

11 For better is one day in thy courts above thousands. I have chosen to be an abject in the house of my God, rather than to dwell in the tabernacles of sinners.

12 For God loveth mercy and truth: the Lord will give grace and glory.

13 He will not deprive of good things them that walk in innocence: O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.

Chapter 84

Unto the end, for the sons of Core, a psalm.

2 Lord, thou hast blessed thy land: thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.

3 Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people: thou hast covered all their sins.

4 Thou hast mitigated all thy anger: thou hast turned away from the wrath of thy indignation.

5 Convert us, O God our saviour: and turn off thy anger from us.

6 Wilt thou be angry with us for ever: or wilt thou extend thy wrath from generation to generation?

7 Thou wilt turn, O God, and bring us to life: and thy people shall rejoice in thee.

8 Shew us, O Lord, thy mercy; and grant us thy salvation.

9 I will hear what the Lord God will speak in me: for he will speak peace unto his people: And unto his saints: and unto them that are converted to the heart.

10 Surely his salvation is near to them that fear him : that glory may dwell in our land.

11 Mercy and truth have met each other: justice and peace have kissed.

12 Truth is sprung out of the earth: and justice hath looked down from heaven.

13 For the Lord will give goodness: and our earth shall yield her fruit.

14 Justice shall walk before him: and shall set his steps in the way.

Chapter 85

A prayer for David himself. Incline thy ear, O Lord, and hear me: for I am needy and poor.

2 Preserve my soul, for I am holy: save thy servant, O my God, that trusteth in thee.

3 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I have cried to thee all the day.

4 Give joy to the soul of thy servant, for to thee, O Lord, I have lifted up my soul.

5 For thou, O Lord, art sweet and mild: and plenteous in mercy to all that call upon thee.

6 Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer: and attend to the voice of my petition.

7 I have called upon thee in the day of my trouble: because thou hast heard me.

8 There is none among the gods like unto thee, O Lord: and there is none according to thy works.

9 All the nations thou hast made shall come and adore before thee, O Lord: and they shall glorify thy name.

10 For thou art great and dost wonderful things: thou art God alone.

11 Conduct me, O Lord, in thy way, and I will walk in thy truth: let my heart rejoice that it may fear thy name.

12 I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify thy name for ever:

13 For thy mercy is great towards me: and thou hast delivered my soul out of the lower hell.

14 O God, the wicked are risen up against me, and the assembly of the mighty have sought

my soul: and they have not set thee before their eyes.

15 And thou, O Lord, art a God of compassion, and merciful, patient, and of much mercy, and true.

16 O look upon me, and have mercy on me: give thy command to thy servant, and save the son of thy handmaid.

17 Shew me a token for good: that they who hate me may see, and be confounded, because thou, O Lord, hast helped me and hast comforted me.

Chapter 86

For the sons of Core, a psalm of a canticle. The foundations thereof are the holy mountains:

2 The Lord loveth the gates of Sion above all the tabernacles of Jacob.

3 Glorious things are said of thee, O city of God.

4 I will be mindful of Rahab and of Babylon knowing me. Behold the foreigners, and Tyre, and the people of the Ethiopians, these were there.

5 Shall not Sion say: This man and that man is born in her? and the Highest himself hath founded her.

6 The Lord shall tell in his writings of peoples and of princes, of them that have been in her.

7 The dwelling in thee is as it were of all rejoicing.

Chapter 87

A canticle of a psalm for the sons of Core: unto the end, for Maheleth, to answer understanding of Eman the Ezrahite.

2 O Lord, the God of my salvation: I have cried in the day, and in the night before thee.

3 Let my prayer come in before thee: incline thy ear to my petition.

4 For my soul is filled with evils: and my life hath drawn nigh to hell.

5 I am counted among them that go down to the pit: I am become as a man without help,

6 Free among the dead. Like the slain sleeping in the sepulchres, whom thou rememberest no more: and they are cut off from thy hand.

7 They have laid me in the lower pit: in the dark places, and in the shadow of death.

8 Thy wrath is strong over me: and all thy waves thou hast brought in upon me.

9 Thou hast put away my acquaintance far from me: they have set me an abomination to themselves. I was delivered up, and came not forth:

10 My eyes languished through poverty. All the day I cried to thee, O Lord: I stretched out my hands to thee.

11 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead? or shall physicians raise to life, and give praise to thee?

12 Shall any one in the sepulchre declare thy mercy: and thy truth in destruction?

13 Shall thy wonders be known in the dark; and thy justice in the land of forgetfulness?

14 But I, O Lord, have cried to thee: and in the morning my prayer shall prevent thee.

15 Lord, why castest thou off my prayer: why turnest thou away thy face from me?

16 I am poor, and in labours from my youth: and being exalted have been humbled and troubled.

17 Thy wrath hath come upon me: and thy terrors have troubled me.

18 They have come round about me like water all the day: they have compassed me about

together.

19 Friend and neighbour thou hast put far from me: and my acquaintance, because of misery.

Chapter 88

Of understanding, for Ethan the Ezrahite.

2 The mercies of the Lord I will sing for ever. I will shew forth thy truth with my mouth to generation and generation.

3 For thou hast said: Mercy shall be built up for ever in the heavens: thy truth shall be prepared in them.

4 I have made a covenant with my elect: I have sworn to David my servant:

5 Thy seed will I settle for ever. And I will build up thy throne unto generation and generation.

6 The heavens shall confess thy wonders, O Lord: and thy truth in the church of the saints.

7 For who in the clouds can be compared to the Lord: or who among the sons of God shall be like to God?

8 God, who is glorified in the assembly of the saints: great and terrible above all them that are about him.

9 O Lord God of hosts, who is like to thee? thou art mighty, O Lord, and thy truth is round about thee.

10 Thou rulest the power of the sea: and appeasest the motion of the waves thereof.

11 Thou hast humbled the proud one, as one that is slain: with the arm of thy strength thou hast scattered thy enemies.

12 Thine are the heavens, and thine is the earth: the world and the fulness thereof thou hast founded:

13 The north and the sea thou hast created. Thabor and Hermon shall rejoice in thy name:

14 Thy arm is with might. Let thy hand be strengthened, and thy right hand exalted:

15 Justice and judgment are the preparation of thy throne. Mercy and truth shall go before thy face:

16 Blessed is the people that knoweth jubilation. They shall walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance:

17 And in thy name they shall rejoice all the day, and in thy justice they shall be exalted.

18 For thou art the glory of their strength: and in thy good pleasure shall our horn be exalted.

19 For our protection is of the Lord, and of our king the holy one of Israel.

20 Then thou spokest in a vision to thy saints, and saidst: I have laid help upon one that is mighty, and have exalted one chosen out of my people.

21 I have found David my servant: with my holy oil I have anointed him.

22 For my hand shall help him: and my arm shall strengthen him.

23 The enemy shall have no advantage over him: nor the son of iniquity have power to hurt him.

24 And I will cut down his enemies before his face; and them that hate him I will put to flight.

25 And my truth and my mercy shall be with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted.

26 And I will set his hand in the sea; and his right hand in the rivers.

27 He shall cry out to me: Thou art my father: my God, and the support of my salvation.

28 And I will make him my firstborn, high above the kings of the earth.

29 I will keep my mercy for him for ever: and my covenant faithful to him.