

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

Psalm 42

To the chief Musician,

Maschil, for the sons of Korah.

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

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

Psalm 43

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

Come to Our Help (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 44

To the chief Musician

for the sons of Korah, Maschil.

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

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

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

Psalm 45

To the chief Musician upon Shoshannim,

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

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

God Is Our Fortress (c. David/Solomon)

Psalm 46

To the chief Musician

for the sons of Korah, A Song upon Alamoth.

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

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

Psalm 47

To the chief Musician,

A Psalm for the sons of Korah.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Chronological Notes

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

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