

God: Judge and King ~ Psalm 9 MT/English

מְזַמֵּר לְדָוִד :

2 אֲדַבֵּר יְהוָה בְּכָל-לִבִּי

אֲסַפְּרָה כָּל-נִפְלְאוֹתֶיךָ :

3 אֲשִׂמְחָה וְאֶעֱלֶזָה בְּךָ

אֲזַמְרָה שִׁמְךָ עֲלִיוֹן :

4 בְּשׁוּב-אֹיְבֵי אֲחֹזֵר

יִכָּשְׁלוּ וַיֵּאבְדּוּ מִפְּנֶיךָ :

5 כִּי-עָשִׂיתָ מִשְׁפָּטִי וְדִינִי

יֵשֶׁבֶת לְכִסֵּא שׁוֹפֵט צְדָק :

6 גַּעַרְתָּ גּוֹיִם אֲבִרְתָּ רָשָׁע

שָׁמַם כְּמַחִיתָ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד :

7 הָאֹיֵב אֵינֶנּוּ תִּמְנוּ תִרְבוֹת לְנִצָּח

וְעָרִים נִתְשָׁתָּ אֶבֶד וְזַכָּרָם הִמָּחָה :

8 וַיִּהְיֶה לְעוֹלָם יֹשֵׁב

כּוֹנֵן לְמִשְׁפַּט כְּסֹאֵי :

9 וְהוּא יִשְׁפֹּט-תֵּבֵל בְּצֶדֶק

יִדְיִן לְאֲמִים בְּמִישָׁרִים :

10 וַיְהִי יְהוָה מִשְׁגָּב לְדָךְ

מִשְׁגָּב לְעֵתוֹת בְּצָרָה :

11 וַיִּבְטְחוּ בְךָ יוֹדְעֵי שִׁמְךָ

כִּי לֹא-עֲזַבְתָּ דֹרְשֶׁיךָ יְהוָה :

A Psalm of David

Aleph

1 I will give thanks to *I AM* with my whole heart;

I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.

2 I will rejoice and exult in you;

I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Beth

3 When my enemies turn back,

they stumble and perish before your presence.

4 For you have maintained my just cause;

sitting enthroned as the one who judges righteously.

Gimel - He

5 You have rebuked the nations and destroyed the wicked;

you have blotted out their name forever and ever.

6 The enemy is no more—ruins everlasting;

you have uprooted their cities; even their memory has perished.

Waw

7 But *I AM* sits enthroned (reigns) forever;

he has established his throne for judgment.

8 And he judges the world in righteousness;

he governs the peoples with equity.

Waw

9 *I AM* is a stronghold for the oppressed (“crushed”),

a stronghold in times of trouble.

10 And those who know your name put their trust in you,

for you, *I AM*, do not abandon those who seek you.

Psalm 9 MT/English

Zayin

12 זָמְרוּ לַיהוָה יֹשֵׁב צִיּוֹן

11 Sing praises to *I AM*, enthroned in Zion!

הַגִּידוּ בְּעַמִּים עֲלִילוֹתָיו :

Proclaim among the peoples his deeds!

13 כִּי־דָרַשׁ דָּמִים אוֹתָם זָכַר

12 For he who avenges blood remembers;

לֹא־שָׁכַח צַעֲקַת עֲנוּיִם :

he does not forget the cry of the afflicted.

Heth

14 הַנְּנֵנִי יְהוָה רַחֵם עָנְיִי מִשְׁנֵאֵי

13 Be gracious to me, *I AM*!
See my affliction from [the hands of] those who hate me;

מְרוֹמְמֵי מִשְׁעָרֵי מוֹת :

you who lift me up from the gates of death,

15 לְמַעַן אֶסְפְּרָה כָּל־תְּהִלָּתֶיךָ

14 that I may recount all your praises,

בְּשַׁעְרֵי בֵּת־צִיּוֹן

in the gates of the daughter of Zion

: אֲגִילָה בִּישׁוּעָתֶךָ :

[and there] rejoice in your salvation.

Teth

16 טָבְעוּ גוֹיִם בְּשַׁחַת עָשׂוּ

15 The nations have sunk in the pit that they made;

בְּרֶשֶׁת־זוֹ טָמְנוּ נִלְכְּדָה רַגְלָם :

in the net that they hid, their own foot has been caught.

17 נִדְרַע אִיהוָה מִשְׁפָּט עָשָׂה

16 *I AM* has made himself known; he has executed judgment;

בַּפֶּעַל בְּפִיו נֹקֵשׁ רַשָּׁע הַגִּזּוֹן סָלָה :

the wicked are snared in the work of their own hands.
Higgaion. Selah –[resounding music]

Yodh - Kaph

18 יָשׁוּבוּ רַשָּׁעִים לְשְׂאוֹלָה

17 The wicked shall return to Sheol (“the realm of the dead”);

כָּל־גּוֹיִם שָׁכַחְתִּי אֱלֹהִים :

all the nations that forget God.

19 כִּי לֹא לְנֹצֵחַ יִשְׁכַּח אֲבִיוֹן

18 For the needy shall never be forgotten;

תִּקְוַת עֲנִיִּים תֵּאבֵד לְעַד :

the hope of the poor shall never perish.

20 קוּמָה יְהוָה אַל־יַעַז אֲנָשׁ

19 Arise, *I AM*! Let not *mortal* man prevail;

יִשְׁפֹּטוּ גוֹיִם עַל־פָּנֶיךָ :

let the nations be judged in your presence.

21 שִׁיתָה יְהוָה אִמוּזָה לָהֶם

20 Strike them in fear, *I AM*;

יִדְעוּ גוֹיִם אֲנָשׁ הֵמָּה סָלָה :

Let the nations know that they are mere mortals! *Selah*

Man: Predator and Prey ~ Psalm 10 MT/English

Lamedh

1 לָמָּה יִהְיֶה תַעֲמֹד בְּרָחוֹק

1 Why, *I AM*, do you stand far off?

תַּעֲלִים לְעֵתוֹת בְּצָרָה :

Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?

2 בְּגִאוֹנַת רָשָׁע יִדְלַק עֲנִי

2 In their arrogance the wicked hotly pursue the poor;

יִתְפָּשׂוּ | בְּמִזְמוֹת זֹו הִשָּׁבוּ :

let them be caught in the schemes that they have devised.

Nun ??

3 כִּי־הִלָּל רָשָׁע עַל־תְּאֵנוֹת נַפְשׁוֹ

3 For the wicked boast about the cravings of his soul,

וּבִצְעָה בִּירוֹךְ נֶאֱמָן | יִהְיֶה :

and he blesses the greedy and reviles *I AM*.

4 רָשָׁע כְּגִבּוֹה אָפוּ בַל־יִדְרֹשׁ

4 In the pride of his face the wicked never seeks him;

אֵין אֱלֹהִים כָּל־מִזְמוֹתָיו :

[in] all his thoughts there is no room for God.

Mem ??

5 יִתְיַלּוּ דְרָכָיו | בְּכָל־עֵת

5 His ways prosper at all times;

מְרוֹם מִשְׁפָּטָיִךְ מִנְגִּדּוֹ

your judgments are on high, out of his sight; (beyond him)

כָּל־צֹרְרָיו יִפְיחַ בָּהֶם :

as for all his foes, he snorts (“blows”) at them.

6 אָמַר בְּלִבּוֹ בַל־אֶמוּט

6 He says in his heart, “I shall not be moved;

לְדָר וְדָר אֲשֶׁר לֹא־בִרְעָה : 7 אֵלֶּה

throughout all generations I shall not meet adversity.” *oath*

Pe

7 פִּי־הוּ מִלֵּא וּמְרֻמוֹת וְתֵדָה

7 His mouth is filled with deceit and tyrannical oppression;

תַּחַת לְשׁוֹנוֹ עֲמָל וְאָוֶן :

under his tongue are mischief and iniquity.

8 יֵשֵׁב | בְּמִאֲרָב חֲצֵרִים

8 He sits in ambush in the villages;

בְּמִסְתָּרִים יִהַרְגֵנִי

in hiding places he murders the innocent.

עֵינָיו לְחַלְכָּה יִצְפְּנוּ :

Ayin

His eyes stealthily watch for the helpless.

9 יֵאָרֵב בְּמִסְתָּר | כְּאַרְיֵה בְּסֻכָּה

9 He lurks [“lie in ambush”] in secret like a lion in his thicket;

יֵאָרֵב לְחַטֹּף עֲנִי

he lurks that he may seize the poor;

יִחַטֵּף עֲנִי בְּמִשְׁכוֹ בְּרִשְׁתּוֹ :

he seizes the poor when he draws him into his net.

Psalm 10 MT/English

<p>10 יִדְכָּה יִשָּׁח וְנָפַל</p>	<p>10 The helpless are crushed, sink down,</p>
<p>בְּעֲצוּמָיו תִּיל פְּאִים :</p>	<p>and fall by his might.</p>
<p>11 אָמַר בְּלִבּוֹ שָׁכַח אֱלֹ</p>	<p>11 He says in his heart, "God has forgotten,</p>
<p>הַסִּתִּיר פָּנָיו בַּל־רְאֶה לְנִצָּח :</p>	<p>he has hidden his face, he will never see it."</p>
<p>Qoph</p>	
<p>12 קוּמָה יְהוָה אֵל נִשְׂא יָדָךְ</p>	<p>12 Arise, I AM, O God, lift up your hand;</p>
<p>אֶל־תִּשְׁכַּח עֲנֻיִם :</p>	<p>forget not the afflicted.</p>
<p>13 עַל־מָה נֶאֱמַר רָשָׁע אֱלֹהִים</p>	<p>13 Why does the wicked renounce God</p>
<p>אָמַר בְּלִבּוֹ לֹא תִדְרָשׁ :</p>	<p>and say in his heart, "You will not call to account"?</p>
<p>Resh</p>	
<p>14 רָאִיתָה כִּי־אַתָּה עָמַל וְכַעַס </p>	<p>14 But you do see, for you note mischief and vexation,</p>
<p>תִּבְיֹט לְתַת בְּיָדְךָ</p>	<p>that you may take it into your hands;</p>
<p>עָלֶיךָ יַעֲזֹב חַלְכָּה</p>	<p>to you the helpless commits himself;</p>
<p>יְתוֹם אַתָּה הָיִיתָ עוֹזֵר :</p>	<p>you have been the helper of the fatherless.</p>
<p>Shin</p>	
<p>15 שִׁבַר זְרוּעַ רָשָׁע</p>	<p>15 Break the arm of the wicked and evildoer;</p>
<p>וְרָע תִּדְרֹשׁ־רָשָׁעוֹ בַל־תִּמְצָא :</p>	<p>call his wickedness to account till you find none.</p>
<p>16 יְהוָה מִלְּךָ עוֹלָם וָעַד</p>	<p>16 I AM is king forever and ever;</p>
<p>אָבְדוּ גוֹיִם מֵאֶרֶצוֹ :</p>	<p>the nations perish from his land.</p>
<p>Taw</p>	
<p>17 תִּאֲוֹת עֲנֻיִם שָׁמַעְתָּ יְהוָה</p>	<p>17 I AM, you hear the desire of the afflicted;</p>
<p>תִּכְבִּיז לִבָּם תִּקְשִׁיב אָזְנוֹךָ :</p>	<p>you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear</p>
<p>18 לְשַׁפֵּט יְתוֹם וְרָךְ</p>	<p>18 to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed,</p>
<p>בַּל־יִזְסִיף עוֹד לַעֲרֹץ אֲנוּשׁ מִן־הָאָרֶץ :</p>	<p>so that never again will earthly mortals strike terror.</p>

God: Judge and King¹

Psalm 9

- I. The King's Praise: Vision after Victory** 9:1-12
- a David praises the name of the LORD for his **wondrous deeds of justice** 1-2
 - b Recounting God's demonstrates his commitment to his **king** by defeating the enemies of the king 3-4
 - c Praise for God's everlasting judgment upon **the king's enemies:** their names effaced, their cities in eternal ruin 5-6
- [Now the poet extrapolates from the **specific victory** to God's **universal reign**. The vindication of God's king in freeing the oppressed and punishing the oppressor is now given to all who call on his name—especially those who have no rights and are poor and oppressed.]
- c' Praise for God's rule over **all the nations** which is strengthened and established in righteousness 7-8
 - b' Praise that the **poor**, just like the chosen king, find refuge in the name of the LORD 9-10
 - a' David's invites all God's people to praise the name of LORD for his **wondrous deeds of justice** 11-12
- II. The King's Lament and Petition: Vision in Adversity** 9:13-20
- a The king petitions God to rescue him from the **gates of Sheol** in order that he may sing praise in the **gates of Zion** 13-14
 - b The king's praise for God's **faithful and just judgment** 15-16
 - a' The destiny of the wicked—**forgotten in Sheol**; contrasted with the hope of the needy—**never forgotten** 17-18
 - b' The king urgently summons God to execute **justice on an international scale** bringing a complete end to the tyrannical terror driven by human pride 19-20

¹ Titles of the main headings are adapted from Derek Kidner, *Psalms 1-72* (TOTC: Leicester: InterVarsity Press, 1973), 68-72.

Man: Predator and Prey

Psalm 10

III. Lament: The Enigma of the Hidden God 10:1-11

- a David's lament that God seems far away, while the wicked act with **impunity**; and his petition that they fall by their own devices 1-2
- b The **blasphemy** of the wicked against God 3-4
 - x The brazen **arrogance** of the wicked bolstered by **success** 5-6
- b' The **tyrannical violence** of the wicked against the helpless 7-8ab
- a' The successful ambush of the poor by the wicked who act with impunity; God is far away and thus there will be **no repercussions** 8c-11

(Note: This strophe is double in length to give the impression of the wicked relishing and gloating in their uncontested victory.)

IV. Petition: The Awakening of God 10:12-18

- a The **king's petition** for God to rise up and **vindicate the poor** 12-13
 - b The **king's confidence** in God's omniscience and justice 14
- a' The **king's petition** of God to **break the power of the wicked**, which will further establish his throne over all the nations 15
 - b' The **king's confidence** in God's supreme justice to vindicate the afflicted and deal a death blow to every form of human terror 16-18

(Note: This final strophe is double in length to match and subdue the pride of the wicked and bury them forever in the dust.)