

THE PSALMS

B O O K O N E



P S A L M 1

- 1 Blessed is the man
 who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
 nor stands in the way of sinners,
 nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
2 but his delight is in the law of the LORD,
 and on his law he meditates day and night.
- 3 He 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 he does, he prospers.
- 4 The wicked are not so,
 but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
 nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
6 for the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
 but the way of the wicked will perish.

PSALM 2

- 1 Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
2 The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying,
3 “Let us burst their bonds apart
and cast away their cords from us.”
- 4 He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord holds them in derision.
5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,
6 “As for me, I have set my King
on Zion, my holy hill.”
- 7 I will tell of the decree:
The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have begotten you.
8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.
9 You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”
- 10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.
11 Serve the LORD with fear,
and rejoice with trembling.

- 12 Kiss the Son,
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.
Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

PSALM 3

A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.

- 1 O LORD, how many are my foes!
Many are rising against me;
2 many are saying of my soul,
“There is no salvation for him in God.” *Selah*
- 3 But you, O LORD, are a shield about me,
my glory, and the lifter of my head.
4 I cried aloud to the LORD,
and he answered me from his holy hill. *Selah*
- 5 I lay down and slept;
I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.
6 I will not be afraid of many thousands of people
who have set themselves against me all around.
- 7 Arise, O LORD!
Save me, O my God!

For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;
you break the teeth of the wicked.

- 8 Salvation belongs to the LORD;
 your blessing be on your people! *Selah*

P S A L M 4

To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Psalm of David.

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!
 You have given me relief when I was in distress.
 Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!
- 2 O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?
 How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? *Selah*
- 3 But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;
 the LORD hears when I call to him.
- 4 Be angry, and do not sin;
 ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. *Selah*
- 5 Offer right sacrifices,
 and put your trust in the LORD.
- 6 There are many who say, “Who will show us some good?
 Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!”

- 7 You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.
- 8 In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

PSALM 5

To the choirmaster: for the flutes. A Psalm of David.

- 1 Give ear to my words, O LORD;
consider my groaning.
- 2 Give attention to the sound of my cry,
my King and my God,
for to you do I pray.
- 3 O LORD, in the morning you hear my voice;
in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.
- 4 For you are not a God who delights in wickedness;
evil may not dwell with you.
- 5 The boastful shall not stand before your eyes;
you hate all evildoers.
- 6 You destroy those who speak lies;
the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.
- 7 But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love,
will enter your house.

- I will bow down toward your holy temple
in the fear of you.
- 8 Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness
because of my enemies;
make your way straight before me.
- 9 For there is no truth in their mouth;
their inmost self is destruction;
their throat is an open grave;
they flatter with their tongue.
- 10 Make them bear their guilt, O God;
let them fall by their own counsels;
because of the abundance of their transgressions cast them out,
for they have rebelled against you.
- 11 But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;
let them ever sing for joy,
and spread your protection over them,
that those who love your name may exult in you.
- 12 For you bless the righteous, O LORD;
you cover him with favor as with a shield.

