

Psalm 1

The Book of Psalms

First Kathisma

Psalm 1.

Blessed is the man that has not walked in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stood in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seat of the pestilent.

2 But his will is rather in the law of the Lord, and in His law will he meditate day and night.

3 And he shall be like the tree which is planted by the streams of the waters, which shall bring forth its fruit in its season; and its leaf shall not fall, and all things whatever he may do shall prosper.

4 Not so are the ungodly, not so; but rather they are like the chaff which the wind does hurl away from the face of the earth.

5 For this reason shall the ungodly not stand up in judgment, nor sinners in the council of the righteous. 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, and the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Psalm 2

A Psalm of David,

Why have the heathen raged and the people meditated on empty things?

2 The kings of the earth were aroused, and the rulers were assembled together, against the Lord, and against His Christ.

Interlude by Chant

3 Let us break their bonds, and let us cast away their yoke from us.

4 He that lives in the heavens shall laugh them to scorn and the Lord shall deride them.

5 Then shall He speak unto them in His wrath, and in His anger shall He trouble them.

Psalm 3

9 Thou shalt herd them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt shatter them like a potter's vessels.

10 And now, O ye kings, understand; be instructed, all ye that judge the earth.

11 Serve ye the Lord with fear, and rejoice in Him with trembling.

12 Lay hold of instruction, lest at any time the Lord is angry, and ye perish from the righteous way.

13 When quickly His wrath is kindled, blessed are all that have put their trust in Him.

Psalm 3

A Psalm of David. When He Fled from the Face of Absalom His Son, in the Wilderness,

O Lord, why are they multiplied that afflict me? Many rise up against me.

3 Many say unto my soul: There is no salvation for him in his God.

Interlude by Chant

4 But Thou, O Lord, art my helper, my glory, and the one who lifts up of my head.

5 I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy mountain.

Interlude by Chant

6 I laid me down and slept; then I awoke, for the Lord will help me.

7 I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that set themselves against me all around.

8 Arise, O Lord, save me, O my God, for Thou has struck all who without cause are mine enemies; the teeth of sinners has Thou broken.

9 The salvation of the Lord and Thy blessing is upon Thy people.

Glory.

Psalm 5

3 O ye sons of men, how long will ye be heavy of heart? Why do ye love vanity, and seek after falsehood?

Interlude by Chant

4 Know also that the Lord has made wondrous His holy one; the Lord will hearken unto me when I cry unto Him.

5 Be angry, and sin not; feel compunction upon your beds for what ye say in your hearts.

Interlude by Chant

6 Sacrifice a sacrifice of righteousness, and hope in the Lord.

7 Many say: Who will show unto us good things? The light of Thy face, O Lord,

8 has been shined upon us; Thou have given gladness to my heart. From the fruit of their wheat, wine, and oil are they multiplied.

9 In peace in the same place I shall lay me down and sleep. For Thou, O Lord, alone has made me to live in hope.

Psalm 5

For the End: A Psalm of David for Her That Obtained the Inheritance

Unto my words, give ear, O Lord; hear my cry.

3 Attend unto the voice of my supplication, O my King and my God; for unto Thee will I pray, O Lord.

4 In the morning Thou shall hear my voice. In the morning shall I stand before Thee, and Thou shall look upon me;

5 for not a God that allows iniquity art Thou.

6 He that works evil shall not live near Thee, nor shall transgressors abide before Thine eyes. Thou has hated all them that work iniquity;

7 Thou shall destroy all them that speak a lie. A man that is bloody and deceitful shall the Lord abhor.

Psalm 6

11 judge them, O God. Let them fall down on account of their own devising; according to the multitude of their ungodliness, cast them out, for they have embittered Thee, O Lord.

12 And let all them be glad that hope in Thee; they shall ever rejoice, and Thou shall live among them. And all shall glory in Thee that love Thy name.

13 For Thou shall bless the righteous. O Lord, as with a shield of Thy good pleasure has Thou crowned us.

Psalm 6

For the End: A Psalm of David among the Hymns for the Eighth.

O Lord, do not rebuke me in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath.

3 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak. Heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled,

4 and my soul is troubled greatly; and Thou, O Lord, how long?

5 Turn to me again, O Lord, deliver my soul; save me for Thy mercy's sake.

6 For in death there is none that is mindful of Thee, and in Hades who will confess Thee?

7 I toiled in my groaning; every night I will wash my bed, with tears will I water my couch.

8 Through wrath is mine eye become troubled, I have grown old among all mine enemies.

9 Depart from me all ye that work vanity, for the Lord has heard the voice of my weeping.

10 The Lord has heard my supplication; the Lord has received my prayer.

11 Let all mine enemies be greatly put to shame and be troubled, let them be turned back, and speedily be greatly put to shame.

Glory.

Psalm 7

Psalm 8

3 Lest at any time like a lion he seize my soul, when there is none to redeem me, or to save.

4 O Lord, my God, if I have done this, if there be injustice in my hands,

5 If I have paid back evil to them that rendered evil unto me, then let me fall back empty from mine enemies.

6 Then let the enemy pursue my soul, and take it, and let him tread down my life into the earth, and my glory let him bring down into the dust.

Interlude by Chant

7 Arise, O Lord, in Thine anger, exalt Thyself to the furthest boundaries of Thine enemies. And arouse Thyself, O Lord my God, in the commandment which Thou have enjoined,

8 and a congregation of peoples shall surround Thee. And for their sakes return Thou on high.

9 The Lord shall judge the peoples. Judge me, O Lord, according to my righteousness, and according to mine innocence within me.

10 Let the wickedness of sinners be ended, and do Thou guide the righteous man, O God, that searches out the hearts and reins.

11 Righteous is my help from God, Who saves them who are upright of heart.

12 God is a judge that is righteous, strong and forbearing, and do not inflict wrath every day.

13 Unless ye be converted, His glittering broadsword shall He furbish; He has bent His bow, and has made it ready.

14 And on it He has made ready the instruments of death, His arrows for them that rage hotly hath He perfected.

15 Behold, he was in travail with unrighteousness, he has conceived toil and brought forth iniquity.

16 He opened a pit and dug it, and he shall fall into the hole which he hath made.

17 His toil shall turn upon his own head, and upon his own pate shall his unrighteousness come down.

18 I will give praise unto the Lord according to His righteousness, and I

Psalm 9

O Lord, our Lord, how wonderful is Thy name in all the earth! For Thy magnificence is lifted high above the heavens.

3 Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings have Thou perfected praise, because of Thine enemies, to destroy the enemy and avenger.

4 For I will behold the heavens, the works of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou has founded.

5 What is man, that Thou art mindful of him? Or the Son of Man, that Thou visited him?

6 Thou have made Him a little lower than the angels; with glory and honor have Thou crowned Him,

7 and Thou has set Him over the works of Thy hands. All things has Thou subjected under His feet,

8 sheep, and all oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field,

9 The birds of the sky, and the fish of the sea, the things that pass through the paths of the sea.

10 O Lord, our Lord, how wonderful is Thy name in all the earth!

Glory.

Second Kathisma

Psalm 9

For the End: A Psalm of David Concerning the Hidden Things of the Son.

I will confess Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart, I will tell of all Thy wonders.

3 I will be glad and rejoice in Thee, I will chant unto Thy name, O Most High.

4 When mine enemy be turned back, they shall grow weak and shall perish before Thy face,

5 For Thou has maintained my judgment and my cause; Thou has sat upon a throne, O Thou that judges righteousness.

6 Thou have rebuked the heathen, and the ungodly man hath perished;

Psalm 9

10 And the Lord is become a refuge for the poor man, a helper in times of well-being and in afflictions.

11 And let them that know Thy name hope in Thee, for Thou hast not forsaken them that seek Thee, O Lord.

12 Chant unto the Lord Who lives in Zion, proclaim ye His ways among the nations.

13 For He that makes enquiry for blood hath remembered them, He hath not forgotten the cry of the paupers.

14 Have mercy on me, O Lord; see my humiliation which I have suffered from mine enemies, O Thou that does rise me up from the gates of death,

15 that I may declare all Thy praises in the gates of the daughter of Zion. We will rejoice in Thy salvation.

16 The heathen are ensnared in the destruction which they have wrought; in this snare which they hid has their foot been caught.

17 The Lord is known by the judgments which He executes; in the works of his own hands hath the sinner been caught.

An Ode of an Interlude by Chant

18 Let sinners be turned away unto Hades, yea, all the nations that are forgetful of God.

19 For the poor man shall not be forgotten to the end; the patience of the paupers shall not perish forever.

20 Arise, O Lord, let not man prevail; let the nations be judged before Thee.

21 O Lord, set a lawgiver over them; let the heathen know that they are but men.

Interlude by Chant

22 Why, O Lord, have Thou gone to stand afar off? Why do Thou overlook us in times of well being and in afflictions?

23 When the ungodly man is arrogant, the poor man burns within; they are caught in the counsels which they devise.

Psalm 10

27 For he said in his heart: I shall not be shaken; from generation to generation shall I be without harm.

28 With cursing is his mouth filled, and with bitterness and deceit; under his tongue are toil and travail.

29 He sits in ambush with the rich in secret places, that he may kill the innocent; his eyes are set upon the poor man.

30 He lies in wait in a secret place like a lion in his den; he lies in wait to seize upon the poor man, to seize upon the poor man when he draws him in.

31 In his snare will he humble himself; he will bow down and fall while gaining dominion over the poor.

32 For he said in his heart: God hath forgotten; He hath turned away His face that He might not see unto the end.

33 Arise, O Lord my God, let Thy hand be lifted high; forget not Thy paupers to the end.

34 Why has the ungodly one provoked God? For he has said in his heart: He will not make enquiry.

35 Thou sees, for Thou understands travail and anger that Thou might deliver him into Thy hands. To Thee hath the beggar been abandoned; for the orphan art Thou a helper. 36 Break Thou the arm of the sinner and of the evil man; his sin shall be sought out and be found no more.

37 The Lord shall be king forever, and unto the ages of ages. Ye heathen shall perish out of His land.

38 The desire of the poor have Thou heard, O Lord; to the preparation of their heart hath Thine ear been attentive.

39 To judge for the orphan and the humble, that man may no more presume to be haughty upon the earth.

Psalm 10

For the End: A Psalm of David.

In the Lord have I hoped; how will ye say to my soul: Flee unto the mountains like a sparrow?

2 For behold, the sinners have bent their bow, they have prepared arrows

Psalm 11

6 He will rain down snares upon sinners; fire and brimstone and wind of tempest shall be the portion of their cup.

7 For the Lord is righteous and has loved righteousness; upon uprightness hath His countenance looked.

Glory.

Psalm 11

For the End: A Psalm of David for the Eighth.

Save me, O Lord, for a righteous man there is no more; for truths have diminished from the sons of men.

3 Vain things have each man spoken to his neighbor; deceitful lips are in his heart, and in his heart has he spoken evils.

4 Let the Lord destroy all deceitful lips and the tongue that speaks boastful words,

5 which have said: Our tongues will we magnify, our lips are our own. Who is lord over us?

6 Because of the distress of the beggars and the groaning of the poor, now will I arise, says the Lord; I will establish them in salvation, I will be manifest therein.

7 The words of the Lord are pure words, silver that are fired, tried in the earth, brought to purity sevenfold.

8 Thou, O Lord, shall keep us and shall preserve us from this generation, and forevermore.

9 The ungodly walk *all* around; to the measure of Thy loftiness have Thou esteemed the sons of men.

Psalm 12

For the End: A Psalm of David.

2 How long, O Lord, will Thou utterly forget me? How long will Thou

Psalm 13

6 I have hoped in Thy mercy. My heart will rejoice in Thy salvation. I will sing unto the Lord, Who is my benefactor, and I will chant unto the name of the Lord Most High.

Psalm 13

For the End: A Psalm of David.

The fool has said in his heart: There is no God. They are become corrupt and loathsome in their ways; there is none that doeth good, no not one.

2 The Lord looked down from heaven upon the sons of men, to see if there is any that understand or seek after God.

* 3 They are all gone astray, they are altogether useless, there is none that does good, no not one.

4 Shall not all they that work iniquity come to understanding? They that eat up my people as they eat bread have not called upon the Lord.

5 There have they feared with fear where there is no fear; for the Lord is in the generation of the righteous.

6 The counsel of the poor man have ye shamed, but the Lord is his hope.

7 Who shall give out of Zion the salvation of Israel? When the Lord hath turned back the captivity of His people, Jacob shall rejoice and Israel shall be glad.

* *Codex Vaticanus* reads verse three as follows:

“They are all gone astray, they are altogether useless, there is none that does good, no not one. Their throat is an open tomb; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is beneath their lips; whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness; anxious are their feet to spill blood; destruction and misery are in their paths; and the path of peace they do not know; there is no fear of God before their eyes.”

Glory.

Psalm 14

A Psalm of David

Psalm 15

3 who has not spoken deceitfully with his tongue, neither has done evil to his neighbor, nor taken up a reproach against those near him.

4 In his sight he that works evil is set at naught, be he glorified them that fear the Lord. He gives oath to his neighbor, and forswears not.

5 He has not lent his money on usury, and has not received bribes against the innocent. He that does these things shall never be shaken.

Psalms 15

A Pillar of Inscription of David.

Keepest me, O Lord, for in Thee have I hoped.

2 I said unto the Lord: Thou art my Lord; for of my goods, no need have Thou.

3 In the saints that are in His earth has the Lord been wondrous; He has wrought all His desires in them.

4 Their infirmities increased; thereupon they hastened. I will not assemble their assemblies of blood, nor will I make remembrance of their name through my lips.

5 The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup. Thou art He that restores mine inheritance unto me.

6 Portions have fallen to me that are among the best, for mine inheritance is most excellent to me.

7 I will bless the Lord Who has given me understanding; moreover, even till night have my reins instructed me.

8 I beheld the Lord ever before me, for He is at my right *hand*, that I might not be shaken.

9 Therefore did my heart rejoice and my tongue was glad; moreover, my flesh shall tabernacle in hope.

10 For Thou wilt not abandon my soul in Hades, nor will Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption.

11 Thou has made known to me the ways of life, Thou wilt fill me with gladness with Thy countenance; delights are in Thy right *hand* forever.

Psalm 16

2 From before Thy face let my judgment come forth, let mine eyes behold uprightness.

3 Thou have proved my heart, Thou have visited it in the night, Thou have tried me by fire, and unrighteousness was not found in me.

4 That my mouth might not speak of the works of men, for the sake of the words of Thy lips have I kept the ways that are hard.

5 Set my footsteps in Thy paths, that my steps may not be shaken.

6 I have cried for Thou have hearkened unto me, O God. Incline Thine ear unto me, and hearken unto my words.

7 Let Thy mercies be made wonderful, O Thou that saves them that hope in Thee. From them that have resisted Thy right *hand*,

8 keep me, * O Lord, as the apple of Thine eye. In the shelter of Thy wings will Thou shelter me,

9 from the face of the ungodly which have oppressed me. Mine enemies have surrounded my soul,

10 they have enclosed themselves with their own fat, and their mouth has spoken pride.

11 They that cast me out have now encircled me, they have set their eyes to look askance on the earth.

12 They have taken me as might a lion ready for his prey and as might a lion's whelp that lives in hiding.

13 Arise, O Lord, overtake them and trip their heels; deliver my soul from ungodly men, Thy sword from the enemies of Thy hand.

14 O Lord, from Thy few do Thou separate them from the earth in their life; yea, with Thy hidden treasures hath their belly been filled. They have satisfied themselves like * swine and have left the remnants to their babes.

15 But as for me, in righteousness shall I appear before Thy face; I shall be filled when Thy glory is made manifest to me.

Glory.

* The phrase "O Lord" is omitted from the *Septuagint* text as published by the Apostoliki Diakonia and the Zoe Brotherhood as well as omitted from *Codex Vaticanus*.

* *Codex Alexandrius* and the text as published by the Apostoliki Diakonia and Zoe Brotherhood

Third Kathisma

Psalm 17

For the End, for the Child of the Lord, David: What Things He Spoke unto the Lord, Even the Words of this Ode, in the Day Wherein the Lord Delivered Him out of the Hands of All His Enemies, and out of the Hand of Saul; 2 And He Said:

I will love Thee, O Lord, my strength;

3 the Lord is my foundation, and my refuge, and my deliverer. My God is my helper, and I will hope in Him, my defender, and the horn of my salvation, and my helper.

4 With praise will I call upon the name of the Lord, and from mine enemies shall I be saved.

5 The pangs of death surrounded me, and the torrents of iniquity sorely troubled me.

6 The pangs of Hades encircled me, around the snares of death have overtaken me.

7 And in mine affliction I called upon the Lord, and unto my God I cried; He heard my voice out of His holy temple, and my cry before Him shall enter into His ears.

8 And the earth shook and was made to tremble, and the foundations of the mountains were troubled and were shaken, because God was angry with them.

9 There went up smoke in His wrath, and fire from His countenance set all aflame; coals were kindled there from.

10 And He bowed the heavens and came down, and thick darkness was under His feet.

11 And He mounted upon cherubim and flew; He flew upon the wings of the winds.

12 And He made darkness His hiding place, His tabernacle *all* around Him, dark water in the clouds of the air.

13 From the far-shining radiance that was before Him there passed by

Psalm 17

16 And the well-springs of the waters were seen, and the foundations of the world were revealed at Thy rebuke, O Lord, at the on breathing of the spirit of Thy wrath.

17 He sent from on high, and He took me; He received me out of many waters.

18 He will deliver me from mine enemies which are mighty and from them that hate me, for they are stronger than I.

19 They overtook me in the day of mine affliction, and the Lord became my firm support.

20 And He led me forth into a spacious place; He will deliver me, because He desired me.

21 And the Lord will recompense me according to my righteousness, and according to the purity of my hands will He recompense me.

22 For I have kept the ways of the Lord, and I have not acted impiously toward my God.

23 For all his judgments are before me, and His statutes departed not from me.

24 And I shall be blameless with Him, and I shall keep myself from mine iniquity.

25 And the Lord will reward me according to my righteousness and according to the purity of my hands before His eyes.

26 With the holy man will Thou be holy, and with the innocent man will Thou be innocent.

27 And with the elect man will Thou be elect, and with the perverse will Thou be perverse.

28 For Thou will save a humble people, and Thou will humble the eyes of the arrogant.

29 For Thou will light my lamp, O Lord my God, Thou will enlighten my darkness.

30 For by Thee shall I be delivered from a host of robbers, and by my God shall I leap over a wall.

31 As for my God, blameless is His way; the words of the Lord are tried in the fire; defender is He of all that hope in Him.

32 For who is god, save the Lord? And who is god, save our God?

Psalm 17

36 And Thou gave me the shield of salvation, and Thy right hand has upheld me. And Thine instruction has corrected me even unto the end; yea, Thine instruction, the same will teach me.

37 Thou have enlarged my steps under me, and the tracks of my feet are not weakened.

38 I shall pursue mine enemies and I shall overtake them, and I shall not turn back until they fail.

39 I shall greatly afflict them, and they shall not be able to stand; they shall fall under my feet.

40 For Thou have girded me with power for war, in subjection under me have Thou bound the feet of all them that rose up against me.

41 And Thou have made mine enemies turn their back before me and them that hate me have Thou utterly destroyed.

42 They cried, and there was no savior – even to the Lord, and He hearkened not to them.

43 And I will grind them fine as dust before the face of the wind; I will trample them down as mud in the streets.

44 Deliver me from the gainsaying of the people; Thou will set me at the head of nations. A people whom I knew not have served me;

45 no sooner than their ear had heard, they obeyed me. Sons that are strangers have lied unto me;

46 sons that are strangers have grown old, and they have limped away from their paths.

47 The Lord lives, and blessed is my God, and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

48 O God Who gives avengement unto me and has subdued peoples under me,

49 O my Deliverer from enemies which are prone to anger, from them that arise up against me will Thou lift me high; from the unrighteous man deliver me.

50 For this cause will I confess Thee among the nations, O Lord, and unto Thy name will I chant.

51 It is He that magnifies the salvation of His king and works mercy for His * anointed one, for David, and for his seed unto eternity.

Psalm 18

Psalm 18 For the End: A Psalm of David.

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims the work of His hands.

3 Day unto day pours forth speech, and night unto night proclaims knowledge.

4 There are neither tongues nor words in which their voices are not heard.

5 Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

6 In the sun has He set His tabernacle; and He, like a bridegroom coming forth from his chamber, will rejoice like a giant to run his course.

7 From the outermost border of heaven is His going forth, and His goal is unto the outermost part of heaven, and there shall no man hide himself from His heat.

8 The law of the Lord is blameless, converting souls; the testimony of the Lord is trustworthy, bringing wisdom to infants.

9 The statutes of the Lord are upright, gladdening the heart; the commandment of the Lord is *exceedingly* bright, enlightening the eyes.

10 The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever and ever; the judgments of the Lord are true, altogether justified,

11 More to be desired than gold and much precious stone, and sweeter than honey and the honeycomb.

12 Yea, for Thy servant keeps them; in keeping them there is much reward.

13 As for transgressions, who will understand them? From my secret sins cleanse me,

14 and from those of others spare Thy servant. If they have not dominion over me, then blameless shall I be, and I shall be cleansed from great sin.

15 And the sayings of my mouth shall be unto Thy good pleasure, and the meditation of my heart shall be before Thee forever, O Lord, my Helper and Redeemer.

Psalm 20

4 Let Him remember every sacrifice of thine, and thy whole burnt offering let Him fatten.

Interlude by Chant

5 The Lord grants thee according to thy heart, and fulfils all thy purposes.

6 We will rejoice in Thy salvation, and in the name of the Lord our God shall we be magnified. The Lord fulfils all thy requests.

7 Now have I known that the Lord has saved His * anointed one; He will hearken unto Him out of His holy heaven; in mighty deeds is the salvation of His right *hand*.

8 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we will call upon the name of the Lord our God.

9 They have tripped and have fallen, but we are raised and are set upright.

10 O Lord, save the king, and hearken unto us in the day when we call upon Thee.

* Literally: "Christ".

Psalm 20

For the End: A Psalm of David.

O Lord, in Thy strength the king shall be glad, and in Thy salvation shall he rejoice exceedingly.

3 The desire of his heart has Thou granted unto him, and have not denied him the requests of his lips.

Interlude by Chant

4 Thou went before him with the blessings of goodness; Thou have set upon his head a crown of precious stone.

5 He asked life of Thee, and Thou gave him length of days unto ages of ages.

6 Great is his glory in Thy salvation; glory and majesty shall Thou lay

Psalm 21

10 For Thou will make them as an oven of fire in the time of Thy presence; the Lord in His wrath will trouble them sorely and fire shall devour them.

11 Their fruit will Thou destroy from the earth, and their seed from the sons of men,

12 for they have intended evil against Thee, they have devised counsels which they shall not be able to establish.

13 For Thou shall make them turn their backs; among those that are Thy remnant, Thou shall make ready their countenance.

14 Be Thou exalted, O Lord, in Thy strength; we will sing and chant of Thy mighty deeds.

Glory.