over men righteously,
Who rules in the fear of God,

4 Is as the light of the morning *when* the sun rises,
A morning without clouds,
When the tender grass *springs* out of the earth,
Through sunshine after rain.'

5 "Truly is not my house so with God?
For He has made an everlasting covenant with me,
Ordered in all things, and secured;
For all my salvation and all *my* desire,
Will He not indeed make *it* grow?

6 "But the worthless, every one of them will be thrust away like thorns,
Because they cannot be taken in hand;

7 But the man who touches them
Must be armed with iron and the shaft of a spear,
And they will be completely burned with fire in *their* place."

The Death of King David (c. 969t BC)

1 Kings 2:10-11

11 The days that David reigned over Israel *were* forty years:
seven years he reigned in Hebron
and thirty-three years he reigned in Jerusalem.

10 Then David slept with his fathers
and was buried in the city of David.

1 Chronicles 29:26-30

26 Now David the son of Jesse reigned over all Israel.

27 The period which he reigned over Israel *was* forty years;
he reigned in Hebron seven years
and in Jerusalem thirty-three *years*.

28 Then he died in a ripe old age, full of days, riches and honor;

and his son Solomon reigned in his place.

29 Now the acts of King David, from first to last, are written in
the chronicles of Samuel the seer, in the chronicles of Nathan
the prophet and in the chronicles of Gad the seer,
30 with all his reign, his power, and the circumstances which
came on him, on Israel, and on all the kingdoms of the lands.

Solomon Reigns as King of Israel (c. 969t BC)

1 Kings 2:12	1 Chronicles 29:23–25	2 Chronicles 1:1
<p>12 And Solomon sat on the throne of David his father, and his kingdom was firmly established.</p>	<p>23 Then Solomon sat on the throne of the LORD as king instead of David his father; and he prospered, and all Israel obeyed him. 24 All the officials, the mighty men, and also all the sons of King David pledged allegiance to King Solomon. 25 The LORD highly exalted Solomon in the sight of all Israel, and bestowed on him royal majesty which had not been on any king before him in Israel.</p>	<p>1 Now Solomon the son of David established himself securely over his kingdom, and the LORD his God <i>was</i> with him and exalted him greatly.</p>

Solomon Secures His Throne (c. 969t/968t BC)

1 Kings 2:13–38

Adonijah's Last Attempt to Gain the Throne

13 Now Adonijah the son of Haggith came to Bathsheba the mother of Solomon. And she said, "Do you come peacefully?" And he said, "Peacefully."

14 Then he said, "I have something to say to you." And she said, "Speak."

15 So he said, "You know that the kingdom was mine and that all Israel expected me to be king; however, the kingdom has turned about and become my brother's, for it was his from the LORD.

16 Now I am making one request of you; do not refuse me." And she said to him, "Speak."

17 Then he said, "Please speak to Solomon the king, for he will not refuse you, that he may give me Abishag the Shunammite as a wife."

18 Bathsheba said, "Very well; I will speak to the king for you."

19 So Bathsheba went to King Solomon to speak to him for Adonijah. And the king arose to meet her, bowed before her, and sat on his throne; then he had a throne set for the king's mother, and she sat on his right.

20 Then she said, "I am making one small request of you; do not refuse me." And the king said to her, "Ask, my mother, for I will not refuse you."

21 So she said, "Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to Adonijah your brother as a wife."

22 King Solomon answered and said to his mother, "And why are you asking Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? Ask for him also the kingdom—for he is my older brother—even for him, 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, "May God do so to me and more also, if Adonijah has not spoken this word against his own life.

24 Now therefore, as the LORD lives, who has established me and set me on the throne of David my father and who has made me a house as He promised, surely Adonijah shall be put to death today."

25 So King Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada; and he fell upon him so that he died.

Abiathar is Banished

26 Then to Abiathar the priest the king said, "Go to Anathoth to your own field, for you deserve to die; but I will not put you to death at this time, because you carried the ark of the Lord God before my father David, and because you were afflicted in everything with which my father was afflicted."

27 So Solomon dismissed Abiathar from being priest to the LORD, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD, which He had spoken concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh. [\[1 Sam 2:27–36\]](#)

Joab is Executed

28 Now the news came to Joab, for Joab had followed Adonijah, although he had not followed Absalom. And Joab fled to the tent of the LORD and took hold of the horns of the altar. [\[Exod 21:12–14\]](#)

29 It was told King Solomon that Joab had fled to the tent of the LORD, and behold, he is beside the altar. Then Solomon sent Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, saying, "Go, fall upon him."

30 So Benaiah came to the tent of the LORD and said to him, "Thus the king has said, 'Come out.'" But he said, "No, for I will die here." And Benaiah brought the king word again, saying, "Thus spoke Joab, and thus he answered me."

31 The king said to him, "Do as he has spoken and fall upon him and bury him, that you may remove from me and from my father's house the blood which Joab shed without cause.

32 The LORD will return his blood on his own head, because he fell upon two men more righteous and better than he and killed them with the sword, while my father David did not know *it*: Abner the son of Ner, commander of the army of Israel, and Amasa the son of Jether, commander of the army of Judah. [[2 Sam 3:27](#); [20:10](#)]

33 So shall their blood return on the head of Joab and on the head of his descendants forever; but to David and his descendants and his house and his throne, may there be peace from the LORD forever.” [[2 Sam 21:1–14](#)]

34 Then Benaiah the son of Jehoiada went up and fell upon him and put him to death, and he was buried at his own house in the wilderness.

35 The king appointed Benaiah the son of Jehoiada over the army in his place, and the king appointed Zadok the priest in the place of Abiathar.

Shimei is Confined to Jerusalem

36 Now the king sent and called for Shimei and said to him, “Build for yourself a house in Jerusalem and live there, and do not go out from there to any place.

37 For on the day you go out and cross over the brook Kidron, you will know for certain that you shall surely die; your blood shall be on your own head.”

38 Shimei then said to the king, “The word is good. As my lord the king has said, so your servant will do.” So Shimei lived in Jerusalem many days.

Solomon’s Political Alliance With Egypt (c. 969t/968t BC)

1 Kings 3:1; 9:16

3:1 Then Solomon formed a marriage alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and took Pharaoh’s daughter and brought her to the city of David until he had finished building his own house and the house of the LORD and the wall around Jerusalem.

9:16 For Pharaoh king of Egypt had gone up and captured Gezer and burned it with fire, and killed the Canaanites who lived in the city, and had given it *as* a dowry to 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 The people were still sacrificing on the high places, because there was no house built for the name of the LORD until those days.

3 Now Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David, except he sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.

4 The king

went to Gibeon to sacrifice there,
for that was the great high place;

Solomon

offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.

5 In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night; and God said, “Ask what *you wish* me to give you.”

6 Then Solomon said, “You have shown great lovingkindness to Your servant David my father, according as he walked before You in truth and righteousness and uprightness of heart toward You; and You have reserved for

2 Solomon spoke to all Israel, to the commanders of thousands and of hundreds and to the judges and to every leader in all Israel, the heads of the fathers’ *households*.

3 Then Solomon

and all the assembly with him

went to the high place which was at Gibeon,
for God’s tent of meeting was there, which Moses the servant of the LORD had made in the wilderness.

4 However, David had brought up the ark of God from Kiriath-jearim to the place he had prepared for it, for he had pitched a tent for it in Jerusalem.

5 Now the bronze altar, which Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, had made, was there before the tabernacle of the LORD, and Solomon and the assembly sought it out.

6 Solomon went up there before the LORD to the bronze altar which *was* at the tent of meeting,

and offered a thousand burnt offerings on it.

7 In that night God appeared to Solomon and said to him, “Ask what I shall give you.”

8 Solomon said to God, “You have dealt with my father David with great lovingkindness,

<p>him this great lovingkindness, that You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as <i>it is</i> this day. 7 Now, O LORD my God,</p> <p>You have made Your servant king in place of my father David, yet I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. 8 Your servant is in the midst of Your people which You have chosen, a great people who are too many to be numbered or counted. 9 So give Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?" 10 It was pleasing in the sight of the Lord that Solomon had asked this thing. 11 God said to him, "Because you have asked this thing and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself discernment to understand justice,</p> <p>12 behold, I have done according to your words. Behold, I have given you a wise and discerning heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, nor shall one like you arise after you. 13 I have also given you what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that there will not be any among the kings like you all your days.</p> <p>14 If you walk in My ways, keeping My statutes and commandments, as your father David walked, then I will prolong your days." 15 Then Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. And he</p> <p>came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered burnt offerings and made peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.</p>	<p>and have made me king in his place.</p> <p>9 Now, O LORD God, Your promise to my father David is fulfilled, for You have made me king</p> <p>over a people as numerous as the dust of the earth.</p> <p>10 Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people, for who can rule this great people of Yours?"</p> <p>11 God said to Solomon, "Because you had this in mind, and did not ask for riches, wealth or honor, or the life of those who hate you, nor have you even asked for long life, but you have asked for yourself wisdom and knowledge that you may rule My people over whom I have made you king,</p> <p>12 wisdom and knowledge have been granted to you.</p> <p>And I will give you riches and wealth and honor, such as none of the kings who were before you has possessed nor those who will come after you."</p> <p>13 So Solomon went from the high place which was at Gibeon, from the tent of meeting, to Jerusalem,</p> <p>and he 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 two women who were harlots came to the king and stood before him.
17 The one woman said, "Oh, my lord, this woman and I live in the same house; and I gave birth to a child while she *was* in the house.
18 It happened on the third day after I gave birth, that this woman also gave birth to a child, and we were together. There was no stranger with us in the house, only the two of us in the house.
19 This woman's son died in the night, because she lay on it.
20 So she arose in the middle of the night and took my son from beside me while your maidservant slept, and laid him in her bosom, and laid her dead son in my bosom.
21 When I rose in the morning to nurse my son, behold, he was dead; but when I looked at him carefully in the morning, behold, he was not my son, whom I had borne."
22 Then the other woman said, "No! For the living one is my son, and the dead one is your son." But the first woman said, "No! For the dead one is your son, and the living one is my son." Thus they spoke before the king.
23 Then the king said, "The one says, 'This is my son who is living, and your son is the dead one'; and the other says, 'No! For your son is the dead one, and my son is the living one.'"

24 The king said, "Get me a sword." So they brought a sword before the king.

25 The king said, "Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one and half to the other."

26 Then the woman whose child *was* the living one spoke to the king, for she was deeply stirred over her son and said, "Oh, my lord, give her the living child, and by no means kill him." But the other said, "He shall be neither mine nor yours; divide *him!*"

27 Then the king said, "Give the first woman the living child, and by no means kill him. She is his mother."

28 When all Israel heard of the judgment which the king had handed down, they feared the king, for they saw that the wisdom of God was in him to administer justice.

Solomon's Government (c. 968t BC)

1 Kings 4:1–19

The King's Court

1 Now King Solomon was king over all Israel.

2 These were his officials: Azariah the son of Zadok *was* the priest;

3 Elihoreph and Ahijah, the sons of Shisha *were* secretaries; Jehoshaphat the son of Ahilud *was* the recorder;

4 and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada *was* over the army; and Zadok and Abiathar *were* priests;

5 and Azariah the son of Nathan *was* over the deputies; and Zabud the son of Nathan, a priest, *was* the king's friend;

6 and Ahishar *was* over the household; and Adoniram the son of Abda *was* over the men subject to forced labor.

The King's Governors

7 Solomon had twelve deputies over all Israel, who provided for the king and his household; each man had to provide for a month in the year.

8 These are their names: Ben-hur, in the hill country of Ephraim;

9 Ben-deker in Makaz and Shaalbim and Beth-shemesh and Elonbeth-hanan;

10 Ben-hesed, in Arubboth (Socoh *was* his and all the land of Hephher);

11 Ben-abinadab, *in* all the height of Dor (Taphath the daughter of Solomon *was* his wife);

12 Baana the son of Ahilud, *in* Taanach and Megiddo, and all Beth-shean which is beside Zarethan below Jezreel, from Beth-shean to Abel-meholah as far as the other side of Jokmeam;

13 Ben-geber, in Ramoth-gilead (the towns of Jair, the son of Manasseh, which are in Gilead *were* his: the region of Argob, which is in Bashan, sixty great cities with walls and bronze bars *were* his);

14 Ahinadab the son of Iddo, *in* Mahanaim;

15 Ahimaaz, in Naphtali (he also married Basemath the daughter of Solomon);

16 Baana the son of Hushai, in Asher and Bealoth;

17 Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah, in Issachar;

18 Shimei the son of Ela, in Benjamin;

19 Geber the son of Uri, in the land of Gilead, the country of Sihon king of the Amorites and of Og king of Bashan; and *he was* the only deputy who *was* in the land.

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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.