

LOLLIPOP



by Tom Mathew

First Edition

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These are my favorite Psalms. I would read these to my children when they were in nursery and primary school.

Psalm 1

1 Blessed is the man who doesn't walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand on the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers;

2 but his delight is in Yahweh's* law. On his law he meditates day and night.

3 He will be like a tree planted by the streams of water, that produces its fruit in its season, whose leaf also does not wither. Whatever he does shall prosper.

4 The wicked are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind drives away.

5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand
in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the
righteous.

6 For Yahweh knows the way of the
righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall perish.

Psalm 23

A Psalm by David.

1 Yahweh is my shepherd;
I shall lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green
pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

3 He restores my soul.

He guides me in the paths of
righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the
valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil, for you are with me.
Your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil.
My cup runs over.

6 Surely goodness and loving
kindness shall follow me all the days
of my life,
and I will dwell in Yahweh's house
forever.

Psalm 51

For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David, when Nathan the prophet came to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

1 Have mercy on me, God, according to your loving kindness.

According to the multitude of your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity.

Cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions.

My sin is constantly before me.

4 Against you, and you only, I have sinned,

and done that which is evil in your sight,

so you may be proved right when you speak,

and justified when you judge.

5 Behold, I was born in iniquity.

My mother conceived me in sin.

6 Behold, you desire truth in the inward parts.

You teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

7 Purify me with hyssop, and I will be clean.

Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

8 Let me hear joy and gladness, that the bones which you have broken may rejoice.

9 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all of my iniquities.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a right spirit within me.

11 Don't throw me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation.

Uphold me with a willing spirit.

13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways.

Sinners will be converted to you.

14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, the God of my salvation.

My tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.

15 Lord, open my lips.

My mouth will declare your praise.

16 For you don't delight in sacrifice, or else I would give it.

You have no pleasure in burnt offering.

17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit.

O God, you will not despise a broken and contrite heart.

18 Do well in your good pleasure to Zion.

Build the walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then you will delight in the sacrifices of righteousness, in burnt offerings and in whole burnt offerings.

Then they will offer bulls on your altar.

Psalm 91

1 He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of Yahweh, "He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."

3 For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler,

and from the deadly pestilence.

4 He will cover you with his feathers.
Under his wings you will take refuge.
His faithfulness is your shield and
rampart.

5 You shall not be afraid of the terror
by night,
nor of the arrow that flies by day,
6 nor of the pestilence that walks in
darkness,
nor of the destruction that wastes at
noonday.

7 A thousand may fall at your side,
and ten thousand at your right hand;
but it will not come near you.

8 You will only look with your eyes,
and see the recompense of the
wicked.

9 Because you have made Yahweh
your refuge,
and the Most High your dwelling
place,

10 no evil shall happen to you,
neither shall any plague come near
your dwelling.

11 For he will put his angels in charge
of you,
to guard you in all your ways.

12 They will bear you up in their
hands,
so that you won't dash your foot
against a stone.

13 You will tread on the lion and
cobra.

You will trample the young lion and
the serpent underfoot.

14 "Because he has set his love on
me, therefore I will deliver him.
I will set him on high, because he has
known my name.

15 He will call on me, and I will
answer him.

I will be with him in trouble.

I will deliver him, and honor him.

16 I will satisfy him with long life,
and show him my salvation.”

Psalm 117

1 Praise Yahweh, all you nations!
Extol him, all you peoples!

2 For his loving kindness is great
toward us.

Yahweh’s faithfulness endures
forever.

Praise Yah!

Psalm 119

ALEPH

1 Blessed are those whose ways are blameless,
who walk according to Yahweh's law.

2 Blessed are those who keep his statutes,
who seek him with their whole heart.

3 Yes, they do nothing wrong.
They walk in his ways.

4 You have commanded your precepts,
that we should fully obey them.

5 Oh that my ways were steadfast
to obey your statutes!

6 Then I wouldn't be disappointed,
when I consider all of your commandments.

7 I will give thanks to you with
uprightness of heart,

when I learn your righteous judgments.

8 I will observe your statutes.
Don't utterly forsake me.

BETH

9 How can a young man keep his way pure?

By living according to your word.

10 With my whole heart I have sought you.

Don't let me wander from your commandments.

11 I have hidden your word in my heart,

that I might not sin against you.

12 Blessed are you, Yahweh.

Teach me your statutes.

13 With my lips,

I have declared all the ordinances of your mouth.

14 I have rejoiced in the way of your testimonies,

as much as in all riches.

15 I will meditate on your precepts, and consider your ways.

16 I will delight myself in your statutes.

I will not forget your word.

GIMEL

17 Do good to your servant.

I will live and I will obey your word.

18 Open my eyes,

that I may see wondrous things out of your law.

19 I am a stranger on the earth.

Don't hide your commandments from me.

20 My soul is consumed with longing for your ordinances at all times.

21 You have rebuked the proud who are cursed,

who wander from your commandments.

22 Take reproach and contempt away from me,

for I have kept your statutes.

23 Though princes sit and slander me, your servant will meditate on your

statutes.

24 Indeed your statutes are my
delight,
and my counselors.

DALETH

25 My soul is laid low in the dust.
Revive me according to your word!

26 I declared my ways, and you
answered me.

Teach me your statutes.

27 Let me understand the teaching of
your precepts!

Then I will meditate on your wondrous
works.

28 My soul is weary with sorrow;
strengthen me according to your
word.

29 Keep me from the way of deceit.
Grant me your law graciously!

30 I have chosen the way of truth.

I have set your ordinances before me.

31 I cling to your statutes, Yahweh.

Don't let me be disappointed.
32 I run in the path of your
commandments,
for you have set my heart free.

HE

33 Teach me, Yahweh, the way of
your statutes.

I will keep them to the end.

34 Give me understanding, and I will
keep your law.

Yes, I will obey it with my whole
heart.

35 Direct me in the path of your
commandments,
for I delight in them.

36 Turn my heart toward your
statutes,

not toward selfish gain.

37 Turn my eyes away from looking at
worthless things.

Revive me in your ways.

38 Fulfill your promise to your
servant,
that you may be feared.

39 Take away my disgrace that I
dread,
for your ordinances are good.

40 Behold, I long for your precepts!
Revive me in your righteousness.

VAV

41 Let your loving kindness also come
to me, Yahweh,
your salvation, according to your
word.

42 So I will have an answer for him
who reproaches me,
for I trust in your word.

43 Don't snatch the word of truth out
of my mouth,
for I put my hope in your ordinances.

44 So I will obey your law continually,
forever and ever.

45 I will walk in liberty,
for I have sought your precepts.
46 I will also speak of your statutes
before kings,
and will not be disappointed.
47 I will delight myself in your
commandments,
because I love them.
48 I reach out my hands for your
commandments, which I love.
I will meditate on your statutes.

ZAYIN

49 Remember your word to your
servant,
because you gave me hope.
50 This is my comfort in my affliction,
for your word has revived me.
51 The arrogant mock me excessively,
but I don't swerve from your law.
52 I remember your ordinances of
old, Yahweh,

and have comforted myself.

53 Indignation has taken hold on me,
because of the wicked who forsake
your law.

54 Your statutes have been my songs
in the house where I live.

55 I have remembered your name,
Yahweh, in the night,
and I obey your law.

56 This is my way,
that I keep your precepts.

HETH

57 Yahweh is my portion.
I promised to obey your words.

58 I sought your favor with my whole
heart.

Be merciful to me according to your
word.

59 I considered my ways,
and turned my steps to your statutes.

60 I will hurry, and not delay,

to obey your commandments.

61 The ropes of the wicked bind me,
but I won't forget your law.

62 At midnight I will rise to give
thanks to you,
because of your righteous ordinances.

63 I am a friend of all those who fear
you,

of those who observe your precepts.

64 The earth is full of your loving
kindness, Yahweh.

Teach me your statutes.

TETH

65 You have treated your servant
well,

according to your word, Yahweh.

66 Teach me good judgment and
knowledge,

for I believe in your commandments.

67 Before I was afflicted, I went
astray;

but now I observe your word.

68 You are good, and do good.

Teach me your statutes.

69 The proud have smeared a lie upon me.

With my whole heart, I will keep your precepts.

70 Their heart is as callous as the fat, but I delight in your law.

71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted,

that I may learn your statutes.

72 The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of pieces of gold and silver.

YODH

73 Your hands have made me and formed me.

Give me understanding, that I may learn your commandments.

74 Those who fear you will see me
and be glad,
because I have put my hope in your
word.

75 Yahweh, I know that your
judgments are righteous,
that in faithfulness you have afflicted
me.

76 Please let your loving kindness be
for my comfort,
according to your word to your
servant.

77 Let your tender mercies come to
me, that I may live;
for your law is my delight.

78 Let the proud be disappointed, for
they have overthrown me wrongfully.
I will meditate on your precepts.

79 Let those who fear you turn to me.
They will know your statutes.

80 Let my heart be blameless toward
your decrees,

that I may not be disappointed.

KAPF

81 My soul faints for your salvation.
I hope in your word.

82 My eyes fail for your word.

I say, "When will you comfort me?"

83 For I have become like a wineskin
in the smoke.

I don't forget your statutes.

84 How many are the days of your
servant?

When will you execute judgment on
those who persecute me?

85 The proud have dug pits for me,
contrary to your law.

86 All of your commandments are
faithful.

They persecute me wrongfully.

Help me!

87 They had almost wiped me from
the earth,

but I didn't forsake your precepts.
88 Preserve my life according to your
loving kindness,
so I will obey the statutes of your
mouth.

LAMEDH

89 Yahweh, your word is settled in
heaven forever.

90 Your faithfulness is to all
generations.

You have established the earth, and it
remains.

91 Your laws remain to this day,
for all things serve you.

92 Unless your law had been my
delight,

I would have perished in my affliction.

93 I will never forget your precepts,
for with them, you have revived me.

94 I am yours.

Save me, for I have sought your precepts.

95 The wicked have waited for me, to destroy me.

I will consider your statutes.

96 I have seen a limit to all perfection,
but your commands are boundless.

MEM

97 How I love your law!
It is my meditation all day.

98 Your commandments make me wiser than my enemies,
for your commandments are always with me.

99 I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your testimonies are my meditation.

100 I understand more than the aged,
because I have kept your precepts.

101 I have kept my feet from every
evil way,
that I might observe your word.

102 I have not turned away from your
ordinances,
for you have taught me.

103 How sweet are your promises to
my taste,
more than honey to my mouth!

104 Through your precepts, I get
understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.

NUN

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet,
and a light for my path.

106 I have sworn, and have
confirmed it,
that I will obey your righteous
ordinances.

107 I am afflicted very much.

Revive me, Yahweh, according to your word.

108 Accept, I beg you, the willing offerings of my mouth.

Yahweh, teach me your ordinances.

109 My soul is continually in my hand, yet I won't forget your law.

110 The wicked have laid a snare for me,

yet I haven't gone astray from your precepts.

111 I have taken your testimonies as a heritage forever,

for they are the joy of my heart.

112 I have set my heart to perform your statutes forever, even to the end.

SAMEKH

113 I hate double-minded men, but I love your law.

114 You are my hiding place and my shield.

I hope in your word.

115 Depart from me, you evildoers, that I may keep the commandments of my God.

116 Uphold me according to your word, that I may live.

Let me not be ashamed of my hope.

117 Hold me up, and I will be safe, and will have respect for your statutes continually.

118 You reject all those who stray from your statutes, for their deceit is in vain.

119 You put away all the wicked of the earth like dross.

Therefore I love your testimonies.

120 My flesh trembles for fear of you. I am afraid of your judgments.

AYIN

121 I have done what is just and righteous.

Don't leave me to my oppressors.

122 Ensure your servant's well-being.

Don't let the proud oppress me.

123 My eyes fail looking for your salvation,

for your righteous word.

124 Deal with your servant according to your loving kindness.

Teach me your statutes.

125 I am your servant. Give me understanding,

that I may know your testimonies.

126 It is time to act, Yahweh, for they break your law.

127 Therefore I love your commandments more than gold,

yes, more than pure gold.

128 Therefore I consider all of your precepts to be right.

I hate every false way.

PE

129 Your testimonies are wonderful,
therefore my soul keeps them.

130 The entrance of your words gives
light.

It gives understanding to the simple.

131 I opened my mouth wide and
panted,
for I longed for your commandments.

132 Turn to me, and have mercy on
me,

as you always do to those who love
your name.

133 Establish my footsteps in your
word.

Don't let any iniquity have dominion
over me.

134 Redeem me from the oppression
of man,
so I will observe your precepts.

135 Make your face shine on your servant.

Teach me your statutes.

136 Streams of tears run down my eyes,
because they don't observe your law.

TZADHE

137 You are righteous, Yahweh.
Your judgments are upright.

138 You have commanded your statutes in righteousness.

They are fully trustworthy.

139 My zeal wears me out,
because my enemies ignore your words.

140 Your promises have been thoroughly tested,

and your servant loves them.

141 I am small and despised.
I don't forget your precepts.

142 Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness.

Your law is truth.

143 Trouble and anguish have taken hold of me.

Your commandments are my delight.

144 Your testimonies are righteous forever.

Give me understanding, that I may live.

QOPH

145 I have called with my whole heart.

Answer me, Yahweh!

I will keep your statutes.

146 I have called to you. Save me!

I will obey your statutes.

147 I rise before dawn and cry for help.

I put my hope in your words.

148 My eyes stay open through the
night watches,
that I might meditate on your word.

149 Hear my voice according to your
loving kindness.

Revive me, Yahweh, according to your
ordinances.

150 They draw near who follow after
wickedness.

They are far from your law.

151 You are near, Yahweh.

All your commandments are truth.

152 Of old I have known from your
testimonies,

that you have founded them forever.

RESH

153 Consider my affliction, and deliver
me,

for I don't forget your law.

154 Plead my cause, and redeem me!

Revive me according to your promise.

155 Salvation is far from the wicked,
for they don't seek your statutes.

156 Great are your tender mercies,
Yahweh.

Revive me according to your
ordinances.

157 Many are my persecutors and my
adversaries.

I haven't swerved from your
testimonies.

158 I look at the faithless with
loathing,
because they don't observe your
word.

159 Consider how I love your
precepts.

Revive me, Yahweh, according to your
loving kindness.

160 All of your words are truth.
Every one of your righteous
ordinances endures forever.

SIN AND SHIN

161 Princes have persecuted me
without a cause,
but my heart stands in awe of your
words.

162 I rejoice at your word,
as one who finds great plunder.

163 I hate and abhor falsehood.
I love your law.

164 Seven times a day, I praise you,
because of your righteous ordinances.

165 Those who love your law have
great peace.

Nothing causes them to stumble.

166 I have hoped for your salvation,
Yahweh.

I have done your commandments.

167 My soul has observed your
testimonies.

I love them exceedingly.

168 I have obeyed your precepts and
your testimonies,

for all my ways are before you.

TAV

169 Let my cry come before you,
Yahweh.

Give me understanding according to
your word.

170 Let my supplication come before
you.

Deliver me according to your word.

171 Let my lips utter praise,
for you teach me your statutes.

172 Let my tongue sing of your word,
for all your commandments are
righteousness.

173 Let your hand be ready to help
me,

for I have chosen your precepts.

174 I have longed for your salvation,
Yahweh.

Your law is my delight.

175 Let my soul live, that I may
praise you.

Let your ordinances help me.

176 I have gone astray like a lost
sheep.

Seek your servant, for I don't forget
your commandments.