
Psalms of Praise

Psalm 33

¹ Rejoice in the LORD, good people!

It is only right for good people to praise him.

² Play the lyre and praise the LORD.

Play the ten-stringed harp for him.

³ Sing a new song to him.

Play it well and sing it loud!

⁴ The LORD's word is true,

and he is faithful in everything he does.

⁵ He loves goodness and justice.

The LORD's faithful love fills the earth.

⁶ The LORD spoke the command, and the world was made.

The breath from his mouth created everything in the heavens.

⁷ He gathered together the water of the sea.

He put the ocean in its place.

⁸ Everyone on earth should fear and respect the LORD.

All the people in the world should fear him,

⁹ because when he speaks, things happen.

And if he says, "Stop!"—then it stops.

¹⁰ The LORD can ruin every decision the nations make.

He can spoil all their plans.

¹¹ But the LORD's decisions are good forever.

His plans are good for generation after generation.

¹² Great blessings belong to those who have the LORD as their God!

He chose them to be his own special people.

¹³ The LORD looked down from heaven

and saw all the people.

¹⁴ From his high throne he looked down

at all the people living on earth.

¹⁵ He created every person's mind,

and he knows what each one is doing.

¹⁶ A king is not saved by the power of his army.

A soldier does not survive by his own great strength.

¹⁷ Horses don't really bring victory in war.

Their strength cannot help you escape.

¹⁸ The LORD watches over his followers,

those who wait for him to show his faithful love.

¹⁹ He saves them from death.

He gives them strength when they are hungry.

²⁰ So we will wait for the LORD.

He helps us and protects us.

²¹ He makes us happy.

We trust his holy name.

²² LORD, we worship you,

so show your great love for us. (ERV)

103

¹ My soul, praise the LORD!

Every part of me, praise his holy name!

² My soul, praise the LORD

and never forget how kind he is!

³ He forgives all our sins

and heals all our sicknesses.

⁴ He saves us from the grave,

and he gives us love and compassion.

⁵ He gives us plenty of good things.

He makes us young again,

like an eagle that grows new feathers.

⁶ The LORD does what is fair.

He brings justice to all who have been hurt by others.

⁷ He taught his laws to Moses.

He let Israel see the powerful things he can do.

⁸ The LORD is kind and merciful.

He is patient and full of love.

⁹ He does not always criticize.

He does not stay angry with us forever.

¹⁰ We sinned against him,

but he didn't give us the punishment we deserved.

¹¹ His love for his followers is

as high above us as heaven is above the earth.

¹² And he has taken our sins

as far away from us as the east is from the west.

¹³ The LORD is as kind to his followers

as a father is to his children.

¹⁴ He knows all about us.

He knows we are made from dust.

¹⁵ He knows our lives are short, that they are like grass.

He knows we are like a little wildflower that grows so quickly,

¹⁶ but when the hot wind blows, it dies.

Soon, you cannot even see where the flower was.

¹⁷ But the LORD has always loved his followers,

and he will continue to love them forever and ever!

He will be good to all their descendants,

- ¹⁸ to those who are faithful to his agreement
and who remember to obey his commands.
- ¹⁹ The LORD set his throne up in heaven,
and he rules over everything.
- ²⁰ Angels, praise the LORD!
You angels are the powerful soldiers who obey his commands.
You listen to him and obey his commands.
- ²¹ Praise the LORD, all his armies.
You are his servants,
and you do what he wants.
- ²² Everything the LORD has made should praise him
throughout the world that he rules!
- My soul, praise the LORD!

135

- ¹ Praise the LORD!
Praise the name of the LORD!
Praise him, you servants of the LORD,
² you who serve in the LORD's Temple,
in the courtyard of the Temple of our God.
- ³ Praise the LORD, because he is good.
Praise his name, because it brings such joy!
- ⁴ The LORD chose Jacob to be his own.
Yes, he chose Israel to be his own people.
- ⁵ I know the LORD is great!
Our Lord is greater than all the gods!
- ⁶ The LORD does whatever he wants,
in heaven and on earth, in the seas and the deep oceans.
- ⁷ He brings the clouds from the other side of the earth.
He sends the lightning and the rain,
and he opens the doors to release the winds.
- ⁸ He destroyed the firstborn males of the people in Egypt and their animals.
- ⁹ He did great wonders and miracles in Egypt.
He used them against Pharaoh and his officials.
- ¹⁰ He defeated many nations
and killed powerful kings.
- ¹¹ He defeated Sihon, king of the Amorites,
Og, king of Bashan,
and all the kingdoms in Canaan.
- ¹² Then he gave their land to Israel, his people.
- ¹³ LORD, your name will be famous forever!
LORD, people will remember you forever and ever.
- ¹⁴ The LORD defends his people;
he is kind to his servants.

- ¹⁵ The gods of other nations are only gold and silver idols
that people have made.
- ¹⁶ They have mouths, but cannot speak.
They have eyes, but cannot see.
- ¹⁷ They have ears, but cannot hear.
They have mouths, but no breath.
- ¹⁸ Those who make idols and trust in them
will become just like the idols they have made.
- ¹⁹ Family of Israel, praise the LORD!
Aaron's family, praise the LORD!
- ²⁰ Levi's family, praise the LORD!
All you who worship the LORD, praise the LORD!
- ²¹ The LORD should be praised from Zion,
from Jerusalem, his home.
Praise the LORD!

146

- ¹ Praise the LORD!
My soul, praise the LORD!
- ² I will praise the LORD all my life.
I will sing praises to him as long as I live.
- ³ Don't depend on your leaders for help.
Don't depend on people, because they cannot save you.
- ⁴ People die and are buried.
Then all their plans to help are gone.
- ⁵ It is a great blessing for people to have the God of Jacob to help them.
They depend on the LORD their God.
- ⁶ He made heaven and earth.
He made the sea and everything in it.
He can be trusted to do what he says.
- ⁷ He does what is right for those who have been hurt.
He gives food to the hungry.
The LORD frees people locked up in prison.
- ⁸ The LORD makes the blind see again.
The LORD helps those who are in trouble.
The LORD loves those who do right.
- ⁹ The LORD protects strangers in our country.
He cares for widows and orphans,
but he destroys the wicked.
- ¹⁰ The LORD will rule forever!
Zion, your God will rule forever and ever!
Praise the LORD!

19

¹ The heavens tell about the glory of God.

The skies announce what his hands have made.

² Each new day tells more of the story,

and each night reveals more and more about God's power.

³ You cannot hear them say anything.

They don't make any sound we can hear.

⁴ But their message goes throughout the world.

Their teaching reaches the ends of the earth.

The sun's tent is set up in the heavens.

⁵ It comes out like a happy bridegroom from his bedroom.

It begins its path across the sky

like an athlete eager to run a race.

⁶ It starts at one end of the sky

and runs all the way to the other end.

Nothing can hide from its heat.

⁷ The LORD's teachings are perfect.

They give strength to his people.

The LORD's rules can be trusted.

They help even the foolish become wise.

⁸ The LORD's laws are right.

They make people happy.

The LORD's commands are good.

They show people the right way to live.

⁹ Learning respect for the LORD is good.

It will last forever.

The LORD's judgments are right.

They are completely fair.

¹⁰ His teachings are worth more than pure gold.

They are sweeter than the best honey dripping from the honeycomb.

¹¹ His teachings warn his servants,

and good things come to those who obey them.

¹² People cannot see their own mistakes,

so don't let me commit secret sins.

¹³ Don't let me do what I know is wrong.

Don't let sin control me.

If you help me, I can be pure

and free from sin.

¹⁴ May my words and thoughts please you.

LORD, you are my Rock—the one who rescues me.

87

¹ The LORD built his city on the holy hills.

² He loves the gates of Zion more than any other place in Israel.

³ Wonderful things are said about you, City of God.

⁴ God says, "Some of my people live in Egypt and Babylon.

Some of them were born in Philistia, Tyre, and even Ethiopia."

⁵ But about Zion he says,

"I know each and every person born there."

It is the city built by God Most High.

⁶ The LORD keeps a list of all his people,

and he knows where each of them was born.

⁷ At the festivals, people will dance and sing,

"All good things come from Zion."

113

¹ Praise the LORD!

Servants of the LORD, praise him!

Praise the LORD's name.

² May the LORD's name be praised

now and forever.

³ May the LORD's name be praised

from where the sun rises to where it goes down.

⁴ The LORD is higher than all nations.

His glory rises to the skies.

⁵ There is no one like the LORD our God.

He sits on his throne high in heaven.

⁶ He is so high above us that he must look down

to see the sky and the earth.

⁷ He lifts the poor out of the dirt

and rescues beggars from the garbage dump.

⁸ He puts them in important positions,

giving them a place among the leaders of his people.

⁹ He gives children to the woman whose home is empty.

He makes her a happy mother.

Praise the LORD!

149

¹ Praise the LORD!
Sing a new song to the LORD!
Sing his praise in the assembly of his followers.
² Let Israel be happy with their Maker.
Let the people of Zion rejoice with their King.
³ Let them praise him by dancing
and playing their tambourines and harps.
⁴ The LORD is happy with his people.
He did a wonderful thing for his humble people.
He saved them!
⁵ Let his followers rejoice in this victory!
Let them sing for joy, even in their beds!
⁶ Let the people shout praise to God.
And with a sharp sword in their hand,
⁷ let them take revenge on the other nations.
Let them go punish those people.
⁸ They will put their kings in chains
and their leaders in chains of iron.
⁹ They will punish those nations as God commanded.
This is an honor for all his followers.
Praise the LORD!

150

¹ Praise the LORD!
Praise God in his Temple!
Praise him in heaven, his strong fortress!
² Praise him for the great things he does!
Praise him for all his greatness!
³ Praise him with trumpets and horns!
Praise him with harps and lyres!
⁴ Praise him with tambourines and dancing!
Praise him with stringed instruments and flutes!
⁵ Praise him with loud cymbals!
Praise him with crashing cymbals!

⁶ Everything that breathes, praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD!

147

- ¹ Praise the LORD because he is good.
Sing praises to our God.
It is good and pleasant to praise him.
- ² The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem.
He brings back the Israelites who were taken as prisoners.
- ³ He heals their broken hearts
and bandages their wounds.
- ⁴ He counts the stars
and knows each of them by name.
- ⁵ Our Lord is great and powerful.
There is no limit to what he knows.
- ⁶ The LORD supports the humble,
but he shames the wicked.
- ⁷ Give thanks to the LORD.
Praise our God with harps.
- ⁸ He fills the sky with clouds.
He sends rain to the earth.
He makes the grass grow on the mountains.
- ⁹ He gives food to the animals.
He feeds the young birds that cry out.
- ¹⁰ War horses and powerful soldiers
are not what he cares about.
- ¹¹ The LORD enjoys people who worship him
and trust in his faithful love.
- ¹² Jerusalem, praise the LORD!
Zion, praise your God!
- ¹³ He makes your gates strong,
and he blesses the people in your city.
- ¹⁴ He brought peace to your country,
so you have plenty of grain for food.
- ¹⁵ He gives a command to the earth,
and it quickly obeys.
- ¹⁶ He makes the snow fall until the ground is as white as wool.
He makes sleet blow through the air like dust.
- ¹⁷ He makes hail fall like rocks from the sky.
No one can stand the cold he sends.
- ¹⁸ Then he gives another command, and warm air begins to blow.
The ice melts, and water begins to flow.
- ¹⁹ He gave his commands to Jacob.
He gave his laws and rules to Israel.

²⁰ He did not do this for any other nation.

He did not teach his laws to other people.

Praise the LORD!

34

¹ I will praise the LORD at all times.

I will never stop singing his praises.

² Humble people, listen and be happy,
while I brag about the LORD.

³ Praise the LORD with me.

Let us honor his name.

⁴ I went to the LORD for help, and he listened.

He saved me from all that I fear.

⁵ If you look to him for help,
he will put a smile on your face.

You will have no need to be ashamed.

⁶ As a poor, helpless man I prayed to the LORD,
and he heard me.

He saved me from all my troubles.

⁷ The LORD's angel builds a camp around his followers,
and he protects them.

⁸ Give the LORD a chance to show you how good he is.
Great blessings belong to those who depend on him!

⁹ The LORD's holy people should fear and respect him.
Those who respect him will always have what they need.

¹⁰ Even strong lions get weak and hungry,
but those who go to the LORD for help will have every good thing.

¹¹ Children, come and listen to me;
I will teach you to respect the LORD.

¹² Do you want to enjoy life?
Do you want to have many happy days?

¹³ Then avoid saying anything hurtful,
and never let a lie come out of your mouth.

¹⁴ Stop doing anything evil, and do good.
Look for peace, and do all you can to help people live peacefully.

¹⁵ The LORD watches over those who do what is right,
and he hears their prayers.

¹⁶ But the LORD is against those who do evil,
so they are forgotten soon after they die.

- ¹⁷ Pray to the LORD, and he will hear you.
He will save you from all your troubles.
- ¹⁸ The LORD is close to those who have suffered disappointment.
He saves those who are discouraged.
- ¹⁹ Good people might have many problems,
but the LORD will take them all away.
- ²⁰ He will protect them completely.
Not one of their bones will be broken.
- ²¹ But troubles will kill the wicked.
The enemies of those who live right will all be punished.
- ²² The LORD saves his servants.
All who go to him for protection will escape punishment.

104

- ¹ My soul, praise the LORD!
LORD my God, you are very great!
You are clothed with glory and honor.
- ² You wear light like a robe.
You spread out the skies like a curtain.
- ³ You built your home above them.
You use the thick clouds like a chariot
and ride across the sky on the wings of the wind.
- ⁴ You make the winds your messengers
and flames of fire your servants.
- ⁵ You built the earth on its foundations,
so it can never be moved.
- ⁶ You covered it with water like a blanket.
The water covered even the mountains.
- ⁷ But you gave the command, and the water turned back.
You shouted at the water, and it rushed away.
- ⁸ The water flowed down from the mountains into the valleys,
to the places you made for it.
- ⁹ You set the limits for the seas,
and the water will never again rise to cover the earth.
- ¹⁰ Lord, you cause water to flow from springs into the streams
that flow down between the mountains.
- ¹¹ The streams provide water for all the wild animals.
Even the wild donkeys come there to drink.
- ¹² Wild birds come to live by the pools;
they sing in the branches of nearby trees.
- ¹³ You send rain down on the mountains.
The earth gets everything it needs from what you have made.

- ¹⁴ You make the grass grow to feed the animals.
You provide plants for the crops we grow—
the plants that give us food from the earth.
- ¹⁵ You give us the wine that makes us happy,
the oil that makes our skin soft,
and the food that makes us strong.
- ¹⁶ The great cedar trees of Lebanon belong to the LORD.
He planted them and gives them the water they need.
- ¹⁷ That's where the birds make their nests,
and the storks live in the fir trees.
- ¹⁸ The high mountains are a home for wild goats.
The large rocks are hiding places for rock badgers.
- ¹⁹ Lord, you made the moon to show us when the festivals begin.
And the sun always knows when to set.
- ²⁰ You made darkness to be the night—
the time when wild animals come out and roam around.
- ²¹ Lions roar as they attack,
as if they are asking God for the food he gives them.
- ²² When the sun rises, they leave
and go back to their dens to rest.
- ²³ Then people go out to do their work,
and they work until evening.
- ²⁴ LORD, you created so many things!
With your wisdom you made them all.
The earth is full of the living things you made.
- ²⁵ Look at the ocean, so big and wide!
It is filled with all kinds of sea life.
There are creatures large and small—too many to count!
- ²⁶ Ships sail over the ocean,
and playing there is Leviathan,
the great sea creature you made.
- ²⁷ Lord, all living things depend on you.
You give them food at the right time.
- ²⁸ You give it, and they eat it.
They are filled with good food from your open hands.
- ²⁹ When you turn away from them,
they become frightened.
When you take away their breath,
they die, and their bodies return to the dust.
- ³⁰ But when you send out your life-giving breath,
things come alive, and the world is like new again!
- ³¹ May the LORD's glory continue forever!
May the LORD enjoy what he made.

- ³² He just looks at the earth, and it trembles.
He just touches the mountains, and smoke rises from them.
- ³³ I will sing to the LORD for the rest of my life.
I will sing praises to my God as long as I live.
- ³⁴ May my words be pleasing to him.
The LORD is the one who makes me happy.
- ³⁵ I wish sinners would disappear from the earth.
I wish the wicked would be gone forever.
- My soul, praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD!

93

- ¹ The LORD is King.
The LORD wears majesty and strength like clothes.
He is ready, so the whole world is safe.
It will not be shaken.
- ² Your kingdom has continued forever.
You have lived forever!
- ³ LORD, the ocean roars.
The mighty ocean sounds like thunder
as the waves crash on the shore.
- ⁴ The crashing waves of the sea are loud and powerful,
but the LORD above is even more powerful.
- ⁵ LORD, your laws will continue forever.
Your holy Temple will stand for a long time.

76

- ¹ People in Judah know God.
People in Israel respect his name.
- ² His Temple is in Salem.
His house is on Mount Zion.
- ³ There he shattered the arrows,
shields, swords, and other weapons of war. *Selah*
- ⁴ God, you are glorious coming back
from the hills where you defeated your enemies.
- ⁵ They thought they were strong, but now they lie dead in the fields.
Their bodies are stripped of all they owned.
They could not defend themselves.

- ⁶ The God of Jacob shouted at them,
and their army of chariots and horses fell dead.
- ⁷ God, you are awesome!
No one can stand against you when you are angry.
- ⁸⁻⁹ You stood as judge and announced your decision.
You saved the humble people of the land.
From heaven you gave the decision,
and the whole earth was silent and afraid.
- ¹⁰ Even human anger can bring you honor
when you use it to punish your enemies.
- ¹¹ People, you made promises to the LORD your God.
Now give him what you promised.
People everywhere fear and respect God,
and they will bring gifts to him.
- ¹² God defeats great leaders;
all the kings on earth fear him.

89

- ¹ I will sing forever about the LORD's love.
I will sing about his faithfulness forever and ever!
- ² I will say, "Your faithful love will last forever.
Your loyalty is like the sky—there is no end to it!"
- ³ You said, "I made an agreement with my chosen king.
I made this promise to my servant David:
- ⁴ "There will always be someone from your family to rule.
I will make your kingdom continue forever and ever."
- ⁵ LORD, the heavens praise you for the amazing things you do.
The assembly of holy ones sings about your loyalty.
- ⁶ No one in heaven is equal to the LORD.
None of the "gods" can compare to the LORD.
- ⁷ When God's holy ones—the angels around his throne—meet together,
they fear and respect him;
he is more awesome than all those around him.
- ⁸ LORD God All-Powerful, there is no one like you.
You are strong, LORD, and always faithful.
- ⁹ You rule the stormy sea.
You can calm its angry waves.
- ¹⁰ You defeated Rahab.
You scattered your enemies with your own powerful arm.
- ¹¹ Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you.
You made the world and everything in it.

- ¹² You created everything north and south.
Mount Tabor and Mount Hermon sing praises to your name.
- ¹³ You have the power!
Your power is great!
Victory is yours!
- ¹⁴ Your kingdom is built on truth and justice.
Love and faithfulness are servants before your throne.
- ¹⁵ LORD, your loyal followers are happy.
They live in the light of your kindness.
- ¹⁶ Your name always makes them happy.
They praise your goodness.
- ¹⁷ You are their amazing strength.
Their power comes from you.
- ¹⁸ The king, our protector, belongs to the LORD,
who is the Holy One of Israel.
- ¹⁹ Lord, you once spoke in a vision to your followers:
"I have made a young soldier strong.
From among my people I chose him for an important position.
- ²⁰ I have found my servant David
and anointed him as king with my special oil.
- ²¹ I will support him with my right hand,
and my arm will make him strong.
- ²² So no enemy will ever control him.
The wicked will never defeat him.
- ²³ I will destroy his enemies before his eyes.
I will defeat those who hate him.
- ²⁴ I will always love and support him.
I will always make him strong.
- ²⁵ I will put him in charge of the sea.
He will control the rivers.
- ²⁶ He will say to me, 'You are my father.
You are my God, my Rock, my Savior.'
- ²⁷ And I will make him my firstborn son.
He will be the great king on earth.
- ²⁸ My love will protect him forever.
My agreement with him will never end.
- ²⁹ I will make his family continue forever.
His kingdom will last as long as the skies.
- ³⁰ If his descendants stop following my law
and stop obeying my commands,
- ³¹ if they break my laws
and ignore my commands,
- ³² I will punish them severely

for their sins and wrongs.

³³ But I will never take my love from him.

I will never stop being loyal to him.

³⁴ I will not break my agreement with David.

I will never change what I said.

³⁵ By my holiness, I made a promise to him,
and I would not lie to David.

³⁶ His family will continue forever.

His kingdom will last as long as the sun.

³⁷ Like the moon, it will continue forever.

The sky is a witness to the agreement that can be trusted."

³⁸ But now, Lord, you have become angry with your chosen king,
and you have left him all alone.

³⁹ You ended the agreement you made with your servant.

You threw the king's crown into the dirt.

⁴⁰ You pulled down the walls of his city.

You destroyed all his fortresses.

⁴¹ Everyone passing by steals from him.

His neighbors laugh at him.

⁴² You made all the king's enemies happy
and let his enemies win the war.

⁴³ You helped them defend themselves.

You did not help your king win the battle.

⁴⁴ You did not let him win.

You threw his throne to the ground.

⁴⁵ You cut his life short.

You shamed him.

⁴⁶ LORD, how long will this continue?

Will you ignore us forever?

Will your anger burn like a fire forever?

⁴⁷ Remember how short my life is.

You created us to live a short life and then die.

⁴⁸ Is there anyone alive who will never die?

Will anyone escape the grave?

⁴⁹ Lord, where is the love you showed in the past?

You promised David that you would be loyal to his family.

⁵⁰⁻⁵¹ My Lord, please remember how people insulted your servant.

LORD, I had to listen to all the insults from your enemies.

They insulted your chosen king wherever he went.

⁵² Praise the LORD forever!
Amen and Amen!

148

¹ Praise the LORD!
Angels above,
 praise the LORD from heaven!
² Praise him, all you angels!
 Praise him, all his army!
³ Sun and moon, praise him!
 Stars and lights in the sky, praise him!
⁴ Praise him, highest heaven!
 Waters above the sky, praise him!
⁵ Let them praise the LORD's name,
 because he gave the command and created them all!
⁶ He made all these continue forever.
 He made the laws that will never end.
⁷ Everything on earth, praise him!
 Great sea animals and all the oceans, praise the LORD!
⁸ Praise him, fire and hail, snow and clouds,
 and the stormy winds that obey him.
⁹ Praise him, mountains and hills,
 fruit trees and cedar trees.
¹⁰ Praise him, wild animals and cattle, reptiles and birds.
¹¹ Praise him, kings of the earth and all nations,
 princes and all rulers on earth.
¹² Praise him, young men and women,
 old people and children.
¹³ Praise the LORD's name!
 Honor his name forever!
His name is greater than any other.
 He is more glorious than heaven and earth.
¹⁴ He made his people strong.
 His loyal followers praise him.
Israel, his precious people, praise the LORD!

65

¹ God in Zion, we praise you
 and give you what we promised.
² Anyone can come to you,
 and you will listen to their prayers.

- ³ When our sins become too heavy for us,
you wipe them away.
- ⁴ Oh, how wonderful it is to be the people you chose
to come and stay in your Temple.
And we are so happy to have the wonderful things
that are in your Temple, your holy palace.
- ⁵ God, you answer our prayers and do what is right.
You do amazing things to save us.
People all over the world know they can trust in you,
even those who live across the sea.
- ⁶ You made the mountains.
We see your power all around us.
- ⁷ You can calm the roughest seas
or the nations raging around us.
- ⁸ People all around the world are amazed at the wonderful things you do.
You make all people, east and west, sing with joy.
- ⁹ You take care of the land.
You water it and make it fertile.
Your streams are always filled with water.
That's how you make the crops grow.
- ¹⁰ You pour rain on the plowed fields;
you soak the fields with water.
You make the ground soft with rain,
and you make the young plants grow.
- ¹¹ You start the new year with a good harvest.
You end the year with many crops.
- ¹² The desert and hills are covered with grass.
- ¹³ The pastures are covered with sheep.
The valleys are filled with grain.
Everything is singing and shouting for joy.

95

- ¹ Come, let us sing praise to the LORD!
Let us shout praises to the Rock who saves us.
- ² Come and worship him with songs of thanks.
Let us sing happy songs of praise to him.
- ³ For the LORD is a great God,
the great King ruling over all the other "gods."
- ⁴ The deepest caves and the highest mountains belong to him.
- ⁵ The ocean is his—he created it.
He made the dry land with his own hands.
- ⁶ Come, let us bow down and worship him!
Let us kneel before the LORD who made us.

⁷ He is our God,
and we are the people he cares for,
his sheep that walk by his side.
Listen to his voice today:
⁸ "Don't be stubborn, as you were at Meribah,
as you were at Massah^[a] in the desert.
⁹ Your ancestors doubted and tested me,
even after they saw what I could do!
¹⁰ I was angry with them for 40 years.
I said, 'They are not faithful to me.
They refuse to do what I say.'
¹¹ So in my anger I made this vow:
'They will never enter my land of rest.'"

100

¹ Earth, sing to the LORD!
² Be happy as you serve the LORD!
Come before him with happy songs!
³ Know that the LORD is God.
He made us, and we belong to him.
We are his people, the sheep he takes care of.
⁴ Come through the gates to his Temple giving thanks to him.
Enter his courtyards with songs of praise.
Honor him and bless his name.
⁵ The LORD is good!
There is no end to his faithful love.
We can trust him forever and ever!

96

¹ Sing a new song^[a] to the LORD!
Let the whole world sing to the LORD!
² Sing to the LORD and praise his name!
Tell the good news every day about how he saves us!
³ Tell all the nations how wonderful he is!
Tell people everywhere about the amazing things he does.
⁴ The LORD is great and worthy of praise.
He is more awesome than any of the "gods."
⁵ All the "gods" in other nations are nothing but statues,
but the LORD made the heavens.
⁶ He lives in the presence of glory and honor.

His Temple is a place of power and beauty.

⁷ Praise the LORD, all people of every nation;
praise the LORD's glory and power.

⁸ Give the LORD praise worthy of his glory!
Come, bring your offerings into his courtyard.

⁹ Worship the LORD in all his holy beauty.
Everyone on earth should tremble before him.

¹⁰ Tell the nations that the LORD is King!
The world stands firm and cannot be moved.
He will judge all people fairly.

¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be happy!
Let the sea and everything in it shout for joy!

¹² Let the fields and everything in them be happy!
Let the trees in the forest sing for joy

¹³ when they see the LORD coming!
He is coming to rule the world.

He will rule all the nations of the world
with justice and fairness.

97

¹ The LORD rules, and the earth is happy.
All the faraway lands are happy.
² Thick, dark clouds surround him.
Goodness and justice make his kingdom strong.

³ Fire goes before him
and destroys his enemies.

⁴ His lightning flashes in the sky.
The earth sees it and trembles with fear.

⁵ The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,
before the Lord of all the earth.

⁶ The skies tell about his goodness,
and the nations see his glory.

⁷ People worship their idols.

They brag about their "gods."
But they will be embarrassed.
And all their "gods" will bow down before the Lord.

- ⁸ Zion, listen and be happy!
Cities of Judah, be glad!
Rejoice because the LORD's decisions are fair.
- ⁹ LORD Most High, you really are the ruler of the earth.
You are much better than the "gods."
- ¹⁰ Hate evil, you who love the LORD.
He protects his followers and saves them from evil people.
- ¹¹ Light and happiness shine on those
who want to do right.
- ¹² Good people, be happy in the LORD!
Praise his holy name!

144

- ¹ Praise the LORD!
He is my Rock.
He prepares me for war.
He trains me for battle.
- ² He loves me and protects me.
He is my safe place high on the mountain.
He rescues me.
He is my shield.
I trust in him.
He helps me rule my people.
- ³ LORD, why are people important to you?
Why do you even notice us?
- ⁴ Our life is like a puff of air.
It is like a passing shadow.
- ⁵ LORD, tear open the skies and come down.
Touch the mountains, and smoke will rise from them.
- ⁶ Send the lightning and make my enemies run away.
Shoot your "arrows" and make them run away.
- ⁷ Reach down from heaven and save me!
Don't let me drown in this sea of enemies.
Save me from these foreigners.
- ⁸ They are all liars,
even when they swear to tell the truth.
- ⁹ God, I will sing a new song^[a] for you.
I will play a ten-stringed harp and sing praise to you.

- ¹⁰ You are the one who gives victory to kings.
You saved your servant David from the sword of his enemy.
- ¹¹ Save me from these foreigners.
They are all liars,
even when they swear to tell the truth.
- ¹² May our sons be as strong as trees
and our daughters as beautiful as the carved columns of a palace.
- ¹³ May our barns be filled
with crops of all kinds.
May our sheep produce so many lambs,
that thousands of sheep will fill our fields.
- ¹⁴ And may our cows be heavy with calves.
May no enemy break through our walls
or carry away any of our people.
May there be no cries of pain in our streets.
- ¹⁵ How wonderful to have such blessings!
Yes, great blessings belong to those who have the LORD as their God.

98

- ¹ Sing a new song to the LORD,
because he has done amazing things!
His powerful and holy right arm
has brought him another victory.
- ² The LORD showed the nations his power to save.
He showed them his goodness.
- ³ He has kept his promise of love and loyalty to the people of Israel.
People everywhere have seen our God's power to save.
- ⁴ Everyone on earth, shout with joy to the LORD.
Start singing happy songs of praise!
- ⁵ Praise the LORD with harps.
Yes, praise him with music from the harps.
- ⁶ Blow the pipes and horns,
and shout for joy to the LORD our King!
- ⁷ Let the sea and everything in it,
the earth and all who live in it shout his praise!
- ⁸ Rivers, clap your hands!
All together now, mountains sing out!
- ⁹ Sing before the LORD
because he is coming to judge the world.
He will rule the world fairly.
He will rule the people with goodness.

99

- ¹ The LORD is King,
so let the nations shake with fear.
He sits as King above the Cherub angels,
so let the whole earth shake.
- ² The LORD in Zion is great!
He is the great leader over all people.
- ³ Let all the nations praise your name.
Your name is great and awesome.
Your name is holy.
- ⁴ You are the powerful King who loves justice.
You have made things right.
You have brought goodness and fairness to Jacob.
- ⁵ Praise the LORD our God,
and bow down before his footstool, for he is holy.
- ⁶ Moses and Aaron were some of his priests,
and Samuel was one of the men who called on his name.
They prayed to the LORD,
and he answered them.
- ⁷ God spoke from the tall cloud,
and they obeyed his commands
and the law he gave them.
- ⁸ LORD our God, you answered their prayers.
You showed them that you are a forgiving God
and that you punish people for the evil they do.
- ⁹ Praise the LORD our God.
Bow down toward his holy mountain and worship him.
The LORD our God is holy!

134

- ¹ Praise the LORD, all his servants
who serve in the Temple at night.
- ² Lift your hands toward the Temple,
and praise the LORD.
- ³ May the LORD, who made heaven and earth,
bless you from Zion.

24

- ¹ The earth and everything on it belong to the LORD.
The world and all its people belong to him.

² He built the earth on the water.

He built it over the rivers.

³ Who can go up on the LORD's mountain?

Who can stand in his holy Temple?

⁴ Only those who have not done evil,

who have pure hearts,

who have not used my name to hide their lies,

and who have not made false promises.

⁵ Good people ask the LORD to bless others.

They ask God, their Savior, to do good things.

⁶ They try to follow God.

They go to the God of Jacob for help.

⁷ Gates, proudly lift your heads!

Open, ancient doors,

and the glorious King will come in.

⁸ Who is the glorious King?

He is the LORD, the powerful soldier.

He is the LORD, the war hero.

⁹ Gates, proudly lift your heads!

Open, ancient doors,

and the glorious King will come in.

¹⁰ Who is the glorious King?

The LORD All-Powerful is the glorious King.

75

¹ We praise you, God!

We praise you because you are near to us.

We tell about the amazing things you have done.

² God says, "I have chosen a time for judgment,

and I will judge fairly.

³ The earth and all its people may shake,

but I am the one who keeps it steady.

⁴ "To those who are proud I say, 'Stop your boasting.'

I warn the wicked, 'Don't brag about how strong you are.

⁵ Don't be so sure that you will win.

Don't boast that victory is yours!"

⁶ There is no power on earth

that can make a person important.

⁷ God is the judge.

He decides who will be important.

He lifts one person up and brings another down.

- ⁸ The LORD has a cup in his hand.
It is filled with the poisoned wine of his anger.
He will pour out this wine,
and the wicked will drink it to the last drop.
- ⁹ I will always tell people how great God is.
I will sing praise to the God of Jacob.
- ¹⁰ God says, "I will take away any power the wicked have
and give it to those who are good."

145

- ¹ I will tell of your greatness, my God and King.
I will praise your name forever and ever.
- ² I will praise you every day.
I will praise your name forever and ever.
- ³ The LORD is great and deserves all our praise!
No one can fully understand his greatness!
- ⁴ Each generation will praise you
and tell the next generation about the great things you do.
- ⁵ Your majesty and glory are wonderful.
I will tell about your miracles.
- ⁶ People will tell about the amazing things you do,
and I will tell everyone how great you are.
- ⁷ They will talk about your goodness
and sing about your justice.
- ⁸ The LORD is kind and merciful,
patient and full of love.
- ⁹ The LORD is good to everyone.
He shows his mercy to everything he made.
- ¹⁰ LORD, all you have made will give thanks to you.
Your loyal followers will praise you.
- ¹¹ They will tell how great your kingdom is.
They will tell how great you are.
- ¹² So others will learn about the mighty things you do,
about the glory of your kingdom—how marvelous it is!
- ¹³ Your kingdom will never end,
and you will rule forever.
- The LORD can be trusted in all that he says.
He is loyal in all that he does. ^[a]
- ¹⁴ The LORD lifts up people who have fallen.
He helps those who are in trouble.
- ¹⁵ All living things look to you for their food,
and you give them their food at the right time.

- ¹⁶ You open your hands
and give every living thing all that it needs.
- ¹⁷ Everything the LORD does is good.
Everything he does shows how loyal he is.
- ¹⁸ The LORD is near to everyone
who sincerely calls to him for help.
- ¹⁹ He listens to his followers and does what they want.
He answers their prayers and saves them.
- ²⁰ The LORD protects everyone who loves him,
but he destroys all who do evil.
- ²¹ I will praise the LORD!
Let everyone praise his holy name forever and ever!

105

- ¹ Give thanks to the LORD and call out to him!
Tell the nations what he has done!
- ² Sing to him; sing praises to him.
Tell about the amazing things he has done.
- ³ Be proud of his holy name.
You followers of the LORD, be happy!
- ⁴ Depend on the LORD for strength.
Always go to him for help.
- ⁵ Remember the amazing things he has done.
Remember his miracles and his fair decisions.
- ⁶ You belong to the family of his servant Abraham.
You are descendants of Jacob, the people God chose.
- ⁷ The LORD is our God.
He rules the whole world.
- ⁸ He will remember his agreement forever.
He will always keep the promises he made to his people.
- ⁹ He will keep the agreement he made with Abraham
and the promise he made to Isaac.
- ¹⁰ He gave it as a law to Jacob.
He gave it to Israel as an agreement that will last forever!
- ¹¹ He said, "I will give you the land of Canaan.
It will be your very own."
- ¹² At the time God said this, there were only a few of his people,
and they were strangers there.
- ¹³ They traveled around from nation to nation,
from one kingdom to another.
- ¹⁴ But the Lord did not let anyone mistreat them.
He warned kings not to harm them.

- ¹⁵ He said, "Don't hurt my chosen people.
Don't harm my prophets."
- ¹⁶ He caused a famine in that country,
and people did not have enough food.
- ¹⁷ But he sent a man named Joseph to go ahead of them.
Joseph was sold like a slave.
- ¹⁸ They tied a rope around his feet
and put an iron ring around his neck.
- ¹⁹ Joseph was a slave until what he said had really happened.
The LORD's message proved that Joseph was right.
- ²⁰ So the king of Egypt set him free.
That nation's leader let him out of jail.
- ²¹ He put Joseph in charge of his house.
Joseph took care of everything the king owned.
- ²² Joseph gave instructions to the other leaders.
He taught the older men.
- ²³ Then Israel came to Egypt.
Jacob lived there in Ham's country.
- ²⁴ Jacob's family became very large
and more powerful than their enemies.
- ²⁵ So the Egyptians began to hate his people.
They made plans against his servants.
- ²⁶ So the Lord sent Moses, his servant,
and Aaron, his chosen priest.
- ²⁷ He used Moses and Aaron
to do many miracles in Ham's country.
- ²⁸ He sent darkness to cover their land,
but the Egyptians did not listen to him.
- ²⁹ So he changed the water into blood,
and all their fish died.
- ³⁰ Their country was filled with frogs,
even in the king's bedroom.
- ³¹ The Lord gave the command,
and the flies and gnats came.
They were everywhere!
- ³² He made the rain become hail.
Lightning struck throughout their land.
- ³³ He destroyed their vines and fig trees.
He destroyed every tree in their country.
- ³⁴ He gave the command, and the locusts and grasshoppers came.
There were too many to count!
- ³⁵ They ate all the plants in the country,
including all the crops in their fields.

³⁶ Then the Lord killed every firstborn in their country.
He killed their oldest sons.
³⁷ He led his people out of Egypt.
They were carrying gold and silver,
and none of them stumbled or fell behind.
³⁸ Egypt was happy to see his people go,
because they were afraid of them.
³⁹ The Lord spread out his cloud like a blanket.
He used his column of fire to give his people light at night.
⁴⁰ They asked for food, and he sent them quail.
He also gave them plenty of bread from heaven.
⁴¹ He split the rock, and water came bubbling out.
A river began flowing in the desert!
⁴² The Lord remembered his holy promise
that he had made to his servant Abraham.
⁴³ He brought his people out of Egypt.
They came out rejoicing and singing their happy songs!
⁴⁴ Then he gave his people the lands of other nations.
His people got what others had worked for.
⁴⁵ He did this so that his people would obey his laws
and follow his teachings.
Praise the LORD!

115

¹ LORD, you should receive the honor, not us.
The honor belongs to you
because of your faithful love and loyalty.
² Why should the nations wonder
where our God is?
³ Our God is in heaven,
and he does whatever he wants.
⁴ The "gods" of those nations are only statues
that some human made from gold and silver.
⁵ Those statues have mouths, but cannot talk.
They have eyes, but cannot see.
⁶ They have ears, but cannot hear.
They have noses, but cannot smell.
⁷ They have hands, but cannot feel.
They have feet, but cannot walk.
No sounds come from their throats.
⁸ The people who make and trust in those statues
will become like them!

⁹ People of Israel, trust in the LORD!
He is your strength and shield.
¹⁰ Aaron's family, trust in the LORD!
He is your strength and shield.
¹¹ Followers of the LORD, trust in the LORD!
He is your strength and shield.
¹² The LORD remembers us.
He will bless us.
He will bless Israel.
He will bless Aaron's family.
¹³ The LORD will bless his followers,
great and small.
¹⁴ May the LORD give more and more to you
and to your children.
¹⁵ May you receive blessings from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
¹⁶ Heaven belongs to the LORD,
but he gave the earth to people.
¹⁷ The dead don't praise him.
Those in the grave don't praise the LORD.
¹⁸ But we will praise the LORD
now and forever!
Praise the LORD!

138

¹ LORD, I praise you with all my heart.
I sing songs of praise to you before the gods.
² I bow down toward your holy Temple,
and I praise your name for your love and loyalty.
You are famous,
and doing what you promised will make you even more famous!
³ When I called to you for help,
you answered me and gave me strength.
⁴ LORD, all the kings on earth will praise you
when they hear what you say.
⁵ They will sing about what the LORD has done,
because the glory of the LORD is very great.
⁶ The LORD has the highest place above all others,
but he still cares for the humble.
Even from there, so high above,
he knows what the proud do.
⁷ If I am in trouble, you keep me alive.

If my enemies are angry, you save me from them.

⁸ LORD, I know you will do what you have promised.

LORD, your faithful love will last forever.

You are the one who made us, so don't leave us!

47

¹ Everyone, clap your hands.

Shout with joy to God!

² The LORD Most High is awesome.

He is the great King over all the earth.

³ He helped us defeat other nations.

He put those people under our control.

⁴ He chose our land for us.

He chose that wonderful land for Jacob, the one he loved.

⁵ The LORD God goes up to his throne
at the sound of the trumpet and horn.

⁶ Sing praises to God, sing praises!

Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

⁷ God is the King of the whole world.

Sing songs of praise!^[a]

⁸ God sits on his holy throne;

he rules all the nations.

⁹ The leaders of the nations have come together
with the people of the God of Abraham.

All the rulers of the world belong to God.

He is over them all!

48

¹ The LORD is great!

He is praised throughout the city of our God, his holy mountain.

² His city is such a pleasant place.

It brings joy to people from around the world.

Mount Zion is the true mountain of God.

It is the city of the great King.

³ In the palaces of that city,

God is known as the fortress.

⁴ Once some kings met together

and planned an attack against this city.

They marched toward the city,
⁵ but when they saw it, they were amazed.
They all panicked and ran away.
⁶ Fear grabbed them;
they trembled like a woman giving birth.
⁷ God, with a strong east wind,
you wrecked their big ships.
⁸ Yes, we heard the stories about your power.
But we also saw it in the city of our God, the city of the LORD All-Powerful.
God makes that city strong forever. *Selah*
⁹ God, in your Temple we remember your loving kindness.
¹⁰ Your name is known everywhere, God,
and people throughout the earth praise you.
You have shown that you do what is right.
¹¹ Mount Zion is happy,
and the towns of Judah rejoice, because your decisions are fair.
¹² Walk around Jerusalem,
and count its towers.
¹³ Look at the tall walls,
and see the palaces.
Then you can tell the next generation about them.
¹⁴ This God is our God forever and ever.
He will lead us from now to the end of time!

9

¹ I will praise you, LORD, with all my heart.
I will tell about the wonderful things you have done.
² You make me happy, so I will rejoice in you.
God Most High, I praise your name.
³ My enemies turned to run from you,
but they fell and were destroyed.
⁴ You listened to me from your throne like a good judge,
and you decided that I was right.
⁵ You told the nations how wrong they were.
You destroyed those evil people.
You erased their names from our memory forever and ever.
⁶ The enemy is finished!
You destroyed their cities.
There is nothing left to remind us of them.
⁷ The LORD set up his throne to bring justice,
and he will rule forever.
⁸ He judges everyone on earth fairly.

He judges all nations honestly.

⁹ Many people are suffering—
crushed by the weight of their troubles.

But the LORD is a refuge for them,
a safe place they can run to.

¹⁰ LORD, those who know your name
come to you for protection.

And when they come,
you do not leave them without help.

¹¹ Sing praises to the LORD, who sits as King in Zion.
Tell the nations about the great things he has done.

¹² He punishes murderers
and remembers those who are in need.

When suffering people cry for help,
he does not ignore them.

¹³ I said this prayer: "LORD, be kind to me.
See how my enemies are hurting me.
Save me from the 'gates of death.'"

¹⁴ Then, at the gates of Jerusalem, I can sing praises to you.
I will be so happy because you saved me."

¹⁵ Those other nations have fallen into the pit they dug to catch others.
They have been caught in their own trap.

¹⁶ The LORD showed that he judges fairly.
The wicked were caught by what they did to hurt others. *Higgayon*

¹⁷ The wicked will go to the place of death,
as will all the nations that forget God.

¹⁸ It may seem that those who are poor and needy have been forgotten,
but God will not forget them.
He will not leave them without hope.

¹⁹ LORD, get up and judge the nations.
Don't let anyone think they can win against you.

²⁰ Teach them a lesson, LORD
Let them know they are only human.

92

¹ It is good to praise the LORD.
God Most High, it is good to praise your name.

² It is good to sing about your love in the morning
and about your faithfulness at night.

³ It is good to play for you on the ten-stringed instrument and lyre
and to add the soft sounds of the harp to my praise.

- ⁴ LORD, you make us very happy because of what you did.
I gladly sing about it.
- ⁵ LORD, you did such great things.
Your thoughts are too hard for us to understand.
- ⁶ Stupid people don't know this.
Fools don't understand.
- ⁷ The wicked may sprout like grass,
and those who do evil may blossom like flowers,
but they will be destroyed, never to be seen again.
- ⁸ But, LORD, you will be honored forever.
- ⁹ LORD, all your enemies will be destroyed,
and all who do evil will be scattered.
- ¹⁰ But you have made me as strong as a wild ox.
You have given me your blessing.
- ¹¹ My eyes will see the defeat of those waiting to attack me.
My ears will hear the cries of my evil enemies.
- ¹² Good people are like budding palm trees.
They grow strong like the cedar trees of Lebanon.
- ¹³ They are planted in the house of the LORD.
They grow strong there in the courtyards of our God.
- ¹⁴ Even when they are old,
they will continue producing fruit like young, healthy trees.
- ¹⁵ They are there to show everyone that the LORD is good.
He is my Rock, and he does no wrong.

117

- ¹ Praise the LORD, all you nations.
Praise him, all you people.
- ² He loves us very much!
The LORD will be faithful to us forever!

Praise the LORD!

29

- ¹ Praise the LORD, you heavenly angels!
Praise the LORD's glory and power.
- ² Praise the LORD and honor his name!
Worship the LORD in all his holy beauty.
- ³ The LORD's voice can be heard over the sea.
The voice of our glorious LORD God is like thunder over the great ocean.
- ⁴ The LORD's voice is powerful.
It shows the LORD's glory.

- ⁵ The LORD's voice shatters great cedar trees.
The LORD breaks the great cedars of Lebanon.
- ⁶ He makes Lebanon shake like a young calf dancing.
Sirion trembles like a young bull jumping up and down.
- ⁷ The LORD's voice cuts the air with flashes of lightning.
- ⁸ The LORD's voice shakes the desert.
The desert of Kadesh^[a] trembles at the LORD's voice.
- ⁹ The LORD's voice frightens the deer.
He destroys the forests.
- In his temple everyone shouts, "Glory to God!"
- ¹⁰ The LORD ruled as king at the time of the flood,
and the LORD will rule as king forever.
- ¹¹ May the LORD make his people strong.
May the LORD bless his people with peace.

84

- ¹ LORD All-Powerful, the place where you live is so beautiful!
- ² LORD, I cannot wait to enter your Temple.
I am so excited!
- Every part of me cries out to be with the Living God.
- ³ LORD All-Powerful, my King, my God,
even the birds have found a home in your Temple.
They make their nests near your altar,
and there they have their babies.
- ⁴ Great blessings belong to those who live at your Temple!
They continue to praise you.
- ⁵ Great blessings belong to those who depend on you for strength!
Their heart's desire is to make the trip to your Temple.
- ⁶ They travel through Baca Valley,
which God has made into a place of springs.
Autumn rains form pools of water there.
- ⁷ The people travel from town to town
on their way to Zion, where they will meet with God.
- ⁸ LORD God All-Powerful, listen to my prayer.
God of Jacob, listen to me.
- ⁹ God, watch over the king, our protector.
Be kind to him, the one you have chosen.
- ¹⁰ One day in your Temple is better
than a thousand days anywhere else.
Serving as a guard at the gate of my God's house is better
than living in the homes of the wicked.

- ¹¹ The LORD God is our protector and glorious king.
He blesses us with kindness and honor.
The LORD freely gives every good thing
to those who do what is right.
- ¹² LORD All-Powerful,
great blessings belong to those who trust in you!

81

- ¹ Be happy and sing to God, our strength.
Shout with joy to the God of Jacob.
- ² Begin the music.
Play the tambourines.
Play the pleasant harps and lyres.
- ³ Blow the ram's horn at the time of the new moon
and at the time of the full moon, when our festival begins.
- ⁴ This is the law for the people of Israel.
The God of Jacob gave the command.
- ⁵ God made this agreement with Joseph's people,
when he led them out of Egypt.
In a language we didn't understand, God said,
- ⁶ "I took the load from your shoulder.
I let you drop the worker's basket.
- ⁷ When you were in trouble, you called for help, and I set you free.
I was hidden in the storm clouds, and I answered you.
I tested you by the water at Meribah."
- ⁸ "My people, I am warning you.
Israel, listen to me!
- ⁹ Don't worship any of the false gods
that the foreigners worship.
- ¹⁰ I, the LORD, am your God.
I brought you out of Egypt.
Israel, open your mouth,
and I will feed you.
- ¹¹ "But my people did not listen to me.
Israel did not obey me.
- ¹² So I let them go their own stubborn way
and do whatever they wanted.
- ¹³ If my people would listen to me
and would live the way I want,
- ¹⁴ then I would defeat their enemies.
I would punish those who cause them trouble.

¹⁵ Those who hate the LORD would shake with fear.

They would be punished forever.

¹⁶ I would give the best wheat to my people.

I would give them the purest honey, until they were satisfied."

108

¹ God, I am ready, heart and soul,
to sing songs of praise.

Wake up, my soul!

² Harps and lyres, wake up,
and let's wake the dawn!

³ LORD, I will praise you before all people.
I will sing praises about you to every nation.

⁴ Your faithful love is higher
than the highest clouds in the sky!

⁵ Rise above the heavens, God.
Let all the world see your glory.

⁶ Use your great power and help us!
Answer my prayer and save the people you love.

⁷ God has made this promise in his Temple:
"I will win the war and rejoice in victory!

I will divide this land among my people.
I will give them Shechem.

I will give them Succoth Valley.

⁸ Gilead and Manasseh will be mine.
Ephraim will be my helmet.

Judah will be my royal scepter.

⁹ Moab will be the bowl for washing my feet.
Edom will be the slave who carries my sandals.
I will defeat the Philistines and shout in victory!"

¹⁰⁻¹¹ But, God, it seems that you have left us!
You do not go out with our army.

So who will lead me into the strong, protected city?
Who will lead me into battle against Edom?

¹² Help us defeat the enemy!
No one on earth can rescue us.

¹³ Only God can make us strong.
Only God can defeat our enemies!

111

¹ Praise the LORD!

I thank the LORD with all my heart

in the assembly of his good people.

² The LORD does wonderful things,
more than anyone could ask for.

³ The things he does are great and glorious!
There is no end to his goodness.

⁴ He does amazing things so that we will remember
that the LORD is kind and merciful.

⁵ He gives food to his followers.
He remembers his agreement forever.

⁶ He has shown his people how powerful he is
by giving them the land of other nations.

⁷ Everything he does is good and fair.
All his commands can be trusted.

⁸ His commands will continue forever.
They must be done with truth and honesty.

⁹ He rescued his people and made his agreement with them forever.
His name is awesome and holy.

¹⁰ Wisdom begins with fear and respect for the LORD.
Those who obey him are very wise.
Praises will be sung to him forever.

8

¹ LORD our Lord, your name is the most wonderful in all the earth!
It brings you praise everywhere in heaven.

² From the mouths of children and babies come songs of praise to you.
They sing of your power to silence your enemies who were seeking revenge.

³ I look at the heavens you made with your hands.
I see the moon and the stars you created.

⁴ And I wonder, "Why are people so important to you?
Why do you even think about them?"

Why do you care so much about humans?
Why do you even notice them?"

⁵ But you made them almost like gods
and crowned them with glory and honor.

⁶ You put them in charge of everything you made.
You put everything under their control.

⁷ People rule over the sheep and cattle and all the wild animals.
⁸ They rule over the birds in the sky

and the fish that swim in the sea.

⁹ LORD our Lord, your name is the most wonderful name in all the earth!

18:25-50

- ¹ Lord, you are faithful to those who are faithful.
You are good to those who are good.
- ²⁶ You never do wrong to those who have done no wrong.
But you outsmart the wicked, no matter how clever they are.
- ²⁷ You help those who are humble,
but you humiliate the proud.
- ²⁸ LORD, you provide the flame for my lamp.
You, God, turn the darkness around me into light.
- ²⁹ With your help I can defeat an army.
If my God is with me, I can climb over enemy walls.
- ³⁰ God's way is perfect.
The LORD's promise always proves to be true.
He protects those who trust in him.
- ³¹ There is no God except the LORD.
There is no Rock except our God.
- ³² God is the one who gives me strength.
He clears the path I need to take.
- ³³ He makes my feet as steady as those of a deer.
Even on steep mountains he keeps me from falling.
- ³⁴ He trains me for war
so that my arms can bend the most powerful bow.
- ³⁵ Lord, you have given me your shield to protect me.
You support me with your right hand.
It is your help that has made me great.
- ³⁶ You cleared a path for my feet
so that I could walk without stumbling.
- ³⁷ I chased my enemies and caught them.
I did not stop until they were destroyed.
- ³⁸ I struck them down, and they could not get up again.
They fell under my feet.
- ³⁹ God, you made me strong in battle.
You made my enemies fall before me.
- ⁴⁰ You made my enemies turn and run away.
I destroyed those who hated me.
- ⁴¹ They cried out for help,
but there was no one to save them.
They cried out to the LORD,
but he did not answer them.
- ⁴² I beat them to pieces like dust blown by the wind.
I smashed them like mud in the streets.
- ⁴³ You saved me from those who fought against me.
You made me the ruler over nations.
People I never knew now serve me.

⁴⁴ As soon as they heard about me, they were ready to obey.

Those foreigners fall helpless before me!

⁴⁵ They lose all their courage
and come out of their hiding places shaking with fear.

⁴⁶ The LORD lives!

I praise my Rock, the God who saves me.

How great he is!

⁴⁷ He is the God who punishes my enemies for me,
the one who puts people under my control.

⁴⁸ He saves me from my enemies!

You, Lord, help me defeat those who attack me.

You save me from cruel people.

⁴⁹ LORD, that is why I praise you among the nations.

That is why I sing songs of praise to your name.

⁵⁰ The Lord helps his king win battle after battle.

He shows his faithful love to his chosen one,
to David and his descendants forever.

68

¹ God, get up and scatter your enemies!

May all your enemies run from you.

² May your enemies be scattered
like smoke blown away by the wind.

May your enemies be destroyed
like wax melting in a fire.

³ But let good people be happy.

Let them gather before God and enjoy themselves together.

⁴ Sing to God! Sing praises to his name!

Prepare the way for the one who rides on the clouds.

His name is YAH.

Worship before him with joy.

⁵ God, who lives in his holy palace, is a father to orphans,
and he takes care of widows.

⁶ God provides homes for those who are lonely.

He frees people from prison and makes them happy.

But those who turn against him will live in the desert.

⁷ God, you led your people out of Egypt.

You marched across the desert.

⁸ The ground shook and rain poured from the sky
when God, the God of Israel, came to Sinai.

- ⁹ God, you sent the rain
to make a tired, old land strong again.
- ¹⁰ Your people^[b] came back to live there,
and you provided good things for the poor.
- ¹¹ My Lord gave the command,
and many people went to tell the good news:
- ¹² "The armies of powerful kings ran away!
At home, the women divide the things brought from the battle.
- ¹³ Those who stayed home will share in the wealth—
metal doves with wings covered in silver and feathers sparkling with gold."
- ¹⁴ God All-Powerful scattered the kings
like snow falling on Mount Zalmon.
- ¹⁵ Mount Bashan is a great mountain
with many high peaks.
- ¹⁶ But, Bashan, why are you jealous of Mount Zion?
That is where God has chosen to live.
The LORD will live there forever.
- ¹⁷ With his millions of chariots,
the Lord came from Sinai into the holy place.
- ¹⁸ You went up to your high place,
leading a parade of captives.
You received gifts from people,
even those who turned against you.
The LORD God went up there to live.
- ¹⁹ Praise the Lord!
Every day he helps us with the loads we must carry.
He is the God who saves us.
- ²⁰ He is our God, the God who saves us.
My Lord GOD saves us from death.
- ²¹ God will smash the heads of his enemies.
He will punish those who fight against him.
- ²² My Lord said, "If they run up to Bashan or down to the depths of the sea,
I will bring them back.
- ²³ So you will march through pools of their blood,
and there will be plenty left for your dogs."
- ²⁴ God, everyone can see your victory parade—
the victory march of my God and King into his holy place!
- ²⁵ Singers come marching in front, followed by the musicians;
they are surrounded by young girls playing tambourines.
- ²⁶ Praise God in the meeting place.
Praise the LORD, people of Israel!
- ²⁷ There is the smallest tribe, Benjamin, leading them.

And there comes a large group of leaders from Judah.

Following them are the leaders of Zebulun and Naphtali.

²⁸ God, show us your power!

Show us the power you used for us in the past.

²⁹ Kings will bring their wealth to you,
to your Temple in Jerusalem.

³⁰ Punish the people in Egypt.

They are like cattle in the marshes, like bulls among the calves.

You humiliated them.

You scattered them in war.

Now let them come crawling to you,
bringing their pieces of silver.

³¹ Messengers from Egypt will come bearing gifts.

Ethiopia will offer God their tribute.

³² Kings on earth, sing to God!

Sing songs of praise to our Lord!

³³ Sing to him who rides his chariot through the ancient skies.

Listen to his powerful voice!

³⁴ Tell everyone how powerful he is!

He rules over Israel.

His power fills the skies.

³⁵ God, you are awesome in your Temple!

The God of Israel is the one who gives strength and power to his people.

Praise God!

Scriptures taken from the Holy Bible, EASY-TO-READ VERSION®, ERV®.

Copyright © 2006 by Bible League International.

biblegateway.com

All rights reserved.