

# Psalms

Dr. Bruce Waltke

Lecture Notes (Psalms texts)

Brought to you by your friends at



## Psalm 1

- <sup>1</sup> Blessed is the person who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
- <sup>2</sup> but their delight is in the law of I AM,  
and on their law they meditate day and night.
- <sup>3</sup> That person is like a tree planted by streams of water  
that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.  
In all that they do, they prosper.
- <sup>4</sup> The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- <sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
- <sup>6</sup> for I AM knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish

## Lecture 3: Psalm 4

A psalm of David.

- <sup>1</sup> Answer me when I call to you, my righteous God.  
Give me relief from my distress;  
be merciful to me and hear my prayer.
- <sup>2</sup> How long, highborn men, will you turn my glory into shame?  
How long will you love delusions and seek false gods?   Selah
- <sup>3</sup> Know that I AM has set apart the godly for himself;  
I AM will hear when I call to him.
- <sup>4</sup> Tremble and do not sin;  
when you are on your beds, search your hearts  
and be silent.       Selah
- <sup>5</sup> Offer the sacrifices of the righteous  
and trust in the *I AM*.
- <sup>6</sup> Many are asking, "O that one would show us good?  
Let the light of your face shine upon us, *I AM*."
- <sup>7</sup> Fill my heart with great joy  
when their grain and new wine abound.
- <sup>8</sup> I will lie down and sleep in peace,  
for you alone, *I AM*, make me dwell in safety.

## Lecture 5: Psalm 23

A psalm of David.

- <sup>1</sup> *I AM* is my shepherd,  
I do not want.
- <sup>2</sup> In green pastures he allows me to rest;  
By choice watering places he leads me.
- <sup>3</sup> My vitality he restores;  
he leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- <sup>4</sup> Even though I walk in a dark ravine,  
I do not fear evil, for you are with me;  
Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- <sup>5</sup> You prepare before me a table in the presence of my enemies;  
You anoint with oil my head; my cup overflows.
- <sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and kindness will pursue me all the days of my life,  
and I will return to dwell in the house of the *I AM* for endless days.

## Lectures 5–7: Form Critical Hymn

### Psalm 117

- <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD, all you nations;  
    extol him, all you peoples.
- <sup>2</sup> For great is his love toward us,  
    and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
- Praise the LORD.

### Psalm 33

- <sup>1</sup> Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him.
- <sup>2</sup> Praise the LORD with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.
- <sup>3</sup> Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.
- <sup>4</sup> For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.
- <sup>5</sup> The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.
- <sup>6</sup> By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth.
- <sup>7</sup> He gathers the waters of the sea into jars; he puts the deep into storehouses.
- <sup>8</sup> Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him.
- <sup>9</sup> For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.
- <sup>10</sup> The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.
- <sup>11</sup> But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.
- <sup>12</sup> Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance.
- <sup>13</sup> From heaven the LORD looks down and sees all mankind;
- <sup>14</sup> from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth—
- <sup>15</sup> he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do.
- <sup>16</sup> No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength.
- <sup>17</sup> A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save.
- <sup>18</sup> But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love,
- <sup>19</sup> to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.
- <sup>20</sup> We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.
- <sup>21</sup> In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.
- <sup>22</sup> May your unfailing love be with us, LORD, even as we put our hope in you

## Psalm 95

- <sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;  
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
- <sup>2</sup> Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
and extol him with music and song.
- <sup>3</sup> For the LORD is the great God,  
the great King above all gods.
- <sup>4</sup> In his hand are the depths of the earth,  
and the mountain peaks belong to him.
- <sup>5</sup> The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands formed the dry land.
- <sup>6</sup> Come, let us bow down in worship,  
let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;
- <sup>7</sup> for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture,  
the flock under his care. Today, if only you would hear his voice,
- <sup>8</sup> "Do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah,  
as you did that day at Massah in the wilderness,
- <sup>9</sup> where your ancestors tested me;  
they tried me, though they had seen what I did.
- <sup>10</sup> For forty years I was angry with that generation; I said,  
'They are a people whose hearts go astray,  
and they have not known my ways.'
- <sup>11</sup> So I declared on oath in my anger, '  
They shall never enter my rest.'"

## Psalm 50

A psalm of Asaph.

- <sup>1</sup> The Mighty One, God, the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to where it sets.
- <sup>2</sup> From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth.
- <sup>3</sup> Our God comes and will not be silent; a fire devours before him, and around him a tempest rages.
- <sup>4</sup> He summons the heavens above, and the earth, that he may judge his people:
- <sup>5</sup> "Gather to me this consecrated people, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice."
- <sup>6</sup> And the heavens proclaim his righteousness, for he is a God of justice.
- <sup>7</sup> "Listen, my people, and I will speak; I will testify against you, Israel: I am God, your God.
- <sup>8</sup> I bring no charges against you concerning your sacrifices or concerning your burnt offerings, which are ever before me.
- <sup>9</sup> I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens,
- <sup>10</sup> for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills.
- <sup>11</sup> I know every bird in the mountains, and the insects in the fields are mine.
- <sup>12</sup> If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it.
- <sup>13</sup> Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats?
- <sup>14</sup> "Sacrifice thank offerings to God, fulfill your vows to the Most High,
- <sup>15</sup> and call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me."
- <sup>16</sup> But to the wicked person, God says: "What right have you to recite my laws or take my covenant on your lips?
- <sup>17</sup> You hate my instruction and cast my words behind you.
- <sup>18</sup> When you see a thief, you join with him; you throw in your lot with adulterers.
- <sup>19</sup> You use your mouth for evil and harness your tongue to deceit.
- <sup>20</sup> You sit and testify against your brother and slander your own mother's son.
- <sup>21</sup> When you did these things and I kept silent, you thought I was exactly like you. But I now arraign you and set my accusations before you.
- <sup>22</sup> "Consider this, you who forget God, or I will tear you to pieces, with no one to rescue you:
- <sup>23</sup> Those who sacrifice thank offerings honor me, and to the blameless I will show my salvation."

## Psalm 29

A psalm of David.

- <sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- <sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.
- <sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD thunders over the mighty waters.
- <sup>4</sup> The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is majestic.
- <sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.
- <sup>6</sup> He makes Lebanon leap like a calf, Sirion like a young wild ox.
- <sup>7</sup> The voice of the LORD strikes with flashes of lightning.
- <sup>8</sup> The voice of the LORD shakes the desert; the LORD shakes the Desert of Kadesh.
- <sup>9</sup> The voice of the LORD twists the oaks and strips the forests bare. And in his temple all cry, "Glory!"
- <sup>10</sup> The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD is enthroned as King forever.
- <sup>11</sup> The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace.



## Lecture 8: Psalm 100

- <sup>1</sup> A Psalm for Giving Grateful Praise  
Shout to *I AM*, all the earth!
- <sup>2</sup> Serve *I AM* with rejoicing!  
Come before him with a joyful shout!
- <sup>3</sup> Know that *I AM*, he is God!  
He himself has made us;  
and indeed, we are his people,  
and the flock he shepherds,
- <sup>4</sup> Enter his gates with grateful praise;  
his court with praise!  
Give him grateful praise!  
Bless his Name!
- <sup>5</sup> For *I AM* is good;  
His unfailing love [endures] forever;  
His reliability, throughout generations.

## Lecture 9

### Psalm 8

- <sup>1</sup> LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
you who have set your splendor upon the heavens.
- <sup>2</sup> From the mouth of children and nursing infants  
you have laid the foundation of strength  
on account of your foes, to eliminate the enemy and the avenger.
- <sup>3</sup> When I consider your heavens, the works of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
- <sup>4</sup> what is a mere mortal that you are mindful of him,  
a common human being that you care for him?
- <sup>5</sup> You made him lack a trifle from heavenly beings,  
and you crown him with glory and honor.
- <sup>6</sup> You cause him to ruler over the works of your hands;  
you put everything under his feet:
- <sup>7</sup> all flocks and herds,  
and even the wild animals;
- <sup>8</sup> the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
the one that swims the paths of the seas.
- <sup>9</sup> LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## Psalm 14

By David.

- <sup>1</sup> The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good.
- <sup>2</sup> The LORD looks down from heaven on all mankind to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God.
- <sup>3</sup> All have turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.
- <sup>4</sup> Do all these evildoers know nothing? They devour my people as though eating bread; they never call on the LORD.
- <sup>5</sup> But there they are, overwhelmed with dread, for God is present in the company of the righteous.
- <sup>6</sup> You evildoers frustrate the plans of the poor, but the LORD is their refuge.
- <sup>7</sup> Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the LORD restores his people, let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!

## Lecture 10: Psalm 92

A psalm. A song. For the Sabbath Day.

- <sup>1</sup> It is good to give grateful praise to *I AM*,  
    To sing praise to your Name, Most High;
- <sup>2</sup> To proclaim in the morning your unfailing love,  
    And your reliability during the night,
- <sup>3</sup> Upon the ten-stringed lute,  
    Upon the soft sounds with the lyre.
- <sup>4</sup> Surely, you, *I AM*, cause me to rejoice in your deeds,  
    I shout cries of joy for the works of your hands.
- <sup>5</sup> How great are your works, *I AM*,  
    Your thoughts are exceedingly profound.
- <sup>6</sup> A brutish person does not know,  
    And a fool does not understand this:
- <sup>7</sup> When the wicked flourished like grass,  
    And all evil-doers blossomed,  
    It led to their being exterminated forever.
- <sup>8</sup> For you are on high forever, *I AM!*
- <sup>9</sup> For look! Your enemies, *I AM*,  
    For look! your enemies perish;  
    All evil-doers are scattered.
- <sup>10</sup> You exalted my horn like a wild-ox;  
    Which I rubbed with rich olive oil.
- <sup>11</sup> And my eyes gazed in triumph at those who tried to ambush me;  
    My ears will hear of the destruction of the wicked who attack me.
- <sup>12</sup> A righteous person flourishes like a palm tree,  
    He or she grows like a cedar of Lebanon,
- <sup>13</sup> Planted in the house of the Lord;  
    In the courts of our God they flourish.

- <sup>14</sup> They will still thrive in old age;  
They will be full of sap and thick with leaves,
- <sup>15</sup> Proclaiming that / AM is upright,  
My Rock, in whom there is no injustice.

## Lectures 11–12: Petition Psalms

### Psalm 42

- <sup>1</sup> As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.
- <sup>2</sup> My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?
- <sup>3</sup> My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, “Where is your God?”
- <sup>4</sup> These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng.
- <sup>5</sup> Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.
- <sup>6</sup> My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember you from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar.
- <sup>7</sup> Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me.
- <sup>8</sup> By day the LORD directs his love, at night his song is with me—a prayer to the God of my life.
- <sup>9</sup> I say to God my Rock, “Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?”
- <sup>10</sup> My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me, saying to me all day long, “Where is your God?”
- <sup>11</sup> Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

### Psalm 43

- <sup>1</sup> Vindicate me, my God, and plead my cause against an unfaithful nation. Rescue me from those who are deceitful and wicked.
- <sup>2</sup> You are God my stronghold. Why have you rejected me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?
- <sup>3</sup> Send me your light and your faithful care, let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell.
- <sup>4</sup> Then I will go to the altar of God, to God, my joy and my delight. I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.
- <sup>5</sup> Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

## Psalm 38

- <sup>1</sup> LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger or discipline me in your wrath.  
<sup>2</sup> Your arrows have pierced me, and your hand has come down on me.  
<sup>3</sup> Because of your wrath there is no health in my body;  
    there is no soundness in my bones because of my sin.  
<sup>4</sup> My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear.  
<sup>5</sup> My wounds fester and are loathsome because of my sinful folly.  
<sup>6</sup> I am bowed down and brought very low;  
    all day long I go about mourning.  
<sup>7</sup> My back is filled with searing pain; there is no health in my body.  
<sup>8</sup> I am feeble and utterly crushed; I groan in anguish of heart.  
<sup>9</sup> All my longings lie open before you, Lord;  
    my sighing is not hidden from you.  
<sup>10</sup> My heart pounds, my strength fails me;  
    even the light has gone from my eyes.  
<sup>11</sup> My friends and companions avoid me because of my wounds;  
    my neighbors stay far away.  
<sup>12</sup> Those who want to kill me set their traps,  
    those who would harm me talk of my ruin;  
    all day long they scheme and lie.  
<sup>13</sup> I am like the deaf, who cannot hear, like the mute, who cannot speak;  
<sup>14</sup> I have become like one who does not hear,  
    whose mouth can offer no reply.  
<sup>15</sup> LORD, I wait for you; you will answer, Lord my God.  
<sup>16</sup> For I said, "Do not let them gloat or exalt themselves over me  
    when my feet slip."  
<sup>17</sup> For I am about to fall, and my pain is ever with me.  
<sup>18</sup> I confess my iniquity; I am troubled by my sin.  
<sup>19</sup> Many have become my enemies without cause;  
    those who hate me without reason are numerous.  
<sup>20</sup> Those who repay my good with evil lodge accusations against me,  
    though I seek only to do what is good.  
<sup>21</sup> LORD, do not forsake me; do not be far from me, my God.  
<sup>22</sup> Come quickly to help me, my Lord and my Savior.

## Psalm 39

A psalm of David. I said,

- <sup>1</sup> “I will watch my ways and keep my tongue from sin;  
I will put a muzzle on my mouth while in the presence of the wicked.”
- <sup>2</sup> So I remained utterly silent, not even saying anything good.  
But my anguish increased;
- <sup>3</sup> my heart grew hot within me. While I meditated, the fire burned;  
then I spoke with my tongue:
- <sup>4</sup> “Show me, LORD, my life’s end and the number of my days;  
let me know how fleeting my life is.
- <sup>5</sup> You have made my days a mere handbreadth;  
the span of my years is as nothing before you.  
Everyone is but a breath, even those who seem secure.
- <sup>6</sup> “Surely everyone goes around like a mere phantom;  
in vain they rush about, heaping up wealth  
without knowing whose it will finally be.
- <sup>7</sup> “But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you.
- <sup>8</sup> Save me from all my transgressions;  
do not make me the scorn of fools.
- <sup>9</sup> I was silent; I would not open my mouth,  
for you are the one who has done this.
- <sup>10</sup> Remove your scourge from me;  
I am overcome by the blow of your hand.
- <sup>11</sup> When you rebuke and discipline anyone for their sin,  
you consume their wealth like a moth—  
surely everyone is but a breath.
- <sup>12</sup> “Hear my prayer, LORD, listen to my cry for help;  
do not be deaf to my weeping.  
I dwell with you as a foreigner, a stranger, as all my ancestors were.
- <sup>13</sup> Look away from me, that I may enjoy life again  
before I depart and am no more.”



## Psalm 63

A psalm of David. When he was in the Desert of Judah.

- <sup>1</sup> You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you;  
I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you,  
in a dry and parched land where there is no water.
- <sup>2</sup> I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.
- <sup>3</sup> Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.
- <sup>4</sup> I will praise you as long as I live,  
and in your name I will lift up my hands.
- <sup>5</sup> I will be fully satisfied as with the richest of foods;  
with singing lips my mouth will praise you.
- <sup>6</sup> On my bed I remember you; I think of you through the watches of the night.
- <sup>7</sup> Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings.
- <sup>8</sup> I cling to you; your right hand upholds me.
- <sup>9</sup> Those who want to kill me will be destroyed;  
they will go down to the depths of the earth.
- <sup>10</sup> They will be given over to the sword and become food for jackals.
- <sup>11</sup> But the king will rejoice in God;  
all who swear by God will glory in him,  
while the mouths of liars will be silenced.

## Psalm unknown

- <sup>1</sup> How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever?  
How long will you hide your face from me?
- <sup>2</sup> How long must I wrestle with my thoughts  
and day after day have sorrow in my heart?  
How long will my enemy triumph over me?
- <sup>3</sup> Look on me and answer, LORD my God.  
Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,
- <sup>4</sup> and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him,"  
and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

## Psalm 55

- <sup>1</sup> Listen to my prayer, O God, do not ignore my plea;  
<sup>2</sup> hear me and answer me.  
My thoughts trouble me and I am distraught  
<sup>3</sup> because of what my enemy is saying,  
because of the threats of the wicked;  
for they bring down suffering on me and assail me in their anger.  
<sup>4</sup> My heart is in anguish within me; the terrors of death have fallen on me.  
<sup>5</sup> Fear and trembling have beset me; horror has overwhelmed me.

## Psalm 94

- <sup>1</sup> The LORD is a God who avenges. O God who avenges, shine forth.  
<sup>2</sup> Rise up, Judge of the earth; pay back to the proud what they deserve.  
<sup>3</sup> How long, LORD, will the wicked,  
how long will the wicked be jubilant?  
<sup>4</sup> They pour out arrogant words; all the evildoers are full of boasting.  
<sup>5</sup> They crush your people, LORD; they oppress your inheritance.  
<sup>6</sup> They slay the widow and the foreigner; they murder the fatherless.  
<sup>7</sup> They say, "The LORD does not see; the God of Jacob takes no notice."  
<sup>8</sup> Take notice, you senseless ones among the people;  
you fools, when will you become wise?  
<sup>9</sup> Does he who fashioned the ear not hear?  
Does he who formed the eye not see?  
<sup>10</sup> Does he who disciplines nations not punish?  
Does he who teaches mankind lack knowledge?

## Lecture 13: Psalm 3

Superscript: A psalm of David. When he fled from his son Absalom.

- <sup>1</sup> *I AM*, how many are my foes!  
Many rise up against me!
- <sup>2</sup> Many are saying of me,  
"God will not deliver him."
- <sup>3</sup> But you, *I AM*, are a shield around me;  
you are my glory, the one who lifts up my head.
- <sup>4</sup> I cry aloud to *I AM* ,  
and he answers me from his holy hill.
- <sup>5</sup> I lay down and slept;  
I awoke because *I AM* sustains me.
- <sup>6</sup> I do not fear the tens of thousands of troops  
Who are drawn up against me on every side.
- <sup>7</sup> Arise, *I AM*! Deliver me, my God!  
Strike all my enemies on the cheek;  
break the teeth of the wicked.
- <sup>8</sup> Deliverance belongs to *I AM*.  
Your blessing be on your people.

## Lecture 14: Psalm 22

A psalm by David

- <sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?  
Why are you so far from saving me,  
from the words of my roaring?
- <sup>2</sup> My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer,  
by night, and am not silent.
- <sup>3</sup> Yet you are the Holy One;  
the One enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- <sup>4</sup> In you our fathers put their trust;  
they trusted and you delivered them.
- <sup>5</sup> To you they cried out and were saved;  
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
- <sup>6</sup> But I am a worm and not a man,  
scorned by mortals and despised by the people.
- <sup>7</sup> All who see me mock me;  
they split open their lips; they shake their heads:
- <sup>8</sup> "Commit [yourself] to *I AM*; let *I AM* rescue him.  
Let him deliver him; surely, he delights in him."
- <sup>9</sup> Surely, you are the one who brought me out of the womb;  
the one who caused me to trust at my mother's breast.
- <sup>10</sup> From the womb I was cast upon you;  
from my mother's belly you are my God.
- <sup>11</sup> Do not be far from me, for trouble is near;  
surely there is none to help.
- <sup>12</sup> Many bulls surround me;  
strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.
- <sup>13</sup> Lions, tearing their prey and roaring,  
open their mouths wide against me.
- <sup>14</sup> I am poured out like water,  
and all my bones are out of joint.  
My heart has turned to wax;  
it has melted away within me.

15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd,  
and my tongue is made to stick to the roof of my mouth;  
and you lay me in the dust of death.

16 Surely, dogs surround me,  
a band of evil men encircle me;  
they bore holes in my hands and my feet.

17 I can count all my bones;  
people stare; they gloat over me.

18 They distribute my clothes among them,  
and cast lots for my garment.

19 But you, *I AM*, do not be far off;  
my Help, come quickly to help me.

20 Deliver my life from the sword,  
my precious life from the power of the dogs.

21 Save me from the mouth of the lions;  
answer me from the horns of the wild oxen.

22 I will declare your name to my brothers;  
in the congregation I will praise you.

23 You who fear *I AM*, praise him!  
All you seed of Jacob, honor him!  
Revere him, all you seed of Israel!

24 For he has not despised,  
He has not abhorred the suffering of the afflicted one;  
he has not hidden his face from him,  
but when he cried to him for help, listened.

25 From you comes my act of praising you in the great assembly;  
I will fulfill my vows before those who fear you.

26 Let the poor eat and be sated;  
let those who seek *I AM* praise him—  
Let your hearts live forever!

27 May all the ends of the earth remember and turn to the LORD,  
and all the clans of the nations bow down before you.

28 for dominion belongs to *I AM*  
as ruler over the nations.

- <sup>29</sup> May all the rich of the earth will bow down to him,  
before him all who go down to the dust will kneel,  
those who did not preserve their lives.
- <sup>30</sup> May their seed serve him;  
May it will e told to their generations about the Lord of all.
- <sup>31</sup> May they come and proclaim his righteousness;  
to a people yet unborn [mat they say]: “Surely, he has acted.”

## Lecture 15: Psalm 51

Psalm 5. <sup>1:1</sup> A psalm of David. When the prophet Nathan came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.

- <sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.
- <sup>2</sup> Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
- <sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
- <sup>4</sup> Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.
- <sup>5</sup> Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- <sup>6</sup> Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
- <sup>7</sup> Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- <sup>8</sup> Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- <sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.
- <sup>10</sup> Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- <sup>11</sup> Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- <sup>12</sup> Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
- <sup>13</sup> Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.
- <sup>14</sup> Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior,  
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
- <sup>15</sup> Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise.
- <sup>16</sup> You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
- <sup>17</sup> My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.
- <sup>18</sup> May it please you to prosper Zion, to build up the walls of Jerusalem.
- <sup>19</sup> Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the righteous, in burnt offerings offered whole;  
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

## Psalm 90

<sup>1</sup> A prayer by Moses, the man of God.

O Lord, you have been a dwelling place for us  
Throughout generations.

<sup>2</sup> Before the mountains were born,  
And you brought to birth the earth and the world,  
From eternity to eternity you are God.

<sup>3</sup> You return the mortal to dust;  
You say: "Return humankind."

<sup>4</sup> Surely, a thousand years in your estimation  
Is like yesterday when it is over,  
Like a watch in the night.

<sup>5</sup> You make an end of their lives; they fall into deep sleep;  
In the morning they are like grass that is renewed.

<sup>6</sup> In the morning it blossoms and is renewed;  
In the evening, it withers and dries up.

<sup>7</sup> Surely, we perish in your anger;  
We are dismayed by your wrath.

<sup>8</sup> You set our iniquities before you,  
Our hidden sins in the light of your face.

<sup>9</sup> All our days pass away in your fierce anger;  
We finish our years like a sigh.

<sup>10</sup> As for the days of our years, with them are seventy years;  
Or if with strength, eighty years.

And their proud achievements are toilsome and futile,  
For they pass away quickly, and we fly away.

<sup>11</sup> Who knows the vehemence of your anger?  
And according to the fear due you is your fierce anger?

<sup>12</sup> To number our days, so cause [us] to know,  
That we may gain wise hearts.

<sup>13</sup> Turn back, / AM! How long?



And take pity on your servants.

- <sup>14</sup> Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love  
That we may shout for joy and rejoice in all our days.
- <sup>15</sup> Make us rejoice according the days you afflicted us,  
According to the years we saw disaster.
- <sup>16</sup> Let your mighty deeds appear to your servants  
And your majesty to their children.
- <sup>17</sup> Let the beauty of *I AM* our God be upon us,  
And the work of our hands establish for us;  
And the work of our hands, establish it.

## Lecture 16: Psalm 44

Of the Sons of Korah. A *maskil*.

- <sup>1</sup> We have heard it with our ears, O God; our ancestors have told us  
what you did in their days, in days long ago.
- <sup>2</sup> With your hand you drove out the nations and planted our ancestors;  
you crushed the peoples and made our ancestors flourish.
- <sup>3</sup> It was not by their sword that they won the land, nor did their arm bring them victory;  
it was your right hand, your arm, and the light of your face, for you loved them.
- <sup>4</sup> You are my King and my God, who decrees victories for Jacob.
- <sup>5</sup> Through you we push back our enemies; through your name we trample our foes.
- <sup>6</sup> I put no trust in my bow, my sword does not bring me victory;
- <sup>7</sup> but you give us victory over our enemies, you put our adversaries to shame.
- <sup>8</sup> In God we make our boast all day long, and we will praise your name forever.
- <sup>9</sup> But now you have rejected and humbled us; you no longer go out with our armies.
- <sup>10</sup> You made us retreat before the enemy, and our adversaries have plundered us.
- <sup>11</sup> You gave us up to be devoured like sheep and have scattered us among the nations.
- <sup>12</sup> You sold your people for a pittance, gaining nothing from their sale.
- <sup>13</sup> You have made us a reproach to our neighbors, the scorn and derision of those around us.
- <sup>14</sup> You have made us a byword among the nations; the peoples shake their heads at us.
- <sup>15</sup> I live in disgrace all day long, and my face is covered with shame
- <sup>16</sup> at the taunts of those who reproach and revile me, because of the enemy, who is bent on  
revenge.
- <sup>17</sup> All this came upon us, though we had not forgotten you; we had not been false to your  
covenant.
- <sup>18</sup> Our hearts had not turned back; our feet had not strayed from your path.
- <sup>19</sup> But you crushed us and made us a haunt for jackals; you covered us over with deep  
darkness.
- <sup>20</sup> If we had forgotten the name of our God or spread out our hands to a foreign god,
- <sup>21</sup> would not God have discovered it, since he knows the secrets of the heart?
- <sup>22</sup> Yet for your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.
- <sup>23</sup> Awake, Lord! Why do you sleep? Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever.
- <sup>24</sup> Why do you hide your face and forget our misery and oppression?
- <sup>25</sup> We are brought down to the dust; our bodies cling to the ground.
- <sup>26</sup> Rise up and help us; rescue us because of your unfailing love.

# Lecture 17

## Psalm 91

- <sup>1</sup> As one who dwells in the secret place of the Most High,  
[who] in the shadow of the Almighty resides,
- <sup>2</sup> I say of / AM, “[he is] my shelter and my stronghold,  
My God in whom I trust.
- <sup>3</sup> Surely, he will deliver you from the fowler’s trap,  
From the destructive plague.
- <sup>4</sup> With his pinions he will overshadow you;  
And under his wings you may seek shelter.  
His faithfulness is a shield and a rampart.
- <sup>5</sup> Do not be afraid of the terror at night,  
From the arrow that flies by day,
- <sup>6</sup> From the plague that walks in darkness,  
From the pestilence that rushes at noon.
- <sup>7</sup> A thousand will fall at your side,  
A myriad at your right hand;  
[But] it will not come near you.
- <sup>8</sup> Only with your eyes will you look,  
And you will see the retribution of the wicked.
- <sup>9</sup> Because you [proclaim], “/ AM is my refuge,”  
[and] you make the Most High your dwelling place,
- <sup>10</sup> Calamity will not meet you,  
And a plague will not draw near your tent.
- <sup>11</sup> Surely, he will command his angels for you  
To protect you in all your ways.
- <sup>12</sup> Upon the palms of their hands they will lift you up,  
Lest your foot strike a stone.
- <sup>13</sup> Upon the lion and cobra you will tread;  
You will trample the young lion and the serpent.
- <sup>14</sup> Because he clings to me, I will rescue him,  
I will set him on high because he knows my name.

- <sup>15</sup> He will cry out to me, and I will answer him,  
I [will be] with him in distress;  
I will deliver him, I will glorify him.
- <sup>16</sup> I will satisfy him with endless days,  
And I will show him my salvation.

## Psalm 139

Of David. A psalm.

- <sup>1</sup> / AM, you search me and so you know me.
- <sup>2</sup> You know when I sit and when I rise;  
you consider my thoughts from afar.
- <sup>3</sup> My going out and my lying down you discern;  
you are familiar with all my ways.
- <sup>4</sup> Surely, before a word is on my tongue,  
/ AM, you know it completely.
- <sup>5</sup> Behind and before—you hem me in;  
you have laid the palm [of your hand] upon me.
- <sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,  
It is too high; I do not have the power to scale it.
- <sup>7</sup> Where can I go to escape your spirit?  
Where can I flee from your presence?
- <sup>8</sup> If I ascend to the heavens, you are there;  
if I spread out my bed in the grave, behold, you!
- <sup>9</sup> Were I to rise on the wings of the dawn  
and alight on the far side of the sea,
- <sup>10</sup> even there your hand will guide me,  
your right hand will hold me fast.
- <sup>11</sup> And I then thought: "Surely if darkness crushes me,  
and if light becomes night around me,"
- <sup>12</sup> Even darkness will not be too dark for you,  
And the night will shine like the day;  
Darkness is as light to you.
- <sup>13</sup> For you gave birth to my kidneys;  
you wove me together in my mother's womb.
- <sup>14</sup> I praise you because I am fearfully extraordinary;  
your works are wonderful I know full well.
- <sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you  
when I was wrought in the secret place,  
when I was colorfully woven in the depths of the earth.

16 My embryo your eyes saw; in your book all of them were written;  
    My days were fashioned when there was not yet any of them.

17 And for me, how precious are your thoughts, God!  
    How vast is the sum of them!

18 Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand.  
    I wake up, I am still with you.

19 If only you, God, would slay the wicked—  
    Bloodthirsty men, get away from me!—

20 who speak of you with evil intent;  
    your adversaries misuse your name.

21 Do I not hate those who hate you, *I AM*,  
    and loathe those who rise up against you?

22 I hate them with complete hatred;  
    they have become my enemies.

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

24 and see if there is any offensive way in me,  
    and lead me in the way everlasting.

## Lecture 20

### Psalm 2

- <sup>1</sup> Why do the nations conspire,  
and the peoples plot in vain?
- <sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth take their stand  
and the rulers band together  
against *I AM* and against his anointed one:
- <sup>3</sup> “Let us break their chains,  
and throw off their shackles.”
- <sup>4</sup> The One enthroned in heaven laughs;  
The Sovereign scoffs at them.
- <sup>5</sup> Then he spoke to them in his anger  
and in his wrath terrified them:
- <sup>6</sup> “But I install my king  
on Zion, my holy hill.”
- <sup>7</sup> I will proclaim the decree;  
“You are my son;  
today I give you birth.
- <sup>8</sup> Ask me, I will give the nations your inheritance,  
the ends of the earth your possession.
- <sup>9</sup> Break them with a rod of iron;  
Like a potter’s vessel dash them to pieces.”
- <sup>10</sup> Therefore, kings, be wise;  
be warned, rulers of the earth.
- <sup>11</sup> Serve *I AM* with fear  
and celebrate his rule with trembling.
- <sup>12</sup> Kiss [his] son, lest he become angry,  
and you be destroyed in [your] way  
for his wrath will soon flare up.  
How rewarded are all who take refuge in him!

# Lecture 21

## Psalm 110

A Psalm of David.

- <sup>1</sup> The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand,  
until I make your enemies your footstool."
- <sup>2</sup> The LORD sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter.  
Rule in the midst of your enemies!
- <sup>3</sup> Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your power;  
in holy garments, from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth  
will be yours.
- <sup>4</sup> The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever  
after the order of Melchizedek."
- <sup>5</sup> The Lord is at your right hand;  
he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.
- <sup>6</sup> He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with corpses;  
he will shatter chiefs over the wide earth.
- <sup>7</sup> He will drink from the brook by the way;  
therefore he will lift up his head.



## Lecture 24

### Psalm 16

A *miktam* of David.

- <sup>1</sup> Keep me safe, El,  
because I take refuge in you.
- <sup>2</sup> I say to *I AM*, “You are the Lord;  
I have no good thing apart from you.”
- <sup>3</sup> As for the holy ones in the Land, they,  
—indeed the noble people—are those in whom is all my delight.
- <sup>4</sup> Their pains will increase who have acquired another god.  
I will not pour out to them libations of blood,  
or take up their names on my lips.
- <sup>5</sup> *I AM*, my allotted portion and my cup,  
you hold my lot.
- <sup>6</sup> The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
indeed, the inheritance is beautiful to me.
- <sup>7</sup> I will bless *I AM* who counsels me;  
indeed at night my conscience instructs me;
- <sup>8</sup> I place *I AM* always before me.  
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be toppled.
- <sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart is glad and my liver rejoices;  
indeed my body rests secure,
- <sup>10</sup> because you will not abandon me to the grave,  
nor will you allow your devoted one to see corruption.
- <sup>11</sup> You will make known to me the path of life,  
you will fill me with joy in your presence,  
with eternal pleasures at your right hand

## Lecture 26: Psalm 19

A Psalm of David.

- <sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
- <sup>2</sup> Day to day pours out speech,  
and night to night reveals knowledge.
- <sup>3</sup> There is no speech, nor are there words,  
whose [heaven's voice] is not heard.
- <sup>4</sup> Their voice goes out through all the earth,  
and their words to the end of the world.  
In them he has set a tent for the sun,
- <sup>5</sup> which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,  
and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.
- <sup>6</sup> Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,  
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.
- <sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;
- <sup>8</sup> the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;
- <sup>9</sup> the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;  
the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.
- <sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.
- <sup>11</sup> Moreover, by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.
- <sup>12</sup> Who can discern his errors?  
Declare me innocent from hidden faults.
- <sup>13</sup> Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me!  
Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.
- <sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,  
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

To the choirmaster.

## Lecture 27

### Psalm 14

- <sup>1</sup> Of David. The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good.
- <sup>2</sup> The *LORD* looks down from heaven on all mankind to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God.
- <sup>3</sup> All have turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.
- <sup>4</sup> Do all these evildoers know nothing? They devour my people as though eating bread; they never call on the *LORD*.
- <sup>5</sup> But there they are, overwhelmed with dread, for God is present in the company of the righteous.
- <sup>6</sup> You evildoers frustrate the plans of the poor, but the *LORD* is their refuge.
- <sup>7</sup> Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the *LORD* restores his people, let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!

### Psalm 53

A *maskil* of David

- <sup>1</sup> The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, and their ways are vile; there is no one who does good.
- <sup>2</sup> *God* looks down from heaven on all mankind to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God.
- <sup>3</sup> Everyone has turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.
- <sup>4</sup> Do all these evildoers know nothing? They devour my people as though eating bread; they never call on *God*.
- <sup>5</sup> But there they are, overwhelmed with dread, where there was nothing to dread. God scattered the bones of those who attacked you; you put them to shame, for *God* despised them.
- <sup>6</sup> Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When *God* restores his people, let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!