

## 12 Important Popular Psalms

### Psalm 1 (wisdom)

1 How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!

2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.

3 And he will be like a tree *firmly* planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season, And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.

4 The wicked are not so, But they are like chaff which the wind drives away.

5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the wicked will perish.

### Psalm 19 (nature)

1 The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.

2 Day to day pours forth speech, And night to night reveals knowledge.

3 There is no speech, nor are there words; Their voice is not heard.

4 Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their utterances to the end of the world. In them He has placed a tent for the sun,

5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber; It rejoices as a strong man to run his course.

6 Its rising is from one end of the heavens, And its circuit to the other end of them; And there is nothing hidden from its heat.

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

8 The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether.

10 They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.

11 Moreover, by them Thy servant is warned; In keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can discern his errors? Acquit me of hidden faults.

13 Also keep back Thy servant from presumptuous sins; Let them not rule over me; Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be acquitted of great transgression.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Thy sight, O LORD, my rock and my Redeemer.

### Psalm 22 (Messianic)

1 My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me? Far from my deliverance are the words of my groaning.

2 O my God, I cry by day, but Thou dost not answer; And by night, but I have no rest.

3 Yet Thou art holy, O Thou who art enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

4 In Thee our fathers trusted; They trusted, and Thou didst deliver them.

5 To Thee they cried out, and were delivered; In Thee they trusted, and were not disappointed.

6 But I am a worm, and not a man, A reproach of men, and despised by the people.

7 All who see me sneer at me; They separate with the lip, they wag the head, *saying*,

8 "Commit *yourself* to the LORD; let Him deliver him; Let Him rescue him, because He delights in him."

9 Yet Thou art He who didst bring me forth from the womb; Thou didst make me trust *when* upon my mother's breasts.

10 Upon Thee I was cast from birth; Thou hast been my God from my mother's womb.

11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near; For there is none to help.

12 Many bulls have surrounded me; Strong *bulls* of Bashan have encircled me.

13 They open wide their mouth at me, As a ravening and a roaring lion.

14 I am poured out like water, And all my bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It is melted within me.

15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And my tongue cleaves to my jaws; And Thou dost lay me in the dust of death.

16 For dogs have surrounded me;  
A band of evildoers has  
encompassed me; They pierced my  
hands and my feet.

17 I can count all my bones. They  
look, they stare at me;

18 They divide my garments among  
them, And for my clothing they cast  
lots.

19 But Thou, O LORD, be not far  
off; O Thou my help, hasten to my  
assistance.

20 Deliver my soul from the sword,  
My only *life* from the power of the  
dog.

21 Save me from the lion's mouth;  
And from the horns of the wild  
oxen Thou dost answer me.

22 I will tell of Thy name to my  
brethren; In the midst of the  
assembly I will praise Thee.

23 You who fear the LORD, praise  
Him; All you descendants of Jacob,  
glorify Him, And stand in awe of  
Him, all you descendants of Israel.

24 For He has not despised nor  
abhorred the affliction of the  
afflicted; Neither has He hidden His  
face from him; But when he cried to  
Him for help, He heard.

25 From Thee *comes* my praise in  
the great assembly; I shall pay my  
vows before those who fear Him.

26 The afflicted shall eat and be  
satisfied; Those who seek Him will  
praise the LORD. Let your heart  
live forever!

27 All the ends of the earth will  
remember and turn to the LORD,  
And all the families of the nations  
will worship before Thee.

28 For the kingdom is the LORD'S,  
And He rules over the nations.

29 All the prosperous of the earth  
will eat and worship, All those who  
go down to the dust will bow before  
Him, Even he who cannot keep his  
soul alive.

30 Posterity will serve Him; It will  
be told of the LORD to the *coming*  
generation.

31 They will come and will declare  
His righteousness To a people who  
will be born, that He has performed  
*it*.

### Psalm 23 (refuge)

1 The LORD is my shepherd, I  
shall not want.

2 He makes me lie down in green  
pastures; He leads me beside quiet  
waters.

3 He restores my soul; He guides  
me in the paths of righteousness  
For His name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the  
valley of the shadow of death, I  
fear no evil; for Thou art with me;  
Thy rod and Thy staff, they  
comfort me.

5 Thou dost prepare a table  
before me in the presence of my  
enemies; Thou hast anointed my  
head with oil; My cup overflows.

6 Surely goodness and  
lovingkindness will follow me all  
the days of my life, And I will  
dwell in the house of the LORD  
forever.

### Psalm 24 (praise)

1 The earth is the LORD'S, and all  
it contains, The world, and those  
who dwell in it.

2 For He has founded it upon the  
seas, And established it upon the  
rivers.

3 Who may ascend into the hill of  
the LORD? And who may stand in  
His holy place?

4 He who has clean hands and a  
pure heart, Who has not lifted up his  
soul to falsehood, And has not  
sworn deceitfully.

5 He shall receive a blessing from  
the LORD And righteousness from  
the God of his salvation.

6 This is the generation of those  
who seek Him, Who seek Thy face -  
*even* Jacob. Selah.

7 Lift up your heads, O gates, And  
be lifted up, O ancient doors, That  
the King of glory may come in!

8 Who is the King of glory? The  
LORD strong and mighty, The  
LORD mighty in battle.

9 Lift up your heads, O gates, And  
lift *them* up, O ancient doors, That  
the King of glory may come in!

10 Who is this King of glory? The  
LORD of hosts, He is the King of  
glory. Selah.

### Psalm 32 (penitential)

1 How blessed is he whose  
transgression is forgiven, Whose  
sin is covered!

2 How blessed is the man to  
whom the LORD does not impute  
iniquity, And in whose spirit there  
is no deceit!

3 When I kept silent *about my*  
*sin*, my body wasted away  
Through my groaning all day  
long.

4 For day and night Thy hand was  
heavy upon me; My vitality was  
drained away *as* with the fever  
heat of summer. Selah.

5 I acknowledged my sin to Thee,  
And my iniquity I did not hide; I  
said, "I will confess my  
transgressions to the LORD"; And  
Thou didst forgive the guilt of my  
sin. Selah.

6 Therefore, let everyone who is  
godly pray to Thee in a time when  
Thou mayest be found; Surely in a  
flood of great waters they shall not  
reach him.

7 Thou art my hiding place; Thou  
dost preserve me from trouble;  
Thou dost surround me with songs  
of deliverance. Selah.

8 I will instruct you and teach you  
in the way which you should go; I  
will counsel you with My eye  
upon you.

9 Do not be as the horse or as the  
mule which have no  
understanding, Whose trappings  
include bit and bridle to hold them  
in check, *Otherwise* they will not  
come near to you.

10 Many are the sorrows of the  
wicked; But he who trusts in the  
LORD, lovingkindness shall  
surround him.

11 Be glad in the LORD and  
rejoice, you righteous ones, And  
shout for joy, all you who are  
upright in heart.

**Psalm 34** (praise)

1 I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

2 My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; The humble shall hear it and rejoice.

3 O magnify the LORD with me, And let us exalt His name together.

4 I sought the LORD, and He answered me, And delivered me from all my fears.

5 They looked to Him and were radiant, And their faces shall never be ashamed.

6 This poor man cried and the LORD heard him, And saved him out of all his troubles.

7 The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, And rescues them.

8 O taste and see that the LORD is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

9 O fear the LORD, you His saints; For to those who fear Him, there is no want.

10 The young lions do lack and suffer hunger; But they who seek the LORD shall not be in want of any good thing.

11 Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

12 Who is the man who desires life, And loves *length of days* that he may see good?

13 Keep your tongue from evil, And your lips from speaking deceit.

14 Depart from evil, and do good; Seek peace, and pursue it.

15 The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous, And His ears are *open* to their cry.

16 The face of the LORD is against evildoers, To cut off the memory of them from the earth.

17 *The righteous* cry and the LORD hears, And delivers them out of all their troubles.

18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted, And saves those who are crushed in spirit.

19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous; But the LORD delivers him out of them all.

20 He keeps all his bones; Not one of them is broken.

21 Evil shall slay the wicked; And those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

22 The LORD redeems the soul of His servants; And none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

**Psalm 51** (penitential)

1 Be gracious to me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness; According to the greatness of Thy compassion blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions, And my sin is ever before me.

4 Against Thee, Thee only, I have sinned, And done what is evil in Thy sight, So that Thou art justified when Thou dost speak, And blameless when Thou dost judge.

5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.

6 Behold, Thou dost desire truth in the innermost being, And in the hidden part Thou wilt make me know wisdom.

7 Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8 Make me to hear joy and gladness, Let the bones which Thou hast broken rejoice.

9 Hide Thy face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me away from Thy presence, And do not take Thy Holy Spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, And sustain me with a willing spirit.

13 *Then* I will teach transgressors Thy ways, And sinners will be converted to Thee.

14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; *Then* my tongue will joyfully sing of Thy righteousness.

15 O Lord, open my lips, That my mouth may declare Thy praise.

16 For Thou dost not delight in sacrifice, otherwise I would give it; Thou art not pleased with burnt offering.

17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.

18 By Thy favor do good to Zion; Build the walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then Thou wilt delight in righteous sacrifices, In burnt offering and whole burnt offering; Then young bulls will be offered on Thine altar.

**Psalm 69** (Messianic)

1 Save me, O God, For the waters have threatened my life.

2 I have sunk in deep mire, and there is no foothold; I have come into deep waters, and a flood overflows me.

3 I am weary with my crying; my throat is parched; My eyes fail while I wait for my God.

4 Those who hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of my head; Those who would destroy me are powerful, being wrongfully my enemies, What I did not steal, I then have to restore.

5 O God, it is Thou who dost know my folly, And my wrongs are not hidden from Thee.

6 May those who wait for Thee not be ashamed through me, O Lord GOD of hosts; May those who seek Thee not be dishonored through me, O God of Israel,

7 Because for Thy sake I have borne reproach; Dishonor has covered my face.

8 I have become estranged from my brothers, And an alien to my mother's sons.

9 For zeal for Thy house has consumed me, And the reproaches of those who reproach Thee have fallen on me.

10 When I wept in my soul with fasting, It became my reproach.

11 When I made sackcloth my clothing, I became a byword to them.

12 Those who sit in the gate talk about me, And I *am* the song of the drunkards.

13 But as for me, my prayer is to Thee, O LORD, at an acceptable time; O God, in the greatness of Thy lovingkindness, Answer me with Thy saving truth.

14 Deliver me from the mire, and do not let me sink; May I be delivered from my foes, and from the deep waters.

15 May the flood of water not overflow me, And may the deep not swallow me up, And may the pit not shut its mouth on me.

16 Answer me, O LORD, for Thy lovingkindness is good;

According to the greatness of Thy compassion, turn to me,

17 And do not hide Thy face from Thy servant, For I am in distress; answer me quickly.

18 Oh draw near to my soul *and* redeem it; Ransom me because of my enemies!

19 Thou dost know my reproach and my shame and my dishonor; All my adversaries are before Thee.

20 Reproach has broken my heart, and I am so sick. And I looked for sympathy, but there was none, And for comforters, but I found none.

21 They also gave me gall for my food, And for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. . . .

**Psalm 119:97-105** (wisdom)

. . . 97 O how I love Thy law! It is my meditation all the day.

98 Thy commandments make me wiser than my enemies, For they are ever mine.

99 I have more insight than all my teachers, For Thy testimonies are my meditation.

100 I understand more than the aged, Because I have observed Thy precepts.

101 I have restrained my feet from every evil way, That I may keep Thy word.

102 I have not turned aside from Thine ordinances, For Thou Thyself hast taught me.

103 How sweet are Thy words to my taste! *Yes, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!

104 From Thy precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way.

105 Thy word is a lamp to my feet, And a light to my path. . . .

**Psalm 121** (refuge)

I Will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From whence shall my help come?

2 My help *comes* from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.

3 He will not allow your foot to slip; He who keeps you will not slumber.

4 Behold, He who keeps Israel Will neither slumber nor sleep.

5 The LORD is your keeper; The LORD is your shade on your right hand.

6 The sun will not smite you by day, Nor the moon by night.

7 The LORD will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul.

8 The LORD will guard your going out and your coming in From this time forth and forever.

**Psalm 127** (wisdom)

1 Unless the LORD builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the LORD guards the city, The watchman keeps awake in vain.

2 It is vain for you to rise up early, To retire late, To eat the bread of painful labors; For He gives to His beloved *even in his* sleep.

3 Behold, children are a gift of the LORD; The fruit of the womb is a reward.

4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth.

5 How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; They shall not be ashamed, When they speak with their enemies in the gate.