Ps 118-16

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| Fr. Lazarus | Edited | AI | Psalter according 70 | Psalter for prayer | NETS | Brenton | OSB |
| 121 I have done what is right and just;  leave me not to those who injure me. |  | I have done judgement and justice: leave me not to those who oppress me. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 122 Be responsible for Your slave’s welfare;[[1]](#footnote-1)  do not let the proud oppress me. |  | Be surety for Thy servant unto good: let not the proud slander me. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 123 My eyes fail in looking for Your salvation,  and for the word of Your righteousness. |  | My eyes have failed for Thy salvation, and for the word of Thy righteousness. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 124 Deal with Your slave according to Your mercy,  and teach me Your rights. |  | Deal with Thy servant accord­ing to Thy mercy, and teach me Thy truths. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 125 I am Your slave: give me understanding,  and I shall know Your testimonies. |  | I am Thy ser­vant; give me understanding, and I shall know Thy testimonies. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 126 It is time for the Lord to act;[[2]](#footnote-2)  they have defied Your law. |  | It is time for the Lord to work: for they have made void Thy Law. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 127 That is why I love Your commandments  more than gold or topaz.[[3]](#footnote-3) |  | Therefore I have loved Thy commandments above gold and precious stone. |  |  |  |  |  |
| 128 That is why I obey all Your commandments;  every wrong way I hate. |  | Therefore I have stood by all Thy commandments; all ways of iniquity have I hated. |  |  |  |  |  |

1. Be surety *or* bail (*Lat*. Bajulus = burden-bearer), as Judah was answerable for the welfare and safety of Benjamin (Gen. 43:9). Cp. Hezekiah’s prayer: ‘O Lord, I am oppressed. Undertake for me’ (Isaiah 38:14). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. These words are repeated by the deacon at the beginning of the Divine Liturgy. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. ‘When the commandments are loved more than gold or precious stones (cp. 18:11), all earthly reward compared with the commandments themselves is trivial; then no other human blessings can compare with those good gifts and laws by which man himself is made good’ (St. Augustine). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)