

Blessed is he who from sin does refrain, But, in the law of the Lord, does remain. He, like a tree by the river, shall bear, Being resplendent with bountiful fare.

Chapter 2

Why do the people imagine a thing, Daring to challenge the Heavenly King? He in the heavens shall laugh them to scorn, Speaking the word that will cause them to mourn.

Chapter 3

Many there be which against me do stand, Saying that you will not offer your hand; But you, oh Lord, are my glory and strength. You are my shield and protector at length.

Chapter 4

God takes the godly to keep for His own. He will respond when I pray to His throne. I will lie down and get wonderful sleep. You, Lord, alone are sufficient to keep.

Chapter 5

Foolish shall not in your presence abide, You are not willing their evil to hide. But as for me, I will pray in your gate. Lord, for my benefit make your ways straight.

THE BIBLE IN VERSE

... by Alvy E. Ford

PSALMS

CHAPTERS 1 TO 150

Chapter 6

Chasten me not when your anger is hot. Gone is my strength and my courage is not. Also by trouble my soul is perplexed. Lord, let my enemies fall and be vexed.

Chapter 7

Lord God, in you have I anchored my trust. Punish the wicked and strengthen the just. God is my refuge; His own He will keep, But their own mischief the wicked shall reap.

Chapter 8

Excellent, Lord, are your workings at length. Babies and sucklings have rendered you strength. When I consider the work of your hand, Then I know not why you're mindful of man.

Chapter 9

Lord, I will praise you with all of my heart, For in distress you have taken my part. Hell shall be filled with the wicked of earth. Rise up, oh Lord, and show man his true worth.

Chapter 10

Why do you stand, oh dear Lord, afar off, Letting the enemy trouble and scoff? Break now the arm of the wicked, oh Lord, Wipe out the sin which is rightly abhorred.

God is Himself in His temple on high, There He is watching the righteous to try. But He despises the violent and vain, Thus on the wicked destruction shall rain.

Chapter 12

Flattering lips are a blot to the Lord. They shall be pruned with His chastening sword. Words of the Lord are as silver that's tried, Seven times purified, made to abide.

Chapter 13

How long, oh Lord, will you cover your face? How long, oh Lord, must I stay in this place? How long shall enemies over me rise? Hear me, oh Lord, and enlighten my eyes.

Chapter 14

There is no God, says the fool in his heart. They are all quick from the right to depart. God looks from heaven, considering man. There is none righteous in all of the land.

Chapter 15

Who shall be able, dear Lord, to remain? He who from evil does firmly abstain. He who his covetous lips does refrain. He who holds honesty higher than gain.

Chapter 16

Keep me, oh God, for in you do I hope. You will not leave me in darkness to grope. Lord, in your presence is fullness of joy. Lord, there is pleasure without an alloy.

Chapter 17

Hear me, oh Lord, and give ear to my prayer. Keep me, oh Lord, in your delicate care. I will be pleased when someday and somewhere, I will awaken, your likeness to share.

Chapter 18

God is my fortress, my strength, and my rock. He will deliver from tempest and shock. In my distress I prayed to the Lord, Then was His mighty assistance outpoured.

Chapter 19

Perfect indeed are the laws of the Lord, Keeping them offers a gracious reward. Cleanse me from faults which are secret, within. Help me abstain from presumptuous sin.

Chapter 20

Some trust in chariots, some in the horse, We trust the name of our God for our force. They are brought down to the level of sand, We have arisen, uprightly to stand.

Chapter 21

In your salvation the king will rejoice, Having received the request he did voice. Life in abundance forever to be, Honor and majesty mighty to see.

Chapter 22

God, oh my God, oh why do you forsake? Why are you far from the pleading I make? I am despised and rejected of men, Poured out like water, my strength at an end.

Chapter 23

God is my shepherd; with Him I am found. Pasture and waters do ever abound. Tables are spread with a bountiful store. I shall abide in His house evermore.

Chapter 24

Earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof; He on the waters has set it above. Who shall ascend to the hill of the Lord? He with clean hands shall receive this reward.

Unto you, Lord, do I lift up my soul; Help me, oh Lord, to arrive at my goal. Teach me your path, Lord, and show me your way; Surely for guidance I wait every day.

Chapter 26

Judge me, oh Lord, for my way has been true. I will not slide, for my trust is in you. Try now my reins and the thoughts of my heart. I have not dared from your law to depart.

Chapter 27

God is my refuge, so whom should I fear? Trouble may come, but He still will be near. Hide not your face, Lord, and never depart. Wait on the Lord; He will strengthen your heart.

Chapter 28

Hear me, oh Lord, when I come with my prayer. Answer my pleading; have mercy and spare. Draw me not down with the wicked that hurt. Render to them their accepted desert.

Chapter 29

Give to the Lord, all you mighty and true. Give to the Lord all the glory that's due. Worship the Lord in the beauty of praise. Magnify God for His wonderful ways.

Chapter 30

I will extoll the Lord God who does save. Lord, you have rescued my soul from the grave. I will give thanks for your gracious reward. Sing out His praise, oh you saints of the Lord.

Chapter 31

In you, dear Lord, is my trust firmly fit. Into your hands I my spirit commit. You are my fortress and rock of defense. I am in grief, a reproach, an offense.

Chapter 32

Blessed is he whose transgression is hid, He who obeys in the thing he is bid. Sorrow indeed shall the wicked find out. Mercy shall compass the righteous about.

Chapter 33

Sing to the Lord of your manifold joys. Praise Him with music; make plenty of noise. God spoke the word and the heavens were made, So were the earthy foundations then laid.

Chapter 34

This poor man cried, and the Lord ventured near. Angel of God surrounds them He holds dear. Taste now and see just how good is the Lord. Those who revere Him receive a reward.

Chapter 35

Plead, Lord, my cause in life's troublesome fight. Stand up, oh Lord; be my refuge and might. Let him be shamed who seeks after my soul; Let his own pit be his ultimate goal.

Chapter 36

They who transgress have no fear of the Lord; Freely they practice the mischief abhorred. Excellent, Lord, is your kindness to men, Therefore, we trust you again and again.

Chapter 37

Fret not yourself about them that are bad, Seeing them prosperous, happy and glad. They shall be smitten, consumed of the rod. Steps of a good man are ordered of God.

Chapter 38

Chasten me not, Lord, in anger profound; I am corrupt; all my flesh is unsound. I am bowed down with a loathesome disease. Make haste to help me; oh Lord, give me ease.

Make me to know, Lord, the end of my days; Then I will know just how weak are my ways. Man surely walks in a show that is vain, Heaping up riches, but having no gain.

Chapter 40

God heard my pleading, and answered my cry; Then He established my going on high. Blessed is he who holds God as his trust, Hearing not them that are proud and unjust.

Chapter 41

Blessed is he that remembers the poor; Certainly his preservation is sure. God will deliver and lengthen his life, Not let him flounder in trouble and strife.

Chapter 42

Just as the hart goes in search of the brook, So, too, my soul for its Maker does look. Why are you cast down and grieved, oh my soul? I will yet praise Him and cling to my goal.

Chapter 43

Judge me, oh God, and deliver my life. Let me not fall to the workers of strife. Why, oh my soul, are you sad and downtrod? I will yet praise Him, my hope and my God.

Chapter 44

Not by their arm and the force of their sword, But by the strength and the might of the Lord, This is how Israel conquered the land. Lord, we would still be redeemed by your hand.

Chapter 45

Your throne, oh God, shall remain evermore. Righteous you love, but the wicked abhor. Therefore, your God has exalted you high, Daughters of royalty lingering nigh.

Chapter 46

God is our refuge, our battlement proved. We will not fear, though the earth be removed. Come and behold what the Lord has begun. Great desolation already is done.

Chapter 47

Clap now your hands, all you people, and shout. God is the one who will carry us out. Sing to our God; sing His praise; sing His praise. Sing to the Lord; He has wonderful ways.

Chapter 48

Great is the Lord; He is worthy of praise. Beautiful Zion His glory shall blaze. We have remembered your kindness to earth. We will rejoice for your judgment of worth.

Chapter 49

Hear this, you people, all men of the earth, I will give forth with a saying of worth. No man by riches can ransom a soul. Wealth may increase; yet will death take its toll.

Chapter 50

Hear this, my people, for I am the Lord. I am the owner of all things outpoured. Offer to God your thanksgiving and praise. I will deliver in troublesome days.

Chapter 51

Wash me, oh Lord, and blot out all my sin, Cleanse, and renew a right spirit within, Cast me not out, Lord, from near to your heart. Cause not your spirit, oh Lord, to depart.

Chapter 52

Why, wicked man, do you boast of your crime? God will reward your deceit in due time. I, though, am like to a green olive tree, Trusting the Lord that His mercies will be.

There is no God, says the folly of fools; They are corrupt, their iniquity drools. God looks from heaven to see what is done, Finds not a righteous man under the sun.

Chapter 54

Save me, oh Lord, by your wonderful name, Strangers would catch me and put me to shame. God is my helper, upholding my life. He has delivered from trouble and strife.

Chapter 55

Oh, for the wings of a dove—I would fly, Then I would seek a retreat in the sky. Violence and strife in the city are found, Mischief and wickedness, therein, abound.

Chapter 56

Lord, when I fear I will come unto you, Then will the flesh have no power to do. Place in your bottle, oh Lord, all my tears, You will deliver from all of my fears.

Chapter 57

Lord, in the shade of your wings will I rest, There I will find a retreat from the test. You will send down from your heaven on high, Snatching me up from the den where I lie.

Chapter 58

Wicked do stray from the moment they're born. Break out their teeth; let their way be forlorn. Then shall the righteous rejoice and have mirth. Verily, there is a Judge in the earth.

Chapter 59

Save me, oh God, from the workers of lies, Be my defense from the bloody that rise. They do not seek me for wrong I have done, But for iniquity thus do they run.

Chapter 60

God has proclaimed in His holiness pure. I will rejoice, for the spoil is sure. I will cast out over Edom my shoe, Shechem and Moab, Philistia, too.

Chapter 61

Hear me, oh God, and attend to my prayer. Help me, oh Lord, all my burdens to bear. Lead to the rock that is higher than I. There to the shade of your wings will I fly.

Chapter 62

Truly my soul on the Lord does await. He is the one who can keep my path straight. Power and mercy belong to the Lord. Each man on earth shall receive a reward.

Chapter 63

Early at dawn will I seek you, oh Lord, Just as the thirsty for water outpoured. Glory and power, oh Lord, would I know, Then will my praises continually flow.

Chapter 64

Hide me, oh God, from the workers of sin, They are all foul with corruption within. Shooting out words as an arrow is shot, Shooting the perfect and sparing him not.

Chapter 65

Lord, unto you shall all men render praise, Offer you thanks for your wonderful ways. Setting the mountains and stilling the seas, Bringing the rain and controlling the breeze.

Chapter 66

Make now a noise of rejoicing, you lands. Honor our God for the work of His hands. Come and behold the great working of God, Sending His host through the water dry shod.

Bless us, oh God, cause your mercy to flow, Making the nations your goodness to know. Let all the people exalt you, oh Lord, Then shall the wealth of the earth be outpoured.

Chapter 68

Let God arise, let His enemies run, Melting as wax in the heat of the sun. But let the righteous be glad and rejoice, Singing His praise with a jubilant voice.

Chapter 69

Save me, oh God, for the waters are deep. Lord, I am spent for the tears that I weep. Lord, they that hate me are more than my hairs. Lord, unto you will I offer my prayers.

Chapter 70

Make haste, oh God, to deliver my life. Make them confounded that render me strife. Make them turn back, and reward them with shame. Let them rejoice that depend on your name.

Chapter 71

You are my Fortress, my Refuge, my Rock, Let me not fall to the scorners that mock. Cast me not off in the time of old age, Save me, oh God, though the multitudes rage.

Chapter 72

Give to the king of your judgments, oh Lord, Help him to render a righteous reward. He shall deliver the poor of the land, Also oppressors shall fall at his hand.

Chapter 73

Once I did envy the wicked their ways, Seeing them flourish with bountiful days. They are corrupt and are quick to offend, Then I considered their terrible end.

Chapter 74

Why have you cast us forever away? Why is your anger exploding today? Think of the flock that you purchased of old, Rod of your heritage ever to hold.

Chapter 75

Lord, unto you we will render our thanks. God is the judge of promotion and ranks. Horns of the wicked are cut off to die, Horns of the righteous are lifted on high.

Chapter 76

At your command is the horse put to sleep, All of the nations of earth made to weep. Surely the anger of man shall bring praise, Man may make vows if he certainly pays.

Chapter 77

Unto the Lord I cried out, and He heard. Then I remembered how God had assured. Has God forgotten His grace to bestow? Are we His mercy no longer to know?

Chapter 78

Israel's history is stated once more, Showing God's workings, His bountiful store. Here is a list of those wonderful things, Reaching from Egypt to David the king.

Chapter 79

Now is Jerusalem laid upon heaps. Bodies of saints are decayed in the streets. We are become a reproach and a scorn. Help us, oh Lord, let the heathen be shorn.

Chapter 80

Turn us again, Lord, and we shall be saved. We are a joke to our neighbors depraved. Once out of Egypt you brought up a vine, Now we are broken and trampled in grime.

Hear, oh my people, and I will now speak, Make no strange gods to bow down to and seek. Oh that my people had listened to me, Then had I forced their tormentors to flee.

Chapter 82

God in the host of the mighty does stand, Judging the gods with the force of His hand. You are all children of God, the Most High, Yet as the children of men you shall die.

Chapter 83

Keep not your silence and hold not your peace, Lord, they would cause all your people to cease. Lord, let your enemies fall by your sword, Let them forever be troubled, oh Lord.

Chapter 84

Better a doorman where God does abide, Rather than riches where wicked men hide. God is a shield, great glory He gives, Naught is withheld when one properly lives.

Chapter 85

You have shown favor, oh Lord, to your land, Gently relaxing your chastening hand. Turn us, oh Lord, cause your anger to cease, Show us your mercy and grant us your peace.

Chapter 86

Bow down your ear, Lord, and hear when I pray, Teach me your truths, I will walk in your way. Turn unto me, let your mercy abound, Ever your praise on my lips shall be found.

Chapter 87

There in the mount His foundation is found. There within Zion does glory abound. This is the city that's wondrously fair, Honored indeed is the person born there.

Chapter 88

Lord, I have cried both by day and by night. Lift me, oh Lord, from my troublesome plight. Lord, I with darkness am compassed about, I am shut up, and I cannot come out.

Chapter 89

I have laid help upon one who is strong. I have found David, elect of the throng. He shall be known as my firstborn, my pure, Also his seed shall forever endure.

Chapter 90

Lord, you have been our abode evermore. Twice everlasting, oh Lord, is your score. Surely our years are a story that's told, Three score and ten, and we soon are grown old.

Chapter 91

God will deliver your soul from the snare. Under His wings you shall live without care. You need not worry by day or by night. He will forbid any evil or blight.

Chapter 92

It is correct to give thanks to the Lord, Offering praise for the bounty outpoured. They that are wicked, forever shall die. But shall the Lord be forever on high!

Chapter 93

God is in power, He sits on the throne, He is, Himself, everlasting, alone. He has His might and His majesty, proved, Earth is established, it cannot be moved.

Chapter 94

He that made hearing, shall He not receive? He that made seeing, shall He not perceive? He that chastises, shall He not correct? He that gives knowledge, shall He not detect?

Let us now worship our God and our Rock. He is our Maker, and we are His flock. Forty long years by this tribe was I stressed, Therefore, this people shall not see my rest.

Chapter 96

Sing to the Lord a new song all the earth. Show forth His glory, His wonder, His worth. Great is the Lord, He is worthy of fame. Honor and majesty cling to His name.

Chapter 97

God is in power, let peoples rejoice. Let all the islands be glad for His voice. Judgment and righteousness radiate out. Fire destroys all His foes round about.

Chapter 98

God has His gracious salvation made known, Also His righteousness freely has shown. He has remembered His merciful ways. Make a loud noise and rejoice and sing praise.

Chapter 99

God is in power, let everyone shake, He is on high, let the earth also quake. Moses and Aaron and Samuel cried out, God from the pillar rewarded their shout.

Chapter 100

Make a great noise to the Lord all you lands. We are His people, the work of His hands. Enter His gates with thanksgiving and praise. Worship the Lord for His merciful ways.

Chapter 101

I will behave in a way that is right.
I will cast wickedness out of my sight.
He that is wicked and proud must depart.
He that is faithful shall dwell near my heart.

Chapter 102

Hear me, oh Lord, let my strength be resumed. Answer me quickly, my days are consumed. Cut me not off in the midst of my days. You shall forever continue your ways.

Chapter 103

Bless now the Lord, bless the Lord, oh my soul. All that is in me His goodness extoll. He has not dealt with us after out sin, Knowing our folly and weakness within.

Chapter 104

God is exalted, with majesty robed, Far too enlightened to ever be probed. God is Creator, His bounty is sure, So shall His glory forever endure.

Chapter 105

Israel's history again is retold, Promise to Abraham, lofty and bold, Bondage in Egypt, and then their release, Signs in the wilderness, finally peace.

Chapter 106

This is the story of Israel's deeds, Wounding the Lord with their folly and greeds. Fighting their leaders, and mocking their God, Finally bringing His chastening rod.

Chapter 107

Honor the Lord, for His person is good. Oh, that His mercy might be understood. Oh, that the people would honor the Lord. Offer Him thanks for His goodness outpoured.

Chapter 108

Wake up, oh psaltery, sing out, oh harp. I will awake and give praise from the heart. Give us your help, Lord, for man's help is vain. God is the one who will cause us to gain.

Help me, oh Lord, let your mercy abound. Let my hard foe be destroyed to the ground. When he is judged, let him, Lord, be condemned, And his posterity, let it be stemmed.

Chapter 110

Sit at my right, said the LORD to my Lord. Many shall die at the touch of His sword. You shall go forth and in majesty rule, Then shall your enemies serve for a stool.

Chapter 111

With my whole heart I will offer His praise. Great are His workings and mighty His ways. All His decrees are forever the same. Holy and reverend, thus is His name.

Chapter 112

Unto the righteous a light does arise. Good man shows favors, his dealings are wise. He is not fearful though tidings are bad. He is exalted, his heart is made glad.

Chapter 113

Blessed be God from this time evermore. Sunrise to sunset His praises shall soar. Who is compared to our God there on high, Humbling Himself things in heaven to eye!

Chapter 114

Why did, oh mountains, you caper like rams? Why, little hills, did you skip like the lambs? Why, mighty sea, did you scamper away? Why did you, Jordan, go backward and stay?

Chapter 115

Idols are dumb without power or sense, Likewise the people who trust them are dense. Trust in the Lord, a true help and a shield. Manifold good has His mercy revealed.

Chapter 116

I love the Lord, for He heeded my voice, Heard my beseeching and made me rejoice. Sorrows of death had me compassed about, When I implored, He delivered me out.

Chapter 117

This little chapter's abounding with praise. This little chapter's unique in two ways, Being the shortest of chapters to view, Splitting the Bible exactly in two.

Chapter 118

Offer Him thanks, for His mercy endures, Goodness protects and His promise assures. Strongly I cried when in bitter distress, Quickly He came to deliver and bless.

Chapter 119

Lord, in my heart have I hidden your Word. Cleansing and guidance are thereby assured. Lord, of your Word my heart rises in awe, Peace is possessed by those loving your law.

Chapter 120

In my distress I cried out to the Lord. What, oh false tongue, is your fitting reward? Woe unto me, for the trouble in store, I am most peaceful, but they are for war.

Chapter 121

Unto the hills I will life up my eyes. God will not slumber, nor will He despise. God is your keeper, the shade on your hand, He will preserve you and make you to stand.

Chapter 122

I did rejoice when they said, let us go. Here in Jerusalem judgment does flow. Since my companions herein do increase, I will now pray for Jerusalem's peace.

Unto you, Lord, do I lift up my eyes. Look on us, Lord, as a gem or a prize. Show us your mercy, Lord, make us exempt. We are exceedingly filled with contempt.

Chapter 124

Had it not been for the Lord on our side, Then had we faltered and fallen and died. Blessed be God who has helped us escape, Snatching our souls from this frightening scrape.

Chapter 125

They who in God have their trust firmly laid, They like the mountains shall ever be stayed. Just as the mountains around us do stand, So does the Lord to protect with His hand.

Chapter 126

They that do sow with abundance of tears, Shall in the haarvest have shouting and cheers. He that sows seed while he earnestly grieves, Shall with rejoicing return with his sheaves.

Chapter 127

Vain is the building that God does not share. Lost is the city when God is not there. Children indeed are a gift of the Lord, Being as precious as arrow or sword.

Chapter 128

Blessed are you that have fear for the Lord. He shall bestow you a gracious reward. You shall be happy, your wife shall do well, Also your children in plenty shall dwell.

Chapter 129

Many afflictions have been since my youth. God is most righteous, abiding in truth. He cuts the darts of the wicked in twain. Let all the haters of Zion be slain.

Chapter 130

Out of the depths I have cried unto you. Lord, who could stand if you charged what is due? But with the Lord there is mercy outpoured. With my whole soul do I wait for the Lord.

Chapter 131

I am not haughty, nor yet am I vain. I have not sought exaltation to gain. I am well mannered, submissive, and mild. I am as sweet as a newly weaned child.

Chapter 132

Lord, think of David and all of his quest, Hear his petition and grant his request. Surely his offspring will sit on the throne. God has selected Mount Zion alone.

Chapter 133

It is most precious, delightful, and well, When bound in unity, brethren do dwell. It is compared to anointing the head, Bringing a blessing to living and dead.

Chapter 134

Bless you the Lord, all you saints of the Lord, Standing by night in the house of the Lord. Lift up your hands and give thanks to the Lord. There in His temple give praise to the Lord.

Chapter 135

Bless you the Lord, for His mercy is good. He in the midst of His people has stood, Smiting the nations and slaying their kings, Blessing His people with wonderful things.

Chapter 136

Thanks to the Lord, for His mercy endures! Thank the Creator, His mercy endures! He smote the nations, His mercy endures! He brought us out, for His mercy endures!

There by the river we wept at our ease, Hanging our harps in the midst of the trees. Babylon's rulers demanded a song, How could we sing where we did not belong?

Chapter 138

With my whole heart I will offer your praise. You have delivered in troublesome days. Though you are high you still honor the low, Saving his life from the hand of the foe.

Chapter 139

Lord, you have searched me and found out my ways,

Knowing my substance before I had days, Listing my parts in the leaves of your book, When there was nothing whereon you could look.

Chapter 140

Save me, oh Lord, from the workers of sin, They have the poison of adders within. You are my God, so preserve me alive, Cause not the work of the wicked to thrive.

Chapter 141

Unto you, Lord, do I lift up my cry. Lord, let my prayer rise as incense on high. Lord, set a watch on the door of my lips, Let me not take of the wicked man's tips.

Chapter 142

There was no man, so I cried to the Lord, Fully expecting His gracious reward, Being encouraged His promise to claim, Save me, oh Lord, I will honor your name.

Chapter 143

Answer me, Lord, in your righteousness true. No man is justified, Lord, before you. Hear me, oh Lord, for my spirit is lame. Quicken me, Lord, for the sake of your name.

Chapter 144

Blessed be God, for He teaches my hand. Lord, what is man that you cause him to stand? Bless us, oh Lord, with your gracious reward. Glad are the people whose God is the Lord.

Chapter 145

I will extoll you, my God and my King. Ever and ever, your praise I will sing. God is compassionate, gracious, and fair, Slow to show anger, but quick to show care.

Chapter 146

Put not your trust in the son of a man, He cannot help you, nor offer a plan. Happy is he who reposes in God, He can deliver or render His rod.

Chapter 147

Praises are comely and pleasant and right. Great is our Lord in His wisdom and might, Calling the stars of the heavens by name, Sending the snowstorm, the sleet, and the rain.

Chapter 148

Praise you the Lord, all you host of the heights. Praise Him, you sunbeams and heavenly lights. Praise Him, you mountains and vapors and seas, People and cattle and eagles and trees.

Chapter 149

Now let the children of Zion rejoice, Sing out His praise with a jubilant voice. Let each one carry a sword in his hand, Judging the heathen that clutter the land.

Chapter 150

Let all the people sing out with His praise! Let all the instruments echo His praise! Let all things breathing abound with His praise! Let all the heavens resound with His praise!