

THE GREAT SONG OF DEGREES: PSALMS 120 THROUGH 134

PSALM 120

A Song of degrees.

1 In my distress I cried unto Yahweh, and he heard me.

2 Deliver my soul, O YAHWEH, from lying lips, [and] from a deceitful tongue.

3 What shall be given unto thee? or what shall be done unto thee, thou false tongue?

4 Sharp arrows of the mighty, with coals of juniper.

5 Woe is me, that I sojourn in Mesech, [that] I dwell in the tents of Kedar!

6 My soul hath long dwelt with him that hateth peace.

7 I [am for] peace: but when I speak, they [are] for war.

PSALM 121

A Song of degrees.

1 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.

2 My help [cometh] from Yahweh, which made heaven and earth.

3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.

4 Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

5 Yahweh [is] thy keeper: Yahweh [is] thy shade upon thy right hand.

6 The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.

7 Yahweh shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.

8 Yahweh shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

PSALM 122

A Song of degrees of David.

1 I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of Yahweh.

2 Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

3 Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:

4 Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of Yahweh, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of Yahweh.

5 For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.

7 Peace be within thy walls, [and] prosperity within thy palaces.

8 For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace [be] within thee.

9 Because of the house of Yahweh our God I will seek thy good.

PSALM 123

A Song of degrees.

1 Unto thee lift I up mine eyes, O thou that dwellest in the heavens.

2 Behold, as the eyes of servants [look] unto the hand of their masters, [and] as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; so our eyes [wait] upon Yahweh our God, until that he have mercy upon us.

3 Have mercy upon us, O YAHWEH, have mercy upon us: for we are exceedingly filled with contempt.

4 Our soul is exceedingly filled with the scorning of those that are at ease, [and] with the contempt of the proud.

PSALM 124

A Song of degrees of David.

1 If [it had not been] Yahweh who was on our side, now may Israel say;

2 If [it had not been] Yahweh who was on our side, when men rose up against us:

3 Then they had swallowed us up quick, when their wrath was kindled against us:

4 Then the waters had overwhelmed us, the stream had gone over our soul:

5 Then the proud waters had gone over our soul.

6 Blessed [be] Yahweh, who hath not given us [as] a prey to their teeth.

7 Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped.

8 Our help [is] in the name of Yahweh, who made heaven and earth.

PSALM 125

A Song of degrees.

1 They that trust in Yahweh [shall be] as mount Zion, [which] cannot be removed, [but] abideth for ever.

2 As the mountains [are] round about Jerusalem, so Yahweh [is] round about his people from henceforth even for ever.

3 For the rod of the wicked shall not rest upon the lot of the righteous; lest the righteous put forth their hands unto iniquity.

4 Do good, O YAHWEH, unto [those that be] good, and [to them that are] upright in their hearts.

5 As for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways, Yahweh shall lead them forth with the workers of iniquity: [but] peace [shall be] upon Israel.

PSALM 126

A Song of degrees.

1 When Yahweh turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing: then said they among the heathen, Yahweh hath done great things for them.

3 Yahweh hath done great things for us; [whereof] we are glad.

4 Turn again our captivity, O YAHWEH, as the streams in the south.

5 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves [with him].

PSALM 127

A Song of degrees for Solomon.

1 Except Yahweh build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except Yahweh keep the city, the watchman waketh [but] in vain.

2 [It is] vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: [for] so he giveth his beloved sleep.

3 Lo, children [are] an heritage of Yahweh: [and] the fruit of the womb [is his] reward.

4 As arrows [are] in the hand of a mighty man; so [are] children of the youth.

5 Happy [is] the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

PSALM 128

A Song of degrees.

1 Blessed [is] every one that feareth Yahweh; that walketh in his ways.

2 For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy [shalt] thou [be], and [it shall be] well with thee.

3 Thy wife [shall be] as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table.

4 Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth Yahweh.

5 Yahweh shall bless thee out of Zion: and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life.

6 Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children, [and] peace upon Israel.

PSALM 129

A Song of degrees.

1 Many a time have they afflicted me from my youth, may Israel now say:

2 Many a time have they afflicted me from my youth: yet they have not prevailed against me.

3 The plowers plowed upon my back: they made long their furrows.

4 Yahweh [is] righteous: he hath cut asunder the cords of the wicked.

5 Let them all be confounded and turned back that hate Zion.

6 Let them be as the grass [upon] the housetops, which withereth afore it groweth up:

7 Wherewith the mower filleth not his hand; nor he that bindeth sheaves his bosom.

8 Neither do they which go by say, The blessing of Yahweh [be] upon you: we bless you in the name of Yahweh.

PSALM 130

A Song of degrees.

1 Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O YAHWEH.

2 Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.

3 If thou, YAHWEH, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?

4 But [there is] forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.

5 I wait for Yahweh, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope.

6 My soul [waiteth] for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: [I say, more than] they that watch for the morning.

7 Let Israel hope in Yahweh: for with Yahweh [there is] mercy, and with him [is] plenteous redemption.

8 And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

PSALM 131

A Song of degrees of David.

1 YAHWEH, my heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty: neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me.

2 Surely I have behaved and quieted myself, as a child that is weaned of his mother: my soul [is] even as a weaned child.

3 Let Israel hope in Yahweh from henceforth and for ever.

PSALM 132

A Song of degrees.

1 YAHWEH, remember David, [and] all his afflictions:

2 How he sware unto Yahweh, [and] vowed unto the mighty [God] of Jacob;

3 Surely I will not come into the tabernacle of my house, nor go up into my bed;

4 I will not give sleep to mine eyes, [or] slumber to mine eyelids,

5 Until I find out a place for Yahweh, an habitation for the mighty [God] of Jacob.

6 Lo, we heard of it at Ephratah: we found it in the fields of the wood.

7 We will go into his tabernacles: we will worship at his footstool.

8 Arise, O YAHWEH, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy strength.

9 Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy.

10 For thy servant David's sake turn not away the face of thine anointed.

11 Yahweh hath sworn [in] truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

12 If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore.

13 For Yahweh hath chosen Zion; he hath desired [it] for his habitation.

14 This [is] my rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.

15 I will abundantly bless her provision: I will satisfy her poor with bread.

16 I will also clothe her priests with salvation: and her saints shall shout aloud for joy.

17 There will I make the horn of David to bud: I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed.

18 His enemies will I clothe with shame: but upon himself shall his crown flourish.

PSALM 133

A Song of degrees of David.

1 Behold, how good and how pleasant [it is] for brethren to dwell together in unity!

2 [It is] like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, [even] Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;

3 As the dew of Hermon, [and as the dew] that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there Yahweh commanded the blessing, [even] life for evermore.

PSALM 134

A Song of degrees.

1 Behold, bless ye Yahweh, all [ye] servants of Yahweh, which by night stand in the house of Yahweh.

2 Lift up your hands [in] the sanctuary, and bless Yahweh.

3 Yahweh that made heaven and earth bless thee out of Zion.