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My dear General
I have the honor to acknowledge
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proposed purchase of the
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Potomac River. I have
the honor to inform you
that the same has been
referred to the proper
authorities for their
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THE
PSALMS OF DAVID,
IN METRE.

TRANSLATED AND DILIGENTLY COMPARED WITH THE ORIGINAL TEXT AND FORMER TRANSLATIONS:— ALLOWED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE KIRK OF SCOTLAND, AND APPOINTED TO BE SUNG IN CONGREGATIONS AND FAMILIES.

WITH NOTES,
EXHIBITING THE CONNECTION, EXPLAINING THE SENSE, AND FOR DIRECTING AND ANIMATING THE DEVOTION.

BY JOHN BROWN,
Minister of the Gospel at Haddington.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,
TRANSLATIONS AND PARAPHRASES,
IN VERSE,

OF SEVERAL PASSAGES OF

Sacred Scripture,

COLLECTED AND PREPARED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

— — — I will sing with the Spirit, and I will sing with the Understanding also, 1 Cor. xiv. 15.

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PREFACE.

NO part of the Christian Worship is more plainly warranted by the Oracles of God, than the Ordinance of *Singing of Psalms*. The ancient Hebrews practised it at the Red Sea, before their system of ceremonial worship was prescribed them by God, Exod. xv. It was preferred to the most pompous sacrifices, even while the ceremonial observances remained in their vigour, Psalm lxix. 30, 31. The divine obligation to it, remained in full force, when the ceremonial law, with all its rites was abolished, Psalms xlvi. 1. 5, 6, 7. lxvii. 4. c. 1. 4. Eph. v. 19. with ii. 14, 15. Col. iii. 16. with ii. 16, 17. James v. 13. We have it enforced with the most engaging example of the *Angels* who kept their first estate, Job xxxviii. 6, 7. Luke, ii. 13, 14. Rev. v. 11, 12. Of Apostles and Saints, Acts xvi. 25. 1 Cor. xiv. 15. Exod. xv. Judg. v. Luke i. 1 Sam. ii. Isa. xxxv. 10. Jer. xxxi. 12. Rev. iv. 8, 9. and v. 9, 10. vii. 10. 12. xiv. 3. xv. 3. xix. 1,—7. Nay, of our Redeemer himself, Matth. xxvi. 30. This Exercise, performed in a manner suited to the dignity of the glorified state, will be the everlasting employ of established angels and ransomed men, Isa. xxvi. 19. li. 11. Rev. v. 9,—13.

Nor is this exercise of inconsiderable usefulness. The whole glories of JEHOVAH, as made known to creatures, and all the wonders of his creating power, his redeeming love, and providential care, belonging to its extensive theme, it is an excellent means of conveying holy instructions, Col. iii. 16. of inspiring heavenly affections, Psalm lvii. 7, 8. of recreating holy souls, James v. 13. and, in fine, of bearing up and comforting amidst grief and trouble, Acts xvi. 25. Psalm cxix. 54; and hence it is seasonable, not only in this valley of tears, but even in the most distressful condition, Psalm ci. 1. Hab. iii. 17, 18.

It is a duty, which ought to be practised by every person *in secret* by himself, James v. 13. Psalm cxix. 62. 164.—By every Christian *family* and *society*, Psalm cxviii. 15. Acts, xvi. 25.—And in every *public* worshipping assembly and congrega-

tion, Isa. xxxv. 1, 2. 6. 10. and lii. 7, 8, 9. and liv. 1. Eph. v. 19. Col. iii. 16. Mat. xxvi. 30. 1 Cor. xiv. 26. Rev. v. 9, 10. xiv. 3. xv. 3.

This duty being of so much importance, we ought to perform it, under the special influence of the Holy Ghost, 1 Cor. xiv. 15. John, iv. 24.—With understanding of the warrantableness, matter, manner, and end of our praise, Psalm xlvi. 6, 7. 1 Cor. xiv. 15.—With an holy ardour of affection and vigour of mind, Psalm lvii. 10. and ciii. 1, 2.—With grace in our heart, making melody therein to the Lord, Eph. v. 19. Col. iii. 16.—In the name of Christ as Mediator between God and us, Col. iii. 16, 17. 1 Peter ii. 5.—and with an earnest aim to glorify God, Col. iii. 16. 1 Pet. iv. 11. 1 Cor. x. 31. The *matter* ought to be prudently suited to our occasions and conditions, Psalm cxii. 5. Eph. v. 15. Nor ought the *melody*, or, in social worship, the *harmony* of voices to be overlooked, Psalm cl.

No doubt, one may compose spiritual hymns for his own and others religious recreation: But, to admit forms of human composure into the stated and public worship of God, appears to me very improper. (1) It is extremely dangerous. Heresies and errors, by this means, may, and often have been very insensibly introduced into churches, congregations, or families. (2) There is no need of it. The Holy Ghost hath in the Psalms of David, and other Scriptural Songs, furnished us with such a rich collection of gospel doctrines and precious promises;—an extensive fund of solid experiences;—an exhaustless mine of Gospel-Grace and Truth;—an endless variety to suit every state or condition, in which, either our own soul, or the Church of Christ, can be upon earth. These were framed by him, who searcheth the hearts, and knows the deep things of God; and hence must be better adapted to the case of souls or societies, than any private composition whatever. (3) Though the Holy Ghost never saw meet to leave us a Liturgy of prayers; yet, from the poetical composition thereof, it is plain, he intended these Psalms and Songs for a *standing form* of praise in the Church. It is certain, they were used in this manner under the Old Testament. The Holy Ghost hath under the New plainly directed us to the use hereof, Col. iii. 16. Eph. v. 19. The PSALMS, HYMNS, and spiritual SONGS, there recommended, are plainly the same with the MIZMORIM, TEHILLIM and SHIRIM, mentioned in the Hebrew titles of David's Psalms, iii. iv. v. &c. cxlv. cxx,—cxxxiv.

It hath been pretended, the language and manner of these Psalms are not suited to the spiritual nature of our Gospel-

worship. That, however, may as well be urged against the reading of them, as against the singing of them: nay, against the reading of a great part of the Old Testament in our Christian-worship. It is certain, many passages in the Book of Psalms, or of other Scripture-Songs, are expressive of the exercises of faith, repentance, love, or the like graces, which still remain of the *same form*, as under the Old Testament. The predictions are either accomplished, and so may be sung to the honour of God's mercy and faithfulness; or, if not accomplished, may be sung in the hopes, that God will accomplish them in his time. The history of what God did for his Jewish Servants and Church, may be sung with admiration of his love, wisdom, power and grace therein manifested. It is further to be considered, that much of what related to David, or the Jewish Church, was typical of the character and concerns of Jesus Christ and the Gospel-church; and so ought to be sung with a special application thereto.

As for these Psalms, which contain DENUNCIATIONS of Divine vengeance upon the enemies of God and his Church, we are to consider, that these expressions were dictated by the infallible Spirit of God;—that the objects of them were foreseen to be irreconcilable enemies of Christ and his Church; that those who sing them only applaud the equity of the doom, which God hath justly pronounced upon such offenders; and that they are to be sung with a full persuasion of the event, as a certain, awful, and just display of the glory and tremendous justice of JEHOVAH. Though we ought, therefore, never to apply them to particular parties or persons who have injured us; yet to decline using them, out of a pretence of charity, is to suppose ourselves wiser than Him, whose understanding is infinite, and more merciful than the Father of mercies, who is full of compassion, and delighteth in mercy. Moreover, as these external enemies, devoted to destruction, were in some sense emblematic of our spiritual enemies, within or without us, the passages may be sung with application to ourselves, as directed against these *principalities*, and *powers*, and *spiritual wickednesses*, in high places, with whom we have to wrestle, while on earth, Eph. vi. 10,—19. 1 Pet. v. 8, 9, Rom. viii. 13. Gal. v. 17. 24.

The book of Psalms is one of the most extensive and useful in holy Scripture, as it is every where suited to the case of the Saints. It is at first much mixed with complaints and supplications, and at last issues in pure and lasting praise. That Heman composed Psalm lxxxviii, Ethan the lxxxix, and Mo-

ses xc, is certain. Whether these under the name of Asaph were mostly penned by him, or only assigned to be sung by him as a master of the Temple-music, as others were to Jeduthun, or to the sons of Korah, or other chief Musicians, we cannot determine. Some, as Psalm lxxiv. lxxix. cxxvi. and cxxxvii. appear to have been composed after the begun Captivity to Babylon; but by whom we know not. The rest, including these two marked with the name of Solomon, might be composed by David, the sweet Psalmist of Israel*.

Twenty-five of the Psalms have no title at all; and whether the titles of the rest are of Divine authority is not altogether agreed. But when it is considered that these titles every where appear in the Hebrew originals; and how often they serve as a key to the psalm, and are sometimes connected therewith by the accentuating points, there is no real ground to suspect the authenticity thereof. Nor are interpreters agreed with respect to the signification of some of the Hebrew words standing in these titles. We think that MASCHIL always signifies that the psalm is designed for *instruction*, Psalms xxxii. xlii. xliii. xlv. lii. liii. liv. lv. lxxiv. lxxviii. lxxxviii. lxxxix. MICHAM denotes the *precious* or *golden* nature of the psalm, as xvi. lvi. —lx. ALTASCHITH, that the scope of the psalm is to deprecate *destruction*, lvii.—lix. MUTHLABBEN, that the psalm was composed on the occasion of the *death of his son*, or of Goliath the *duellist*, Psalm ix. AIJELETH SHAHAR, that its subject is Jesus Christ the *Hind of the morning*, Psalm xxii. JONATH-ELEM-RECHOKIM, that David is therein represented as a *mute dove among foreigners*, Psalm lvi. SUOSHANNIM; SHOSHANNIM-EDUTH; or SHUSHAN-EDUTH, may either signify, that Christ and his people, who are *lilies*, or *lilies of the congregation or testimony*, are the subject of it; or that it was sung on an instrument of six strings, Psalms xlv. lx. lxix.

* That the Hebrew originals are composed in a metrical form, hath been almost universally agreed. But the laws and measures of the Poetry have not yet been clearly ascertained. It is not even reasonable to insist, they should correspond with these of the Greeks or Romans, and other nations of the West, whose idioms and manner of language are so remarkably different. It is certain, they as little agree with those of the dull and insipid rhymes composed by the Jewish Rabbins. Some of the Psalms, no doubt, for the more easy retention thereof in the memory, are composed of verses or sentences beginning according to the order of the Hebrew alphabet. In this order every sentence of the 111th and 112th Psalms, begins with a new letter. Almost every verse of the 25th, 34th, and 145th, begins in the same order. But in the 119th, every eight verses begins with the same Hebrew letter in the like alphabetical order.

LXXX. as **SHEMINITH** denotes an instrument of eight strings, Psalm vi. xii. **MAHALATH** may either signify the *disease*, and **MAHALATH LEANOTH** the *afflicting disease*, or **MAHALATH** may signify a wind-instrument of music, liii. and lxxxviii. **NEGINATH** and **NEGINOTH** denote stringed instruments of music, Psalms iv. and lxi. &c. **NEHILOTH** wind-ones, Psalm v. **GITTITH**, a musical instrument or tune invented at Gath, Psalms viii. lxxxxi. and lxxxiv. **ALAMOTH** the *virginals*, or a song to be sung by the *virgins*, Psalm xlvi. **SHIGGAION** or **SHIGIONOTH**, may denote the *diversified* matter or tune of the psalm, Psalm vii. The cxxth, and fourteen next following, are called **SONGS OF DEGREES**, perhaps because they were sung on the different steps of the Temple-stairs; or were sung at certain halts made by David and the Israelites, when they brought up the Ark of God from Kirjath-jearim to Jerusalem; or were sung by the Hebrews at their different rests, when they came up from the country to their three solemn feasts; or were partly sung by the Jews at their different halts, in their return from Babylon.

The Hebrews divided this book into **FIVE**, ending with Psalm xli. lxxii. lxxxix. cvi. and cl. the first four of which are concluded with **AMEN**. Interpreters have attempted to arrange or class the Psalms into a variety of different forms: To me it appears, not improper, to distinguish them into, I. **INSTRUCTIVE**, which are either (1) **HISTORICAL**, relating what God had done for the Psalmist, or for the Jewish nation, &c. as xviii. lxviii. lxxviii. civ. cv. cvi. cxiv. cxxxv. cxxxvi. Most of which are also **EUCCHARISTIC**. Or (2) **DOCTRINAL**, declaring and explaining the principles and duties of religion, as Psalms i. xiv. xv. xix. xxxvi. xxxvii. xlix. l. liii. lxiv. lxxvi. lxxvii. lxxviii. lxxx. lxxxii. xc. ci. cxii. cxix. cxxvii. cxxx. cxxxiii. cxxxix.—II. **PROPHETIC**, foretelling events relative to Christ or his Church, as Psalms ii. viii. xvi. xxi. xxii. xxiv. xxix. xl. xlv. xlvii. xlviii. lxvii. lxviii. lxix. lxxii. lxxxvii. lxxxix. xciii. xcvi. xcvii. xcviii. c. cx. cxvii. cxxxii. cxlix. not a few of which are also **EUCCHARISTIC**. III. **CONSOLATORY**, in which the Psalmist comforts himself and others in the promises, perfections, or works of God, as Psalms iv. xi. xxiii. xxvii. xxxi. xxxvii. xlvi. lviii. lxxiii. xci. cxxi. cxxv. cxxviii. cxxix. IV. **PENITORY**, in which he bewails his own, or the Church's condition, and supplicates deliverance, as Psalms iii. v. vi. vii. x. xii. xiii. xvii. xx. xxv. xxvi. xxvii. xxviii. xxxv. xxxviii, xli. xlii. xliii. xliv. li. lv. lv. lvii. lix. lx. lxi. lxiii. lxiv. lxx. lxxi. lxxiv. lxxix. lxxx. lxxxiii. lxxxv.

lxxxvi. lxxxviii. cii. cix. cxx. cxxiii. cxxx. cxxxii. cxxxvii. cxl. cxli. cxlii. cxliii. Seven of these, in which the Psalmist makes confession of his sin, *viz.* Psalms vi. xxxii. xxxviii. li. cii. cxxx. cxliii. are called PENITENTIAL. V. EUCHARISTIC, in which he stirs up himself and others to praise and thank the Lord for his favours. As Psalms ix. xviii. xxx. xxxiii. xxxiv. lx. lxx,—lxxviii. xcix. ciii. civ. cv. cvi. cvii. cviii. cxi. cxiii. cxv. cxvi. cxvii. cxviii. cxxii. cxxiv. cxxvi. cxxxiv. cxxxv. cxxxvi. cxxxviii. cxliv. cxlv. cxlvi. cxlvii. cxlviii. cxlix. cl. But, indeed, historical narratives, doctrinal instructions, prophecies, consolations, supplications, praises and thanksgivings, are often so pleasantly and profitably connected, in the same psalm, that it is difficult to assign it to one class, rather than to another. And, what is HISTORICAL, as it relates to David and the Jewish Church, is often TYPICAL, and so PROPHEPIC as it relates to Jesus Christ and the Gospel-Church or heavenly state. Many too, of the SUPPLICATIONS respecting deliverances from, or the destruction of enemies, are to be considered as real PREDICTIONS of the events; they being dictated by the inspiration of Him who can declare the end from the beginning.

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THE
PSALMS OF DAVID,
IN METRE.

PSALM 1

Perhaps this Psalm was added by Ezra, or whoever else was the collector of the others into one book. We have represented to us in it, (1) The character of the godly; *how holy* they are,—abstaining from every temptation to, or appearance of evil; and with pleasure meditating on, and endeavouring to fulfil, the whole law of God, ver. 1, 2. and *how happy*, planted in the nearest fellowship with Jesus, the River of life, they prosper in their lawful attempts: They never fall from their grace or profession; and they shall stand with approbation at the judgment-seat of God, ver. 3. (2) The sinfulness and misery of the wicked;—How different from, and contrary to the godly, in their inclination, companions, exercises and ends! How light and unsubstantial, as chaff, and ready to be hurled, by the storms of infinite wrath, into the depths of hell, as cast and condemned in the righteous judgment of God! ver. 4, 5. (3) The great reason of the happiness of saints, and of the misery of sinners. The Lord loveth the righteous, and observes and approves their inclinations and behaviour; but as an enemy, he brings destructive vengeance upon the wicked, ver. 6.—¶ While I sing these important lines, let my soul lift up her eyes to that great pattern of perfection, Jesus, the man of God's right-hand, who was holy, harmless, undefiled, and separate from sinners; and who fulfilled all righteousness, magnified the law, and made it honourable for men,—for ME. United to his person, clothed with his righteousness, and all inflamed and animated with his redeeming love, shed abroad in my heart, let me examine myself as in his sight; let me walk in him as my way, and follow him as my Pattern and Guide; let me, with solemn awe, look to, and prepare for, his last, his eternal judgment!

THAT man hath perfect blessedness,
Who walketh not astray
In counsel of ungodly men,
Nor stands in sinners way,
Nor sitteth in the scorner's chair:

PSALM 2

2 But placeth his delight
Upon God's law, and meditates
On his law day and night.

3 He shall be like a tree that grows
Near planted by a river,
Which in his season yields his fruit,
And his leaf fadeth never :
And all he doth shall prosper well.

4 The wicked are not so :
But like they are unto the chaff,
Which wind drives to and fro.

5 In judgment therefore shall not stand
Such as ungodly are ;
Nor in th' assembly of the just
Shall wicked men appear.

6 For why ? the way of godly men
Unto the Lord is known :
Whereas the way of wicked men,
Shall quite be overthrown.

PSALM 2

Perhaps this Psalm relates partly to David's instalment on his throne and the victories over his enemies which attended it. Compare Psalm, xviii. 2 Sam. iii. v. viii. x. xviii. xx. But the whole of it respects Jesus our Redeemer. Behold (1) The violent and harmonious, but unsuccessful, opposition, which Jews and Gentiles of all ranks make to the person and redemption-work of the great God, my Saviour!—Behold, what ruin and woe they draw upon themselves by their attempts! ver. 1,—5. 9. (2) Behold, how, notwithstanding all their raging malice and furious opposition, Jehovah instals our Redeemer King in his Church, and infallibly fixeth him on his throne; avows him his only begotten Son, and gives unto him the Gentiles for his people! ver. 6,—8. (3) Behold Jehovah's demand of serious consideration and fear of, joy in, and trust, obedience and love to his exalted Son, ver. 9,—12.—¶ While I sing, let me remark the horrid nature of sin; let me, with broken heart, bewail my neglect of, and opposition to Jesus Christ. Let me, with wonder, bless his name, that I have not already perished in mine iniquity. Let me, with earnestness, ac-

PSALM 2

cept that once debased Redeemer, as my Saviour, my Sovereign, my Proprietor, my God, and my All. Let me learn to know him, rejoice in him, and, with holy awe, commit my whole salvation, and the salvation of my country, nay, of all the ends of the earth, to him.

WHY rage the heathen? and vain things
Why do the people mind?

2 Kings of the earth do set themselves,
And princes are combin'd,
To plot against the Lord, and his
Anointed, saying thus,

3 Let us asunder break their bands,
And cast their cords from us.

4 He that in heaven sits, shall laugh;
The Lord shall scorn them all.

5 Then shall he speak to them in wrath,
In rage he vex them shall.

6 Yet notwithstanding I have him,
To be my King appointed:
And o'er Sion my holy hill
I have him King anointed.

7 The sure decree I will declare:
The Lord hath said to me,
Thou art mine only Son, this day
I have begotten thee.

8 Ask of me, and for heritage
The heathen I'll make thine;
And, for possession, I to thee
Will give earth's utmost line.

9 Thou shalt, as with a weighty rod
Of iron, break them all;
And, as a potter's sherd, thou shalt
Them dash in pieces small.

PSALM 3

- 10 Now therefore, kings, be wise, be taught,
Ye judges of the earth.
- 11 Serve God in fear, and see that ye
Join trembling with your mirth.
- 12 Kiss ye the Son, lest in his ire
Ye perish from the way :
If once his wrath begin to burn ;
Blest all that on him stay.

PSALM 3

A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.

Having beheld the royal dignity of my Redeemer, let me here behold the joy, the peace, the safety of the redeemed amidst their distresses innumerable. Here David, driven from his holy capital and high throne, by his rebellious son Absalom, (1) Complains to his God of the number and malice of his enemies, ver. 1, 2. (2) He encourageth himself in his God, as the source and subject-matter of his safety, joy, and honour, ver. 3. (3) He recollects how, on former occasions, his troubles had driven him to his prayers; how he had always found God ready to hear and grant his requests; how safe and easy he had lived under his protection; and how effectually he had broken the power, and restrained the malice of his enemies, ver. 4, 5, 7. (4) Triumphantly trusting in God, as the salvation and blesser of his people, he silenceth all his fears, and pours forth his prayers for new protection and deliverance, ver. 6, 8.—¶ Think, my soul, of Jesus, who, when bulls of Bashan compassed him about, trusted in God, that he would deliver him. In all my distress, let me pour out my heart before him, believing in him, as God, even my God. Let me always rejoice in the great God my Saviour. Let me trust in him at all times, that as he hath delivered, and doth deliver, so he will deliver me.

O LORD, how are my foes increas'd?
Against me many rise.

- 2 Many say of my soul, For him
In God no succour lies.
- 3 Yet thou my shield and glory art,
Th' uplifter of mine head,
- 4 I cry'd, and from his holy hill
The Lord me answer made.

PSALM 4

- 5 I laid me down, and slept, I wak'd,
For God sustained me.
- 6 I will not fear, though thousands ten
Set round against me be.
- 7 Arise, O Lord, save me, my God;
For thou my foes hast stroke
All on the cheek-bone, and the teeth
Of wicked men hast broke.
- 8 Salvation doth appertain
Unto the Lord alone:
Thy blessing, Lord, for evermore
Thy people is upon.

PSALM 4

To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm of David.

This Psalm was perhaps composed on the same occasion as the former, when David fled from Absalom his son. Here, (1) David, encouraged by former experience, casts his burden on the Lord, and supplicates a merciful deliverance, ver. 1. (2) Addressing himself to men, particularly to his persecutors, he reproves their contempt of God, and religion, their delight in, and practice of vanity, fraud and falsehood.—He represents the happiness of the saints in having God their protector, and ready to hear their requests.—He recommends an holy filial awe of God, a careful abstinence from sin; a composed trial of, and converse with their own heart, together with a devoting of themselves, and their conduct and substance, to the Lord, ver. 2,—5. (3) To encourage them to the study of practical religion, he remarks what superlative satisfaction and rest himself had found in familiar fellowship with God, and in a believing dependence on him, ver. 6,—8.—¶ While I sing, let me have faith in God, as my own God in Christ. Let me abhor that levity of mind, that deceitfulness, that earthly-mindedness proper to the ungodly, and every remain thereof. Let my soul pant for Jehovah, and prefer him to every thing else. Let me, by faith, lay myself down in his arms, his bosom, as all my salvation and comfort.

GIVE ear unto me when I call,
God of my righteousness;
Have mercy, hear my pray'r, thou hast
Enlarg'd me in distress.

PSALM 5

2 O ye the sons of men, how long
Will ye love vanities?

How long my glory turn to shame,
And will ye follow lies?

3 But know, that for himself the Lord
The godly man doth chuse;
The Lord, when I on him do call,
To hear will not refuse.

4 Fear, and sin not, talk with your heart
On bed, and silent be.

5 Off'rings present of righteousness,
And in the Lord trust ye.

6 O who will shew us any good?
Is that which many say:

But of thy countenance the light,
Lord, lift on us always.

7 Upon my heart, bestow'd by thee,
More gladness I have found,

Than they, ev'n them, when corn and wine
Did most with them abound.

8 I will both lay me down in peace,
And quiet sleep will take;

Because thou only me to dwell
In safety, Lord, dost make.

PSALM 5

To the chief Musician upon Nehiloth, A Psalm of David.

Here (1) the man according to God's heart, in the assured faith of God's hearing his prayers and hating his sins, fixeth a daily, an early, an earnest, a steady, a grace-founded correspondence with God, in his ordinances of meditation, prayer, praise, &c. ver. 1,—7. (2) Behold him humbly requesting God's special direction in duties which his enemies had rendered difficult to perform;—supplicating and predicting the ruin of his implacable foes;—and, in the assured faith of obtaining it, imploring comfort and prosperity to his fellow saints, ver. 8,—12.—¶ While I sing, let my heart

PSALM 5

and flesh cry out, and my soul pant and wait for the Lord. In the firm faith of infinite mercy to forgive all my crimes, and wash out all my sinful stains, let me blush at, and detest my own abominations. Let me cultivate the closest familiarity with the Lord my God. Let my prayers correspond with his promises, and with the particular conditions of myself or others.

GIVE ear unto my words, O Lord,
My meditation weigh.

2 Hear my loud cry, my King, my God,
For I to thee will pray.

3 Lord, thou shalt early hear my voice ;
I early will direct

My prayer to thee, and looking up
An answer will expect.

4 For thou art not a God that doth
In wickedness delight :

Neither shall evil dwell with thee,
5 Nor fools stand in thy sight :
All that ill-doers are thou hat'st.

6 Cut'st off that liars be :
The bloody and deceitful man
Abhorred is by thee.

7 But I into thy house will come
In thine abundant grace :
And I will worship in thy fear
Towards thy holy place.

8 Because of those mine enemies,
Lord, in thy righteousness
Do thou me lead ; do thou thy way
Make straight before my face.

9 For in their mouth there is no truth,
Their inward part is ill ;
Their throat's an open sepulchre,
Their tongue doth flatter still.

PSALM 6

- 10 O God, destroy them, let them be
By their own counsel quell'd:
Them for their many sins cast out,
For they 'gainst thee rebell'd.
- 11 But let all joy that trust in thee,
And still make shouting noise:
For them thou sav'st: let all that love
Thy name in thee rejoice.
- 12 For, Lord, unto the righteous man
Thou wilt thy blessing yield:
With favour thou wilt compass him
About, as with a shield.

PSALM 6

*To the chief Musician on Neginoth, upon Sheminith,
A Psalm of David.*

Observe here (1) David, a great saint, under grievous and manifold troubles, sickness of body, conscience-felt charges of guilt, vexation of mind, attended with desertion from God, and contemptuous insults from his enemies, ver. 2, 3. 5, 6, 7. (2) His supplications, with strong cries and tears, to God for mitigation of trouble, support under it, and deliverance from it, ver. 1,—4. 6. (3) His triumphant separation of himself from the wicked, in the full assurance of faith, that God had heard, and would graciously grant his requests, and would either convert or destroy his opposers, ver. 8,—10.—¶ In all my afflictions, let me believe that Jesus was afflicted for me. Let me call my sin to remembrance, spread my case before him, fill my mouth with arguments, implore his abundant, free, and sovereign mercy, as my sole and all-comprehensive relief. Nor let me ever expect a comfortable answer to my prayers, while I cultivate an intimacy with profane and wicked men.

LORD, in thy wrath rebuke me not,
Nor in thy hot rage chasten me.

2 Lord, pity me, for I am weak:
Heal me, for my bones vexed be.

3 My soul is also vexed sore;
But, Lord, how long stay wilt thou make?

PSALM 6

- 4 Return, O Lord, my soul set free ;
O save me for thy mercy's sake.
- 5 Because those that deceased are,
Of thee shall no remembrance have :
And who is he that will to thee
Give praises, lying in the grave ?
- 6 I with my groaning weary am,
I also, all the night, my bed
Have caused for to swim ; and I
With tears my couch have watered.
- 7 Mine eye, consum'd with grief, grows old,
Because of all mine enemies.
- 8 Hence from me wicked workers all,
For God hath heard my weeping cries.
- 9 God hath my supplication heard,
My pray'r receiv'd graciously.
- 10 Sham'd and sore vex'd be all my foes,
Sham'd and back turned suddenly.

Another of the same.

- I**N thy great indignation,
O Lord, rebuke me not :
Nor on me lay thy chast'ning hand
In thy displeasure hot.
- 2 Lord, I am weak, therefore on me
Have mercy, and me spare :
Heal me, O Lord, because thou know'st
My bones much vexed are.
- 3 My soul is vexed sore : but Lord,
How long stay wilt thou make ?
- 4 Return, Lord, free my soul, and save
Me for thy mercy's sake.

PSALM 7

- 5 Because of thee in death there shall
No more remembrance be :
Of those that in the grave do lie,
Who shall give thanks to thee?
- 6 I, with my groaning weary am,
And all the night my bed
I caused for to swim : with tears
My couch I watered.
- 7 By reason of my vexing grief,
Mine eye consumed is ;
It waxeth old because of all
That be mine enemies.
- 8 But now depart from me, all ye
That work iniquity :
For why, the Lord hath heard my voice,
When I did mourn and cry.
- 9 Unto my supplication
The Lord did hearing give ;
When I to him my prayer make,
The Lord will it receive.
- 10 Let all be sham'd and troubled sore
That en'mies are to me ;
Let them turn back, and suddenly
Ashamed let them be.

PSALM 7

Shiggaion of David, which he sang unto the Lord, concerning the words of Cush the Benjamite.

Here, accused of traiterous conspiracy against his Sovereign, by King Saul, or by Cush, one of his courtiers, David (1) Appeals to God, concerning his innocency of that crime, ver. 3,—5. (2) He supplicates, that God, as Governor of the world and King of Israel, would protect him from danger, plead his cause, and give judgment for him, ver. 1, 2. 6,—9. (3) In the exercise of faith, he depends on God, to protect and deliver him, and to avenge the injuries he had sustained, upon his implacable adversaries, ver. 10,—16.

PSALM 7

(4) He resolves to ascribe the glory of all his deliverances to God alone, ver. 17.—¶ While I sing, let me contemplate the spotless innocency, the finished righteousness of my Redeemer, together with the injurious usage he received from his brethren of mankind; and the fearful ruin which hath befallen, or awaits his incorrigible foes. Let me carefully approve myself in his sight, who searcheth my heart and trieth my reins, and who must quickly be my final Judge. Let me implore the just vengeance of heaven against my spiritual enemies. And not unto me, not unto me, but to his name be the glory and praise of all my protection and deliverance.

O LORD, my God, in thee do I
My confidence repose:

Save and deliver me from all
My persecuting foes.

2 Lest that the enemy my soul
Should like a lion tear,

In pieces renting it, while there
Is no deliverer.

3 O Lord, my God, if it be so
That I committed this:

If it be so that in my hands
Iniquity there is:

4 If I rewarded ill to him
That was at peace with me;

(Yea, ev'n the man that without cause
My foe was, I did free.)

5 Then let the foe pursue, and take
My soul, and my life thrust

Down to the earth, and let him lay
Mine honour in the dust.

6 Rise in thy wrath, Lord, raise thyself,
For my foes raging be;

And to the judgment which thou hast
Commanded, wake for me.

7 So shall th' assembly of thy folk
About encompass thee:

PSALM 7

- Thou therefore, for their sakes, return
Unto thy place on high.
- 8 The Lord he shall the people judge:
My judge, Jehovah, be,
After my righteousness, and mine
Integrity in me.
- 9 O let the wicked's malice end,
But stablish stedfastly
The righteous; for the righteous God
The heart and reins doth try.
- 10 In God, who saves th' upright in heart,
Is my defence and stay.
- 11 God just men judgeth, God is wroth
With ill men ev'ry day.
- 12 If he do not return again,
Then he his sword will whet;
His bow he hath already bent,
And hath it ready set.
- 13 He also hath for him prepar'd
The instruments of death:
Against the persecutors he
His shafts ordained hath.
- 14 Behold, he with iniquity
Doth travail as in birth;
A mischief he conceived hath,
And falsehood shall bring forth.
- 15 He made a pit, and digg'd it deep,
Another there to take;
But he is fall'n into the ditch,
Which he himself did make.
- 16 Upon his own head his mischief
Shall be returned home;

PSALM 8

His vi'lent dealing also down
On his own pate shall come.

17 According to his righteousness,
The Lord I'll magnify:
And will sing praise unto the name
Of God, that is most high.

PSALM 8

To the chief Musician upon Gittith, A Psalm of David.

This Psalm contains a pleasant, but solemn meditation upon the glory, the greatness, and the grace of God. Let me here observe (1) How illustrious and wide-spread are his glory and renown, ver. 1. 3. 9. (2) By how weak and insignificant instruments, he manifests and spreads his superlative fame, ver. 2. (3) Behold his marvellous condescension and bounty to mankind, but chiefly to the Man Christ, in uniting his human nature to his divine person, and in giving him all power in heaven and earth, for the benefit of his chosen people, ver. 4,—8.—¶ May this Jesus, this name of God in him, be the enthroned inhabitant, the everlasting wonder, and the superlative darling of my heart. Let me, with the babes of Jerusalem, Matt. xxi. pour forth my Hosannas to Him that cometh in the name of the Lord to save me,—Hosannas in the highest. Let all the works of nature lead, and excite me to admire their Creator's kindness towards men; towards sinful and insignificant me.

HOW excellent in all the earth,
Lord, our Lord, is thy name!
Who hast thy glory far advanc'd,
Above the starry frame.

2 From infants and from sucklings mouth
Thou didest strength ordain,
For thy foes cause, that so thou might'st
Th' avenging foe restrain.

3 When I look up unto the heav'ns,
Which thine own fingers fram'd,
Unto the moon, and to the stars,
Which were by thee ordain'd;

4 Then say I, What is man, that he
Remembred is by thee?

PSALM 9

- Or what the son of man, that thou
So kind to him should'st be?
- 5 For thou a little lower hast
Him than the angels made;
With glory and with dignity
Thou crowned hast his head.
- 6 Of thy hand-works thou mad'st him lord,
All under's feet did'st lay:
- 7 All sheep and oxen, yea, and beasts
That in the field do stray.
- 8 Fowls of the air, fish of the sea,
All that pass through the same.
- 9 How excellent in all the earth,
Lord, our Lord, is thy name!

PSALM 9

To the chief Musician upon Muth-Labben, A Psalm of David.

This Psalm was perhaps composed on the occasion of his son Absalom's death, 2 Sam. xviii. or on the occasion of the death of Goliath the champion and duellist of Gath, 1 Sam. xvii. We have in it, (1) David's hearty thanksgivings to God for his pleading of his cause against his and his country's enemies, and for giving him a complete victory over them, ver. 1,—6. and his excitement of others to join with him therein, ver. 11, 12. (2) His triumph in God as the righteous Judge of the world, protector of his people, and the destroyer of his implacable enemies, ver. 7,—10. 15,—18. (3) His requests for further grounds of praising God as his own deliverer; and the confounder of his enemies, ver. 13, 14. 19, 20. —¶ While I sing these subjects, let me chiefly consider the blessings of redemption. the victories of my Redeemer over sin, death and hell; and believe that I, through him, shall be more than a conqueror. Let the ruin of transgressors effectually admonish me to stand in awe of God, and at the furthest distance from sin.

- L**ORD, thee I'll praise with all my heart,
Thy wonders all proclaim,
2 In thee, most High, I'll greatly joy,
And sing unto thy name.

PSALM 9

3 When back my foes were turn'd, they fell,
And perish'd at thy sight.

4 For thou maintain'dst my right and cause,
On throne sat'st, judging right.

5 The heathen thou rebuked hast,
The wicked overthrown ;

Thou hast put out their names, that they
May never more be known.

6 O en'my ! now destructions have
An end perpetual :

Thou cities raz'd, perish'd with them
Is their memorial.

7 God shall endure for ay : he doth
For judgment set his throne :

8 In righteousness to judge the world,
Justice to give each one.

9 God also will a refuge be
For those that are opprest :

A refuge will he be, in times
Of trouble, to distrest.

10 And they that know thy name, in thee
Their confidence will place :

For thou hast not forsaken them
That truly seek thy face.

11 O sing ye praises to the Lord,
That dwells in Sion hill :

And all the nations among
His deeds record ye still.

12 When he enquireth after blood,
He then remembreth them :

The humble folk he not forgets,
That call upon his name.

PSALM 10

13 Lord, pity me, behold the grief
Which I from foes sustain,
Ev'n thou, who from the gates of death
Doth raise me up again :

14 That I, in Sion's daughters gates,
May all thy praise advance :
And that I may rejoice always
In thy deliverance.

15 The heathen are sunk in the pit,
Which they themselves prepar'd ;
And in the net which they have hid,
Their own feet fast are snar'd.

16 The Lord is by the judgment known
Which he himself hath wrought :
The sinners hands do make the snares
Wherewith themselves are caught.

17 They, who are wicked, into hell
Each one shall turned be ;
And all the nations that forget
To seek the Lord most High.

18 For they that needy are, shall not
Forgotten be alway :
The expectation of the poor
Shall not be lost for ay.

19 Arise, Lord, let not man prevail ;
Judge heathens in thy sight.

20 That they may know themselves but men,
The nations, Lord, affright.

PSALM 10

In this Psalm of lamentation and woe, we have (1) David's mournful complaints of God's withdrawal of his gracious and comfortable presence, ver. 1. (2) His mournful and shocking representation of the wicked men, who persecuted him, during God's absence :

PSALM 10

they proudly gloried in themselves; they counteracted the laws and contemned the judgments of God, they contradicted and defied their opposers; they were malicious, treacherous, crafty, hypocritical, and atheistical persecutors, ver. 2,—11. (3) His earnest supplications for relief to the people of God, attended with the firm faith of obtaining it, ver. 12,—18.—¶ While I sing these, ponder, O my soul, what a privilege it is, to enjoy familiar fellowship with God! What abominations lie hid in an evil heart of unbelief! What a mercy, that the Lord hath withheld me from that outrage in wickedness, of which my corrupt nature is capable! Let all my views of sins and of judgments cause me to flee to Jesus for relief. If he prepare my heart to pray, he will surely grant my requests.

WHEREFORE is it, that thou, O Lord,
Doth stand from us afar?

And wherefore hidest thou thyself,
When times so troublous are?

2 The wicked in his loftiness
Doth persecute the poor:

In these devices they have fram'd,
Let them be taken sure.

3 The wicked of his heart's desire
Doth talk with boasting great,

He blesseth him that's covetous,
Whom yet the Lord doth hate.

4 The wicked, through his pride of face,
On God he doth not call;

And in the counsels of his heart
The Lord is not at all.

5 His ways they always grievous are;
Thy judgments from his sight

Removed are: at all his foes
He puffeth with despight.

6 Within his heart he thus hath said,
I shall not moved be:

And no adversity at all
Shall ever come to me.

PSALM 10

- 7 His mouth with cursing, fraud, deceit,
Is fill'd abundantly :
And underneath his tongue there is
Mischief and vanity.
- 8 He closely sits in villages :
He slays the innocent :
Against the poor, that pass him by,
His cruel eyes are bent.
- 9 He, lion-like, lurks in his den :
He waits the poor to take ;
And when he draws him in his net,
His prey he doth him make.
- 10 Himself he humbleth very low,
He croucheth down withal,
That so a multitude of poor
May by his strong ones fall.
- 11 He thus hath said within his heart,
The Lord hath quite forgot :
He hides his countenance, and he
For ever sees it not.
- 12 O Lord, do thou arise ; O God,
Lift up thine hand on high :
Put not the meek afflicted ones
Out of thy memory.
- 13 Why is it that the wicked man
Thus doth the Lord despise ?
Because, that God will it require,
He in his heart denies.
- 14 Thou hast it seen ; for their mischief
And spite thou wilt repay :
The poor commits himself to thee ;
Thou art the orphan's stay.

PSALM 11

15 The arm break of the wicked man,
And of the evil one :

Do thou seek out his wickedness,
Until thou findest none.

16 The Lord is King through ages all,
Ev'n to eternity :

The heathen people from his land
Are perish'd utterly.

17 O Lord, of those that humble are
Thou the desire didst hear :

Thou wilt prepare their heart, and thou
To hear will bend thine ear :

18 To judge the fatherless, and those
That are oppressed sore,

That man, that is but sprung of earth,
May them oppress no more.

PSALM 11

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

Behold here (1) David, tempted by his timorous friends, to escape to some mountain, and hide himself from the fury of Saul, or of Absalom, as if that were his only safe course, now, when his enemies were exerting themselves to the uttermost, and all things were in disorder and confusion, ver. 1,—3. (2) David battling the temptation by a resolute profession of his trust in God, as the observer of all men;—as the holy and righteous punisher of the wicked, and friend of the godly, ver. 1. 4,—7. —¶ Let no temptation decoy me from my duty. Let no danger deter me from it. —While Jehovah, my reconciled God and Father, manageth and judgeth the world, my safest course is to commit myself to him in well-doing. Let the just vengeance of God upon sinners deter my heart from sinning, and his kindness to his people encourage me to holiness in all manner of conversation.

IN the Lord do put my trust ;
How is it then that ye
Say to my soul, Flee as a bird
Unto your mountain high ?

PSALM 12

- 2 For lo, the wicked bend their bow,
 Their shafts on strings they fit,
 That those who upright are in heart
 They privily may hit.
- 3 If the foundations be destroy'd,
 What hath the righteous done?
- 4 God in his holy temple is,
 In heaven is his throne:
 His eyes do see, his eye-lids try
 5 Mens sons. The just he proves:
 But his soul hates the wicked man,
 And him that violence loves.
- 6 Snares, fire and brimstone, furious storms
 On sinners he shall rain:
 This, as the portion of their cup,
 Doth unto them pertain.
- 7 Because the Lord most righteous doth
 In righteousness delight;
 And with a pleasant countenance
 Beholdeth the upright.

PSALM 12

To the chief Musician upon Shemiith, A Psalm of David.

In this Psalm, which was probably penned, during the reign of Saul, observe (1) The times rendered extremely bad by the almost universal death of the godly, the general decay of piety and honesty, the common prevalence of dissimulation and flattery; and by the proud and daring contempt of God, and oppression of the poor; and by the protection and encouragement of wickedness, by those that bare rule, in church or state, ver. 1,—4. 8. (2) Enough in God to balance the evils of the worst of times. He is ready to help. He will in due time reckon with the wicked, and restrain their insolence. He will seasonably and effectually relieve his oppressed people. His words are pure, firm and faithful; and he will always secure a remnant for himself, ver. 1. 5,—7. —¶ In evil times, do thou my soul, live on thy God. Walk humbly with thy God. Hope continually in thy God, and rejoice in his New-covenant promises to men,—to ME.

PSALM 13

HELP, Lord, because the godly man
Doth daily fade away ;
And from among the sons of men
The faithful do decay.

2 Unto his neighbour ev'ry one
Doth utter vanity :

They with a double heart do speak,
And lips of flattery.

3 God shall cut off all flatt'ring lips,
Tongues that speak proudly, thus :

4 We'll with our tongue prevail, our lips
Are ours : who's Lord o'er us ?

5 For poor opprest, and for the sighs
Of needy, rise will I,

Saith God, and him in safety set
From such as him defy.

6 The words of God are words most pure ;
They be like silver try'd

In earthen furnace, seven times
That hath been purify'd.

7 Lord, thou shalt them preserve and keep
For ever from this race.

8 On each side walk the wicked, when
Vile men are high in place.

PSALM 13

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

Here we have the Psalmist sowing in tears, but reaping in joy. Observe (1) His extreme distress, occasioned by God's apparent unkindness, and by inward anguish of soul, and insolence of enemies, ver. 1, 2. (2) His fervent supplications, that God would consider his case, strengthen his faith, direct his goings, and comfort his heart, ver. 3, 4. (3) Sudden deliverance, flowing from a fixed trust in God, and inducing to a triumphant joy in Him, ver. 5, 6.—¶ Think, my soul, how divine withdrawments, sensibly

PSALM 14

perceived, sting a renewed heart! How changeable the saints spiritual frames are, while they continue in this world. Weeping endures for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. And, behold, how quickly the prayers of faith are answered, and its expectations fulfilled!

HOW long wilt thou forget me, Lord?
Shall it for ever be?

O how long shall it be, that thou
Wilt hide thy face from me?

2 How long take counsel in my soul,
Still sad in heart, shall I?

How long exalted over me
Shall be mine enemy?

3 O Lord my God, consider well,
An answer to me make:

Mine eyes enlighten, lest the sleep
Of death me overtake:

4 Lest that mine enemy should say
Against him I prevail'd;

And those that trouble me, rejoice,
When I am mov'd and fail'd.

5 But I have all my confidence
Thy mercy set upon;

My heart within me shall rejoice
In thy salvation.

6 I will unto the Lord my God
Sing praises cheerfully,

Because he hath his bounty shown
To me abundantly.

PSALM 14

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

This Psalm represents the fearful sinfulness and misery of mankind, and the marvellous method of deliverance therefrom. Behold here (1) All mankind fearfully infected with the God-dishonouring,

PSALM 14

the soul-debasing and defiling, the world-disturbing, malady of sinful corruption in heart and life, ver. 1,—3. (2) Warm expostulations for the conviction, awakening and reclaiming of wicked men, ver. 4,—6. (3) Consolations exhibited to the righteous, from God's being among them, and being a refuge to them, and from sending his Son to save and redeem them, ver. 5,—7.—

¶ While I sing these lines, let me have a deep sense of my corruptions. Let me be ashamed of them before God. Let me, with a broken heart and weeping eye, confess my filthiness and crimes. Let me groan after and flee to Jesus, the Saviour, the salvation of God. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from this abominable life;—from this inward body of death! Thanks to the Redeemer, who is come to Zion to turn away ungodliness from Jacob! Let therefore Jacob rejoice and the Gentiles sing.

- T**HAT there is not a God, the fool
Doth in his heart conclude :
They are corrupt, their works are vile,
Not one of them doth good.
- 2 Upon mens sons the Lord from heav'n
Did cast his eyes abroad,
To see if any understood,
And did seek after God.
- 3 They altogether filthy are,
They all aside are gone :
And there is none that doeth good,
Yea, sure there is not one.
- 4 These workers of iniquity,
Do they not know at all,
That they my people eat as bread,
And on God do not call?
- 5 There fear'd they much : for God is with
The whole race of the just.
- 6 You shame the counsel of the poor,
Because God is his trust.
- 7 Let Isra'l's help from Sion come :
When back the Lord shall bring
His captives, Jacob shall rejoice,
And Israel shall sing.

PSALM 15

A Psalm of David.

Here let me (1) With wonder, observe the happy state of present fellowship with God, in his church on earth, and of everlasting fellowship with him, in the temple above; and how fixed the saints are in this their new-covenant state, ver. 1.—5. (2) Let me with self-examination, remark the discriminating characters of such as are admitted to that happy state. They are sincere, upright, and honest, in all their ways; are kind to neighbours; they esteem others in proportion to the appearance of Christ's image on them; and they prefer a good conscience to every earthly advantage, ver. 2,—5.—¶ While I sing, let me think of my perfect and all-perfecting Saviour, who is passed into the heavens;—is entered for me, as the fore-runner. And, having received him into my heart as my sanctifying furniture, let me walk in him as my way, and follow him as my pattern, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, and living soberly, righteously and godly in this present world. Thus shall the Father and the Son come unto me on earth, and take up their abode with me: and so shall I in heaven, be for ever with the Lord.

- W**ITHIN thy tabernacle, Lord,
Who shall abide with thee?
And in thy high and holy hill
Who shall a dweller be?
- 2 The man that walketh uprightly,
And worketh righteousness,
And, as he thinketh in his heart,
So doth he truth express.
- 3 Who doth not slander with his tongue,
Nor to his friend doth hurt,
Nor yet against his neighbour doth
Take up an ill report.
- 4 In whose eyes vile men are despis'd;
But those that God do fear
He honoureth: and changeth not,
Though to his hurt he swear.
- 5 His coin puts not to usury,
Nor take reward will he
Against the guiltless. Who doth thus,
Shall never moved be.

PSALM 16

Michtam of David.

This Psalm is indeed a *Michtam*, a golden Psalm. Behold the man according to God's heart (1) Committing himself to God as his Preserver, ver. 1. (2) Avowing his endeared love to the people, and strict adherence to the worship of God, ver. 3, 4. (3) With great confidence and joy claiming God for his satisfying portion, ver. 2, 5,—7. (4) Comforting himself in and blessing God for his present intimacy with him, and granting direction to him, and for his certain prospect of the eternal enjoyment of him, ver. 8,—11. —¶ But chiefly, behold! here, Jesus, the man of God's right hand, surrendering himself up to his Father's service, in room of, and for the everlasting advantage of his elect! Behold him, taking out his new-covenant claim to God, as his God and portion for ever; and as our God and portion in him! Behold, how, supported of God, in his holy manhood, he suffers unto a tremendous death, and debased burial; but being raised again, he is crowned with everlasting glory and honour! Behold! how the agonies of suffering, and the pains of death are succeeded, with fulness of joy, and rivers of life and pleasures at God's right hand for evermore. Looking to him, let me with patience, run the race that is set before me, living on, and rejoicing in God, as my ALL and IN ALL; and looking for the blessed hope, and glorious appearing of the great God my Saviour. Through him, neither sin, nor devils, nor death, nor hell, shall be able to prevent my immediate and everlasting enjoyment of Jehovah, as my infinite portion and EXCEEDING JOY.

LORD, keep me; for I trust in thee.

2 To God thus was my speech,
Thou art my Lord, and unto thee

My goodness doth not reach:

3 To saints on earth, to th' excellent,
Where my delight's all plac'd.

4 Their sorrows shall be multiply'd,
To other gods that haste:

Of their drink offerings of blood

I will no off'ring make;

Yea, neither I their very names

Up in my lips will take.

5 God is of mine inheritance

And cup the portion:

PSALM 17

- The lot that fallen is to me
Thou dost maintain alone.
- 6 Unto me happily the lines
In pleasant places fell;
Yea, the inheritance I got
In beauty doth excel.
- 7 I bless the Lord, because he doth
By counsel me conduct;
And in the seasons of the night
My reins do me instruct.
- 8 Before me still the Lord I set:
Sith it is so, that he
Doth ever stand at my right hand,
I shall not moved be.
- 9 Because of this my heart is glad,
And joy shall be exprest
Ev'n by my glory: and my flesh
In confidence shall rest.
- 10 Because my soul in grave to dwell,
Shall not be left by thee;
Nor wilt thou give thine Holy One
Corruption to see.
- 11 Thou wilt me shew the path of life:
Of joys there is full store,
Before thy face; at thy right hand
Are pleasures evermore.

PSALM 17

A Prayer of David.

Here, in the depths of distress, (1) David appeals to God, concerning the integrity of his heart, and the justness of his cause, ver. 1,—4. (2) He prays for establishment in grace within; for tokens of divine favour from above; and for preservation from his carnal, malicious, and insolent, his restless and powerful enemies, around,

PSALM 17

ver. 5,—14. (3) He triumphs in the assured faith of his everlasting enjoyment of, and conformity to God, ver. 15.—¶ Let me also here look after Jesus, in whose heart was no deceit, and in whose mouth was no guile:—Jesus, who fulfilled all righteousness for me; and who notwithstanding all the rage of devils and men, hath *sat* down at the right hand of God, crowned with glory and honour. Let me remember, that he, as the forerunner, is for me entered into the mansions of bliss; and hath left me an example, that I should follow his steps.

LORD, hear the right, attend my cry,
 Unto my pray'r give heed,
 That doth not in hypocrisy
 From feigned lips proceed.
 2 And from before thy presence forth
 My sentence do thou send:
 Toward these things that equal are
 Do thou thine eyes intend,
 3 Thou prov'st mine heart, thou visit'st me
 By night, thou didst me try,
 Yet nothing found'st; for that my mouth
 Shall not sin, purpos'd I.
 4 As for men's works, I, by the word
 That from thy lips doth flow,
 Did me preserve out of the paths
 Wherein destroyers go.
 5 Hold up my goings, Lord, me guide
 In those thy paths divine,
 So that my footsteps may not slide
 Out of these ways of thine.
 6 I called have on thee, O God,
 Because thou wilt me hear:
 That thou may'st hearken to my speech,
 To me incline thine ear.
 7 Thy wond'rous loving kindness show,
 Thou that by thy right hand,

PSALM 17

Sav'st them that trustin thee, from those
That up against them stand.

8 As th' apple of the eye me keep ;
In thy wings shade me close,

9 From lewd oppressors, compassing
Me round, as deadly foes.

10 In their own fat they are inclos'd :
Their mouth speaks loftily.

11 Our steps they compass'd : and to ground
Down bowing set their eye.

12 He like unto a lion is,
That's greedy of his prey,
Or lion young, which lurking doth
In secret places stay.

13 Arise, and disappoint my foe,
And cast him down, O Lord :

My soul save from the wicked man,
The man which is thy sword.

14 From men which are thy hand, O Lord,
From worldly men me save,
Which only in this present life
Their part and portion have :

15 Whose belly with thy treasure hid,
Thou fill'st : they children have
In plenty : of their goods the rest
They to their children leave.

16 But as for me, I thine own face
In righteousness will see :
And with thy likeness, when I wake,
I satisfy'd shall be.

PSALM 18

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, the servant of the Lord, who spake unto the Lord the words of this song, in the day that the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul: And he said.

In this Psalm of thanksgiving for manifold deliverances, observe (1) David's ardent love to God in Christ, whom he believed to be HIS OWN, in every gracious and saving relation; and whom he had experienced, his merciful, almighty, and seasonable Deliverer, from depths of trouble, ver. 1,—19. (2) His comfortable reflections, on the integrity, which the Lord had enabled him to maintain, and on the gracious kindness of God, consequential thereupon, ver. 20,—28. (3) His thankful ascription of all the glory of his noted exploits to God, as his director and strengthener, ver. 29,—42. (4) His triumphant faith and hope, of further assistance and favour from God, to himself and to his seed, for evermore, ver. 43,—50. —¶ But, let me not forget Jesus, to whom, Jehovah is so closely, so marvellously, so sweetly, related:—Jesus, who so ardently loveth his eternal Father, and for ever returns the grateful remembrance of his kindness, to him and to his chosen seed, in delivering him from distress, in raising him from the dead; in rewarding his obedience unto death, in giving him glory at his own right hand, and in rendering all nations his obedient subjects.—Let me sing this new song, in the full assurance of faith, that God in Christ is my ALL and IN ALL; and with an heart ravished with the consolations of Christ, and in the sweet reviews of what he hath done, what he doth, and what he will for ever do, for my soul.

THEE will I love, O Lord, my strength.

2 My fortress is the Lord,
My rock, and he that doth to me
Deliverance afford:

My God, my strength, whom I will trust,
A buckler unto me,
The horn of my salvation,
And my high tow'r is he.

3 Upon the Lord, who worthy is
Of praises, will I cry:
And then shall I preserved be
Safe from mine enemy.

4 Floods of ill men affrighted me,
Death's pangs about me went.

PSALM 18

- 5 Hell's sorrows me invironed :
Death's snares did me prevent.
- 6 In my distress I call'd on God,
Cry to my God did I :
He from his temple heard my voice,
To his ears came my cry.
- 7 Th' earth, as affrighted, then did shake,
Trembling upon it seiz'd :
The hills foundations moved were,
Because he was displeas'd.
- 8 Up from his nostrils came a smoke,
And from his mouth there came
Devouring fire : and coals by it
Were turned into flame.
- 9 He also bowed down the heav'ns,
And thence he did descend :
And thickest clouds of darkness did
Under his feet attend.
- 10 And he upon a cherub rode,
And thereon he did fly :
Yea, on the swift wings of the wind,
His flight was from on high.
- 11 He darkness made his secret place :
About him for his tent
Dark waters were, and thickest clouds
Of th' airy firmament.
- 12 And at the brightness of that light
Which was before his eye,
His thick clouds past away, hail-stones
And coals of fire did fly.
- 13 The Lord God also in the heav'ns
Did thunder in his ire ;

PSALM 18

And there the Highest gave his voice,
Hail-stones, and coals of fire.

14 Yea, he his arrows sent abroad,
And them he scattered :

His lightnings also he shot out,
And them discomfited :

15 The waters' channels then were seen,
The world's foundations vast
At thy rebuke discover'd were,
And at thy nostrils' blast.

16 And from above the Lord sent down,
And took me from below ;
From many waters he me drew,
Which would me overflow.

17 He me reliev'd from my strong foes,
And such as did me hate ;
Because he saw, that they for me
Too strong were, and too great.

18 They me prevented in the day
Of my calamity :
But, even then, the Lord himself
A stay was unto me.

19 He, to a place where liberty
And room was, hath me brought :
Because he took delight in me,
He my deliv'rance wrought.

20 According to my righteousness,
He did me recompence,
He me repaid according to
My hands pure innocence.

21 For I God's ways kept, from my God
Did not turn wickedly.

PSALM 18

- 22 His judgments were before me, I
His laws put not from me.
- 23 Sincere before him was my heart,
With him upright was I;
And watchfully I kept myself
From mine iniquity.
- 24 After my righteousness the Lord
Hath recompensed me,
After the cleanness of my hands
Appearing in his eye.
- 25 Thou gracious to the gracious art,
To upright men upright.
- 26 Pure to the pure, froward thou kyth'st
Unto the froward wight.
- 27 For thou wilt the afflicted save,
In grief that low do ly;
But wilt bring down the countenance
Of them whose looks are high.
- 28 The Lord will light my candle so,
That it shall shine full bright:
The Lord my God will also make
My darkness to be light.
- 29 By thee thro' troops of men I break,
And them discomfit all:
And, by my God assisting me,
I overleap a wall.
- 30 As for God, perfect is his way:
The word of God is try'd:
He is a buckler to all those
Who do in him confide.
- 31 Who but the Lord is God? but he
Who is a rock and stay?

PSALM 18

- 32 'Tis God that girdeth me with strength,
And perfect makes my way.
- 33 He made my feet swift as the hinds
Set me on my high places.
- 34 Mine hands to war he taught, mine arms
Brake bows of steel in pieces.
- 35 The shield of thy salvation
Thou didst on me bestow :
Thy right hand held me up, and great
Thy kindness made me grow.
- 36 And in my way, my steps thou hast
Enlarged under me ;
That I go safely, and my feet,
Are kept from sliding free.
- 37 Mine en'mies I pursued have,
And did them overtake :
Nor did I turn again till I
An end of them did make.
- 38 I wounded them, they could not rise :
They at my feet did fall.
- 39 Thou girdest me with strength for war :
My foes thou brought'st down all.
- 40 And thou hast giv'n to me the necks
Of all mine enemies ;
That I might them destroy and slay
Who did against me rise.
- 41 They cried out, but there was none
That would or could them save :
Yea, they did cry unto the Lord,
But he no answer gave.
- 42 Then did I beat them small as dust
Before the wind that flies :

PSALM 19

And I did cast them out, like dirt
Upon the street that lies.

43 Thou mad'st me free from people's strife,
And heathens head to be :

A people whom I have not known
Shall service do to me.

44 At hearing they shall me obey ;
To me they shall submit.

45 Strangers for fear shall fade away,
Who in close places sit.

46 God lives, blest be my rock : the God
Of my health praised be.

47 God doth avenge me, and subdues
The people under me.

48 He saves me from mine enemies :
Yea, thou hast lifted me

Above my foes ; and from the man
Of vi'lence set me free.

49 Therefore to thee I will give thanks
The heathen folk among :

And to thy name, O Lord, I will
Sing praises in a song.

50 He great deliv'rance gives his king :
He mercy doth extend

To David, his anointed One,
And his seed without end.

PSALM 19

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

Now the books of God are opened, not for my trial and condemnation in the last judgment, but for my instruction. Let my soul look and read thereon. (1) The book of Creation and Providence, in which all the works of God instruct mankind in general, concerning the eternal wisdom, power, and goodness, of their Maker,

PSALM 19

ver. 1,—6. (2) The book of Inspiration, the sure, the right, the pure, the true, the perfect and powerful oracles of which, instruct, convert, comfort, and warn the members of the church; and in keeping of which, there is an exceeding great and everlasting reward of glory obtained, ver. 7,—11. (3) What conviction of sin! What supplication for pardon of it, and preservation from it; and for the acceptance of our duties, through Jesus' blood, doth, or ought to ensue upon a proper perusal of these volumes of heaven, ver. 12,—14.—¶ While I sing these matters, let me, conscious of my own ignorance and folly, in all things consult the mind of God. Let me blush, that my experience of the powerful influences of God's word is so scanty; and that in me, still dwell such fearful remains of sinful corruption: Let me cry mightily to God for the subduing and destruction thereof.

THE heav'ns God's glory do declare:
The skies his hand-works preach.

2 Day utters speech to day, and night
To night doth knowledge teach.

3 There is no speech, nor tongue, to which
Their voice doth not extend.

4 Their line is gone through all the earth,
Their words to the world's end.

In them he set the sun a tent,

5 Who bridegroom-like forth goes
From's chamber, as a strong man doth,
To run his race, rejoice.

6 From heav'ns end is his going forth,
Circling to th' end again:

And there is nothing from his heat
That hidden doth remain.

7 God's law is perfect, and converts
The soul in sin that lies:

God's testimony is most sure,
And makes the simple wise.

8 The statutes of the Lord are right,
And do rejoice the heart:

PSALM 20

The Lord's command is pure, and doth
Light to the eyes impart.

9 Unspotted is the fear of God,
And doth endure for ever :

The judgments of the Lord are true,
And righteous altogether.

10 They, more than gold, yea, much fine gold,
To be desired are :

'Than honey, honey from the comb
That droppeth, sweeter far.

11 Moreover, they thy servant warn
How he his life should frame :

A great reward provided is
For them that keep the same.

12 Who can his errors understand?
O cleanse thou me within

13 From secret faults. Thy servant keep
From all presumptuous sin ;

And do not suffer them to have
Dominion over me :

Then righteous and innocent
I from much sin shall be.

14 The words which from my mouth proceed,
The thoughts sent from my heart,

Accept, O Lord, for thou my strength
And my Redeemer art.

PSALM 20

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

Probably, this Psalm was composed, to be a prayer for success, in some particular expedition of David's wars. Here (1) The people pray for their king; that God would grant him his requests; protect, assist, and strengthen him, in his work; accept his oblations; and succeed his projects for the public welfare, ver. 1,—4. (2) They

PSALM - 20

triumph in God, as their only strength and deliverer, in whom they shall be more than conquerors, ver. 5, 6.—¶ Let not me forget Jesus, for whom prayer is made continually;—Jesus, who shall daily be praised; and whom the Father heareth always; accepts his sacrifice, and crowns him with glory and honour. And let no creature, but Jehovah as my God in Christ, be the ground and the object, of all my faith and expectation.

- J**EHOVAH hear thee in the day
When trouble he doth send;
And let the name of Jacob's God
Thee from all ill defend.
- 2 O let him help send from above,
Out of his sanctuary:
From Zion, his own holy hill,
Let him give strength to thee.
- 3 Let him remember all thy gifts,
Accept thy sacrifice:
- 4 Grant thee thine heart's wish, and fulfil
Thy thoughts and counsel wise.
- 5 In thy salvation we will joy;
In our God's name we will
Display our banners: and the Lord
Thy prayers all fulfil.
- 6 Now know I, God his king doth save:
He from his holy heav'n
Will hear him, with the saving strength
By his own right hand giv'n.
- 7 In chariots some put confidence,
Some horses trust upon:
But we remember will the name
Of our Lord God alone.
- 8 We rise, and upright stand, when they
Are bowed down, and fall.
- 9 Deliver, Lord, and let the King
Us hear, when we do call.

PSALM 21

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

In this Song of thanksgiving, observe (1) All the joys, the honours, and happiness, of King David, founded in the perfections and gracious works of God, ver. 1,—6. (2) Full assurance of the stability of David's throne, and of the discovery and destruction of his implacable opposers, ver. 7,—12. (3) Earnest supplications to God, for the exhilarating displays of his glory and power, ver. 13.—¶ But chiefly, my soul, behold here, the everlasting honours, joys, happiness, and blessed influences of thy Redeemer! Behold how fixed is his kingdom and dignity, in the infinite, everlasting, and unchangeable, wisdom, power, mercy, equity, goodness and truth of the Most High! Behold, what inexpressible vengeance kindles upon and destroys his Jewish;—his Heathen;—his Antichristian;—and other incorrigible foes!—Rejoice, my soul, in this God thy Saviour. Rejoice at the glory wherewith he is crowned;—at the life granted to, and lodged in him; and in his being made blessings for evermore to MEN,—Blessings for evermore to ME. And, let the ruinous overthrow of his Jewish or other enemies, make me stand in awe to provoke him, by presumptuous refusal of him, or rebellion against him.

THE king in thy great strength, O Lord,
Shall very joyful be;
In thy salvation rejoice
How veh'mently shall he!
2 Thou hast bestowed upon him
All that his heart would have,
And thou from him didst not with-hold
Whate'er his lips did crave.
3 For thou with blessings him prevent'st
Of goodness manifold;
And thou hast set upon his head
A crown of purest gold.
4 When he desired life of thee,
Thou life to him didst give;
Ev'n such a length of days, that he
For evermore should live.
5 In that salvation wrought by thee,
His glory is made great;

PSALM 21

Honour and comely majesty

Thou hast upon him set.

6 Because that thou for evermore

Most blessed hast him made ;

And thou hast with thy countenance

Made him exceeding glad.

7 Because the king upon the Lord

His confidence doth lay,

And through the grace of the Most High

Shall not be mov'd away.

8 Thine hand shall all those men find out

That en'mies are to thee,

Ev'n thy right-hand shall find out those

Of thee that haters be.

9 Like fiery ov'n thou shalt them make,

When kindled is thine ire :

God shall them swallow in his wrath,

Devour them shall the fire.

10 Their fruit from earth thou shalt destroy,

Their seed men from among.

11 For they, beyond their might, 'gainst thee

Did plot mischief and wrong.

12 Thou therefore shalt make them turn back,

When thou thy shafts shalt place

Upon thy strings, made ready all

To fly against their face.

13 In thy great pow'r and strength, O Lord,

Be thou exalted high :

So shall we sing with joyful hearts,

Thy power praise shall we.

PSALM 22

To the chief Musician upon Aijeleth Shahar, A Psalm of David.

Here the debasement and exaltation of David king of Israel are merely subservient to, and figurative of, the debasement and exaltation of Jesus Christ, our blessed **AJJELETH SHAHAR**, *Hind of the morning*. I. In this deep debasement, we find (1) Bitter, but kindly and believing, complaints of God's withdrawal,—attended with earnest attempts of faith to quiet the complainer's soul under it,—drawn from the consideration of God's holiness and highness, and his seasonable deliverance of his people in former times, when they cried to him, ver. 1,—5. (2) Bitter complaints of men's reproaches and contemptuous derision,—attended with self-encouragements, drawn from former experience of God's early and seasonable care and friendship, ver. 6,—10. (3) Bitter complaints of the number and rage of enemies, attended with exquisite agonies of body and mind, and mingled with earnest prayers for God's speedy supports, assistance, and powerful deliverance, ver. 11,—22.—¶ While I sing these, let me behold the vileness, the criminality, the destructive influence, of sin! Let me behold the sovereignty of God, who not only scourgeth every son whom he receiveth, but spared not his **ONLY BEGOTTEN SON**, but delivered him up for us all! Behold, how he hates! How he punisheth our sin! And what manner of love he bestowed upon us, that we might be called the sons of God! Behold! how he commendeth his love unto us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us! And if Jesus, with patience bore such desertion, reproach, and distress, let me, in the firm faith that he did all for me; and that God is mine, and maketh all things work for my good, study an unhampered resignation to his will.

II. By the typical exaltation of David, and the increase, happiness, honour, and duration of his kingdom, we have prefigured the glorious exaltation of our Redeemer, importing, That he should have a church among men; that his Father should be glorified in them as well as in him;—that his true subjects should abound in prayer, praise, and spiritual comfort, and everlasting life;—and that his church should be enlarged with multitudes, of both Jews and Gentiles; and should, to his honour, and for his worship and service, continue to all generations, ver. 22,—31.—¶ While I sing this, let me trust, and rejoice in, and plead his promises, relative to myself and his church. Let me ponder, whether I have heard his voice, shared his saving pity, feasted on his spiritual provision, and worshipped him in spirit, and in truth? And whether it is the desire of my soul to cause his name to be remembered to all generations.

MY God, my God, why hast thou me
 Forsaken? why so far
 Art thou from helping me, and from
 My words that roaring are?

PSALM 22

- 2 All day, my God, to thee I cry,
 Yet am not heard by thee;
 And in the season of the night
 I cannot silent be.
- 3 But thou art holy, thou that dost
 Inhabit Isra'l's praise.
- 4 Our fathers hop'd in thee, they hop'd,
 And thou didst them release.
- 5 When unto thee they sent their cry,
 To them deliv'rance came:
 Because they put their trust in thee,
 They were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, a worm I am,
 And as no man am priz'd:
 Reproach of men I am, and by
 The people am despised.
- 7 All that me see, laugh me to scorn;
 Shoot out the lip do they;
 They nod and shake their heads at me,
 And mocking, thus do say,
- 8 This man did trust in God, that he
 Would free him by his might:
 Let him deliver him, saith he
 Had in him such delight.
- 9 But thou art he out of the womb
 That didst me safely take:
 When I was on my mother's breasts,
 Thou me to hope didst make.
- 10 And I was cast upon thy care,
 Ev'n from the womb till now:
 And from my mother's belly, Lord,
 My God and guide art thou.

PSALM 22

- 11 Be not far off, for grief is near ;
And none to help is found.
- 12 Bulls many compass me ; strong bulls
Of Bashan me surround.
- 13 Their mouths they open'd wide on me,
Upon me gape did they,
Like to a lion ravening
And roaring for his prey.
- 14 Like water I'm pour'd out, my bones
All out of joint do part :
Amidst my bowels, as the wax,
So melted is my heart.
- 15 My strength is like a potsherd dry'd :
My tongue it cleaveth fast
Unto my jaws ; and to the dust
Of death thou brought me hast.
- 16 For dogs have compass'd me about :
The wicked that did meet
In their assembly me inclos'd,
They pierced my hands and feet.
- 17 I all my bones may tell : they do
Upon me look and stare.
- 18 Upon my vesture lots they cast,
And clothes among them share.
- 19 But be not far, O Lord, my strength,
Haste to give help to me.
- 20 From sword my soul, from pow'r of dogs
My darling set thou free.
- 21 Out of the roaring lion's mouth,
Do thou me shield and save :
For from the horns of unicorns
An ear to me thou gave.

PSALM 22

- 22 I will shew forth thy name unto
Those that my brethren are :
Amidst the congregation
Thy praise I will declare.
- 23 Praise ye the Lord, who do him fear ;
Him glorify, all ye,
The seed of Jacob ; fear him, all
That Isra'l's children be.
- 24 For he despis'd not, nor abhorr'd
Th' afflicted's misery :
Nor from him hid his face, but heard
When he to him did cry.
- 25 Within the congregation great
My praise shall be of thee :
My vows, before them that him fear,
Shall be perform'd by me.
- 26 The meek shall eat, and shall be fill'd :
They also praise shall give
Unto the Lord, that do him seek ;
Your heart shall ever live.
- 27 All ends of th' earth remember shall,
And turn the Lord unto :
All kindreds of the nations
To him shall homage do :
- 28 Because the kingdom to the Lord
Doth appertain, as his ;
Likewise among the nations
The Governor he is.
- 29 Earth's fat ones eat, and worship shall :
All who to dust descend,
Shall bow to him : none of them can
His soul from death defend.

PSALM 23

30 A seed shall service do to him,
Unto the Lord it shall
Be for a generation
Reck'ned in ages all.

31 They shall come, and they shall declare
His truth and righteousness
Unto a people yet unborn,
And that he hath done this.

PSALM 23

A Psalm of David.

Here is the children's Psalm, and which is, in very deed, a noted Song, of all the children of God. Behold (1) New covenant relation to God, as a full and everlasting security against hurtful wants, ver. 1. (2) Pleasant experience of God's acting up to his new covenant character in disposing of, directing, assisting, and comforting his people, ver. 2, 3, 5. (3) Well grounded hopes of God's careful and seasonable supplies; and of his comfortable presence and help, amidst distress and death; and of the perpetual and everlasting manifestation of his mercy and grace to us-ward; and of our endless nearness to, and immediate enjoyment of him, ver. 1, 4, 5, 6. —¶ While I sing, let me think as before God, whether I have the experimental knowledge of all these things. Let my soul be as a daughter of the horse-leech, crying mightily GIVE, GIVE what is good. And let me in all these forms, taste and see that God is good.

THE Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.
2 He makes me down to ly
In pastures green : he leadeth me
The quiet waters by.
3 My soul he doth restore again ;
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness,
Ev'n for his own name's sake.
4 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
Yet will I fear none ill :
For thou art with me, and thy rod
And staff me comfort still.

PSALM 24

- 5 My table thou hast furnished,
In presence of my foes :
My head thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.
- 6 Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me :
And in God's house for evermore
My dwelling-place shall be.

PSALM 24

A Psalm of David.

Probably this Psalm was penned for the use of the Hebrews, when David brought up the ark of God to Jerusalem; or, when Solomon brought it into the temple, 2 Sam. vi. 1 Kings, viii.—in order to raise their hearts above their external ceremonies, to a reception of, and walking in Christ, who was thereby prefigured. Observe (1) Christ's kingdom of nature, comprehending the whole world and all the inhabitants thereof, ver. 1, 2. (2) His kingdom of grace, in the nature of it; the gracious character of its subjects; and their charter to their everlasting happiness above, 3,—6. (3) Under the figure of a call to admit the ark, we have a solemn summons issued forth by God for the heavens to receive Jesus our glorious and almighty King, into their blissful abodes in his ascension: And for us, to receive him into our hearts and societies below, ver. 7,—10.—¶ While I sing, let me be affected, with the double claim, the Redeemer hath on me, as his creature, and as his ransomed one. Let me try, whether I possess the distinguishing characters of a real saint: And whether I have received an abundance of the gift of righteousness, and of blessedness, from the God of my salvation. Let me charge, let me rouse up all my inward powers, to receive Jesus Christ the Lord, as made of God, unto me, wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.

THE earth belongs unto the Lord,
And all that it contains :
The world that is inhabited,
And all that there remains.

2 For the foundations thereof
He on the seas did lay,
And he hath it established
Upon the floods to stay.

PSALM 24

3 Who is the man that shall ascend
Into the hill of God?

Or who within his holy place
Shall have a firm abode?

4 Whose hands are clean, whose heart is pure
And unto vanity.

Who hath not lifted up his soul,
Nor sworn deceitfully.

5 He from th' Eternal shall receive
The blessing him upon,
And righteousness, ev'n from the God
Of his salvation.

6 This is the generation
That after him enquire,
O Jacob, who do seek thy face,
With their whole hearts desire.

7 Ye gates, lift up your heads on high,
Ye doors that last for ay,
Be lifted up, that so the King
Of glory enter may.

8 But who of glory is the King?
The mighty Lord is this,
Ev'n that same Lord, that great in might
And strong in battle is.

9 Ye gates, lift up your heads, ye doors,
Doors that do last for ay,
Be lifted up, that so the King
Of glory enter may.

10 But who is he that is the King
Of glory? who is this?
The Lord of hosts, and none but he,
The King of glory is.

PSALM 25

A Psalm of David.

In singing this Psalm, let me observe (1) What serious work prayer is, What lifting up of soul;—what directing of eyes, to God, and fixing them on him, must be in it, ver. 1,—15. (2) What mercies ought to be prayed for, pardon of sin, ver. 6, 7,—8.—direction in duty, ver. 4, 5.—familiar intimacy with God, ver. 16.—deliverance from trouble, ver. 17, 18.—preservation from adversaries, ver. 20, 21. And in fine, safety and deliverance to the Church, ver. 22. (3) What pleas are proper to be used in prayer;—as the trust we have reposed in God, ver. 2, 3, 5,—20, 21.—Our own divinely effected sincerity in the Lord's way, ver. 21.—Our distress, and the malice of our enemies, ver. 2, 16,—19.—But chiefly the mercy that is in God, and the glory which redounds to his name from his bestowing of new-covenant favours, ver. 6, 7,—11. (4) Strong encouragements to prayer, taken from the perfections of God's nature; and from his promises of instruction and direction; and from the fulness and grace of his Covenant; and from his delight in allowing men familiar intimacy and fellowship with himself, ver. 8,—4.—
¶ Let these things, my soul, be the object of thy strictest care and attention, in all thy addresses to God.

TO thee I lift my soul :
2 O Lord, I trust in thee :
My God, let me not be asham'd,
Nor foes triumph o'er me.
3 Let none that wait on thee,
Be put to shame at all ;
But those that without cause transgress,
Let shame upon them fall.
4 Shew me thy ways, O Lord ;
Thy paths, O teach thou me :
5 And do thou lead me in thy truth,
Therein my teacher be :
For thou art God that dost
To me salvation send,
And I upon thee, all the day
Expecting do attend.
6 Thy tender mercies, Lord,
I pray thee to remember,

PSALM 25

And loving-kindnesses ; for they
Have been of old for ever.

7 My sins and faults of youth,
Do thou, O Lord, forget :

After thy mercy think on me,
And for thy goodness great.

8 God good and upright is :
The way he'll sinners shew.

9 The meek in judgment he will guide,
And make his path to know.

10 The whole paths of the Lord
Are truth and mercy sure,

To those that do his cov'nant keep,
And testimonies pure.

11 Now, for thine own name's sake,
O Lord, I thee intreat

To pardon mine iniquity ;
For it is very great.

12 What man is he that fears
The Lord, and doth him serve ?

Him shall he teach the way that he
Shall choose, and still observe.

13 His soul shall dwell at ease ;
And his posterity

Shall flourish still, and of the earth
Inheritors shall be.

14 With those that fear him is
The secret of the Lord :

The knowledge of his covenant
He will to them afford.

15 Mine eyes upon the Lord
Continually are set :

PSALM 25

For he it is that shall bring forth
My feet out of the net.

16 Turn unto me thy face,
And to me mercy show :

Because that I am desolate,
And am brought very low.

17 My heart's griefs are increas'd ;
Me from distress relieve.

18 See mine affliction and my pain,
And all my sins forgive.

19 Consider thou my foes,
Because they many are,
And it a cruel hatred is
Which they against me bear.

20 O do thou keep my soul,
Do thou deliver me :
And let me never be asham'd,
Because I trust in thee.

21 Let uprightness and truth,
Keep me, who thee attend.

22 Redemption, Lord, to Israel
From all his troubles send.

Another of the same.

TO thee I lift my soul, O Lord :
2 My God, I trust in thee :
Let me not be asham'd ; let not
My foes triumph o'er me.

3 Yea, let thou none ashamed be,
That do on thee attend :
Asham'd let them be, O Lord,
Who without cause offend.

4 Thy ways, Lord, shew ; teach me thy paths,
5 Lead me in truth, teach me :

PSALM 25

For of my safety thou art God,
All day I wait on thee.

6 Thy mercies, that most tender are,
Do thou, O Lord, remember,
And loving-kindnesses; for they
Have been of old for ever.

7 Let not the errors of my youth,
Nor sins rememb'ed be:

In mercy, for thy goodness sake,
O Lord, remember me.

8 The Lord is good and gracious,
He upright is also:

He therefore sinners will instruct
In ways that they should go.

9 The meek and lowly he will guide
In judgment just alway:

To meek and poor afflicted ones,
He'll clearly teach his way.

10 The whole paths of the Lord our God
Are truth and mercy sure,

To such as keep his covenant,
And testimonies pure.

11 Now for thine own name's sake, O Lord,
I humbly thee intreat

To pardon mine iniquity;
For it is very great.

12 What man fears God? him shall he teach
The way that he shall chuse.

13 His soul shall dwell at ease, his seed
The earth, as heirs, shall use.

14 The secret of the Lord is with
Such as do fear his name,

And he his holy covenant
Will manifest to them.

PSALM 26

- 15 Towards the Lord my waiting eyes
Continually are set:
For he it is that shall bring forth
My feet out of the net.
- 16 O turn thee unto me, O God,
Have mercy me upon;
Because I solitary am,
And in affliction.
- 17 Enlarg'd the griefs are of mine heart:
Me from distress relieve.
- 18 See mine affliction and my pain,
And all my sins forgive.
- 19 Consider thou mine enemies,
Because they many are;
And it a cruel hatred is
Which they against me bear.
- 20 O do thou keep my soul, O God,
Do thou deliver me:
Let me not be asham'd; for I
Do put my trust in thee.
- 21 O let integrity and truth
Keep me who thee attend.
- 22 Redemption, Lord, to Israel
From all his troubles send.

PSALM 26

A Psalm of David.

Here (1) David solemnly appeals to God, concerning his integrity; his constant regard to him and his grace; his regular attendance upon instituted ordinances; and his fixed aversion to sin and sinners, ver. 1, —8. (2) He deprecates from himself, the condemnation of the wicked, and his being shut up in society with them, ver. 9, 10. (3) Depending on the mercy of God, he resolves to hold fast his integrity, and maintain his confident hopes of eternal life, ver. 11, 12. —¶ While I sing, let the perfect God-man come into my mind. Let me wash myself in his blood, and so compass God's altar with songs of praise for his favours. Making Jesus' example my pattern; let his ordinances be my pleasure, and his people my sole intimates and familiars on earth.

PSALM 26

JUDGE me, O Lord, for I have walk'd
In mine integrity :

I trusted also in the Lord ;

Slide therefore shall not I.

2 Examine me, and do me prove ;

Try heart and reins, O God.

3 For thy love is before mine eyes,

Thy truth's paths I have trod.

4 With persons vain I have not sat,

Nor with dissemblers gone.

5 Th' assembly of ill men I hate :

To sit with such I shun.

6 Mine hands in innocence, O Lord,

I'll wash and purify :

So to thine holy altar go,

And compass it will I.

7 That I, with voice of thanksgiving,

May publish and declare,

And tell of all thy mighty works

That great and wondrous are.

8 The habitation of thy house,

Lord, I have loved well,

Yea, in that place I do delight,

Where doth thine honour dwell.

9 With sinners gather not my soul,

And such as blood would spill :

10 Whose hands mischievous plots, right hand

Corrupting bribes do fill.

11 But as for me, I will walk on

In mine integrity :

Do thou redeem me, and, O Lord,

Be merciful to me.

12 My foot upon an even place,

Doth stand with stedfastness ;

PSALM 27

Within the congregations
Th' Eternal I will bless.

PSALM 27

A Psalm of David.

For thy instruction, my soul, behold here, (1) The holy courage and undaunted bravery of true faith, amidst manifold dangers and enemies ver. 1,—3. (2) What earnestness there ought to be; and what pleasure, profit and honour, there are, in the study of familiar fellowship with God, ver. 4,—6. (3) Fervent desires, with strong cries and supplications, for the gracious favour, spiritual presence, and saving direction, and protection of God, ver. 7,—12. (4) Strong and encouraging expectations of help, favour and strength, from God, ver. 10,—13, 14. —¶ While I sing, let my soul enter into the very marrow of these matters. Let God himself be relied on, as my trust, my Saviour, and my ALL IN ALL. Let my heart burn with superlative desires after the knowledge and enjoyment of Him. Let nothing less than the most familiar communion with Him here, and the full enjoyment of Him hereafter, satisfy my longings. Let me readily embrace every invitation to seek his face. Amidst enemies and distresses unnumbered, let me always believe in, wait for, and boast of God my only Lord.

THE Lord's my light and saving health,
Who shall make me dismay'd?
My life's strength is the Lord, of whom
Then shall I be afraid.

2 When as mine enemies and foes,
Most wicked persons all,
To eat my flesh against me rose,
They stumbled and did fall.

3 Against me though an host encamp,
My heart yet fearless is:
Though war against me rise, I will
Be confident in this;

4 One thing I of the Lord desir'd,
And will seek to obtain,
That all days of my life I may
Within God's house remain:
That I the beauty of the Lord
Behold may and admire,
And that I in his holy place
May rev'rently inquire.

PSALM 27

5 For he, in his pavilion, shall
Me hide in evil days :
In secret of his tent me hide,
And on a rock me raise.

6 And now, ev'n at this present time,
Mine head shall lifted be
Above all those that are my foes,
And round encompass me :
Therefore unto his tabernacle
I'll sacrifices bring
Of joyfulness, I'll sing, yea, I
To God will praises sing.

7 O Lord, give ear unto my voice,
When I do cry to thee :
Upon me also mercy have,
And do thou answer me.

8 When thou didst say, Seek ye my face,
Then unto thee reply
Thus did my heart, Above all things,
Thy face, Lord, seek will I.

9 Far from me hide not thou thy face,
Put not away from thee
Thy servant in thy wrath : thou hast
An helper been to me.

O God of my salvation,
Leave me not, nor forsake ;

10 Though me my parents both should leave,
The Lord will me up take.

11 O Lord, instruct me in thy way,
To me a leader be

In a plain path, because of those
That hatred bear to me.

12 Give me not to mine en'mies will ;
For witnesses, that lie,

PSALM 28

Against me risen are, and such
As breathe out cruelty.

13 I fainted had, unless that I
Believed had to see

The Lord's own goodness, in the land
Of them that living be.

14 Wait on the Lord, and be thou strong
And he shall strength afford

Unto thine heart; yea, do thou wait,
I say, upon the Lord.

PSALM 28

A Psalm of David.

Observe here (1) David amidst great distress, earnestly supplicating deliverance from his God, ver. 1,—3. (2) His implacable enemies doomed to the just punishment of their sin, ver. 4, 5. (3) Himself triumphing in God, as the hearer of his prayers, and as his protector, help and strength, ver. 6,—8. (4) His solemn supplication for salvation and blessedness;—for nourishment, honour and safety, to the people of God, ver. 9.—¶ While I remember Jesus of Nazareth, whose cries in trouble were so vehement; whose implacable enemies incur such fearful misery; and who being exalted to the right hand of God, and made full of joy with his countenance, maketh continual intercession for his chosen race; let my soul lift up her voice to God for rich and everlasting blessings, to myself and to his church.

TO thee I'll cry, O Lord, my rock,
Hold not thy peace to me:

Lest, like those that to pit descend,
I by thy silence be.

2 The voice hear of my humble pray'rs,
When unto thee I cry:

When to thy holy oracle
I lift mine hands on high.

3 With ill men draw me not away,
That work iniquity:

That speak peace to their friends, while in
Their hearts doth mischief ly.

4 Give them according to their deeds,
And ills endeavoured:

PSALM 29

And as their handy-works deserve,
To them be rendered.

5 God shall not build, but them destroy,
Who would not understand
The Lord's own works, nor did regard
The doing of his hand.

6 For ever blessed be the Lord,
For graciously he heard
The voice of my petitions,
And prayers did regard.

7 The Lord's my strength and shield, my heart
Upon him did rely ;

And I am helped, hence my heart
Doth joy exceedingly,
And with my song I will him praise.

8 Their strength is God alone :
He also is the saving strength
Of his anointed One.

9 O thine own people do thou save,
Bless thine inheritance :

Them also do thou feed, and them
For evermore advance.

PSALM 29

A Psalm of David.

This Psalm was probably composed on the occasion of a thunder-storm. It is a solemn charge from heaven to great men to worship and glorify God ; who (1) in his magnificence and power thundereth in the most terrible, alarming and destructive manner, ver. 1,—9. (2) Who is supreme Governor of the world, and bestoweth strength and peace on his peculiar people, ver. 10, 11.—¶ While I sing, let me, by faith, behold the glory of God in Christ, and be filled with reverential awe of his power and grace. And while I adore his perfections, admire and praise his excellencies, let Jerusalem come into my mind : And let me apprehend the promise, and pour forth a prayer, for the remnant which is left.

GIVE ye unto the Lord, ye sons
That of the mighty be,

PSALM 29

All strength and glory to the Lord
With cheerfulness give ye.

2 Unto the Lord the glory give,
That to his name is due ;

And in the beauty of holiness,
Unto Jehovah bow.

3 The Lord's voice on the waters is :
The God of majesty

Doth thunder, and on multitudes
Of waters sitteth he.

4 A pow'ful voice it is, that comes
Out from the Lord most high ;

The voice of that great Lord is full
Of glorious Majesty.

5 The voice of the Eternal doth
Asunder cedars tear :

Yea, God the Lord doth cedars break
That Lebanon doth bear.

6 He makes them like a calf to skip,
Ev'n that great Lebanon,

And like to a young unicorn,
The mountain Sirion :

7 God's voice divides the flames of fire ;

8 The desert it doth shake :

The Lord doth make the wilderness
Of Kadesh all to quake.

9 God's voice doth make the hinds to calve,
It makes the forests bare :

And in his temple ev'ry one
His glory doth declare.

10 The Lord sits on the floods : the Lord
Sits King, and ever shall.

11 The Lord will give his people strength,
And with peace bless them all.

PSALM 30

A Psalm and Song at the dedication of the house of David.

In this Psalm, composed for the dedication of the new palace, which David had built for himself at Jerusalem, 2 Sam. v. 11; or for the dedication of it, after it had been polluted by Absalom, 2 Sam. xvi. He (1) Offers thanksgiving to God, for the answering of his prayers;—the overthrowing of his enemies;—and the preserving of his life, ver. 1,—3. 11, 12. (2) He calls and chargeth others, to praise the Lord on account of the purity of his nature, the short duration of his frowns; and the sweetness of his favours, ver. 4, 5. (3) He remarks, how his carnal security under prosperity had occasioned his sudden fall into divine hidings and frowns, ver. 6, 7. (4) He recollects what supplications he had made to God, in his former distress, ver. 8,—10. (5) He triumphs in the kindness of God towards him; and resolves to praise and thank him for evermore on account of it, ver. 11, 12.—¶ While I sing, let me, with a grateful heart, remember the Lord's mercies. Let me remember my own follies; and how the Lord corrected me for them. Let me look after my prayers, and wait for an answer. And the nearer my end draweth, let my heart and mouth be the more abundantly filled with the high praises of my God, and my Saviour.

LORD, I will thee extol, for thou
 Hast lifted me on high,
 And over me thou to rejoice
 Mad'st not mine enemy.

2 O thou who art the Lord my God,
 I in distress to thee
 With loud cries lifted up my voice,
 And thou hast healed me.

3 O Lord, my soul thou hast brought up,
 And rescu'd from the grave;
 That I to pit should not go down,
 Alive thou didst me save.

4 O ye that are his holy ones,
 Sing praise unto the Lord:
 And give him thanks, when you
 His holiness record.

5 For, but a moment lasts his wrath;
 Life in his favour lies:
 Weeping may for a night endure,
 At morn doth joy arise.

6 In my prosperity, I said,
 That nothing shall me move.

PSALM 31

- 7 O Lord, thou hast my mountain made
To stand strong by thy love :
But when that thou, O gracious God
Didst hide thy face from me,
Then quickly was my prosp'rous state
Turn'd into misery.
- 8 Wherefore unto the Lord my cry
I caused to ascend :
My humble supplication
I to the Lord did send.
- 9 What profit is there in my blood,
When I go down to pit ?
Shall unto thee the dust give praise ?
Thy truth declare shall it ?
- 10 Hear, Lord, have mercy, help me, Lord :
11 Thou turned hast my sadness
To dancing ; yea, my sackcloth loos'd,
And girded me with gladness.
- 12 That sing thy praise my glory may,
And never silent be :
O Lord my God, for evermore
I will give thanks to thee.

PSALM 31

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

Observe here (1) David's solemn professions of his dependence upon God ; and his prayers for support and deliverance, ver. 1,—8. (2) His sad complaints of inward grief, bodily weakness, unkindness of friends, unjust censures of enemies, and horror of death,—attended with a solemn commitment of himself to God's mercy and care, and earnest supplication for deliverance from enemies, ver. 9,—18. (3) Amidst admiration of God's kindness to his people, and thanksgiving for favours to himself, he encourageth himself and others, firmly to trust in God, ver. 19,—24.—¶ While I sing, let me, be deeply affected with my sores, my maladies, and troubles : and cast all my burdens on the Lord. In the assured faith, that He is God even my God, let me admire his gracious thoughts, words, and deeds to me-ward ; and commit myself wholly to his care and protection.

PSALM 31

IN thee, O Lord, I put my trust,
Sham'd let me never be :

According to thy righteousness,
Do thou deliver me.

2 Bow down thine ear to me, with speed
Send me deliverance :

To save me, my strong rock be thou,
And my house of defence.

3 Because thou art my rock, and thee
I for my fortress take :

Therefore do thou me lead and guide,
Ev'n for thine own name's sake.

4 And sith thou art my strength, therefore
Pull me out of the net,
Which they in subtilty for me
So privily have set.

5 Into thine hands I do commit
My sp'rit; for thou art he,
O thou JEHOVAH, God of truth,
Thou hast redeemed me.

6 Those that do lying vanities
Regard, I have abhor'd :

But as for me, my confidence
Is fixed on the Lord.

7 I'll in thy mercy gladly joy :
For thou my miseries
Consider'd hast ; thou hast my soul
Known in adversities :

8 And thou hast not inclosed me
Within the en'my's hand ;
And by thee have my feet been made
In a large room to stand.

9 O Lord, upon me mercy have,
For trouble is on me :

PSALM 31

Mine eye, my belly, and my soul
With grief consumed be.

10 Because my life with grief is spent,
My years with sighs and groans :
My strength doth fail ; and for my sin
Consumed are my bones.

11 I was a scorn to all my foes,
And to my friends a fear :
And specially reproach'd of those
That were my neighbours near :
When they me saw, they from me fled.

12 Ev'n so I am forgot,
As men are out of mind when dead :
I'm like a broken pot.

13 For slanders I of many heard,
Fear compass'd me, while they
Against me did consult and plot,
To take my life away.

14 But as for me, O Lord, my trust
Upon thee I did lay :
And I to thee, Thou art my God,
Did confidently say.

15 My times are wholly in thine hand :
Do thou deliver me
From their hands, that mine enemies
And persecutors be.

16 Thy countenance to shine do thou
Upon thy servant make :
Unto me give salvation,
For thy great mercy's sake.

17 Let me not be ashamed, O Lord,
For on thee call'd I have :
Let wicked men be sham'd, let them
Be silent in the grave.

PSALM 32

- 18 To silence put the lying lips,
That grievous things do say,
And hard reports, in pride and scorn,
On righteous men do lay.
- 19 How great's the goodness thou for them
That fear thee keep'st in store;
And wrought'st for them that trust in thee,
The sons of men before!
- 20 In secret of thy presence, thou
Shalt hide them from man's pride:
From strife of tongues, thou closely shalt,
As in a tent, them hide.
- 21 All praise and thanks be to the Lord;
For he hath magnify'd
His wondrous love to me, within
A city fortify'd.
- 22 For from thine eyes cut off I am,
(I in my haste had said;)
My voice yet heard'st thou, when to thee
With cries my moan I made.
- 23 O love the Lord, all ye his saints;
Because the Lord doth guard
The faithful, and he plent'ously
Proud doers doth reward.
- 24 Be of good courage, and he strength
Unto your hearts shall send,
All ye whose hope and confidence
Doth on the Lord depend.

PSALM 32

A Psalm of David, Maschil.

Perhaps this Psalm was composed for the great day of the national atonement, on the tenth day of the seventh month, Lev. xvi. In it, Observe (1) The exceeding riches of the grace of God manifested in blessing men with forgiveness of sin, and with protection amidst dangers, and direction in duty, ver. 1, 2, 7, 8. (2) The indispensable duty of them who desire new-covenant blessings,—viz. to acknowledge their

PSALM 32

offences to God;—to implore his favours, which they need;—to walk humbly and circumspectly before him, and to rejoice in him as God and their God, ver. 3,—6. 9,—11.—¶ While I am truly conscious of my sinfulness, and deeply affected therewith, let the faith and experience of Jesus' full pardon of my sins and of the communications of his grace, melt my heart and animate me to every commanded duty.

O BLESSED is the man, to whom
 Is freely pardoned
 All the transgression he hath done,
 Whose sin is covered.

2 Blest is the man, to whom the Lord
 Imputeth not his sin,
 And in whose sp'rit there is no guile,
 Nor fraud is found therein.

3 When as I did refrain my speech,
 And silent was my tongue;
 My bones then waxed old, because
 I roared all day long.

4 For upon me, both day and night,
 Thine hand did heavy ly;
 So that my moisture turned is
 In summer's drought thereby.

5 I thereupon have unto thee
 My sin acknowledged,
 And likewise mine iniquity
 I have not covered:
 I will confess unto the Lord
 My trespasses, said I;
 And of my sin thou freely didst
 Forgive th' iniquity.

6 For this shall ev'ry godly one
 His prayer make to thee,
 In such a time he shall thee seek,
 As found thou mayest be.
 Surely, when floods of waters great
 Do swell up to the brim,

PSALM 33

- They shall not overwhelm his soul,
 Nor once come near to him.
- 7 Thou art my hiding-place, thou shalt
 From trouble keep me free :
 Thou, with songs of deliverance,
 About shalt compass me.
- 8 I will instruct thee, and thee teach
 The way that thou shalt go :
 And, with mine eye upon thee set,
 I will direction show.
- 9 Then be not like the horse or mule,
 Which do not understand ;
 Whose mouth, lest they come near to thee,
 A bridle must command.
- 10 Unto the man that wicked is,
 His sorrow shall abound ;
 But him that trusteth in the Lord,
 Mercy shall compass round.
- 11 Ye righteous in the Lord be glad,
 In him do ye rejoice :
 All ye that upright are in heart,
 For joy lift up your voice.

PSALM 33

Contains a sweet, but solemn summons to praise the Lord, (1) For his justice, goodness, and truth, manifested in his word and works, ver. 1,—5. (2) For his power manifested in the work of creation, and in his sovereign dominion over the world, ver. 6,—11. 13,—17. (3) For his special and new-covenant relations, and merciful kindness towards his chosen people, ver. 12. 18,—22.—¶ While I sing, let me observe, let me admire, and be deeply affected with, the blessings of Creation, Providence, and Redemption. And, chiefly, let me remember, let me behold, let me glow with ardent desire after him, whose bones the Lord so kept, that not one of them was broken.

YE righteous in the Lord rejoice,
 It comely is, and right :
 That upright men, with thankful voice,
 Should praise the Lord of might.

PSALM 33

- 2 Praise God with harp ; and unto him
Sing with the psaltery,
Upon a ten-string'd instrument
Make ye sweet melody.
- 3 A new song to him sing, and play
With loud noise skilfully :
- 4 For right is God's word ; all his works
Are done in verity.
- 5 To judgment and to righteousness
A love he beareth still :
The loving-kindness of the Lord
The earth throughout doth fill.
- 6 The heavens, by the word of God,
Did their beginning take ;
And, by the breathing of his mouth,
He all their hosts did make.
- 7 The waters of the seas he brings,
Together as an heap :
And, in store-houses, as it were,
He layeth up the deep.
- 8 Let earth, and all that live therein,
With rev'rence fear the Lord :
Let all the world's inhabitants
Dread him with one accord.
- 9 For he did speak the word, and done
It was without delay ;
Established it firmly stood,
Whatever he did say.
- 10 God doth the counsel bring to nought
Which heathen folk do take ;
And what the people do devise
Of none effect doth make.
- 11 O ! but the counsel of the Lord
Doth stand for ever sure ;

PSALM 34

And of his heart the purposes
From age to age endure.

12 That nation blessed is, whose God
JEHOVAH is, and those
A blessed people are, whom for
His heritage he chose.

13 The Lord from heav'n sees and beholds
All sons of men full well.

14 He views all, from his dwelling-place,
That on the earth do dwell.

15 He forms their hearts alike, and all
Their doings he observes.

16 Great hosts save not a king, much strength
No mighty man preserves.

17 An horse for preservation
Is a deceitful thing :

And, by the greatness of his strength,
Can no deliv'rance bring.

18 Behold, on those that do him fear
The Lord doth set his eye ;

Ev'n those who on his mercy do
With confidence rely.

19 From death to free their soul, in dearth
Life unto them to yield.

20 Our soul doth wait upon the Lord,
He is our help and shield.

21 Sith in his holy name we trust,
Our heart shall joyful be.

22 Lord, let thy mercy be on us,
As we do hope in thee.

PSALM 34

A Psalm of David, when he changed his behaviour before Abimelech, who drove him away, and he departed.

This Psalm was composed by David when Achish, or Abimelech,

PSALM 34

king of Gath, drove him from his court, as an idiot or madman, 1 Sam. xxi. ver. 10,—25. Here are (1) David's high praises to God, for the favours himself and others had received, ver. 1,—6. (2) His warm invitations and strong encouragements to others, to seek after and fear the Lord, and to trust in him for all necessary supplies, in time, or in eternity, ver. 7,—10. (3) Familiar advices to children and others, to eschew every thing sinful, and make conscience of known duty, both towards God and men, as a means of present and future happiness, ver. 11,—14. (4) A representation of the misery of the wicked, in having God against them, as an avenging enemy; and in having ruin before them, as the just reward of their sins—and of the happiness of the godly, in having God near to them in every case; ready to hear their requests, and to protect them amidst dangers, and to deliver them from enemies and trouble, ver. 15,—22.—¶ While I sing, let my heart be warmed with my subject. Come, my soul, and walk in this light, in these joys of the Lord. Come, taste and see that he is good. Extol his kindness, and trust him in all things, and on every occasion.

GOD will I bless all times; his praise
My mouth shall still express.

2 My soul shall boast in God: the meek
Shall hear with joyfulness.

3 Extol the Lord with me, let us
Exalt his name together.

4 I sought the Lord, he heard, and did
Me from all fears deliver.

5 They look'd to him and light'ned were;
Not shamed were their faces.

6 This poor man cry'd, God heard, and sav'd
Him from all his distresses.

7 The angel of the Lord encamps,
And round encompasseth,

All those about that do him fear,
And them delivereth.

8 O taste and see that God is good:
Who trusts in him is blest.

9 Fear God, his saints: none that him fear,
Shall be with want opprest.

10 The lions young may hungry be,
And they may lack their food:

But they that truly seek the Lord
Shall not lack any good.

PSALM 34

- 11 O children, hither do ye come,
And unto me give ear:
I shall you teach to understand
How ye the Lord should fear.
- 12 What man is he that life desires,
To see good would live long?
- 13 Thy lips refrain from speaking guile,
And from ill words thy tongue.
- 14 Depart from ill, do good, seek peace,
Pursue it earnestly.
- 15 God's eyes are on the just; his ears
Are open to their cry.
- 16 The face of God is set against
Those that do wickedly;
That he may quite out from the earth
Cut off their memory.
- 17 The righteous cry unto the Lord,
He unto them gives ear;
And they out of their troubles all
By him deliver'd are.
- 18 The Lord is ever nigh to them
That be of broken spirit:
To them he safety doth afford
That are in heart contrite.
- 19 The troubles that afflict the just,
In number many be:
But yet at length out of them all
The Lord doth set him free.
- 20 He carefully his bones doth keep,
Whatever can befall:
That not so much as one of them
Can broken be at all.
- 21 Ill shall the wicked slay; laid waste
Shall be, who hate the just.

PSALM 35

22 The Lord redeems his servants souls :
None perish that him trust.

PSALM 35

A Psalm of David.

In this Psalm (1) David complains of the cruelty of his enemies, in striving with him,—in persecuting him,—in seeking his ruin,—and in reproaching, contemning, deriding, and triumphing over him, ver. 1. 3, 4. 7. 11. 15, 16. 20, 21. 25, 26 (2) He pleads his own innocency, that he had never given them any provocation; but amidst their abuse of him, had earnestly and affectionately studied to promote their welfare, ver. 7. 19. 12,—14. (3) He supplicates, that God would espouse his cause; protect, deliver, and comfort his soul; defeat the designs, and disappoint the expectations of his enemies:—and that he would countenance, and encourage his friends, ver. 1, 2. 4. 17. 22,—27. (4) He predicts the destruction of his enemies, and the abounding of his own comfort; and, in the views hereof, resolves to thank and praise the Lord, ver. 4,—10. 18. 28.—¶ While I sing, let me, with grief and shame, call to mind the infernal opposition, I and others have made to our all-compassionate Redeemer. Let me beware of exposing myself to that vengeance, which is laid up in store, for his incorrigible enemies. Let me never avenge myself on my injurious neighbours. But amidst all attacks from hell or earth, or from my own corrupt heart, let me commit all my concerns to him, who judgeth righteously, that he may bring them to pass.

PLEAD, Lord, with those that plead; and fight
With those that fight with me.

2 Of shield and buckler take thou hold,
Stand up mine help to be.

3 Draw also out the spear, and do
Against them stop the way,

That me pursue: unto my soul,
I'm thy salvation, say:

4 Let them confounded be, and sham'd,
That for my soul have sought:

Who plot my hurt, turn'd back be they,
And to confusion brought.

5 Let them be like unto the chaff,
That flies before the wind;

And let the angel of the Lord
Pursue them hard behind.

PSALM 35

- 6 With darkness cover thou their way,
 And let it slipp'ry prove :
 And let the angel of the Lord
 Pursue them from above.
- 7 For, without cause, have they for me
 Their net hid in a pit ;
 They also have, without a cause,
 For my soul digged it.
- 8 Let ruin seize him unawares,
 His net he hid withal
 Himself let catch ; and in the same
 Destruction let him fall.
- 9 My soul in God shall joy ; and glad
 In his salvation be :
- 10 And all my bones shall say, O Lord,
 Who is like unto thee,
 Which dost the poor set free from him
 That is for him too strong ;
 The poor and needy from the man
 That spoils and does him wrong !
- 11 False witnesses rose ; to my charge
 Things I not knew they laid.
- 12 They, to the spoiling of my soul,
 Me ill for good repaid.
- 13 But as for me, when they were sick,
 In sackcloth sad I mourn'd :
 My humbled soul did fast, my pray'r
 Into my bosom turn'd.
- 14 Myself I did behave, as he
 Had been my friend or brother :
 I heavily bow'd down, as one
 That mourneth for his mother.
- 15 But in my trouble they rejoic'd,
 Gath'ring themselves together ;

PSALM 35

- Yea, abjects vile together did
 Themselves against me gather ;
 I knew it not, they did me tear,
 And quiet would not be.
- 16 With mocking hypocrites, at feasts
 They gnash'd their teeth at me.
- 17 How long, Lord, look'st thou on? from those
 Destructions they intend
 Rescue my soul, from lions young
 My darling do defend,
- 18 I will give thanks to thee, O Lord,
 Within th' assembly great ;
 And, where much people gather'd are,
 Thy praises forth will set.
- 19 Let not my wrongful enemies
 Proudly rejoice o'er me :
 Nor, who me hate without a cause,
 Let them wink with the eye.
- 20 For peace they do not speak at all :
 But crafty plots prepare
 Against all those within the land
 That meek and quiet are.
- 21 With mouths set wide, they 'gainst me said,
 Ha, ha, our eye doth see.
- 22 Lord, thou hast seen, hold not thy peace :
 Lord, be not far from me.
- 23 Stir up thyself, wake, that thou may'st
 Judgment to me afford :
 Ev'n to my cause, O thou that art
 My only God and Lord.
- 24 O Lord my God, do thou me judge
 After thy righteousness ;
 And let them not their joy 'gainst me
 Triumphantly express.

PSALM 36

- 25 Nor let them say within their hearts,
 Ah, we would have it thus ;
 Nor suffer them to say that he
 Is swallow'd up by us.
- 26 Sham'd and confounded be they all
 That at my hurt are glad :
 Let those against me that do boast,
 With shame and scorn be clad.
- 27 Let them that love my righteous cause
 Be glad, shout, and not cease
 To say, the Lord be magnify'd,
 Who loves his servant's peace.
- 28 Thy righteousness shall also be
 Declared by my tongue ;
 The praises that belong to thee
 Speak shall it all day long.

PSALM 36

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, the servant of the LORD.

Observe here (1) How great is the wickedness of men! They naturally contemn God; flatter themselves in sin; and abandon themselves to falsehood and mischief, ver. 1,—4. (2) How great is the excellency of God, in truth, in righteousness, and in mercy! And what a fountain of preservation, support, comfort, light, and life, he is to his people! ver. 5,—9. (3) How, from the excellency and goodness of God, the Psalmist draws encouragement, to pray for himself and other saints;—and to triumph in the view of his enemies ruin, ver. 10,—12.—¶ While I sing, let me review my natural abominations and wretchedness, and try, whether the Lord hath made me a new creature, created in Christ Jesus unto good works; and whether he hath made me taste of, admire, and trust in, the exceeding riches of his grace.

THE wicked man's transgression,
 Within my heart thus says,
 Undoubtedly the fear of God
 Is not before his eyes.
 2 Because himself he flattereth
 In his own blinded eye:

PSALM 36

Until the hatefulnes be found
Of his iniquity.

3 Words from his mouth proceeding are,
Fraud and iniquity :

He to be wise, and to do good,
Hath left off utterly.

4 He mischief, lying on his bed,
Most cunningly doth plot ;

He sets himself in ways not good,
Ill he abhorreth not.

5 Thy mercy, Lord, is in the heav'ns ;
Thy truth doth reach the clouds.

6 Thy justice is like mountains great ;
Thy judgments deep as floods :

Lord, thou preservest man and beast.

7 How precious is thy grace !
Therefore in shadow of thy wings,
Mens sons their trust shall place.

8 They with the fatness of thy house,
Shall be well satisfy'd,

From rivers of thy pleasures thou
Wilt drink to them provide.

9 Because of life the fountain pure
Remains alone with thee :

And in that purest light of thine
We clearly light shall see.

10 Thy loving-kindness unto them
Continue that thee know ;

And still on men upright in heart
Thy righteousness bestow.

11 Let not the foot of cruel pride
Come and against me stand ;

And let me not removed be,
Lord, by the wicked's hand.

PSALM 37

12 There fall'n are they, and ruined,
That work iniquities :
Cast down they are, and never shall
Be able to arise.

PSALM 37

A Psalm of David.

This Psalm is wholly of the instructive kind. As the Mosaic system, and the covenant between God and Israel, as his peculiar people, promised remarkable temporal felicity, to such as were obedient to the law, and denounced temporal miseries against those, that were impious and profane; the Psalmist here cautions against stumbling at particular providences, which might appear contrary to the tenor of that covenant. Here are (1) Plain and express warnings against fretfulness at the prosperity of the wicked, in their wickedness, ver. 1. 7, 8.—with the arguments and reasons enforcing the same, *viz.* that the character of the wicked is ignominious, while that of the righteous is honourable, ver. 12. 14. 21. 26. 30, 31, 32. That the wicked in the very height of their prosperity are near to destruction, while the righteous, even in their adversity, have special protection from God, and shall never be ruined, ver. 2. 9, 10. 13. 15. 17. 20. 28. 33,—40.—And that God hath special blessings in store for, and even in this life manifests distinguished kindness to, the righteous and their seed, ver. 11. 16. 18, 19. 22,—25. 28, 29. 37. (2) Here are proper and effectual remedies to prevent sinful fretting at the prosperity of the wicked, or troubles of the body: *viz.* Hoping in God as our Saviour; delighting in God as our companion, friend, and portion; following of him as our Guide; departing from evil and doing good, waiting on the Lord, and keeping of his way, ver. 3,—6. 27. 34.—¶ Be thou, my soul, an accurate observer, of the matter and circumstances of every providence. Carefully compare them, one with another; and all with the perfections, covenant, and promises, of God, in order that thou mayest never be offended thereat.

FOR evil doers fret thou not
Thyself unquietly ;
Nor do thou envy bear to those
That work iniquity.

2 For, even like unto the grass,
Soon be cut down shall they,
And, like the green and tender herb,
They wither shall away.

3 Set thou thy trust upon the Lord,
And be thou doing good ;
And so thou in the land shalt dwell,
And verily have food.

PSALM 37

- 4 Delight thyself in God, he'll give
Thine heart's desire to thee.
- 5 Thy way to God commit, him trust,
It bring to pass shall he.
- 6 And, like unto the light, he shall
Thy righteousness display :
And he thy judgment shall bring forth
Like noon-tide of the day.
- 7 Rest in the Lord, and patiently
Wait for him : do not fret
For him, who prosp'ring in his way,
Success in sin doth get.
- 8 Do thou from anger cease, and wrath
See thou forsake also :
Fret not thyself in any wise,
That evil thou should'st do.
- 9 For those that evil-doers are,
Shall be cut off and fall :
But those that wait upon the Lord
The earth inherit shall.
- 10 For yet a little while, and then
The wicked shall not be ;
His place thou shalt consider well,
But it thou shalt not see.
- 11 But by inheritance the earth
The meek ones shall possess :
They also shall delight themselves
In an abundant peace.
- 12 The wicked plots against the just,
And at him whets his teeth.
- 13 The Lord shall laugh at him, because
His day he coming seeth.
- 14 The wicked have drawn out the sword,
And bent their bow, to slay

PSALM 37

The poor and needy, and to kill
Men of an upright way.

15 But their own sword, which they have drawn,
Shall enter their own heart :

Their bows which they have bent shall break,
And into pieces part.

16 A little that a just man hath,
Is more, and better far,

Than is the wealth of many such
As lewd and wicked are.

17 For sinners arms shall broken be ;
But God the just sustains.

18 God knows the just man's days, and still
Their heritage remains.

19 They shall not be asham'd, when they
The evil time do see ;

And when the days of famine are,
They satisfy'd shall be.

20 But wicked men, and foes of God,
As fat of lambs decay,

They shall consume, yea, into smoke
They shall consume away.

21 The wicked borrows, but the same
Again he doth not pay ;

Whereas the righteous mercy shows,
And gives his own away.

22 For such as blessed be of him,
The earth inherit shall ;

And they that cursed are of him
Shall be destroyed all.

23 A good man's footsteps by the Lord,
Are ordered aright :

And in the way wherein he walks,
He greatly doth delight.

PSALM 37

- 24 Although he fall, yet shall he not
Be cast down utterly ;
Because the Lord, with his own hand,
Upholds him mightily.
- 25 I have been young, and now am old ;
Yet have I never seen
The just man left, nor that his seed
For bread have beggars been.
- 26 He's ever merciful, and lends :
His seed is blest therefore.
- 27 Depart from evil, and do good :
And dwell for evermore.
- 28 For God loves judgment, and his saints
Leaves not in any case,
They are kept ever : but cut off
Shall be the sinner's race.
- 29 The just inherit shall the land,
And ever in it dwell.
- 30 The just man's mouth doth wisdom speak :
His tongue doth judgment tell.
- 31 In's heart the law is of his God,
His steps slide not away.
- 32 The wicked man doth watch the just,
And seeketh him to slay ;
- 33 Yet him the Lord will not forsake,
Nor leave him in his hands :
The righteous will he not condemn,
When he in judgment stands.
- 34 Wait on the Lord, and keep his way,
And thee exalt shall he,
Th' earth to inherit, when cut off
The wicked thou shalt see.
- 35 I saw the wicked great in pow'r,
Spread like a green bay tree ;

PSALM 38

- 36 He past, yea, was not: him I sought,
But found he could not be.
- 37 Mark thou the perfect, and behold
The man of uprightness:
Because that surely of this man
The latter end is peace.
- 38 But those men that transgressors are,
Shall be destroy'd together;
The latter end of wicked men
Shall be cut off for ever.
- 39 But the salvation of the just
Is from the Lord above;
He, in the time of their distress,
Their stay and strength doth prove.
- 40 The Lord shall help, and them deliver:
He shall them free and save
From wicked men; because in him
Their confidence they have.

PSALM 38

A Psalm of David, to bring in remembrance.

This Psalm appears to have been penned by David, under some remarkable distress, attended with a deep sense of sin, as the procuring cause of it. Here are (1) David's sorrowful complaints of God's sore displeasure; and of the weight of his own sins, ver. 1,—5; of the sickness of his body, and distress of his mind, ver. 6,—10; of the unkindness of his friends, ver. 11, and of the unprovoked injuries he received from his enemies, who were spiteful, cruel, subtle, unjust, ungrateful, impious, devilish, numerous, and powerful, ver. 12,—20. His remarkable patience and resignation, under his troubles, ver. 13,—15. (3) His fervent supplications to God for the mitigation of his troubles, ver. 1; and for comfort and support under, and speedy deliverance from them, ver. 16, 21, 22; attended with candid and ingenious acknowledgments of the sinful causes thereof, ver. 3, 4, 5, 8.—¶ In all my troubles, let me search out, and by faith confess and mourn over the sinful causes of them. Let me take every distress out of God's hand; and call on him in the time thereof, that he may deliver me.

IN thy great indignation,
LO Lord, rebuke me not;
Nor on me lay thy chast'ning hand,
In thy displeasure hot.

PSALM 38

- 2 For in me fast thine arrows stick ;
Thine hand doth press me sore.
- 3 And in my flesh there is no health,
Nor soundness any more.
- This grief I have, because thy wrath
Is forth against me gone :
And in my bones there is no rest,
For sin that I have done.
- 4 Because gone up above mine head,
My great transgressions be :
And, as a weighty burden, they
Too heavy are for me.
- 5 My wounds do stink, and are corrupt :
My folly makes it so.
- 6 I troubled am, and much bow'd down,
All day I mourning go.
- 7 For a disease, that loathsome is,
So fills my loins with pain,
That in my weak and weary flesh
No soundness doth remain.
- 8 So feeble and infirm am I,
And broken am so sore,
That, through disquiet of my heart,
I have been made to roar.
- 9 O Lord, all that I do desire
Is still before thine eye :
And of my heart the secret groans
Not hidden are from thee.
- 10 My heart doth pant incessantly,
My strength doth quite decay :
As for mine eyes, their wonted light
Is from me gone away.
- 11 My lovers and my friends do stand
At distance from my sore :

PSALM 38

And those do stand aloof that were
Kinsmen, and kind, before.

12 Yea, they that seek my life lay snares :
Who seek to do me wrong,
Speak things mischievous, and deceits
Imagine all day long.

13 But, as one deaf, that heareth not,
I suffer'd all to pass :

I as a dumb man did become,
Whose mouth not open'd was.

14 As one that hears not, in whose mouth
Are no reproofs at all.

15 For, Lord, I hope in thee ; my God,
Thou'lt hear me when I call.

16 For I said, Hear me, lest they should
Rejoice o'er me with pride ;

And o'er me magnify themselves,
When as my foot doth slide.

17 For I am near to halt, my grief
Is still before mine eye.

18 For I'll declare my sin, and grieve
For mine iniquity.

19 But yet mine en'mies lively are,
And strong are they beside :

And they that hate me wrongfully,
Are greatly multiply'd.

20 And they for good that render ill,
As en'mies me withstood :

Yea, ev'n for this, because that I
Do follow what is good.

21 Forsake me not, O Lord : my God,
Far from me never be.

22 O Lord, thou my salvation art,
Haste to give help to me.

PSALM 39

To the chief Musician, even to Jeduthun, A Psalm of David.

Here we have (1) Violent struggling in the Psalmist's own breast between grace and corruption ;—between passion and patience, ver. 1,—3. 11. (2) Serious views of human frailty, shortness of life, and self-emptiness, ver. 4,—6. (3) Strong cries to God for pardon of sin, preservation from reproach, and for removal of trouble ; for hearing and answering of prayer ; and for lengthening out of life, till further preparation for death should be attained, ver. 7,—13.—¶ While I sing, let my soul blush deep, for the untenderness and want of circumspection, in my life ; and for my want of resignation to God's disposing will. Let me be suitably affected with the shortness, vanity, and uncertainty of my temporal life. Let me be always exercised in earnest prayer to, and believing dependence on God, as my companion and friend.

I SAID, I will look to my ways,
 Lest with my tongue I sin :
 In sight of wicked men my mouth
 With bridle I'll keep in.
 2 With silence I as dumb became,
 I did myself restrain
 From speaking good ; but then the more
 Increased was my pain.
 3 My heart within me waxed hot,
 And, while I musing was,
 The fire did burn ; and from my tongue
 These words I did let pass.
 4 Mine end, and measure of my days,
 O Lord, unto me show,
 What is the same : that I thereby
 My frailty well may know.
 5 Lo, thou my days an hand-breadth mad'st,
 Mine age is in thine eye
 As nothing, sure, each man at best
 Is wholly vanity.
 6 Sure, each man walks in a vain show,
 They vex themselves in vain :
 He heaps up wealth, and doth not know
 To whom it shall pertain.

PSALM 40

- 7 And now, O Lord, what wait I for?
 My hope is fix'd on thee.
- 8 Free me from all my trespasses ;
 The fool's scorn make not me.
- 9 Dumb was I, op'ning not my mouth,
 Because this work was thine.
- 10 Thy stroke take from me : by the blow,
 Of thine hand I do pine.
- 11 When with rebukes thou dost correct
 Man for iniquity,
 Thou wastes, his beauty like a moth :
 Sure, each man's vanity.
- 12 Attend my cry, Lord, at my tears
 And pray'rs not silent be :
 I sojourn as my fathers all,
 And stranger am with thee.
- 13 O spare thou me, that I my strength
 Recover may again,
 Before from hence I do depart,
 And here no more remain.

PSALM 40

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

Here we have (1) David's hearty acknowledgments of God's kindness, in bringing him out of long and sore afflictions, ver. 1,—5. (2) His preferring of holy obedience to God and faithful publication of his truths and praises, to all ceremonial oblations, ver. 6,—11. (3) His improvement of his former deliverance, as an encouragement to supplicate further mercy and protection;—an encouragement to confess sin and implore the pardon thereof; an encouragement to rejoice in, and praise God, for his excellencies and favours; and to trust him under affliction, and to comfort himself in him amidst poverty, and sinfulness, and trouble, ver. 12,—17. —¶ But let me here chiefly think (1) Of Jesus the great Shepherd of the sheep, who was brought again from his agonies and death, by the blood of the everlasting Covenant, and set down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, that he might receive gifts for men, and that our faith and hope might be in God, ver. 1,—5. (2) Let me think of the *new-covenant* made between him and his eternal Father, for the redemption of sinful men;—and of his complete fulfilment of the divine law, as the condition thereof, ver. 6,—10. (3) Let me think, how our iniquities were charged to his ac-

PSALM 40

count ; and punished on him, as our surety ! ver. 11,—13. (4) Let me think, how the unrelenting vengeance of almighty God overtook his Jewish betrayers and murderers ; and hath or will overtake his Heathenish, Antichristian or other implacable enemies :—and of the joy and consolation, which flows from, and through him, to his chosen friends, ver. 14,—17.

I WAITED for the Lord my God,
 And patiently did bear ;
 At length to me he did incline
 My voice and cry to hear.

2 He took me from a fearful pit,
 And from the miry clay,
 And on a rock he set my feet,
 Establishing my way.

3 He put a new song in my mouth,
 Our God to magnify :
 Many shall see it, and shall fear,
 And on the Lord rely.

4 O blessed is the man, whose trust
 Upon the Lord relies :
 Respecting not the proud, nor such
 As turn aside to lies.

5 O Lord my God, full many are
 The wonders thou hast done ;
 Thy gracious thoughts to us-ward far
 Above all thoughts are gone :
 In order none can reckon them
 To thee : if them declare,
 And speak of them I would, they more
 Than can be number'd are.

6 No sacrifice, nor offering,
 Didst thou at all desire ;
 Mine ears thou bor'd : sin-off'ring thou
 And burnt didst not require.

7 Then to the Lord these were my words,
 I come, behold and see :

PSALM 40.

Within the volume of thy book
It written is of me,
8 To do thy will I take delight,
O thou my God that art :
Yea, that most holy law of thine
I have within my heart.
9 Within the congregation great,
I righteousness did preach :
Lo, thou dost know, O Lord, that I
Refrained not my speech.
10 I never did within my heart
Conceal thy righteousness :
I thy salvation have declar'd,
And shown thy faithfulness ;
Thy kindness, which most loving is,
Concealed have not I ;
Nor from the congregation great
Have hid thy verity.
11 Thy tender mercies, Lord, from me
O do thou not restrain :
Thy loving-kindness, and thy truth,
Let them me still maintain.
12 For ills past reck'ning compass me,
And mine iniquities
Such hold upon me taken have,
I cannot lift mine eyes :
They more than hairs are on mine head,
Thence is my heart dismay'd.
13 Be pleased, Lord, to rescue me :
Lord, hasten to mine aid.
14 Sham'd and confounded be they all
That seek my soul to kill :
Yea, let them backward driven be,
And sham'd, that wish me ill.

PSALM 41

15 For a reward of this their shame,
 Confounded let them be,
 That in this manner scoffing say,
 Aha, aha, to me.

16 In thee let all be glad, and joy,
 Who seeking thee abide :
 Who thy salvation love, say still,
 The Lord be magnify'd.

17 I'm poor and needy, yet the Lord
 Of me a care doth take :
 Thou art my help and Saviour,
 My God no tarrying make.

PSALM 41

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

This Psalm contains (1) A representation of the blessedness of him who wisely considereth the case of the poor, and affords them relief. ver. 1,—3. (2) David's candid acknowledgments of the justness of his affliction, and earnest supplications, for a merciful deliverance, ver. 4, (3) His sad complaints of the malicious, censorious, and spiteful reflections, and of the insolent carriage, of his enemies, ver. 5,—9. (4) His hearty committing of his case and way to God, in the assured and triumphant faith of his favour, ver. 10,—13.—¶ While I sing, let mine eyes be towards the Lord Jesus, who thought on me, in my low estate. Let me consider him, who though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor, that we through his poverty might be made rich.—Jesus, who had not where to lay his head; Jesus, whom his own disciple betrayed; and who, through manifold enemies and much tribulation, entered into the kingdom of God.

BLESSED is he that wisely doth
 The poor man's case consider ;
 For when the time of trouble is,
 The Lord will him deliver.

2 God will him keep, yea, save alive ;
 On earth he blest shall live :
 And to his enemies desire
 Thou wilt him not up give.

3 God will give strength, when he on bed
 Of languishing doth mourn :

PSALM 41

- And, in his sickness sore, O Lord,
 Thou all his bed wilt turn.
- 4 I said, O Lord, do thou extend
 Thy mercy unto me;
 O do thou heal my soul, for why
 I have offended thee.
- 5 Those that to me are enemies,
 Of me do evil say,
 When shall he die, that so his name
 May perish quite away?
- 6 To see me if he comes, he speaks
 Vain words: but then his heart
 Heaps mischief to it, which he tells,
 When forth he doth depart.
- 7 My haters, jointly whispering,
 'Against me my hurt devise.
- 8 Mischief, say they, cleaves fast to him;
 He ly'th, and shall not rise.
- 9 Yea, ev'n mine own familiar friend,
 On whom I did rely,
 Who ate my bread, ev'n he his heel
 Against me lifted high.
- 10 But, Lord, be merciful to me,
 And up again me raise,
 That I may justly them requite,
 According to their ways.
- 11 By this I know, that certainly,
 I favour'd am by thee:
 Because my hateful enemy
 Triumphs not over me.
- 12 But as for me, thou me uphold'st
 In mine integrity:
 And me before thy countenance
 Thou sett'st continually.

PSALM 42

13 The Lord, the God of Israel,
 Be blest for ever then,
 From age to age eternally.
 Amen, yea, and amen.

PSALM 42

To the chief Musician, Maschil, for the sons of Korah.

Perhaps this Psalm was composed by David, when the unnatural rebellion of Absalom had forced him from the sanctuary of God, and to take up his lodging, eastward of Jordan, 2 Sam. xv.—xix. We have in it (1) Ardent longings after nearness to, and familiar intimacy with God, in his public ordinances and sanctuary, ver. 1, 2. (2) Mournful lamentations and bitter groanings, on account of God's withdrawal of his comfortable smiles; and of the want of the once enjoyed ordinances of God, and fellowship with his Saints; and of the troublesome impressions of God's wrath; and of his enemies insolent upbraiding of him; and on account of the departure and distance of his God, ver. 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10. (3) Believing remembrance of God's former favours, ver. 6; and self-encouraging hopes of future ones, ver. 5, 8, 11.—¶ Have I experimentally understood all these things! My soul, let me charge thee, to beware of dissimulation with God, and of compassing him about with lies, under pretence of praising him. Dare not to sing these lines without inward, without ardent longings for the Lord;—without earnest claiming of him, as thy own God, upon the foundation of his new-covenant grant of himself to me, in the gospel;—without assured hopes of his future, his everlasting kindness to me-ward.

LIKE as the hart for water-brooks
 In thirst doth pant and bray;
 So pants my longing soul, O God,
 That come to thee I may.
 2 My soul for God, the living God,
 Doth thirst; when shall I near
 Unto thy countenance approach,
 And in God's sight appear?
 3 My tears have unto me been meat,
 Both in the night and day,
 While unto me continually,
 Where is thy God? they say.
 4 My soul is poured out in me,
 When this I think upon;
 Because that with the multitude
 I heretofore had gone;

PSALM 42

With them into God's house I went,
 With voice of joy and praise;
 Yea, with the multitude that kept
 The solemn holy days.

5 O why art thou cast down, my soul?
 Why in me so dismay'd
 Trust God, for I shall praise him yet;
 His count'nance is mine aid.

6 My God, my soul's cast down in me;
 Thee therefore mind I will
 From Jordan's land, the Hermonites,
 And ev'n from Mizar hill.

7 At the noise of thy water-spouts
 Deep unto deep doth call:
 Thy breaking waves pass over me,
 Yea, and thy billows all.

8 His loving-kindness yet the Lord
 Command will in the day,
 His song's with me by night, to God,
 By whom I live, I'll pray.

9 And I will say to God my Rock,
 Why me forget'st thou so?
 Why, for my foes oppression,
 Thus mourning do I go?

10 'Tis as a sword within my bones,
 When my foes me upbraid:
 Ev'n when by them, Where is thy God?
 'Tis daily to me said.

11 O why art thou cast down, my soul?
 Why, thus with grief opprest,
 Art thou disquieted in me?

In God still hope and rest;
 For yet I know I shall him praise,
 Who graciously to me

PSALM 43

The health is of my countenance ;
Yea, mine own God is he.

PSALM 43

This Psalm was probably composed on the same occasion as the former; and contains (1) David's strong cries to his God for help against, and deliverance from, his ungodly, unjust, and crafty oppressors, ver. 1, 2. (2) His earnest longings, to be restored to the enjoyment of his God in his public ordinances, ver. 3, 4. (3) His inward disquiets, composed by believing claims of his God, and firm dependence on his promises, ver. 5.—¶ While I sing, let my soul be deeply affected with the injuries I daily receive from Satan and my own lusts. Let my heart and flesh cry out for God, the living God, as my God and mine exceeding joy. And let me still all the tumults of my heart, with this, That he is my God and my ALL; MY GOD *that doth me save.*

JUDGE me, O God, and plead my cause.

Against th' ungodly nation :

From the unjust and crafty man,

O be thou my salvation.

2 For thou the God art of my strength ;

Why thrust'st, thou me thee fro ?

For th' enemies oppression,

Why do I mourning go ?

3 O send thy light forth, and thy truth ;

Let them be guides to me,

And bring me to thine holy hill,

Ev'n where thy dwellings be.

4 Then will I to God's altar go,

To God my chiefest joy :

Yea, God, my God, thy name to praise

My harp I will employ.

5 Why art thou then cast down, my soul ?

What should discourage thee ?

And why, with vexing thoughts, art thou

Disquieted in me ?

Still trust in God, for him to praise

Good cause I yet shall have :

He of my count'nance is the health,

My God that doth me save.

PSALM 44

To the chief Musician, for the sons of Korah, Maschil.

This Psalm was perhaps composed on the same occasion as the 60th, and may have a prophetic view to the after distresses of the Jews in the time of Rehoboam, 2 Chron. xii; of Jehoram, 2 Chron. xxi; of Abaz, 2 Chron. xxviii; of Hezekiah, 2 Kings, xviii, xix; and during the Chaldean captivity, Syro-grecian oppression, &c. and all these as typical of the distresses of the gospel-church, under Heathens and Antichristians. It relates chiefly to the church, and contains (1) Thankful acknowledgments of what the Lord had done for her, in former periods; as her God, her King, her Joy, her praise, ver. 1,—8. (2) Sorrowful complaints of divine desertion; and of the prevalent power, cruelty, and derisive contempt of enemies, ver. 9,—16. (3) Solemn protestation of continued integrity, and of constant adherence to the Lord's way, amidst these manifold calamities, ver. 17,—22. (4) Strong cries, with supplications and tears to God, for his merciful appearance for, and granting her relief, ver. 23,—26.—^a In singing this, let me rejoice with them that rejoice, and weep with them that weep. Let me rejoice, in what the Lord hath wrought for his people, in any former period: And, in all their afflictions, let me be afflicted. Let me give the Lord no rest, till he make his church a joy in the whole earth.

O GOD, we with our ears have heard,
 Our fathers have us told,
 What works thou in their days hadst done,
 Ev'n in the days of old.

2 Thy hand did drive the heathen out,
 And plant them in their place;
 Thou didst afflict the nations,
 But them thou didst increase.

3 For neither got their sword the land,
 Nor did their arm them save:
 But thy right hand, arm, countenance;
 For thou them favour gave.

4 Thou art my King: for Jacob, Lord,
 Deliv'rances command.

5 Thro' thee we shall push down our foes,
 That do against us stand:

We, thro' thy name, shall tread down those
 That ris'n against us have.

6 For in my bow I shall not trust,
 Nor shall my sword me save.

PSALM 44

- 7 But from our foes thou hast us sav'd,
Our haters put to shame.
- 8 In God we all the day do boast,
And ever praise thy name.
- 9 But now we are cast off by thee,
And us thou put'st to shame :
And, when our armies do go forth,
Thou go'st not with the same.
- 10 Thou mak'st us from the enemy,
Faint-hearted to turn back :
And they who hate us, for themselves
Our spoils away do take.
- 11 Like sheep for meat thou gavest us :
'Mong heathen cast we be.
- 12 Thou didst for nought thy people sell ;
Their price enrich'd not thee.
- 13 Thou mak'st us a reproach to be,
Unto our neighbours near :
Derision, and a scorn to them
That round about us are.
- 14 A by-word also thou dost us
Among the heathen make :
The people, in contempt and spite,
At us their heads do shake.
- 15 Before me my confusion
Continually abides ;
And of my bashful countenance
The shame me ever hides :
- 16 For voice of him that doth reproach
And speaketh blasphemy ;
By reason of th' avenging foe,
And cruel enemy.
- 17 All this is come on us, yet we
Have not forgotten thee ;

PSALM 45

- Nor falsely in thy covenant
 Behav'd ourselves have we.
- 18 Back from thy way our heart not turn'd;
 Our steps no straying made.
- 19 Tho' us thou brak'st in dragons place,
 And cov'redst with death's shade.
- 20 If we God's name forgot, or stretch'd
 To a strange God our hands:
- 21 Shall not God search this out? for he
 Hearts secrets understands.
- 22 Yea, for thy sake we're kill'd all day,
 Counted as slaughter-sheep.
- 23 Rise, Lord, cast us not ever off,
 Awake, Why dost thou sleep?
- 24 O wherefore hidest thou thy face?
 Forget'st our case distrest,
- 25 And our oppression? For our soul
 Is to the dust down prest:
- Our belly also on the earth,
 Fast cleaving hold doth take.
- 26 Rise for our help, and us redeem,
 Ev'n for thy mercies sake.

PSALM 45

*To the chief Musician upon Shoshannim, for the sons of Korah,
 Maschil, A Song of loves.*

In this SONG OF LOVES, are celebrated (1) The glories of Jesus our Redeemer,—particularly the transcendent comeliness, and blessedness of his person, God-man; His almighty power, in conquering his people, and destroying his enemies;—the eternity, firmness, and equity of his government;—his royal unction with the Holy Ghost above measure; and his fitness for his work; and the splendour of his court, ver. 1,—9. (2) The glories of the redeemed,—their listening to Jesus' proposals of marriage-union with himself; their renunciation of all others, for his sake; their reverential submission to, and worship of him, ver. 10, 11, —their glorious ornaments of righteousness and grace; and their glorious entrance into the new-covenant, and the eternal state, ver. 12—15, —their glorious succession and work, for perpetuating the fame of the Redeemer, ver. 16, 17.—¶ In singing this Song of the Lamb, let me

PSALM 45

with open face, behold his glory, and be changed into the same image from glory to glory, as by the Spirit of the Lord. Let my admiration of his excellency swell to the brim; and my love burn with a most vehement flame; and let my hopes of being for ever with him, be strong and lively. Let my heart be all wonder at his excellency, fulness, and grace; and all subjection to his government and laws; and my lips filled with his praise and honour all the day.

MY heart brings forth a goodly thing;

My words that I indite
Concern the king: my tongue's a pen
Of one that swift doth write.

2 Thou fairer art than sons of men:
Into thy lips is store
Of grace infus'd; God therefore thee
Hath blest for evermore.

3 O thou that art the mighty One,
Thy sword gird on thy thigh:
Ev'n with thy glory excellent,
And with thy majesty.

4 For meekness, truth, and righteousness,
In state ride prosp'rously;
And thy right hand shall thee instruct,
In things that fearful be.

5 Thine arrows sharply pierce the hearts
Of th' en'mies of the king;
And under thy subjection
The people down do bring.

6 For ever and for ever is,
O God, thy throne of might:
The sceptre of thy kingdom is
A sceptre that is right.

7 Thou lovest right, and hatest ill:
For God, thy God most high,
Above thy fellows, hath with th' oil
Of joy anointed thee.

8 Of aloes, myrrh, and cassia,
A smell thy garments had,

PSALM 45

Out of the iv'ry palaces,
Whereby they made thee glad.
9 Among thy women honourable
Kings daughters were at hand:
Upon thy right hand did the queen
In gold of Ophir stand.
10 O daughter, hearken, and regard,
And do thine ear incline;
Likewise forget thy father's house,
And people that are thine;
11 Then of the king desir'd shall be
Thy beauty vehemently:
Because he is thy Lord, do thou
Him worship rev'rently.
12 The daughter there of Tyre shall be,
With gifts and off'rings great:
Those of the people that are rich
Thy favour shall intreat.
13 Behold, the daughter of the king,
All glorious is within;
And with embroideries of gold
Her garments wrought have been.
14 She shall be brought unto the king
In robes with needle wrought:
Her fellow-virgins following
Shall unto thee be brought:
15 They shall be brought with gladness great,
And mirth on ev'ry side,
Into the palace of the king,
And there they shall abide.
16 Instead of those thy fathers dear,
Thy children thou may'st take,
And in all places of the earth,
Them noble princes make.

PSALM 45

17 Thy name rememb'ed I will make
Through ages all to be :
The people therefore evermore
Shall praises give to thee.

Another of the same.

MY heart inditing is
Good matter in a song :
I speak the things that I have made,
Which to the king belong :
My tongue shall be as quick,
His honour to indite,
As is the pen of any scribe,
That useth fast to write.

2 Thou'rt fairest of all men ;
Grace in thy lips doth flow :
And therefore blessings evermore
On thee doth God bestow.

3 Thy sword gird on thy thigh,
Thou that art most of might :
Appear in dreadful majesty,
And in thy glory bright.

4 For meekness, truth and right,
Ride prosp'rously in state :
And thy right hand shall teach to thee
Things terrible and great.

5 Thy shafts shall pierce their heart
That foes are to the king,
Whereby into subjection
The people thou shalt bring.

6 Thy royal seat, O Lord,
For ever shall remain :
The sceptre of thy kingdom doth
All righteousness maintain.

PSALM 45

- 7 Thou lov'st right, and hat'st ill :
For God, thy God most high.
Above thy fellows hath with th' oil
Of joy anointed thee.
- 8 Of myrrh and spices sweet
A smell thy garments had,
Out of the iv'ry palaces
Whereby they made thee glad.
- 9 And, in thy glorious train,
Kings daughters waiting stand :
And thy fair queen, in Ophir-gold,
Doth stand at thy right-hand.
- 10 O daughter, take good heed,
Incline, and give good ear ;
Thou must forget thy kindred all,
And father's house most dear.
- 11 Thy beauty to the king
Shall then delightful be :
And do thou humbly worship him,
Because thy Lord is he.
- 12 The daughter then of Tyre
There with a gift shall be,
And all the wealthy of the land
Shall make their suit to thee.
- 13 The daughter of the king
All glorious is within :
And with embroideries of gold
Her garments wrought have been,
- 14 She cometh to the king
In robes with needle wrought :
The virgins that do follow her
Shall unto thee be brought.
- 15 They shall be brought with joy,
And mirth on every side,

PSALM 46

Into the palace of the king,
And there they shall abide.

16 And, in thy fathers' stead,
Thy children thou may'st take,
And, in all places of the earth,
Them noble princes make.

17 I will shew forth thy name
To generations all:
Therefore, the people evermore
To thee give praises shall.

PSALM 46

*To the chief Musician for the sons of Korah, A Song upon
Alamoth.*

In this Psalm, probably composed for celebrating some remarkable victory, we have (1) Bold triumphs of faith in God himself, and the mercies of the new-covenant, amidst the most alarming danger and distress which can be supposed, ver. 1,—6. (2) A thankful rehearsal of the great things, which God had wrought for the deliverance of his people, and the destruction of their enemies, ver. 6,—9. (3) God's heart-composing promise of promoting his own glory in every providence, and faith's expectation of protection and deliverance therefrom, ver. 10, 11.—¶ While I sing it, come my soul, encourage thyself in **JEHOVAH** as thy God, and thy **ALL**. Come drink abundantly out of Jesus' heart-gladening **RIVER** of life, his word, his blood, his spirit, his fulness, his love; and holding fast the beginning of thy confidence unto the end, always give thanks.

GOD is our refuge and our strength,
In straits a present aid.

2 Therefore, although the earth remove,
We will not be afraid,

Though hills amidst the seas be cast.

3 Though waters roaring make,
And troubled be; yea, though the hills
By swelling seas do shake.

4 A river is, whose streams do glad
The city of our God:

The holy place, wherein the Lord
Most High hath his abode.

PSALM 47

- 5 God in the midst of her doth dwell,
Nothing shall her remove :
The Lord to her an helper will,
And that right early prove.
- 6 The heathen rag'd tumultuously,
The kingdoms moved were :
The Lord God uttered his voice,
The earth did melt for fear.
- 7 The Lord of hosts upon our side
Doth constantly remain :
The God of Jacob's our refuge,
Us safely to maintain.
- 8 Come, and behold what wond'rous works
Have by the Lord been wrought :
Come, see what desolations
He on the earth hath brought.
- 9 Unto the ends of all the earth
Wars into peace he turns :
The bow he breaks, the spear he cuts,
In fire the chariot burns.
- 10 Be still, and know that I am God :
Among the heathen I
Will be exalted ; I on earth
Will be exalted high.
- 11 Our God, who is the Lord of hosts,
Is still upon our side :
The God of Jacob our refuge
For ever will abide.

PSALM 47

To the chief Musician, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.

This Psalm was probably composed on the same occasion as the 24th. Here is (1) A revenue of praise demanded for God, from all people, Jews and Gentiles, ver. 1. 6. (2) A memorial of the grounds of praise, viz. the majesty of God's nature, ver. 2. The great things he had done, or would do for his people, in subduing their foes, and pro-

PSALM 47

viding portions for themselves; and in ascending to heaven, to receive gifts, and prepare places for men, ver. 3,—5: As also the high sovereignty and universal extent of his government, ver. 2. 7,—9.—¶ While my lips utter this Song, let all my inward powers labour in viewing, in loving, in admiring, in extolling my great,—my glorious,—my ascended,—my all-governing,—all-doing, and all-giving Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL people, clap your hands to God,
 With voice of triumph shout:
 2 For dreadful is the Lord most High,
 Great King the earth throughout.
 3 The heathen people under us
 He surely shall subdue;
 And he shall make the nations
 Under our feet to bow.
 4 The lot of our inheritance
 Choose out for us shall he,
 Of Jacob whom he loved well,
 Ev'n the excellency.
 5 God is with shouts gone up, the Lord
 With trumpets sounding high.
 6 Sing praise to God, sing praise: sing praise,
 Praise to our King sing ye.
 7 For God is King of all the earth,
 With knowledge praise express.
 8 God rules the nations: God sits on
 His throne of holiness.
 9 The princes of the people are
 Assembled willingly,
 Ev'n of the God of Abraham
 They who the people be:
 For why? the shields that do defend
 The earth, are only his:
 They to the Lord belong, yea, he
 Exalted greatly is.

PSALM 48

A Song, and Psalm for the sons of Korah.

This Psalm was no doubt composed to celebrate some remarkable victory or deliverance, in the days of David, Jehoshaphat, 2 Chron. xx. or Hezekiah, 2 Kings, xix. We have here (1) Jerusalem, the capital city of Israel, and type of the gospel-church and heavenly state, celebrated for her beauty and her relation to God, as the residence of his temple and ordinances, ver. 1, 2. (2) JEHOVAH, the God of Israel, celebrated, for his kind and powerful protection of Jerusalem, and for making her enemies flee off with much precipitation and terror, ver. 3,—7. (3) The people of God, particularly in Jerusalem, meditating upon, and celebrating the gracious and mighty things, which God had, or would do for them; and for his discoveries of himself to them; and promising themselves sure and lasting happiness in his relation to them, and direction of them, ver. 8,—14.—¶ While I sing these, let me be deeply affected with the glory,—with the privileges,—and chiefly with the God of the Christian Church, and of the new-covenant state, and of the new Jerusalem, which is above, which is the mother, the desired city of us all.

GREAT is the Lord, and greatly he
 Is to be praised still,
 Within the city of our God,
 Upon his holy hill.

2 Mount Zion stands most beautiful,
 The joy of all the land;
 The city of the mighty King
 On her north-side doth stand.

3 The Lord, within her palaces
 Is for a refuge known.

4 For lo, the kings that gather'd were
 Together by have gone.

5 But, when they did behold the same,
 They wond'ring would not stay:
 But, being troubled at the sight,
 They thence did haste away..

6 Great terror there took hold on them,
 They were possess'd with fear;
 Their grief came like a woman's pain,
 When she a child doth bear.

7 Thou Tarshish ships with east-wind break'st:
 8 As we have heard it told;

PSALM 49

So in the city of the Lord

Our eyes did it behold :

In our God's city, which his hand

For ever stablish will.

9 We of thy loving kindness thought,

Lord, in thy temple still.

10 O Lord, according to thy name,

Through all the earth's thy praise :

And thy right hand, O Lord, is full

Of righteousness always.

11 Because thy judgments are made known,

Let Zion mount rejoice ;

Of Judah let the daughters all

Send forth a cheerful voice.

12 Walk about Zion, and go round ;

The high towers thereof tell,

13 Consider ye her palaces,

And mark her bulwarks well.

That ye may tell posterity.

14 For this God doth abide

Our God for evermore ; he will

Ev'n unto death us guide.

PSALM 49

To the chief Musician, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.

This Psalm is a mirror calculated to exhibit the emptiness of all worldly enjoyments. Observe (1) David's earnest attempt to awaken all ranks of mankind, to a serious consideration of this matter, as a point of great importance, and universal concern, ver. 1,—4. (2) His irrefragable proofs of the vanity of earthly enjoyments, viz. that they cannot save from death, either a man's self or his friend ; and that they cannot make men wise or happy in this world ; and far less render them happy in the future state, ver. 6,—14. (3) His attempt to comfort himself and other saints, under the sense of their daily infirmities, and of the chastisements received on account of their sins ; and against the slavish fears of death ; and against temptations arising from the prosperity of the wicked, ver. 5. 15,—18.—¶ While I sing, let me bewail my sinful minding of, and idolatrous attachment to, earthly things. Let me be henceforth, as a weaned child, setting my affections on things

PSALM 49

above, where Christ is at the right-hand of God. Let no uncertain riches or honours, but the LIVING GOD, be the object of all my trust and joy.

HEAR this, all people, and give ear,
All in the world that dwell,
2 Both low and high, both rich and poor :
3 My mouth shall wisdom tell ;
My heart shall knowledge meditate,
4 I will incline mine ear
To parables ; and on the harp
My sayings dark declare.
5 Amidst those days that evil be,
Why should I, fearing doubt ?
When of my heels th' iniquity
Shall compass me about ?
6 Whoe'er they be that in their wealth
Their confidence do pitch,
And boast themselves, because they are
Become exceeding rich.
7 Yet none of these his brother can
Redeem by any way ;
Nor can he unto God for him
Sufficient ransom pay :
8 (Their souls redemption precious is
And it can never be)
9 That still he should for ever live,
And not corruption see.
10 For why ? he seeth that wise men die,
And brutish fools also
Do perish ; and their wealth, when dead,
To others they let go.
11 Their inward thought is, that their house
And dwelling-places shall
Stand through all ages : they their lands
By their own names do call.

PSALM 49

- 12 But yet in honour shall not man
Abide continually :
But, passing hence, may be compar'd
Unto the beasts that die.
- 13 Thus, brutish folly plainly is
Their wisdom, and their way ;
Yet their posterity approve
What they do fondly say.
- 14 Like sheep they in the grave are laid,
And death shall them devour ;
And, in the morning, upright men
Shall over them have pow'r ;
Their beauty, from their dwelling, shall
Consume within the grave.
- 15 But, from hell's hand God will me free,
For he shall me receive.
- 16 Be thou not then afraid, when one
Enriched thou dost see,
Nor when the glory of his house
Advanced is on high.
- 17 For he shall carry nothing hence,
When death his days doth end :
Nor shall his glory after him
Into the grave descend.
- 18 Although he his own soul did bless,
While he on earth did live :
(And when thou to thyself dost well,
Men will thee praises give.)
- 19 He to his father's race shall go,
They never shall see light.
- 20 Man honour'd, wanting knowledge, is
Like beasts that perish quite.

PSALM 50

A Psalm of Asaph.

This Psalm may be considered as a rebuke to the carnal Jews, who rested in, and boasted of their external ceremonies in worship, to the neglecting of the weightier matters of the law, mercy, judgment and faith: Or, as a prediction of the coming of Christ, to abolish the ceremonial worship, eject the Jews from his Church, and establish a more pure and spiritual form of worship under the gospel: Or, in fine, as a representation of the last judgment,—in which Christ shall come to render to every man according to his deeds. Observe (1) The awful appearance of God our Redeemer, in the flesh,—in power,—or in the clouds; with the gathering of the people to him, ver. 1,—6. (2) An engaging admonition to improve God's new-covenant grant of himself to be our God, as an excitement to exchange legal ceremonies into prayer, thanksgiving and holy obedience; or at least, to give a remarkable preference to the latter, ver. 7,—15. (3) A terrible charge of hypocrisy, slander, contempt of God's word, and of atheistical imaginations concerning God laid against the wicked, with a fearful sentence of condemnation, founded thereon, ver. 16,—22. (4) An alarming warning of danger to the forgetters of God, and encouraging promise to such as study to glorify him by an holy conversation, ver. 22, 23.—¶ Sing this, my soul, with solemn awe, assisted before the great searcher of hearts, and as by faith beholding Jesus, in my nature;—sitting on his great white throne,—gathering the nations to his bar, opening the books, and judging mankind out of the things found written therein.

THE mighty God, the Lord
Hath spoken, and did call
The earth from rising of the sun,
To where he hath his fall.
2 From out of Zion hill,
Which of excellency,
And beauty the perfection is,
God shined gloriously.
3 Our God shall surely come,
Keep silence shall not he;
Before him fire shall waste, great storms
Shall round about him be.
4 Unto the heavens clear
He from above shall call,
And to the earth likewise, that he
May judge his people all.
5 Together let my saints
Unto me gather'd be,

PSALM 50

Those that by sacrifice have made
A covenant with me.

6 And then the heavens shall
His righteousness declare :
Because the Lord himself is he,
By whom men judged are.

7 My people Isra'l hear,
Speak will I from on high,
Against thee I will testify.
God, ev'n thy God, am I.

8 I, for thy sacrifice,
No blame will on thee lay,
Nor for burnt-off'rings, which to me
Thou offer'dst ev'ry day.

9 I'll take no calf, nor goats,
From house or fold of thine.

10 For beasts of forests, cattle all
On thousand hills, are mine.

11 The fowls on mountains high,
Are all to me well known,
Wild beasts, which in the fields do ly,
Ev'n they are all mine own.

12 Then, if I hungry were,
I would not tell it thee :
Because the world, and fulness all
Thereof, belongs to me.

13 Will I eat flesh of bulls ?
Or goats blood drink will I ?

14 Thanks offer thou to God, and pay
Thy vows to the most High.

15 And call upon me, when
In trouble thou shall be,
I will deliver thee, and thou
My name shalt glorify.

PSALM 50

- 16 But to the wicked man
 God saith, My laws and truth
 Should'st thou declare? how dar'st thou take
 My cov'nant in thy mouth?
- 17 Sith thou instruction hat'st,
 Which should thy ways direct:
 And, sith my words behind thy back
 Thou cast'st, and dost reject.
- 18 When thou a thief didst see,
 With him thou didst consent;
 And with the vile adulterers
 Partaker on thou went.
- 19 Thou giv'st thy mouth to ill,
 Thy tongue deceit doth frame.
- 20 Thou sitt'st and 'gainst thy brother speak'st,
 Thy mother's son dost shame.
- 21 Because I silence kept,
 While thou these things hast wrought;
 That I was altogether like
 Thyself, hath been thy thought.
- Yet I will thee reprove,
 And set before thine eyes
 In order ranked thy misdeeds,
 And thine iniquities.
- 22 Now, ye that God forget,
 This carefully consider;
 Lest I in pieces tear you all,
 And none can you deliver.
- 23 Whoso doth offer praise
 Me glorifies, and I
 Will shew him God's salvation,
 That orders right his way.

PSALM 50

Another of the same.

- T**HE mighty God the Lord hath spoke,
And call'd the earth upon,
Ev'n from the rising of the sun
Unto his going down.
- 2 From out of Zion his own hill,
Where the perfection high
Of beauty is, from thence the Lord
Hath shined gloriously.
- 3 Our God shall come, and shall no more
Be silent, but speak out:
Before him fire shall waste, great storms
Shall compass him about.
- 4 He, to the heavens from above,
And to the earth below,
Shall call, that he his judgments may
Before his people show.
- 5 Let all my saints together be
Unto me gathered:
Those that by sacrifice with me
A covenant have made.
- 6 And then the heavens shall declare
His righteousness abroad;
Because the Lord himself doth come:
None else is judge but God.
- 7 Hear, O my people, and I'll speak;
O Israel by name,
Against thee I will testify,
God, ev'n thy God, I am.
- 8 I, for thy sacrifices few,
Reprove thee never will;
Nor for burnt-off'rings to have been
Before me offer'd still.

PSALM 50

- 9 I'll take no bullock, nor he-goats,
From house nor folds of thine.
- 10 For beasts of forests, cattle all
On thousand hills are mine.
- 11 The fowls are all to me well known,
That mountains high do yield :
And I do challenge as mine own
The wild beasts of the field.
- 12 If I were hungry, I would not
To thee for meat complain ;
For earth, and all its fulness, doth
To me of right pertain.
- 13 That I, to eat the flesh of bulls,
Take pleasure, dost thou think ?
Or that I need, to quench my thirst,
The blood of goats to drink ?
- 14 Nay, rather unto me, thy God,
Thanksgiving offer thou ;
To the most High perform thy word,
And fully pay thy vow.
- 15 And, in the day of trouble great,
See that thou call on me ;
I will deliver thee, and thou
My name shall glorify.
- 16 But God unto the wicked saith,
Why should'st thou mention make
Of my commands ? how dar'st thou in
Thy mouth my cov'nant take ?
- 17 Sith it is so, that thou dost hate
All good instruction ;
And sith thou cast'st behind thy back,
And slight'st my words each one.
- 18 When thou a thief did'st see, then straight,
Thou join'dst with him in sin,

PSALM 51

And with the vile adulterers,
Thou hast partaker been.
19 Thy mouth to evil thou dost give,
Thy tongue deceit doth frame.
20 Thou sitt'st, and 'gainst thy brother speak'st,
Thy mother's son to shame.
21 These things thou wickedly hast done,
And I have silent been ;
Thou thought'st that I was like thyself,
And did approve thy sin :
But I will sharply thee reprove,
And I will order right
Thy sins and thy transgressions,
In presence of thy sight.
22 Consider this, and be afraid,
Ye that forget the Lord,
Lest I in pieces tear you all,
When none can help afford.
23 Who off'reth praise, me glorifies :
I will shew God's salvation
To him that ordereth aright
His life and conversation.

PSALM 51

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, when Nathan the Prophet came unto him, after he had gone in unto Bathsheba.

This Psalm was penned by David, when reproved by Nathan for his adultery with Bathsheba, and for his murder of Uriah, 2 Sam. xii. We have in it, (1) David's candid and truly sorrowful acknowledgments of his sin, particularly his adultery and murder, as highly dishonourable to God;—and of his original sin, as the source thereof, ver. 1,—5. 17. (2) His earnest supplications for pardon of his offences, and for heart-purifying, and renewing grace; and for renewed influences of the Holy Ghost; and for peace of conscience, and comfortable fellowship with God, for himself; ver. 1, 2. 6,—15, and for reformation of, and prosperity to the church, which had been hurt by his sin, ver. 18, 19. (3) His sincere purposes of heart, to improve God's favours to himself, in promoting the instruction of others, and in giving them an honourable pattern of an exact celebration of God's public worship,

PSALM 51

ver. 13, 14, 15, 16. 19.—¶ While I sing this penitential Psalm, let my heart be filled with clear, but evangelic views of my aggravated, my unnumbered transgressions;—and with deep sorrow and remorse for them, let me pour forth supplications, strong cries and tears, to him who is able to forgive all mine iniquities, and to deliver me from every corruption. Let me wash myself in Jesus' blood as the fountain opened to men for sin and for uncleanness.

AFTER thy loving kindness, Lord,
Have mercy upon me:
For thy compassions great blot out
All mine iniquity.
Me cleanse from sin, and throughly wash
From mine iniquity:
3 For my transgressions I confess;
My sin I ever see.
4 'Gainst thee, thee only have I sinn'd,
In thy sight done this ill,
That, when thou speak'st, thou may'st be just,
And clear in judging still.
5 Behold, I in iniquity
Was form'd the womb within;
My mother also me conceiv'd
In guiltiness and sin.
6 Behold, thou in the inward parts
With truth delighted art:
And wisdom thou shalt make me know
Within the hidden part.
7 Do thou with hyssop sprinkle me,
I shall be cleansed so:
Yea wash thou me, and then I shall
Be whiter than the snow.
8 Of gladness and of joyfulness
Make me to hear the voice;
That so these very bones, which thou
Hast broken may rejoice.
9 All mine iniquities blot out;
Thy face hide from my sin.

PSALM 51

- 10 Create a clean heart ; Lord, renew,
A right sp'rit me within.
- 11 Cast me not from thy sight ; nor take
Thy holy Sp'rit away.
- 12 Restore me thy salvation's joy ;
With thy free Sp'rit me stay.
- 13 Then will I teach thy ways unto
Those that transgressors be ;
And those that sinners are shall then
Be turned unto thee.
- 14 O God, of my salvation God,
Me from blood-guiltiness
Set free : then shall my tongue aloud
Sing of thy righteousness,
- 15 My closed lips, O Lord, by thee
Let them be opened,
Then shall thy praises by my mouth
Abroad be published.
- 16 For thou desir'st not sacrifice,
Else would I give it thee :
Nor wilt thou with burnt offering
At all delighted be.
- 17 A broken spirit is to God
A pleasing sacrifice :
A broken and a contrite heart
Lord, thou wilt not despise.
- 18 Shew kindness, and do good, O Lord,
To Ziou, thine own hill :
The walls of thy Jerusalem
Build up, of thy good-will.
- 19 Then righteous off'rings shall thee please,
And off'rings burnt, which they,
With whole burnt off'rings, and with calves
Shall on thine altar lay.

PSALM 52

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, when Doeg the Edomite came and told Saul, and said unto him, David is come to the house of Ahimelech.

This Psalm relates to Doeg the Edomite, who informed Saul how Ahimelech the High Priest had entertained David and his servants, and in consequence thereof, had murdered Ahimelech and above fourscore other priests, 1 Sam. xxii. Here (1) David charges Doeg, that notwithstanding of the manifested and everlasting goodness of God, he gloried in his malice, craft, cruelty, and other wickedness, ver. 1,—5. (2) By the spirit of prophecy, he condemns him for his wickedness, to be plucked from his dwelling, and rooted out of the land of the living, to the great joy of the fearers of God, ver. 6, 7. (3) He comforts himself in the everlasting mercy of God, and with the assured hopes that he should yet praise him for his kindness, ver. 8, 9.—
¶ Learn, O my soul, to detest all deceit and cruelty. Learn to imitate the goodness of God, which endureth continually; and while friends are cut off or foes prevail, let me live by faith on a gracious God, as my ALL and IN ALL.

WHY dost thou boast, O mighty man
Of mischief and of ill?

The goodness of Almighty God
Endureth ever still.

2 Thy tongue mischievous calumnies
Deviseth subtilly :

Like to a razor, sharp to cut,
Working deceitfully.

3 Ill more than good, and more than truth,
Thou lov'st to speak wrong.

4 Thou lovest all devouring words,
O thou deceitful tongue.

5 So God shall thee destroy for ay,
Remove thee, pluck thee out

Quite from thy house, out of the land
Of life he shall thee root.

6 The righteous shall it see, and fear,
And laugh at him they shall.

7 Lo, this the man is that did not
Make God his strength at all:

But he, in his abundant wealth
His confidence did place :

PSALM 53

And he took strength unto himself
From his own wickedness.

8 But I am in the house of God
Like to an olive green :

My confidence for ever hath
Upon God's mercy been.

9 And I for ever will thee praise,
Because thou hast done this :

I on thy name will wait, for good
Before thy saints it is.

PSALM 53

To the chief Musician upon Mahalath, Maschil, A Psalm of David.

This Psalm is much the same as the 14th. It speaks (1) humbling convictions of their sinfulness of nature and practice, to all men, ver. 1,—3. (2) Fearful terrors to them who persecute and oppress the people of God, ver. 4, 5. (3) Abundant comfort, in the salvation of God to his persecuted saints, ver. 5, 6. Learn, my soul, frequently to review thy original and contracted filthiness. Admire the patience and mercy of God towards mankind. Trust not in man, for wherein is he to be accounted of! In the full assurance of faith wait patiently for God's salvation.

THAT there is not a God, the fool
Doth in his heart conclude :

They are corrupt, their works are vile ;
Not one of them doth good.

2 The Lord upon the sons of men
From heav'n did cast his eyes,

To see if any one there was
That sought God, and was wise.

3 They altogether filthy are,
They all are backward gone ;

And there is none that doth good,
No not so much as one.

4 These workers of iniquity,
Do they not know at all,

PSALM 54

That they my people eat as bread,
And on God do not call.

5 Ev'n there they were afraid, and stood
With trembling all dismay'd,

Whereas there was no cause at all,
Why they should be afraid :

For God his bones that thee besieg'd
Hath scatter'd all abroad ;

Thou hast confounded them, for they
Despised are of God.

6 Let Isra'l's help from Zion come :

When back the Lord shall bring
His captives, Jacob shall rejoice,
And Israel shall sing.

PSALM 54

To the chief Musician on Neginoth, Maschil, A Psalm of David, when the Ziphims came and said to Saul, Doth not David hide himself with us ?

This Psalm was composed when the Ziphites, men of the same tribe with David, instigated Saul to destroy him, and directed him how to accomplish it, 1 Sam. xxiii, xxvi. It contains (1) David's strong cries to his God, that he would save and judge him, and hear his requests, ver. 1, 2. (2) Bitter complaints of the oppression, and the impiety of his enemies, ver. 3. (3) His triumphant consolation of himself, in the view of what God was to him and would do for him,—intermixed with holy resolutions to praise him for his kindness, ver. 4,—7.—¶ While Satan, and my lusts, and the men of this world, unite to destroy me, let me call on God. Let me be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Let me rejoice in Him, who hath delivered, doth deliver, and in whom I trust that He will deliver me.

SAVE me, O God, by thy great name,
And judge me by thy strength.

2 My prayer hear, O God ; give ear
Unto my words at length.

3 For they that strangers are to me
Do up against me rise ;

Oppressors seek my soul, and God
Set not before their eyes.

PSALM 55

- 4 The Lord my God my helper is,
Lo, therefore I am bold ;
He taketh part with ev'ry one
That doth my soul uphold.
- 5 Unto mine enemies he shall
Mischief and ill repay :
O for thy truth's sake cut them off,
And sweep them clean away.
- 6 I will a sacrifice to thee
Give with free willingness ;
Thy name, O Lord, because 'tis good,
With praise I will confess.
- 7 For he hath me delivered
From all adversities :
And his desire mine eye hath seen
Upon mine enemies.

PSALM 55

To the chief Musician on Neginoth, Maschil, A Psalm of David.

This Psalm was probably penned by David, when he fled from Jerusalem, for fear of Absalom his son, 2 Sam. xv, xvi. Observe (1) David's earnest prayers, for help and favour from God, amidst his great oppression, griefs, and fears, ver. 1,—8. (2) His requests for the just manifestation of God's vengeance, in the dispersion and destruction of his enemies, who in Jerusalem, particularly Ahitophel, had behaved in so base and treacherous a manner, ver. 9,—15. (3) Resolved on frequent and fervent prayer, he encourages himself and friends to trust in God, for support and deliverance, and for the speedy destruction of their enemies, however deceitful and bloody, ver. 16,—23.—¶ While I sing, behold, my soul, as in a glass, how Jesus our Redeemer was hated, was betrayed and murdered, by his brethren of Judah, at Jerusalem, and how the fearful vengeance of the Almighty overtook them on that account. And if I am oppressed, defamed, or persecuted, that I know not whither to flee: If in cities, or particular friends, wickedness and malice discover themselves, let me study resignation to the disposals of providence, and call upon God, in the assured hopes that he will answer in due time. Let me cast all my wants and burdens on him, who is my God that doth me save.

LORD, hear my pray'r, hide not thyself
From my intreating voice :

PSALM 55

- 2 Attend and hear me, in my plaint
I mourn and make a noise.
- 3 Because of th' en'mies voice, and for
Lewd men's oppressions great:
On me they cast iniquity,
And they in wrath me hate.
- 4 Sore pain'd within me is my heart :
Death's terrors on me fall.
- 5 On me comes trembling, fear, and dread
O'erwhelmed me withal.
- 6 O that I like a dove had wings,
Said I, then would I fly
Far hence, that I might find a place
Where I in rest might be.
- 7 Lo, then far off I wander would,
And in the desert stay ;
- 8 From windy storm and tempest I
Would haste to 'scape away.
- 9 O Lord, on them destruction bring,
And do their tongues divide ;
For in the city violence
And strife I have espy'd.
- 10 They day and night upon the walls
Do go about it round :
There mischief is, and sorrow there
In midst of it is found.
- 11 Abundant wickedness there is
Within her inward part ;
And from her streets deceitfulness
And guile do not depart.
- 12 He was no foe that me reproach'd,
Then that endure I could ;
Nor hater that did 'gainst me boast,
From him me hide I would.

PSALM 55

- 13 But thou, man, who mine equal, guide,
And mine acquaintance wast.
- 14 We join'd sweet counsels, to God's house
In company we past.
- 15 Let death upon them seize, and down
Let them go quick to hell ;
For wickedness doth much abound
Among them where they dwell.
- 16 I'll call on God : God will me save.
- 17 I'll pray, and make a noise
At ev'ning, morning, and at noon ;
And he shall hear my voice.
- 18 He hath my soul delivered,
That it in peace might be,
From battle that against me was :
For many were with me.
- 19 The Lord shall hear and them afflict,
Of old who hath abode :
Because they never changes have,
Therefore they fear not God.
- 20 'Gainst those that were at peace with him
He hath put forth his hand :
The covenant that he hath made,
By breaking he profan'd.
- 21 More smooth than butter were his words,
While in his heart was war ;
His speeches were more soft than oil,
And yet drawn swords they are.
- 22 Cast thou thy burden on the Lord,
And he shall thee sustain ;
Yea, he shall cause the righteous man
Unmoved to remain.
- 23 But thou, O Lord my God, those men
In justice shalt o'erthrow,

PSALM 56

And in destruction's dungeon dark
 At last shalt lay them low :
 The bloody and deceitful men,
 Shall not live half their days ;
 But upon thee with confidence
 I will depend always.

PSALM 56

To the chief Musician upon Jonath-relem-echokim, Michtam of David, when the Philistines took him in Gath.

This Psalm was penned by David, when the Philistines apprehended him in Gath, 1 Sam. xxi. ver. 10,—15. And contains (1) His earnest supplications to God, for merciful protection, and deliverance from his enemies, who were barbarous, powerful, crafty, malicious, and restless, ver. 1, 2. 5, 6, 7. (2) His assured confidence in God, as his own God, who had spoken good concerning him, and took particular notice of his grievances, ver. 3, 4. 3. 11. (3) Firm hopes, that his prayers should issue in the defeat of his enemies, and that his faith would set him above the slavish fears of men, ver. 9,—11. and that while he paid his vows to God, he should have farther occasion to praise the Lord, for what he had done, and would do for him, ver. 12, 13.—¶ Thus, let me, in all my straits, have recourse to God. While his promises remain infallible, let me rejoice therein, and without anxiety cheerfully expect the fulfilment thereof.

SHEW mercy, Lord, to me: for man
 Would swallow me outright:
 He me oppresseth, while he doth
 Against me daily fight.
 2 They daily would me swallow up,
 That hate me spitefully;
 For they be many that do fight
 Against me, O most High.
 3 When I'm afraid, I'll trust in thee:
 4 In God I'll praise his word;
 I will not fear what flesh can do,
 My trust is in the Lord.
 5 Each day they wrest my words, their thoughts,
 'Gainst me are all for ill.
 6 They meet, they lurk, they mark my steps,
 Waiting my soul to kill.

PSALM 57

- 7 But shall they by iniquity
 Escape thy judgments so?
 O God, with indignation down
 Do thou the people throw.
- 8 My wand'rings all what they have been
 Thou know'st, their number took;
 Into thy bottle put my tears:
 Are they not in thy book?
- 9 My foes shall, when I cry, turn back,
 I know't, God is for me.
- 10 In God his word I'll praise: his word
 In God shall praised be.
- 11 In God I trust, I will not fear
 What man can do to me.
- 12 Thy vows upon me are, O God;
 I'll render praise to thee.
- 13 Wilt thou not, who from death me sav'd,
 My feet from falls keep free,
 To walk before God in the light
 Of those that living be?

PSALM 57

*To the chief Musician, Al-taschith, Michtam of David, when
 he fled from Saul in the cave.*

This Psalm was penned by David, when he fled from Saul in the cave, 1 Sam. xxiv. And contains (1) David's earnest betaking of himself to God, upon whom all his dependence was fixed;—towards whom all his desires were bent; and from whom only he expected relief,—for mercy amidst his great troubles, ver. 1, 2. (2) His complaints of the cruelty, malice, and calumnious deceit of his inveterate enemies, ver. 3, 4, 6. (3) His believing triumph in God, in which he prepares himself for praising God; excites himself to it; delights himself in it; and furnisheth himself with matter for it, ver. 7,—10. (4) Conscious of his own inability to praise God enough, he leaves it on God, to exalt and glorify himself, ver. 5,—11.—¶ While I sing, let me cry loud for mercy; let me lay my spiritual and temporal adversities before the Lord; and let me triumph in the God of my salvation; and employ him, to glorify his name, in all the earth.

BE merciful to me, O God,
 Thy mercy unto me

PSALM 57

Do thou extend, because my soul
 Doth put her trust in thee:
 Yea, in the shadow of thy wings
 My refuge I will place,
 Until these sad calamities
 Do wholly overpass.

2 My cry I will cause to ascend
 Unto the Lord most High,
 To God, who doth all things for me
 Perform most perfectly.

3 From heav'n he shall send down, and me
 From his reproach defend,
 That would devour me: God his truth
 And mercy forth shall send.

4 My soul among fierce lions is,
 I firebrands live among,
 Men's sons, whose teeth are spears and darts,
 A sharp sword is their tongue.

5 Be thou exalted very high
 Above the heav'ns, O God;
 Let thou thy glory be advanc'd
 O'er all the earth abroad.

6 My soul's bow'd down; for they a net
 Have laid, my steps to snare.
 Into the pit, which they have digg'd
 For me, they fallen are.

7 My heart is fix'd, my heart is fix'd,
 O God, I'll sing, and praise.

8 My glory, wake; wake, psalt'ry, harp;
 Myself I'll early raise.

9 I'll praise thee 'mong the people, Lord,
 'Mong nations sing will I:

10 For great to heav'n thy mercy is,
 Thy truth is to the sky.

PSALM 58

11 O Lord, exalted be thy Name,
 Above the heav'ns to stand;
 Do thou thy glory far advance
 Above both sea and land.

PSALM 58

To the chief Musician, Al-taschith, Michtam of David.

This Psalm was probably composed by David, when Saul carried on some kind of legal prosecution against him, which is not mentioned in the history of his reign. Here, (1) He describes the corruption of these judges of government, in neglecting to do justice, and in readiness to do injustice—and the corruption of their nature, with malice, falsehood, and obstinate untractableness, ver. 1,—5. (2) He prays, that God would disable them to perpetrate mischief; would defeat their projects; and weaken their influence, ver. 6,—8. (3) He predicts their ruin,—calculated to promote the comfort of the godly, and the conviction of sinners.—¶ While I sing, let me search out my corruptions, and bewail my obstinate refusals of Jesus Christ, and the counsels of his word. Let me dread the speedy, but awful vengeance of God, if I regard iniquity in my heart, or indulge it in my life.

DO ye, O congregation,
 Indeed speak righteousness?
 O ye that are the sons of men,
 Judge ye with uprightness?
 2 Yea, ev'n within your very hearts
 Ye wickedness have done;
 And ye the vi'lence of your hands
 Do weigh the earth upon.
 3 The wicked men estranged are
 Ev'n from the very womb;
 They speaking lies do stray, as soon
 As to the world they come.
 4 Unto a serpent's poison like
 Their poison doth appear;
 Yea, they are like the adder deaf,
 That closely stops her ear:
 5 That so she may not hear the voice
 Of one that charm her would,

PSALM 59

No not though he most cunning were,
And charm most wisely could.
6 Their teeth, O God, within their mouth,
Break thou in pieces small;
The great teeth break thou out, O Lord,
Of these young lions all.
7 Let them like waters melt away,
Which downward still do flow:
In pieces cut his arrows all,
When he shall bend his bow.
8 Like to a snail, that melts away,
Let each of them be gone:
Like woman's birth untimely, that
They never see the sun.
9 He shall them take away, before
Your pots the thorns can find,
Both living, and in fury great,
As with a stormy wind.
10 The righteous when he vengeance sees,
He shall be joyful then;
The righteous one shall wash his feet
In blood of wicked men.
11 So men shall say, The righteous man
Reward shall never miss;
And verily upon the earth
A God to judge there is.

PSALM 59

To the chief Musician, Al-taschith, Michtam of David, when Saul sent, and they watched the house to kill him.

This Psalm was penned by David, when Saul sent messengers to watch his house, in order to kill him, 1 Sam. xix. In it, as in the seven immediate preceding, we have (1) David's bitter complaints of his enemies, as wicked, barbarous, malicious, and atheistical, ver. 1,—7. (2) His predictory prayers, that God would expose these enemies to contempt and derision; make them standing monuments of his just indignation; deal with them according to their sins; and consume them

PSALM 59

in his wrath ; and even render their sin, their punishment, ver. 8,—15. (3) His holy resolutions to wait upon God, till his judgments should be executed on them, and then to praise him for his favours, ver. 9, 10, 16, 17.—¶ While I sing, let me think of the opposition made to David's Lord, and of the unrelenting vengeance which hath overtaken his enemies, Jewish and Heathen, and shall overtake his antichristian and other opposers. While his honours are trampled under foot, let me wait on, and trust in God, that at last I may join in the HALLELUJAHS of his people, when the smoke of his enemies torment ascendeth up for ever and ever.

MY God, deliver me from those
That are mine enemies ;
And do thou me defend from those
That up against me rise.
2 Do thou deliver me from them
That work iniquity ;
And give me safety from the men
Of bloody cruelty.
3 For lo, they for my soul lay wait :
The mighty do combine
Against me, Lord, not for my fault,
Nor any sin of mine.
4 They run, and without fault in me,
Themselves do ready make :
Awake to meet me with thy help,
And do thou notice take.
5 Awake therefore, Lord God of hosts,
Thou God of Israel,
To visit heathen all ; spare none
That wickedly rebel.
6 At ev'ning they go to and fro :
They make great noise and sound
Like to a dog, and often walk
About the city round.
7 Behold, they belch out with their mouth,
And in their lips are swords ;
For they do say thus, Who is he
That now doth hear our words ?

PSALM 59

- 8 But thou, O Lord, shalt laugh at them,
And all the heathen mock.
- 9 While he's in pow'r I'll wait on thee:
For God is my high Rock.
- 10 He of my mercy that is God,
Betimes shall me prevent:
Upon mine en'mies God shall let
Me see mine heart's content.
- 11 Them slay not, lest my folk forget;
But scatter them abroad
By thy strong pow'r; and bring them down,
O thou our shield, and God.
- 12 For their mouth's sin, and for the words,
That from their lips do fly,
Let them be taken in their pride;
Because they curse and lie.
- 13 In wrath consume them, them consume,
That so they may not be:
And that in Jacob God doth rule,
To the earth's ends let them see.
- 14 At ev'ning let thou them return,
Making great noise and sound
Like to a dog, and often walk
About the city round.
- 15 And let them wander up and down,
In seeking food to eat;
And let them grudge, when they shall not
Be satisfy'd with meat.
- 16 But of thy pow'r I'll sing aloud,
At morn thy mercy praise:
For thou to me my refuge wast,
And tow'r in troublous days.
- 17 O God, thou art my strength, I will
Sing praises unto thee;

PSALM 60

For God is my defence, a God
Of mercy unto me.

PSALM 60

To the chief Musician upon Shushan-duth, Michtam of David, to teach, when he strove with Aram naharaim, and with Aram-zobath, when Joab returned, and smote of Edom in the valley of salt, twelve thousand.

This Psalm was penned by David, during his wars with the Syrians and Edomites, 2 Sam. viii. Here, (1) He bewails the tokens of God's displeasure with Israel, in the breaking and disjoining of the nation, under Saul and Ishbosheth, ver. 1,—3. (2) In thankful contemplation of the late revival he had given to their affairs by his own accession to the throne, and victories over the Philistines, Moabites, &c. he beseeches God to grant them victory over, and rest from, all their other enemies, ver. 4, 5. (3) In the confident expectation of God's fulfilment of his promises, and along with importunate supplication, he expresseth his triumphant hopes, that God would quickly subdue every enemy, the fortified cities of Edom not excepted, ver. 6,—12.—¶ In all my distressed cases, let me rejoice in the BANNER, the ENSIGN, given and displayed to the nations; and in the faith of God's promise, let me firmly expect victory over every spiritual foe, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God, the full enjoyment of the Canaan that is above.

O LORD, thou hast rejected us,
And scatter'd us abroad,
Thou justly hast displeas'd been;
Return to us, O God.

2 The earth to tremble thou hast made;
Therein didst breaches make:
Do thou thereof the breaches heal,
Because the land doth shake.

3 Unto thy people thou hard things
Hast shew'd, and on them sent;
And thou hast caused us to drink
Wine of astonishment.

4 And yet a banner thou hast giv'n
To them who thee do fear:
That it by them, because of truth,
Displayed may appear.

PSALM 61

- 5 That thy beloved people may
Deliver'd be from thrall :
Save with the pow'r of thy right hand,
And hear me when I call.
- 6 God in his holiness hath spoke,
Herein I will take pleasure :
Shechem I will divide, and forth
Will Succoth's valley measure.
- 7 Gilead I claim as mine by right,
Manasseh mine shall be :
Ephra'm is of mine head the strength,
Judah gives laws for me.
- 8 Moab's my washing-pot, my shoe
I'll over Edom throw :
And over Palestina's land
I will in triumph go.
- 9 O who is he will bring me to
The city fortify'd?
O who is he that to the land
Of Edom will me guide?
- 10 O God, which hadest us cast off,
This thing will thou not do?
Ev'n thou, O God, which didest not
Forth with our armies go.
- 11 Help us from trouble ; for the help
Is vain which man supplies.
- 12 Thro' God we'll do great acts ; he shall
Tread down our enemies.

PSALM 61

To the chief Musician, upon Neginah, A Psalm of David.

Here (1) David, in commemorating what the Lord had formerly done for him, and in the faith of what he had promised, cries to God for comfort and protection amidst great troubles, ver. 1,—4. (2) In the view of what God had and would for ever do for him, he supplicates necessary mercies, and resolves on everlasting praise and thanksgiving

PSALM 61

to God as his bound duty, ver. 5,—8.—¶ So may all providences, distressful or smiling, lead my soul to a thankful panting for God, as my ALL and in ALL.

- O** GOD, give ear unto my cry,
Unto my pray'r attend.
- 2 From th' utmost corner of the land
My cry to thee I'll send,
What time my heart is overwhelm'd,
And in perplexity:
Do thou me lead unto the Rock
That higher is than I.
- 3 For thou hast for my refuge been
A shelter by thy pow'r,
And, for defence against my foes,
Thou hast been a strong tow'r.
- 4 Within thy tabernacle I
For ever will abide:
And, under covert of thy wings,
With confidence me hide.
- 5 For thou the vows that I did make,
O Lord my God, didst hear:
Thou hast giv'n me the heritage
Of those thy name that fear.
- 6 A life prolong'd for many days
Thou to the king shalt give:
Like many generations be
The years which he shall live.
- 7 He in God's presence his abode
For evermore shall have:
O do thou truth and mercy both
Prepare, that may him save.
- 8 And so will I perpetually
Sing praise unto thy name;
That, having made my vows, I may
Each day perform the same.

PSALM 62

To the chief Musician, to Jeduthun, A Psalm of David.

In this Psalm, (1) David solemnly avows his manifold relations to God; his composed dependence on, fixed trust in, and quiet waiting for God, and his hopes of the ruin of his enemies, ver. 1,—7. (2) He earnestly encourageth others to trust in, and call on God, who is infinite in power, mercy and justice; and to beware of trusting in men, or in outward riches or honours, which are deceitful and unsubstantial, ver. 8,—12.—¶ While I sing, go thou my soul and do likewise. Be weaned from all dependence on creatures; but cleave to, and depend on, this all-sufficient JEHOVAH, as answerable to all thy needs,—all thy desires,—all thy enjoying powers, for time and for eternity.—Then, O how fixed in safety! and how filled with the consolations of Christ.

MY soul with expectation
Depends on God indeed:
My strength and my salvation doth
From him alone proceed.
2 He only my salvation is,
And my strong Rock is he:
He only is my sure defence,
Much mov'd I shall not be.
3 How long will ye against a man
Plot mischief? ye shall all
Be slain: ye as a tott'ring fence
Shall be, and bowing wall.
4 They only plot to cast him down
From his excellency:
They joy in lies; with mouth they bless,
But they curse inwardly.
5 My soul, wait thou with patience
Upon thy God alone;
On him dependeth all my hope
And expectation.
6 He only my salvation is,
And my strong Rock is he:
He only is my sure defence;
I shall not moved be.
7 In God my glory placed is,
And my salvation sure:

PSALM 63

In God the rock is of my strength,
My refuge most secure.

8 Ye people, place your confidence
In him continually:

Before him pour ye out your hearts;
God is our refuge high.

9 Surely mean men are vanity,
And great men are a lie:

In balance laid, they wholly are
More light than vanity.

10 Trust ye not in oppression,
In robb'ry be not vain;

On wealth set not your hearts, when as
Increased is your gain.

11 God hath it spoken once to me;
Yea, this I heard again,

That power to Almighty God
Alone doth appertain.

12 Yea, mercy also unto thee
Belongs, O Lord, alone:

For thou according to his work
Rewardest ev'ry one.

PSALM 63

A Psalm of David, when he was in the Wilderness of Judah.

This Psalm was penned by David, while he hid himself from the fury of Saul, in the wilderness of Judah, 1 Sam. xxii. ver. 5.—or xxiii. ver. 14. 24, 25.—or xxiv. ver. 1. Or when he fled from Absalom 2 Sam. xv. xvi. We have (1) His strong faith, working in ardent desires after the most familiar fellowship with God in public ordinances, ver. 1, 2. (2) His superlative estimation of God, issuing in hearty resolutions to be for ever employed in his praise, ver. 3, 4. (3) His heart-ravishing satisfaction in God, amidst secret and fixed meditation on his excellencies and love, ver. 5, 6. (4) His joyful dependence on God, as his Saviour and Portion, ver. 7, 8. (5) His holy triumph in God, as his preserver, and the destroyer of his enemies, ver. 9,—11.—¶ While I sing these high praises of God, let my soul be strong in the faith, giving glory to God; embracing the promise of His mercy, and calling all the fulness of the Godhead my own. Let me be all in raptures of divine

PSALM 63

love, and holy delight. Let no guile, no corruption, no carnal care enervate or damp my inward powers. But let all be opened, be wide stretched, to grasp my infinite ALL, the great I AM.

LORD, thee my God I'll early seek :
My soul doth thirst for thee ;
My flesh longs in a dry parch'd land,
Wherein no waters be ;
2 That I thy power may behold,
And brightness of thy face,
As I have seen thee heretofore,
Within thy holy place.
3 Since better is thy love than life,
My lips thee praise shall give.
4 I in thy name will lift my hands,
And bless thee while I live.
5 Ev'n as with marrow and with fat,
My soul shall filled be ;
Then shall my mouth with joyful lips
Sing praises unto thee :
6 When I do thee upon my bed
Remember with delight,
And when on thee I meditate,
In watches of the night.
7 In shadow of thy wings I'll joy,
For thou mine help hast been.
8 My soul thee follows hard ; and me
Thy right hand doth sustain.
9 Who seek my soul to spill, shall sink
Down to earth's lowest room.
10 They by the sword shall be cut off,
And foxes prey become,
11 Yet shall the King in God rejoice,
And each one glory shall
That swear by him ; but stopt shall be
The mouth of liars all,

PSALM 64

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

This Psalm contains (1) David's earnest supplications for preservation from his enemies, who were so spiteful in their calumnious reproaches;—so close and subtile in their malicious plots,—and so industrious and active, in executing their cruel projects, ver. 1,—6. (2) His predictions, that God by just vengeance would quickly render these enemies a terror to themselves and others; and an occasion of holy joy, and confidence, to the saints, ver. 7,—10. ¶ While I sing, let me commit my spiritual enemies into the hand of God, who is able to destroy them, and will quickly, to my everlasting comfort, tread them all under my feet.

WHEN I to thee my prayer make,
 Lord, to my voice give ear;
 My life save from the enemy
 Of whom I stand in fear.
 2 Me from their secret counsel hide
 Who do live wickedly;
 From insurrection of those men
 That work iniquity:
 3 Who do their tongues with malice whet,
 And make them cut like swords;
 In whose bent bows are arrows set,
 Ev'n sharp and bitter words:
 4 That they may at the perfect man
 In secret aim their shot;
 Yea, suddenly they dare, at him
 To shoot, and fear it not.
 5 In ill encourage they themselves;
 And their snares close do lay:
 Together conference they have,
 Who shall them see? they say.
 6 They have search'd out iniquities,
 A perfect search they keep:
 Of each of them the inward thought,
 And very heart is deep.
 7 God shall an arrow shoot at them,
 And wound them suddenly.

PSALM 65

- 8 So their own tongue shall them confound ;
All who them see shall flee.
9 And on all men a fear shall fall ;
God's works they shall declare ;
For they shall wisely notice take
What these his doings are.
10 In God the righteous shall rejoice,
And trust upon his might ;
Yea, they shall greatly glory all,
In heart that are upright.

PSALM 65

To the chief Musician, A Psalm and Song of David.

Here we are directed to praise God (1) For his kindness manifested in his kingdom of Grace in hearing prayers ; in pardoning iniquities ; in satisfying the souls of his people with his blessings ; and in protecting and supporting them in every exigence, ver. 1,—5. (2) For his kindness in the kingdom of Providence in fixing the mountains ; in calming the seas ; in preserving the regular succession of day and night ; and in rendering the fields fruitful and the flocks numerous and happy, ver. 6, —13.—¶ While I sing, let praise wait, in my soul, for the Lord ; and let me pour out my heart before him. Under deep sense of guilt and pollution, let me believe his unbounded forgiveness and sanctifying influence. Let me come even to his seat, and enjoy ravishing fellowship with him. Let all my confidence be fixed on him ; and even in the blessings of providence let me discern the exceeding riches of his grace.

PRAISE waits for thee in Zion, Lord :
To thee vows paid shall be.

2 O thou that hearer art of pray'r,
All flesh shall come to thee.

3 Iniquities, I must confess,
Prevail against me do :

But as for our transgressions,
Them purge away shalt thou.

4 Blest is the man whom thou dost choose,
And mak'st approach to thee,
That he within thy courts, O Lord,
May still a dweller be :

PSALM 65

We surely shall be satisfy'd
With thy abundant grace,
And with the goodness of thy house,
Ev'n of thy holy place.

5 O God of our salvation,
Thou in thy righteousness,
By fearful works, unto our pray'rs
Thine answer dost express :
Therefore the ends of all the earth,
And those afar that be
Upon the sea, their confidence,
O Lord, will place in thee.

6 Who, being girt with pow'r, sets fast,
By his great strength, the hills ;

7 Who noise of seas, noise of their waves,
And people's tumult stills.

8 Those in the utmost parts that dwell
Are at thy signs afraid :
Th' out-goings of the morn and ev'n
By thee are joyful made.

9 The earth thou visit'st, wat'ring it :
Thou mak'st it rich to grow
With God's full flood : thou corn prepar'st,
When thou provid'st it so.

10 Her ridg's thou wat'rest plenteously ;
Her furrows settlest :
With show'rs thou dost her mollify,
Her spring by thee is blest.

11 So thou the year most lib'rally
Dost with thy goodness crown ;
And all thy paths abundantly
On us drop fatness down.

12 They drop upon the pastures wide,
That do in deserts ly ;

PSALM 66

The little hills on ev'ry side
Rejoice right pleasantly.
13 With flocks the pastures clothed be,
The vales with corn are clad ;
And now they shout and sing to thee,
For thou hast made them glad.

PSALM 66

To the chief Musician, A Song or Psalm.

In this Psalm of thanksgiving, in which the fate of Israel is to be considered as typical of that of the gospel-church and people of God. We have (1) David as the messenger of God, calling all the nations of mankind to praise God for his manifestation of his sovereign dominion, in his works, so wonderful in themselves, terrible to his enemies, comfortable to his people, and commanding and awful to all men, ver. 1,—7. —And for trying his people with afflictions and for supporting under them; protecting amidst them; and delivering from them, at last, ver. 8,—12. (2) David, as the servant of God, exemplifying his own exhortations, in honouring God by costly oblations; and by thankful declarations of what God had done for his soul, particularly in answer to his prayers, ver. 13,—20.

ALL lands, to God in joyful sounds,
Aloft your voices raise :
2 Sing forth the honour of his Name ;
And glorious make his praise.
3 Say unto God, How terrible
In all thy works art thou ?
Thro' thy great pow'r thy foes to thee
Shall be constrain'd to bow.
4 All on the earth shall worship thee,
They shall thy praise proclaim
In songs: they shall sing cheerfully
Unto thy holy Name.
5 Come, and the works that God hath wrought
With admiration see:
In's working to the sons of men
Most terrible is he.
6 Into dry land the sea he turn'd,
And they a passage had ;

PSALM 66

- Ev'n marching thro' the flood on foot,
There we in him were glad.
- 7 He ruleth ever by his pow'r,
His eyes the nations see :
- 8 O let not the rebellious ones
Lift up themselves on high.
- 8 Ye people, bless our God : aloud
The voice speak of his praise.
- 9 Our soul in life who safe preserves.
Our feet from sliding stays.
- 10 For thou didst prove, and try us, Lord,
As men do silver try :
- 11 Brought'st us into the net, and mad'st
Bands on our loins to ly.
- 12 Thou hast caus'd men ride o'er our heads ;
And tho' that we did pass
Thro' fire and water, yet thou brought'st
Us to a wealthy place.
- 13 I'll bring burnt-off'rings to thy house ;
To thee my vows I'll pay,
- 14 Which my lips utter'd, my mouth spake,
When trouble on me lay.
- 15 Burnt-sacrifices of fat rams
With incense I will bring ;
Of bullocks and of goats I will
Present an offering.
- 16 All that fear God, come, hear, I'll tell
What he did for my soul.
- 17 I with my mouth unto him cry'd,
My tongue did him extol.
- 18 If in my heart I sin regard,
The Lord me will not hear :
- 19 But surely God me heard, and to
My prayer's voice gave ear.

PSALM 67

20 O let the Lord, our gracious God,
For ever blessed be,
Who turned not my pray'r from him,
Nor yet his grace from me.

PSALM 67

To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm or Song.

Here we have (1) David's prayer for the church of Israel, ver. 1. (2) His supplication for the comforting, and praise-producing spread of the gospel among the Gentiles, ver. 2,—5. (3) His believing prospect of the divine blessings and true piety which should attend the same, ver. 6, 7.—¶ While I sing, let me request the salvation of Israel. Let me supplicate the gathering of the nations to Shiloh. Let me praise the Lord, that already this great work is begun; and that the Lord, who is mighty, shall finish it in his time.

LORD, bless and pity us;
Shine on us with thy face:
2 That th' earth thy way, and nations all
May know thy saving grace.
3 Let people praise thee, Lord;
Let people all thee praise.
4 O let the nations be glad,
In songs their voices raise:
Thou'lt justly people judge,
On earth rule nations ail.
5 Let people praise thee, Lord; let them
Praise thee, both great and small.
6 The earth her fruit shall yield;
Our God shall blessing send.
7 God shall us bless, men shall him fear
Unto earth's utmost end.

Another of the same.

LORD, unto us be merciful,
Do thou us also bless;
And graciously cause shine on us
The brightness of thy face:

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- 2 That so thy way upon the earth
To all men may be known,
Also among the nations all
Thy saving health be shown.
- 3 O let the people praise thee, Lord ;
Let people all thee praise.
- 5 O let the nations be glad,
And sing for joy always :
For rightly thou shalt people judge,
And nations rule on earth.
- 5 Let people praise thee, Lord ; let all
The folk praise thee with mirth.
- 6 Then shall the earth yield her increase ;
God, our God, bless us shall.
- 7 God shall us bless ; and of the earth
The ends shall fear him all.

PSALM 68

To the chief Musician, A Psalm or Song of David.

Perhaps this Psalm was composed on the same occasion as the 24th and 47th, when David brought up the ark of God to that tabernacle, which he had pitched for it in Zion, 2 Sam. vi. We have in it (1) Fer-vent supplications, that God would scatter and defeat the projects of his enemies, ver. 1, 2. (2) High praises to him for his infinite greatness and grace ; his righteous relieving of the afflicted and oppressed ; his directing of Israel in the Arabian desert ; his manifesting of his glory at Sinai ; his comfortable providing for his people in the wilderness, and in Canaan, ver. 3,—10 : And for the easy conquest of their Canaanitish enemies ; his fixing his temple on mount Zion ; and for the ascension of Christ to glory to receive gifts for men ; and for the spread of the gospel among Jews and Gentiles, by means of the Apostles ;—while the obstinate Jews are severely punished, ver. 11,—32 : And in fine, for his supreme dominion ; his awful majesty ; his mighty power ; and for the glory of his sanctuary ; and the grace he bestows upon his people, ver. 33,—35. —¶ While I sing, let me behold, let me admire, what God is, and hath done for, and to my soul, and to the church of God, of which I am a member. Let me behold what God hath done, in instances unnumbered, in prosecution of the Covenant he made with his Eternal Son.

LET God arise, and scattered
Let all his en'mies be ;

PSALM 68

And let all those that do him hate
Before his presence flee.

2 As smoke is driv'n, so drive thou them :
As fire melts wax away,
Before God's face let wicked men
So perish and decay.

3 But let the righteous be glad ;
Let them before God's sight

Be very joyful ; yea, let them
Rejoice with all their might.

4 To God sing, to his name sing praise :
Extol him with your voice,
That rides on heav'n by his name JAH,
Before his face rejoice.

5 Because the Lord a Father is
Unto the fatherless :

God is the widows judge, within
His place of holiness.

6 God doth the solitary set
In fam'lies : and from bands

The chain'd doth free : but rebels do
Inhabit parched lands.

7 O God, what time thou didst go forth
Before thy peoples' face ;

And when through the great wilderness
Thy glorious marching was :

8 Then at God's presence shook the earth,
Then drops from heaven fell ;

This Sinia shook before the Lord,
The God of Israel.

9 O God, thou to thine heritage
Didst send a plenteous rain,

Whereby thou, when it weary was,
Didst it refresh again.

PSALM 68

10 Thy congregation then did make
Their habitation there :

Of thine own goodness for the poor,
O God, thou didst prepare.

11 The Lord himself did give the word,
The word abroad did spread ;
Great was the company of them
The same who published.

12 Kings of great armies foiled were,
And forc'd to flee away :
And women, who remain'd at home,
Did distribute the prey.

13 Though ye have ly'n among the pots,
Like doves you shall appear,
Whose wings with silver, and with gold
Whose feathers cover'd are.

14 When there th' Almighty scatter'd kings,
Like Salmon's snow 'twas white.

15 God's hill is like to Bashan hill,
Like Bashan hill for height.

16 Why do ye leap, ye mountains high ?
This is the hill where God
Desires to dwell ; yea, God in it
For ay will make abode.

17 God's chariots twenty thousand are,
Thousands of angels strong ;
In's holy place God is, as in
Mount Sinai, them among.

18 Thou hast, O Lord, most glorious
Ascended up on high ;
And, in triumph victorious, led
Captive captivity :
Thou hast received gifts for men,
For such as did rebel ;

PSALM 68

Yea, ev'n for them, that God the Lord
In midst of them might dwell.

19 Blest be the Lord, who is to us
Of our salvation God,
Who daily with his benefits
Us plenteously doth load.

20 He of salvation is the God,
Who is our God most strong ;
And unto God the Lord from death
The issues do belong.

21 But surely, God shall wound the head
Of those that are his foes ;
The hairy scalp of him that still
On in his trespass goes.

22 God said, My people I will bring
Again from Bashan hill ;
Yea, from the sea's devouring deeps
Them bring again I will.

23 That in the blood of enemies,
Thy foot imbru'd may be ;
And of thy dogs dipt in the same
The tongues thou mayest see.

24 Thy goings they have seen, O God,
The steps of Majesty
Of my God, and my mighty King,
Within the sanctuary.

25 Before went singers, players next
On instruments, took way ;
And them among the damsels were,
That did on timbrels play.

26 Within the congregations
Bless God with one accord ;
From Isra'l's fountain do ye bless,
And praise the mighty Lord.

PSALM 68

- 27 With their prince little Benjamin,
Princes and council there
Of Judah were; there Zabulon's
And Napht'li's princes were. (strong
- 28 Thy God commands thy strength: make
What thou wrought'st for us, Lord.
- 29 For thy house at Jerusalem,
Kings shall thee gifts afford.
- 30 The spear-men's host, the multitude
Of bulls which fiercely look,
Those calves, which people have forth sent,
O Lord our God, rebuke;
Till ev'ry one submit himself,
And silver pieces bring:
The people that delight in war,
Disperse, O God and King.
- 31 Those that be princes great shall then
Come out of Egypt lands;
And Ethiopia to God
Shall soon stretch out her hands.
- 32 O all ye kingdoms of the earth,
Sing praises to this King,
For he is Lord that ruleth all,
Unto him praises sing.
- 33 To him that rides on heav'ns of heav'ns
Which he of old did found;
Lo, he sends out his voice, a voice
In might that doth abound.
- 34 Strength unto God do ye ascribe;
For his excellency
Is over Israel, his strength
Is in the clouds most high.
- 35 Thour't from thy temple dreadful, Lord,
Isra'l's own God is he,

PSALM 69

Who gives his people strength and pow'r :
O let God blessed be.

PSALM 69

To the chief Musician upon Shoshannim, A Psalm of David.

This Psalm is much a-kin to the 22d, representing at once the troubles of David and of David's Lord, and the glories which followed. We have in it (1) Bitter complaints of long and sore troubles; of the malice and multitude of enemies; of the unkindness of friends; of general contempt;—and these mingled with candid acknowledgments of guilt, and with supplications for God's gracious audience and merciful deliverance, ver. 1,—13. (2) Pleas insisted on in these supplications, viz. the mercy and truth of God; the Psalmist's own great distress; the insolence and cruelty of his enemies; and the unkindness of his friends, ver. 14,—21. (3) Predictions of the ruin of David's, and especially of Christ's Jewish enemies;—importing, That their sacrifices and their common food should be cursed to them; that they should be plagued with judicial blindness and wrathful disquiet; that they should be rendered public monuments of the vengeance of God,—having their church and state quite unhinged and their land desolated; and in fine, that their ruin should be increasing, and their recovery almost impossible, ver. 22,—28. (4) Under a deep sense of his poverty and distress, David and his divine Son celebrate the high praises of God, and call others to praise him for the deliverances of Israel; but chiefly for the erection of the gospel-church, and for the certain, though still future recalling of the Jews into the same, ver. 29,—36. —¶ While I sing, let me behold my Redeemer charged in law with my sins, and bearing the punishment thereof. Let me learn, with patience, to run the race of holy obedience and of necessary trials set before me, looking to Jesus as my pattern, and as the author and finisher of my faith. While I behold the tremendous severity of God's judgments against his ancient people, for rejecting and murdering his Son, let me not be high-minded, but fear.—Let me behold the grace of our Lord Jesus, who, though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor, that we through his poverty might be made rich.—And let me be a living and lively member of that church, which is founded in his blood, and blessed in him, with all spiritual blessings.

SAVE me, O God, because the floods
Do so environ me,
That ev'n unto my very soul
Come in the waters be.
2 I downward in deep mire do sink,
Where standing there is none :
I am into deep waters come,
Where floods have o'er me gone.

PSALM 69

- 3 I weary with my crying am,
My throat is also dry'd;
Mine eyes do fail, while for my God
I waiting do abide.
- 4 Those men that do, without a cause,
Bear hatred unto me,
Than are the hairs upon mine head
In number more they be :
- They that would me destroy, and are
Mine en'mies wrongfully,
Are mighty : so, what I took not
To render forc'd was I.
- 5 Lord, thou my folly know'st my sins ;
Not cover'd are from thee.
- 6 Let none that wait on thee be sham'd,
Lord God of hosts, for me.
- O Lord, the God of Israel,
Let none, who search do make,
And seek thee, be at any time
Confounded for my sake.
- 7 For I have borne reproach for thee,
My face is hid with shame.
- 8 To brethren strange, to mother's sons
An alien I became.
- 9 Because the zeal did eat me up,
Which to thine house I bear ;
And the reproaches cast at thee
Upon me fallen are.
- 10 My tears, and fasts t' afflict my soul,
Were turned to my shame.
- 11 When sackcloth I did wear, to them
A proverb I became.
- 12 The men that in the gate do sit
Against me evil spake ;

PSALM 69

They also, that vile drunkards were,
Of me their song did make.

13 But, in an acceptable time,
My pray'r, Lord, is to thee:

In truth of thy salvation, Lord,
And mercy great, hear me.

14 Deliver me out of the mire,
From sinking do me keep:

Free me from those that do me hate,
And from the waters deep.

15 Let not the flood on me prevail,
Whose water overflows;

Nor deep me swallow, nor the pit
Her mouth upon me close.

16 Hear me, O Lord, because thy love
And kindness is most good:

Turn unto me, according to
Thy mercies multitude.

17 Nor from thy servant hide thy face:
I'm troubled; soon attend.

18 Draw near my soul, and it redeem:
Me from my foes defend.

19 To thee is my reproach well known,
My shame, and my disgrace:

Those that mine adversaries be
Are all before thy face.

20 Reproach hath broke my heart, I'm full
Of grief: I look'd for one

To pity me, but none I found;
Comforters found I none.

21 They also bitter gall did give
Unto me for my meat:

They gave me vinegar to drink,
When as my thirst was great.

PSALM 69

- 22 Before them let their table prove
A snare ; and do thou make
Their welfare and prosperity
A trap themselves to take.
- 23 Let thou their eyes so dark'ned be,
That sight may them forsake ;
And let their loins be made by thee
Continually to shake.
- 24 Thy fury pour thou out on them,
And indignation ;
And let thy wrathful anger, Lord,
Fast hold take them upon.
- 25 All waste and desolate let be
Their habitation ;
And in their tabernacles all
Inhabitants be none.
- 26 Because him they do persecute,
Whom thou didst smite before ;
They talk unto the grief of those
Whom thou hast wounded sore.
- 27 Add thou iniquity unto
Their former wickedness :
And do not let them come at all
Into thy righteousness.
- 28 Out of the book of life let them
Be raz'd and blotted quite ;
Among the just and righteous
Let not their names be writ.
- 29 But now, become exceeding poor,
And sorrowful am I :
By thy salvation, O my God,
Let me be set on high.
- 30 The name of God I with a song
Most cheerfully will praise ;
And I, in giving thanks to him,
His name shall highly raise.

PSALM 70

- 31 This to the Lord a sacrifice
 More gracious shall prove,
 Than bullock, ox, or any beast,
 That hath both horn and hoof.
- 32 When this the humble men shall see,
 It joy to them shall give :
 O all ye that do seek the Lord,
 Your hearts shall ever live.
- 33 For God the poor hears, and will not
 His prisoners contemn.
- 34 Let heav'n, and earth, and seas him praise,
 And all that move in them.
- 35 For God will Judah's cities build,
 And he will Zion save ;
 That they may dwell therein, and it
 In sure possession have.
- 36 And they that are his servants seed
 Inherit shall the same ;
 So shall they have their dwelling there
 That love his blessed name.

PSALM 70

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, to bring in remembrance.

This Psa'm is much the same as the five last verses of the 40th. In it David prays (1) For divine help to himself, ver. 1. 5. (2) For shame and confusion to his enemies, ver. 2, 3. (3) For joy and comfort to his friends, ver. 4.—¶ While I sing, let me apply it to my own troubled circumstances, and so, in a believing manner, bring them and the sinful causes thereof, to my remembrance.

- L**ORD, haste me to deliver ;
 With speed, Lord, succour me.
- 2 Let them, that for my soul do seek,
 Sham'd and confounded be :
 Turn'd back be they, and sham'd,
 That in my hurt delight.
- 3 Turn'd back be they, Ha, ha, that say,
 Their shaming to requite.

PSALM 71

4 In thee let all be glad,
 And joy that seek for thee :
 Let them, who thy salvation love,
 Say still, God praised be.

5 I poor and needy am ;
 Come, Lord, and make no stay :
 My help thou and deliv'rer art,
 O Lord, make no delay.

Another of the same.

MAKE haste, O God, me to preserve ;
 With speed, Lord, succour me.

2 Let them that for my soul do seek
 Sham'd and confounded be :
 Let them be turned back, and sham'd,
 That in my hurt delight.

3 Turn'd back be they, Ha, ha, that say,
 Their shaming to requite.

4 O Lord, in thee let all be glad,
 And joy that seek for thee :
 Let them, who thy salvation love,
 Say still, God praised be.

5 But I both poor and needy am,
 Come, Lord, and make no stay :
 My help thou and deliv'rer art,
 O Lord, make no delay.

PSALM 71

This Psalm was probably penned on the occasion of Absalom's rebellion, as Psalm 3d, 42d, 43d, or of Sheba's conspiracy, 2 Sam. xx. And contains (1) David's firm confidence in God, encouraged by manifold experiences of his gracious kindness, ver. 1. 3. 5, 6, 7. (2) His fervent prayers, That he might never be ashamed; but might be delivered; might find rest in God; might have constant matter of new praises and thanksgivings afforded him; might not be forsaken of God in his old age; and might have his numerous, powerful, and crafty enemies, confounded with shame and perplexity, ver. 1,—13. 18. (3) His confident and joyful expectations of God's further kindness, particularly that God would never forsake but revive him; that he would increase his honour and comfort, and put his enemies to shame.—Along herewith, he resolves, with admiring rapture, to extol God's righteousness and

PSALM 71

salvation, and his new-covenant relation to himself, and to Israel, ver. 14,—24.—¶ While I sing, let me be affected with my troubles. Let me never stagger at the promise through unbelief, but be strong in the faith, giving glory to God.

- O** LORD, my hope and confidence
Is plac'd in thee alone :
Then let thy servant never be
Put to confusion.
- 2 And let me, in thy righteousness,
From thee deliv'rance have ;
Cause me escape, incline thine ear
Unto me, and me save.
- 3 Be thou my dwelling-rock, to which
I ever may resort :
Thou gav'st commandment me to save,
For thou'rt my rock and fort.
- 4 Free me, my God, from wicked hands,
Hands cruel and unjust.
- 5 For thou, O Lord God, art my hope,
And, from my youth, my trust.
- 6 Thou from the womb didst hold me up :
Thou art the same that me
Out of my mother's bowels took ;
I ever will praise thee.
- 7 To many I a wonder am ;
But thou'rt my refuge strong.
- 8 Fill'd let my mouth be with thy praise,
And honour all day long.
- 9 O do not cast me off, when as
Old age doth overtake me ;
And, when my strength decayed is,
Then do not thou forsake me.
- 10 For those that are mine enemies,
Against me speak with hate :
And they together counsel take,
That for my soul lay wait.

PSALM 71

11 They said, God leaves him ; him pursue
And take : none will him save.

12 Be thou not far from me, my God :
Thy speedy help I crave.

13 Confound, consume them, that unto
My soul are enemies :
Cloth'd be they with reproach and shame
That do my hurt devise.

14 But I with expectation
Will hope continually ;
And yet with praises more and more
I will thee magnify.

15 Thy justice and salvation
My mouth abroad shall show.
Ev'n all the day ; for I thereof
The numbers do not know.

16 And I will constantly go on
In strength of God the Lord :
And thine own righteousness ev'n thine
Alone, I will record.

17 For, even from my youth, O God,
By thee I have been taught ;
And hitherto I have declar'd
The wonders thou hast wrought.

18 And now, Lord, leave me not, when I
Old and gray-headed grow :
Till to this age thy strength and pow'r
To all to come I show.

19 And thy most perfect righteousness,
O Lord, is very high,
Who hast so great things done : O God,
Who is like unto thee ?

20 Thou, Lord, who great adversities,
And sore to me didst show,
Shalt quicken, and bring me again
From depths of earth below.

PSALM 72

- 21 My greatness, and my pow'r thou wilt
Increase, and far extend:
On ev'ry side, against all grief,
Thou wilt me comfort send.
- 22 Thee, ev'n thy truth, I'll also praise,
My God with psaltery:
Thou holy One of Israel,
With harp I'll sing to thee.
- 23 My lips shall much rejoice in thee,
When I thy praises sound:
My soul, which thou redeemed hast,
In joy shall much abound.
- 24 My tongue thy justice shall proclaim,
Continuing all day long:
For they confounded are, and sham'd,
That seek to do me wrong.

PSALM 72

A Psalm for Solomon.

This Psalm was composed by David, about the time of Solomon's instalment in the throne of Israel, 1 Kings, i. and ii. With respect to him, here is (1) Fervent prayer for proper qualifications to furnish him for government, ver. 1. (2) Predictions of the peace, glory, extent, wealth, duration, and happiness of his government, ver. 2,—17. (3) Praises to the God of Israel for his mercies to his people, ver. 18, 19.—But as our Redeemer is principally intended, we have concerning him (1) His furniture of the Holy Ghost above measure, to qualify him for his work, ver. 1. (2) The glories of his government; how righteous! how prudent! how orderly! how condescending! and merciful! how destructive to oppressors! how efficaciously productive of real religion! and how comfortable to his faithful subjects, his administrations are! ver. 2,—9. How extensive his church, among all ranks and nations! how tender his care of the meanest of his subjects! how much he is revered and adored by them! how astonishing their increase, by means of his gospel-truth preached! and how permanent and useful his government! ver. 10,—17. 5. (3) A solemn ascription of all the praise of these wonderful works to God alone, with an earnest request and believing expectation, that his glory shall fill the whole earth, ver. 18, 19.—¶ While I sing these lofty notes of the dying Psalmist, let me admire, let me adore, let me sing praises, to Jesus my King. Let me rejoice in his highness, and in his extensive usefulness to men.

O LORD, thy judgments give the king,
His son thy righteousness.

PSALM 72

- 2 With right he shall thy people judge,
Thy poor with uprightness.
- 3 The lofty mountains shall bring forth
Unto the people peace;
Likewise the little hills the same
Shall do by righteousness.
- 4 The people's poor ones he shall judge,
The needy's children save:
And those shall he in pieces break,
Who them oppressed have.
- 5 They shall thee fear, while sun and moon
Do last, through ages all.
- 6 Like rain on mown grass he shall drop,
Or snow's on earth that fall.
- 7 The just shall flourish in his days,
And prosper in his reign:
He shall, while doth the moon endure,
Abundant peace maintain.
- 8 His large and great dominion shall
From sea to sea extend:
It from the river shall reach forth
Unto earth's utmost end.
- 9 They in the wilderness that dwell
Bow down before him must:
And they that are his enemies
Shall lick the very dust.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and the isles
To him shall presents bring,
And unto him shall offer gifts
Sheba's and Seba's king.
- 11 Yea, all the mighty kings on earth
Before him down shall fall:
And all the nations of the world
Do service to him shall.
- 12 For he the needy shall preserve,
When he to him doth call:

PSALM 72

The poor also, and him that hath
No help of man at all.

13 The poor man, and the indigent,
In mercy he shall spare :

He shall preserve alive the souls
Of those that needy are.

14 Both from deceit and violence
Their soul he shall set free ;

And in his sight right precious
And dear their blood shall be.

15 Yea, he shall live, and giv'n to him
Shall be of Sheba's gold ;

For him still shall they pray, and he
Shall daily be extoll'd.

16 Of corn an handful in the earth,
On tops of mountains high,

With prosp'rous fruit shall shake, like trees
On Lebanon that be.

The city shall be flourishing,
Her citizens abound

In number shall, like to the grass
That grows upon the ground.

17 His name for ever shall endure,
Last like the sun it shall :

Men shall be blest in him, and blest
All nations shall him call.

18 Now, blessed be the Lord our God,
The God of Israel ;

For he alone doth wond'rous works,
In glory that excel.

19 And blessed be his glorious name
To all eternity ;

The whole earth let his glory fill :
Amen, so let it be.

The prayers of David the Son of Jesse are ended.

PSALM 73

A Psalm of Asaph.

This Psalm and the ten following are called *Psalms of Asaph*; but whether, because he composed most of them, or because he led the music in singing them, is not altogether certain. Here we have (1) The great foundation of all religion, viz. the goodness of God to his people, strongly asserted, ver. 1. (2) The Psalmist's faith fearfully shaken by the consideration of the freedom, prosperity, plenty, and peaceful-like death of the wicked,—which rendered them proud, oppressive, insolent, atheistical, and profane, while himself was in a manner consigned to nothing but trouble, ver. 2,—13. (3) The temptation, when it had reduced him to the brink of Atheism is broken, by a discovery of the connected purposes and providences of God, in his word and ordinances, ver. 14,—20. (4) His improvement of his fall and recovery, to promote a deep sense of his own meanness, ignorance, and folly;—a complete dependence on God as his Guide, a cleaving to him as his Portion, infinitely preferable to every thing else;—without whom one is necessarily miserable, and in the enjoyment of whom he is assured of happiness, and excited to praise and thanksgiving, ver. 21,—28.—
¶ While I sing, let me remember my own weakness and folly; let me receive instruction in duty. Let me cleave to God as my portion; and resolve to draw my light and comfort from the oracles of his mouth, and ordinances of his grace.

YET God is good to Israel,
To each pure hearted one.

2 But as for me, my steps near slipt,
My feet were almost gone.

3 For I envious was, and grudg'd
The foolish folk to see,

When I perceiv'd the wicked sort
Enjoy prosperity.

4 For still their strength continueth firm;
Their death of bands is free.

5 They are not toil'd as other men,
Nor plagu'd as others be.

6 Therefore their pride, like to a chain,
Them compasseth about:

And, as a garment, violence
Doth cover them throughout.

7 Their eyes stand out with fat; they have
More than their hearts could wish.

8 They are corrupt; they talk of wrong
Both lewd and lofty is.

PSALM 73

- 9 They set their mouth against the heav'ns
In their blasphemous talk ;
And their reproaching tongue throughout
The earth at large doth walk.
- 10 His people oftentimes for this
Look back and turn about ;
Sith waters of so full a cup
To these are poured out.
- 11 And thus they say, How can it be
That God these things doth know ?
Or, can there in the Highest be
Knowledge of things below ?
- 12 Behold, these are the wicked ones,
Yet prosper at their will
In worldly things, they do increase
In wealth and riches still.
- 13 I, verily, have done in vain
My heart to purify ;
To no effect in innocence
Washed my hands have I.
- 14 For daily, and all day throughout,
Great plagues I suffer'd have ;
Yea, ev'ry morning I of new
Did chastisement receive.
- 15 If in this manner foolishly
To speak I would intend,
Thy children's generation,
Behold, I should offend.
- 16 When I this thought to know, it was
Too hard a thing for me ;
17 Till to God's sanctuary I went,
Then I their end did see.
- 18 Assuredly thou didst them set
A slipp'ry place upon :
Them suddenly thou castedst down
Into destruction.

PSALM 73

- 19 How, in a moment, suddenly
To ruin brought are they!
With fearful terrors utterly
They are consum'd away.
- 20 Ev'n like unto a dream, when one
From sleeping doth arise;
So thou, O Lord, when thou awak'st,
Their image shalt despise.
- 21 Thus grieved was my heart in me,
And me my reins opprest.
- 22 So rude was I, and ignorant,
And in thy sight a beast.
- 23 Nevertheless, continually,
O Lord, I am with thee:
Thou dost me hold by my right hand
And still upholdest me.
- 24 Thou, with thy counsel, while I live,
Wilt me conduct and guide;
And to thy glory afterward
Receive me to abide.
- 25 Whom have I in the heavens high,
But thee, O Lord, alone?
And in the earth, whom I desire
Besides thee, there is none.
- 26 My flesh and heart doth faint and fail,
But God doth fail me never:
For of my heart God is the strength,
And portion for ever.
- 27 For lo, they that are far from thee
For ever perish shall:
Them that a whoring from thee go
Thou hast destroyed all.
- 28 But surely it is good for me,
That I draw near to God:
In God I trust, that all thy works
I may declare abroad.

PSALM 74

Maschil of Asaph.

This Psalm relates to the destruction of the city and temple of Jerusalem, by the Chaldeans, or to some similar disaster. In it, we have (1) The Church's bitter complaints of God's displeasure; of the outrage of their enemies; and of the apparent hopelessness of their case, ver. 1,—11. (2) Strong and heart-encouraging pleadings with God,—upon the account of his relation to them, and of the great things he had done for them;—and that he was at once their God and the God of nature;—that therefore he would remember to execute just vengeance upon his sworn enemies, and grant help and relief to his covenant-people, ver. 12,—23.—¶ While I sing this, let me admire the sovereignty and holiness of God, in so severely correcting his own people. And let the broken, the deserted condition of the Church, in this land, deeply affect my heart, and excite mine earnest prayers for her restoration.

O GOD, why hast thou cast us off?
Is it for evermore?

Against thy pasture-sheep why doth,
Thine anger smoke so sore?

2 O call to thy remembrance
Thy congregation,

Which thou hast purchased of old:
Still think the same upon.

The rod of thine inheritance,
Which thou redeemed hast,
This Zion hill, wherein thou hadst
Thy dwelling in times past.

3 To these long desolations
Thy feet lift, do not tarry:
For all the ills thy foes have done
Within thy sanctuary.

4 Amidst thy congregations
Thine enemies do roar:
Their ensigns they set up, for signs
Of triumph, thee before.

5 A man was famous, and was had
In estimation,
According as he lifted up
His ax thick trees upon.

6 But all at once with axes now
And hammers they go to;

PSALM 74

And down the carved work thereof
They break, and quite undo.

7 They fired have thy sanctuary,
And have defil'd the same,

By casting down unto the ground
The place where dwelt thy name.

8 Thus said they in their hearts, Let us
Destroy them out of hand:

They burnt up all the synagogues
Of God within the land.

9 Our signs we do not now behold;
There is not us among

A prophet more, nor any one
That knows the time how long.

10 How long, Lord, shall the enemy
Thus in reproach exclaim?

And shall the adversary thus
Always blaspheme thy name?

11 Thy hand, ev'n thy right hand of might,
Why dost thou thus draw back?

O from thy bosom pluck it out,
For our deliv'rance sake.

12 For certainly, God is my King,
Ev'n from the times of old,

Working in midst of all the earth
Salvation manifold.

13 The sea, by thy great pow'r, to part
Asunder thou didst make:

And thou the dragons heads, O Lord,
Within the waters brake.

14 The leviathan's heads thou brak'st
In pieces, and didst give

Him to be meat unto the folk
In wilderness that live.

15 Thou clav'st the fountain, and the flood
Which did with streams abound:

PSALM 74

Thou dry'dst the mighty waters up
Unto the very ground.

16 Thine only is the day, O Lord,
Thine also is the night :

And thou alone prepared hast
The sun and shining light.

17 By thee the borders of the earth
Were settled ev'ry where :

The summer and the winter both
By thee created were.

18 That th' enemy reproached hath,
O keep it in record ;

And that the foolish people have
Blasphem'd thy name, O Lord.

19 Unto the multitude do not
Thy turtle's soul deliver :

The congregation of thy poor
Do not forget for ever.

20 Unto thy cov'nant have respect ;
For earth's dark places be

Full of the habitations
Of horrid cruelty.

21 O let not those that be oppress'd,
Return again with shame :

Let those that poor and needy are
Give praise unto thy name.

22 Do thou, O God, arise and plead
The cause that is thine own :

Remember how thou art reproach'd
Still by the foolish one.

23 Do not forget the voice of those
That are thine enemies :

Of those the tumult ever grows,
That do against thee rise.

PSALM 75

To the chief Musician, Al-taschith, A Psalm or Song of Asaph.

Here (1) David returns thanks to God, for advancing him to the throne of Israel; and resolves to act for the public welfare, ver. 1.—3. 9, 10. (2) He rebukes the insolence of such as opposed his advancement, which sprung from the sovereign disposal of God, the Judge of the world; and denounceth their destruction, ver. 4,—8 —¶ While I sing, let me think of Jesus, whom God hath crowned with glory and honour; and of the infinite danger of opposing his government. And if he exalt me to the spiritual honours of his kingdom, let it be my care to glorify him, and to profit his people.

TO thee, O God, do we give thanks,
 We do give thanks to thee:
 Because thy wond'rous works declare
 Thy great name near to be.
 2 I purpose, when I shall receive
 The congregation,
 That I shall judgment uprightly
 Render to ev'ry one.
 3 Dissolved is the land, with all
 That in the same do dwell;
 But I the pillars thereof do
 Bear up and stablish well.
 4 I to the foolish people said,
 Do not deal foolishly;
 And unto those that wicked are,
 Lift not your horn on high.
 5 Lift not your horn on high, nor speak
 6 With stubborn neck. But know,
 That nor from east, nor west, nor south,
 Promotion doth flow.
 7 But God is Judge: he puts down one,
 And sets another up.
 8 For in the hand of God most high
 Of red wine is a cup:
 'Tis full of mixture, he pours forth,
 And makes the wicked all
 Wring out the bitter dregs thereof;
 Yea, and they drink them shall.

PSALM 76

- 9 But I for ever will declare,
I Jacob's God will praise.
10 All horns of lewd men I'll cut off;
But just men's horns will raise.

PSALM 76

To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm or Song of Asaph.

This Psalm is near a-kin to the 48th, and was penned on occasion of some remarkable victory; but whether in the days of David, Asa, Jehoshaphat, or Hezekiah, 2 Chron. xiv. xx. xxxii, is uncertain. We have in it, (1) Encouraging congratulations of the Church's happiness, in having God so manifested in her, and so near unto her; and in having his power so employed in her behalf, to the advancement of his own glory, and the destruction of her enemies, ver. 1,—6. (2) Important instructions how to improve this victory, to the terror of enemies, the comfort of saints, and the excitement of all to vow to God, and to obey and revere Him, ver. 7,—12.—¶ While I sing this, let my soul bless the Lord, that my lot hath been alway cast in a land of gospel-light. Let me, with thankful heart, remember what He hath done for this church and land; and give Him the praise of every deliverance. Let me never fear the rage of men; but, in every danger and doubt, commit my way to God, that he may bring it to pass.

- I**N Judah's land God is well known;
His name's in Isra'l great.
2 In Salem is his tabernacle,
In Zion is his seat.
3 There arrows of the bow he brake,
The shield, the sword, the war.
4 More glorious thou than hills of prey,
More excellent art far.
5 These that were stout of heart are spoiled,
They slept their sleep outright:
And none of those their hands did find,
That were the men of might.
6 When thy rebuke, O Jacob's God,
Had forth against them past,
Their horses and their chariots both
Were in a dead sleep cast.
7 Thou, Lord, ev'n thou art he that should
Be fear'd, and who is he
That may stand up before thy sight,
If once thou angry be?

PSALM 77

- 8 From heav'n thou judgment caus'd be hear'd ;
The earth was still with fear,
9 When God to judgment rose, to save
All meek on earth that were.
10 Surely the very wrath of man
Unto thy praise redounds :
Thou to the remnant of his wrath
Wilt set restraining bounds.
11 Vow to the Lord your God, and pay ;
All ye that near him be,
Bring gifts and presents unto him :
For to be fear'd is he.
12 By him the sp'rits shall be cut off,
Of those that princes are :
Unto the kings that are on earth,
He fearful doth appear.

PSALM 77

To the chief Musician, to Jeduthun, A Psalm of Asaph.

This Psalm relates to (1) A most afflicted case, in which are remarkable, fervent and incessant prayers, agonizing restlessness, heart-overwhelming meditations, melancholy fears, and almost desperate outcries concerning God, ver. 1—9. (2) The effectual cure of this mournful case, by serious meditation on, and solemn acknowledgment of the power, greatness, and grace of God, as our God;—and of the holiness and mysteriousness of his providential conduct, particularly in bringing Israel out of Egypt, and in leading them through the wilderness to the promised land, ver. 10, 20.—¶ While I sing, let me stand in awe of that God, who so chastiseth his favourite saints: Let me sympathize with men of wounded spirits. If my soul is overwhelmed within me, let me call to mind the gracious character and great works of my God, for his church, or for my soul.

UNTO the Lord I with my voice,
I unto God did cry,
Ev'n with my voice, and unto me
His ear he did apply,
2 I in my trouble sought the Lord,
My sore by night did run,
And ceased not: my grieved soul
Did consolation shun.

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- 3 I to remembrance God did call,
Yet trouble did remain :
And overwhelm'd my spirit was,
Whilst I did sore complain.
- 4 Mine eyes, debarr'd from rest and sleep,
Thou makest still to wake :
My trouble is so great, that I
Unable am to speak.
- 5 The days of old to mind I call'd,
And oft did think upon
The times and ages that are past
Full many years ago.
- 6 By night my song I call to mind,
And commune with my heart,
My sp'rit did carefully enquire
How I might ease my smart.
- 7 For ever will the Lord cast off,
And gracious be no more ?
- 8 For ever is his mercy gone ?
Fails his word evermore ?
- 9 Is't true, that to be gracious
The Lord forgotten hath ?
And that his tender mercies he
Hath shut up in his wrath ?
- 10 Then did I say, That surely this
Is mine infirmity :
I'll mind the years of the right hand
Of him that is most High.
- 11 Yea, I remember will the works
Performed by the Lord :
The wonders done of old by thee
I surely will record.
- 12 I also will of all thy works,
My meditation make,
And of thy doings to discourse
Great pleasure I will take.

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- 13 O God, thy way most holy is,
Within thy sanctuary :
And what God is so great in pow'r,
As is our God most high?
- 14 Thou art the God that wonders dost
By thy right hand most strong ;
Thy mighty pow'r thou hast declar'd
The nations among.
- 15 To thine own people with thine arm
Thou didst redemption bring :
To Jacob's sons, and to the tribes
Of Joseph that do spring.
- 16 The waters, Lord, perceived thee,
The waters saw thee well :
And they for fear aside did flee ;
The depths on trembling fell.
- 17 The clouds in water forth were pour'd
Sound loudly did the sky :
And swiftly through the world abroad
Thine arrows fierce did fly.
- 18 Thy thunder's voice amongst the heav'n
A mighty noise did make :
By lightnings lightned was the world,
The earth tremble did and shake.
- 19 Thy way is in the sea, and in
The waters great thy path ;
Yet are thy footsteps hid, O Lord,
None knowledge thereof hath.
- 20 Thy people thou didst safely lead
Like to a flock of sheep ;
By Moses' hand and Aaron's thou
Didst them conduct and keep.

PSALM 78

Maschil of Asaph.

This Psalm is a brief but instructive history of the transactions between Israel and their God, for about four hundred and eighty years,

PSALM 78

from Moses to David. Here is (1) The introduction, containing a solemn call to an attentive consideration of God's words and works, in order to a faithful transmitting of the knowledge thereof to posterity, that they might set their hope in God, and reform from their father's wickedness, ver. 1,—8. (2) The history itself; in which are exhibited 1st God's favours to Israel before their settlement in Canaan, in plaguing the Egyptians; in dividing the Red-sea; in giving them water from the rock, and manna from heaven; in bringing them into Canaan notwithstanding of their unnumbered provocations, particularly their forgetfulness of his mighty works, their ingratitude for his favours, their murmuring against his trying dispensations, their eagerness to satiate their lusts with his benefits, their impenitent obduracy, or hypocritical repentance under his rebukes, ver. 9,—55. 2d Their ingratitude, treachery, and idolatry, after their entrance into Canaan;—with God's righteous resentment thereof, in removing his tabernacle from Shiloh, and in delivering up his ark and people into the hand of the Philistines, ver. 56,—64. (3) God's merciful return to them, in obliging the Philistines by the plague of emrods to restore his ark; and in, at length, providing an habitation for it at Jerusalem; and in raising up and qualifying David, a descendent of Judah, to govern them in a manner both honourable and happy, ver. 65,—72. These things are more largely recorded in the books of Exodus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, 1st and 2d Samuels, and part of 1st Kings.—¶ While I sing them, let me with grief and shame remember my own and my fathers transgressions against the Lord. Let me adore the infinite patience, power and mercy, holiness and equity of God. Let me bless his holy name for the multitude of his undeserved favours towards me, and towards the church. And though he cause grief, let me hope that in due time, he will have compassion.

ATTEND, my people, to my law,
 Thereto give thou an ear:
 The words that from my mouth proceed
 Attentively do hear.
 2 My mouth shall speak a parable,
 And sayings dark of old:
 3 The same which we have heard and known,
 And us our fathers told.
 4 We also will them not conceal
 From their posterity;
 Them to the generation
 To come declare will we:
 The praises of the Lord our God,
 And his Almighty strength,
 The wond'rous works that he hath done,
 We will shew forth at length.

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- 5 His testimony and his law
In Isra'l he did place,
And charg'd our fathers it to show
To their succeeding race.
- 6 That so the race which was to come
Might well them learn and know ;
And sons unborn, who should arise,
Might to their sons them show.
- 7 That they might set their hope in God,
And suffer not to fall
His mighty works out of their mind,
But keep his precepts all.
- 8 And might not, like their fathers, be
A stiff rebellious race ;
A race not right in heart ; with God
Whose sp'rit not stedfast was.
- 9 The sons of Ephraim, who nor bows,
Nor other arms did lack,
When as the day of battle was,
They faintly turned back.
- 10 They brake God's cov'nant, and refus'd
In his commands to go.
- 11 His works and wonders they forgot,
Which he to them did show.
- 12 Things marvellous he brought to pass,
Their fathers them beheld,
Within the land of Egypt done,
Yea, ev'n in Zoan's field.
- 13 By him divided was the sea,
He caus'd them through to pass ;
And made the waters so to stand,
As like an heap it was.
- 14 With cloud by day, with light of fire
All night he did them guide.
- 15 In desert rocks he clave, and drink
As from great depths supply'd.

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- 16 He from the rock brought streams, like floods
 Made waters to run down.
- 17 Yet sinning more, in desert they
 Provok'd the highest One.
- 18 For in their heart they tempted God,
 And speaking with mistrust,
 They greedily did meat require
 To satisfy their lust.
- 19 Against the Lord himself they spake,
 And, murmuring, said thus,
 A table in the wilderness
 Can God prepare for us?
- 20 Behold, he smote the rock, and thence
 Came streams and waters great;
 But can he give his people bread?
 And send them flesh to eat?
- 21 The Lord did hear, and waxed wroth,
 So kindled was a flame
 'Gainst Jacob, and 'gainst Israel
 Up indignation came.
- 22 For they believ'd not God, nor trust
 In his salvation had:
- 23 Though clouds above he did command.
 And heav'n's door open made;
- 24 And manna rain'd on them, and gave
 Them corn of heav'n to eat.
- 25 Man angels food did eat: to them
 He to the full sent meat.
- 26 And in the heaven he did cause
 An eastern wind to blow;
 And by his power he let out
 The southern wind to go.
- 27 Then flesh as thick as dust he made
 To rain down them among;
 And feather'd fowls, like as the sand
 Which ly'th the shore along.

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- 28 At his command amidst their camp
These show'rs of flesh down fell,
All round about the tabernacles,
And tents where they did dwell.
- 29 So did they eat abundantly,
And had of meat their fill,
For he did give to them what was
Their own desire and will.
- 30 They from their lust had not estrang'd
Their heart and their desire ;
But while their meat was in their mouths,
Which they did so require,
- 31 God's wrath upon them came, and slew
The fattest of them all:
So that the choice of Israel
O'erthrown by death did fall.
- 32 Yet, notwithstanding of all this,
They sinned still the more:
And, though he had great wonders wrought,
Believ'd him not therefore.
- 33 Wherefore their days in vanity
He did consume and waste ;
And by his wrath their wretched years
Away in trouble past.
- 34 But when he slew them, then they did
To seek him shew desire :
Yea, they return'd, and after God
Right early did enquire.
- 35 And that the Lord had been their rock
They did remember then:
Evn that the high Almighty God
Had their Redeemer been.
- 36 Yet with their mouth they flatter'd him,
And spake but feignedly ;
And they unto the God of truth
With their false tongues did lie.

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- 37 For though their words were good, their heart
With him was not sincere:
Unsteadfast and perfidious
They in his cov'nant were.
- 38 But full of pity, he forgave
Their sin, them did not slay;
Nor stirr'd up all his wrath, but oft
His anger turn'd away.
- 39 For that they were but fading flesh
To mind he did recal;
A wind that passeth soon away,
And not returns at all.
- 40 How often did they him provoke
Within the wilderness?
And in the desert did him grieve
With their rebelliousness?
- 41 Yea, turning back, they tempted God,
And limits set upon
Him, who in midst of Isra'l is
The only holy One.
- 42 They did not call to mind his pow'r,
Nor yet the day when He
Deliver'd them out of the hand
Of their fierce enemy.
- 43 Nor how great signs in Egypt land
He openly had wrought,
What miracles in Zoan's field
His hand to pass had brought
- 44 How lakes and rivers ev'ry where
He turned into blood;
So that no man nor beast could drink
Of standing lake or flood.
- 45 He brought among them swarms of flies,
Which did them sore annoy;
And divers kinds of filthy frogs
He sent them to destroy.

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- 46 He to the caterpillar gave
 The fruits of all their soil ;
 Their labours he deliver'd up
 Unto the locusts spoil,
- 47 Their vines with hail, their sycamores
 He with the frost did blast.
- 48 Their beasts to hail he gave, their flocks
 Hot thunder-bolts did waste.
- 49 Fierce burning wrath he on them cast,
 And indignation strong,
 And troubles sore, by sending forth
 Ill angels them among.
- 50 He to his wrath made way, their soul
 From death he did not save ;
 But over to the pestilence
 The lives of them he gave.
- 51 In Egypt land the first-born all
 He smote down ev'ry where ;
 Amongst the tents of Ham, ev'n these
 Chief of their strength that were.
- 52 But his own people, like to sheep,
 Thence to go forth he made ;
 And he amidst the wilderness
 Them, as a flock, did lead.
- 53 And he them safely on did lead,
 So that they did not fear :
 Whereas their en'mies by the sea
 Quite overwhelmed were.
- 54 To borders of his sanctuary
 The Lord his people led,
 Ev'n to the mount, which his right hand
 For them had purchased.
- 55 The nations of Canaan,
 By his Almighty hand,
 Before their face he did expel
 Out of their native land,

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Which for inheritance to them
By line he did divide,
And made the tribes of Israel,
Within their tents abide.

56 Yet God most high they did provoke,
And tempted ever still:
And to observe his testimonies
Did not incline their will.

57 But like their fathers turned back,
And dealt unfaithfully:
Aside they turned, like a bow
That shoots deceitfully.

58 For they to anger did provoke
Him with their places high;
And with their graven images
Mov'd him to jealousy.

59 When God heard this, he waxed wroth,
And much loath'd Isra'l then:

60 So Shiloh's tent he left, the tent
Which he had plac'd with men:

61 And he his strength delivered
Into captivity,
He left his glory in the hand
Of his proud enemy.

62 His people also he gave o'er
Unto the sword's fierce rage:
So sore his wrath inflamed was
Against his heritage.

63 The fire consum'd their choice young men,
Their maids ~~to~~ marriage had:

64 And when their priests fell by the sword,
Their wives no mourning made.

65 But then the Lord arose, as one
That doth from sleep awake;
And like a giant, that, by wine
Refresh'd, a shout doth make.

PSALM 79

- 66 Upon his en'mies hinder parts
He made his stroke to fall;
And so upon them he did put
A shame perpetual.
- 67 Moreover, he the tabernacle
Of Joseph did refuse;
The mighty tribe of Ephraim
He would in no wise chuse.
- 68 But he did chuse Jehudah's tribe
To be the rest above;
And of mount Zion he made choice,
Which he so much did love.
- 69 And he his sanctuary built
Like to a palace high,
Like to the earth which he did found
To perpetuity.
- 70 Of David, that his servant was,
He also choice did make,
And even from the folds of sheep
Was pleased him to take:
- 71 From waiting on the ewes with young,
He brought him forth to feed
Israel, his inheritance,
His people, Jacob's seed.
- 72 So after the integrity
He of his heart them fed;
And by the good skill of his hands
Them wisely governed.

PSALM 79

A Psalm of Asaph.

This Psalm relates to the havoc made of the Jewish capital and nation, by the Chaldeans and Syro-grecians as typical of the afflictions of the gospel-church. Observe (1) How deplorable the condition of these people of God was when their enemies raged against their dwellings, persons, and characters; and their God himself long continued the tokens of his just displeasure, ver. 1,—5. (2) Their humble, but fervent supplications, for the just punishment of their heathen enemies; and for divine pity, pardon, and help, to themselves, ver. 6,—12.

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(3) The pleas wherewith they enforce their requests; viz. God's relation to them, as their God and Shepherd; and the tendency of what they asked to promote the declarative glory of his name, ver. 1. 6. 9, 10. 13.—¶ While I sing, let my soul have a deep sympathy with the afflicted members of Christ: Let me bless his holy name, that I am not in similar circumstances. Let me lay before the Lord the spiritual injuries, which Satan and my lusts have done to my soul, and to the church of God; and let me cry bitterly for his merciful rising up to destroy them, and to shew me his salvation.

O GOD, the heathen ent'red have
 Thine heritage; by them
 Defiled is thy house: on heaps
 They laid Jerusalem.

2 The bodies of thy servants they
 Have cast forth, to be meat
 To rav'nous fowls, thy dear saints flesh
 They gave to beasts to eat.

3 Their blood about Jerusalem
 Like water they have shed:
 And there was none to bury them
 When they were slain and dead.

4 Unto our neighbours a reproach
 Most base become are we:
 A scorn and laughing-stock to them
 That round about us be.

5 How long, Lord, shall thine anger last?
 Wilt thou still keep the same?
 And shall thy fervent jealousy
 Burn like unto a flame?

6 On heathen pour thy fury forth,
 That have thee never known,
 And on those kingdoms which thy name
 Have never call'd upon.

7 For these are they who Jacob have
 Devoured cruelly;
 And they his habitation
 Have caused waste to ly.

8 Against us mind not former sins:
 Thy tender mercies show,

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Let them prevent us speedily,
 For we're brought very low.

9 For thy Name's glory, help us, Lord,
 Who hast our Saviour been:
 Deliver us; for thy Name's sake,
 O purge away our sin.

10 Why say the heathen, Where's their God?
 Let him to them be known;
 When those who shed thy servant's blood,
 Are in our sight o'erthrown.

11 O let the pris'ners sighs ascend
 Before thy sight on high:
 Preserve those, in thy mighty pow'r,
 That are design'd to die.

12 And to our neighbours bosom cause
 It sev'n-fold rend'ed be,
 Even the reproach, wherewith they have
 O Lord, reproached thee.

13 So we thy folk, and pasture-sheep,
 Shall give thee thanks always:
 And unto generations all
 We will shew forth thy praise.

PSALM 80

To the chief Musician upon Shoshannim, Eduth, A Psalm of Asaph.

This Psalm relates to the distressed condition of the Hebrew church and nation, perhaps during the Syrian, Assyrian, or Chaldean invasions, 2 Kings, xii. xiii. xv. xvii, xviii, xix. xxiv, xxv. Here are (1) Earnest supplications for God's special presence and favour, ver. 1,—3. 7, 9. (2) Mournful complaints of the lasting appearances of God's anger; of the overflowings of their grief; of abuse and derision by their neighbours; and of the unbinging of their constitution which God himself had fixed when he brought them out of Egypt, ver. 4,—13. (3) Further supplications, that God would consider and pity his vineyard, their church and nation; assist their king his vine-dresser; and convert them to, and quicken them in his service, ver. 14,—19.—¶ While I sing, let me be affected with the distresses of God's Church. Let me pant for the fullest manifestations of his glory, and the blessings of his presence. Let me insist, That his Spirit may glorify Jesus Christ, the great *Man of his right hand*, in taking what is his and shewing it unto me.

PSALM 80

HEAR, Isra'l's Shepherd, like a flock
 Thou that dost Joseph guide,
 Shine forth, O thou that dost between
 The cherubims abide.

2 In Ephraim's and Benjamin's,
 And in Manasseh's sight,
 O come, for our salvation,
 Stir up thy strength and might.

3 Turn us again, O Lord, our God;
 And upon us vouchsafe
 To make thy countenance to shine,
 And so we shall be safe.

4 O Lord of hosts almighty God,
 How long shall kindled be
 Thy wrath against the prayer made
 By thine own folk to thee?

5 Thou tears of sorrow giv'st to them,
 In stead of bread, to eat;
 Yea, tears in stead of drink thou giv'st
 To them, in measure great.

6 Thou makest us a strife unto
 Our neighbours round about:
 Our enemies among themselves
 At us do laugh and flout.

7 Turn us again, O God of hosts,
 And upon us vouchsafe
 To make thy countenance to shine,
 And so we shall be safe.

8 A vine from Egypt brought thou hast,
 By thine outstretched hand:
 And thou the heathen out didst cast,
 To plant it in their land.

9 Before it thou a room didst make,
 Where it might grow and stand;
 Thou causedst it deep root to take,
 And it did fill the land.

PSALM 80

10 The mountains vail'd were with its shade
As with a covering :

Like goodly cedars were the boughs
Which out from it did spring.

11 Upon the one hand, to the sea
Her boughs she did out-send ;
On th' other side, unto the flood
Her branches did extend.

12 Why hast thou then thus broken down,
And ta'en her hedge away ?
So that all passengers do pluck,
And make of her a prey.

13 The boar, who from the forest comes,
Doth waste it at his pleasure ;
The wild beast of the field also
Devours it out of measure.

14 O God of hosts, we thee beseech,
Return now unto thine :
Look down from heav'n in love, behold,
And visit this thy vine :

15 This vineyard which thine own right hand
Hath planted us among ;
And that same branch, which for thyself
Thou hast made to be strong.

16 Burnt up it is with flaming fire,
It also is cut down :
They utterly are perished
When as thy face doth frown.

17 O let thy hand be still upon
The Man of thy right hand,
The Son of man, whom for thyself
Thou madest strong to stand.

18 So henceforth we will not go back,
Nor turn from thee at all :
O do thou quicken us, and we
Upon thy name will call.

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19 Turn us again, Lord God of hosts;
 And upon us vouchsafe
 To make thy countenance to shine,
 And so we shall be safe.

PSALM 81

To the chief Musician upon Gittith, A Psalm of Asaph.

This Psalm was probably composed for the *Feast of trumpets*, on the first day of the 7th month, Lev. xxiii. 24. Here are (1) Solemn exhortations to praise God for what he is to his people, and for what he hath done for them, ver. 1,—7. (2) Instructions concerning God's new covenant-grant of himself, and his benefits to men; and their ungrateful refusal thereof; and the misery they incur, and happiness they lose thereby, ver. 8,—16.—¶ While I sing, let my soul consider, what God is to, hath done for, and given to MEN,—to ME:—and let all my inward powers stedfastly believe his declarations, and eagerly embrace his offers. Let my heart be filled with grief, that ever I refused to hear my own gracious God speaking from heaven, and offering to ME all the unsearchable riches of Christ.

SING loud to God, our strength, with joy
 To Jacob's God do sing.

2 Take up a psalm, the pleasant harp,
 Timbrel and psalt'ry bring.

3 Blow trumpets at new-moon, what day
 Our feast appointed is:

4 For charge to Isra'l, and a law
 Of Jacob's God was this.

5 To Joseph this a testimony
 He made, when Egypt land
 He travell'd thro', where speech I heard
 I did not understand.

6 His shoulder I from burdens took,
 His hands from pots did free.

7 Thou didst in trouble on me call,
 And I deliver'd thee:

In secret place of thundering
 I did thee answer make;
 And at the streams of Meribah,
 Of thee a proof did take.

8 O thou my people, give an ear,
 I'll testify to thee:

PSALM 82

To thee, O Isra'l, if thou wilt
But hearken unto me.

9 In midst of thee there shall not be
Any strange god at all ;

Nor unto any god unknown
Thou bowing down shalt fall.

10 I am the Lord thy God, which did
From Egypt land thee guide :

I'll fill thy mouth abundantly,
Do thou it open wide.

11 But yet my people to my voice
Would not attentive be ;

And ev'n my chosen Israel
He would have none of me.

12 So to the lust of their own hearts
I them delivered :

And then in counsels of their own
They vainly wandered.

13 O that my people had me heard,
Isra'l my ways had chose !

14 I had their en'mies soon subdu'd,
My hand turn'd on their foes.

15 The haters of the Lord to him
Submission should have feign'd.

But as for them, their time should have
For evermore remain'd.

16 He should have also fed them with
The finest of the wheat ;

Of honey from the rock, thy fill
I should have made thee eat.

PSALM 82

A Psalm of Asaph.

This Psalm was probably penned for the direction and warning of the Jewish courts of judicature. It represents (1) The dignity of Magistrates, and their dependence on God, as their sovereign Governor and Judge, ver. 1. 6. (2) Their duty, ver. 3, 4. (3) Their too frequent

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degeneracy and mischievousness; and the just punishment thereof, ver. 2. 5. 7. (4) The saints request for the establishment of God's kingdom in the world, ver. 8.—¶ While I sing, let me stand in awe of JENOVAH's authority and presence. Let me remember, I must be answerable to him for all my conduct. Let me be affected with my meanness and corruption. Let me revere Magistrates as the deputies of God on earth. And in every station, in which God placeth me, let my care be, in all things, to live honestly, and to cry mightily, that the kingdoms of this world may quickly be made the kingdoms of my Lord and of his Christ.

IN gods assembly God doth stand;
He judgeth gods among.

2 How long, accepting persons vile,
Will ye give judgment wrong?

3 Defend the poor and fatherless,
To poor opprest do right.

4 The poor and needy ones set free:
Rid them from ill men's might.

5 They know not, nor will understand,
In darkness they walk on:

All the foundations of the earth
Out of their course are gone.

6 I said, that you are gods, and are
Sons of the Highest all:

7 But ye shall die like men, and as
One of the princes fall.

8 O God, do thou raise up thyself,
The earth to judgment call:

For thou, as thine inheritance,
Shalt take the nations all.

PSALM 83

A Song or Psalm of Asaph.

This Psalm relates to some combination of the heathens around, against the Hebrews, either in the days of David, 2 Sam. viii. or x; or of Jehoshaphat, 2 Chron. xx. And contains (1) A solemn remonstrance to God, concerning their malicious designs against his church and honour, ver. 1,—8. (2) Fervent supplications to God, that he would defeat these attempts; protect and preserve his church; humble his enemies; and glorify himself in the world, ver. 9,—18.—¶ While I sing, let me be affected, with the inward combinations of my own lusts, with Satan and the world; and with the joint endeavours of open enemies and naughty professors, against the church and interests of Christ;—and commit the cause to God, who judgeth righteously.

PSALM 83

K EEP not, O God, we thee intreat,
 O keep not silence now :
 Do thou not hold thy peace, O God,
 And still no more be thou.
 2 For lo, thine enemies a noise
 Tumult'ously have made ;
 And they, that haters are of thee,
 Have lifted up the head.
 3 Against thy chosen people they
 Do crafty counsel take ;
 And they against thy hidden ones
 Do consultations make.
 4 Come, let us cut them off, said they,
 From being a nation,
 That of the name of Isra'el may
 No more be mention.
 5 For with joint heart they plot, in league
 Against thee they combine.
 6 The tents of Edom, Ishma'rites,
 Moab's and Hagar's line,
 7 Gebal, and Ammon, Amalek,
 Philistines, those of Tyre ;
 8 And Assur join'd with them, to help
 Lot's children they conspire.
 9 Do to them as to Midian,
 Jabin at Kishon's strand :
 10 And Sis'ra, which at Endor fell,
 As dung to fat the land.
 11 Like Oreb, and like Zeeb make
 Their noble men to fall :
 Like Zeba, and Zalmunna like,
 Make thou their princes all.
 12 Who said, For our possession,
 Let us God's houses take.
 13 My God, them like a wheel, as chaff
 Before the wind them make.

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14 As fire consumes the wood, as flame
 Doth mountains set on fire ;
 15 Chase and affright them with the storm
 And tempest of thine ire.
 16 Their faces fill with shame, O Lord,
 That they may seek thy name.
 17 Let them confounded be, and vex'd,
 And perish in their shame :
 18 That men may know, that thou, to whom
 Alone doth appertain
 The name JEHOVAH, dost most high,
 O'er all the earth remain.

PSALM 84

To the chief Musician, upon Gittith, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.

This Psalm is much a-kin to Psalm 27th, 42d, 43d, and 63d, and might be composed on the same occasion with the former, when David was banished from Jerusalem by Absalom his son, 2 Sam. xv. xvi. We have here (1) David's ardent affection towards the public ordinances of God; and sense of their happiness who enjoyed them, ver. 1,—7. 10. (2) His heart-burning desire to the God of ordinances, ver. 8, 9. (3) His assured faith of God's kindness; and persuasion of the happiness of such as trust in him, ver. 11, 12.—¶ So let my heart cry out for God, the living God. So let me covet earnestly intimate fellowship with him, in his ordinances. So let me praise his name, and hold on in his way till I arrive at the Zion above.—So let God be my Friend, my Protector, my Supplier, my Store, and the everlasting Rock of my rest.

HOW lovely is thy dwelling-place,
 O Lord of hosts, to me !
 The tabernacles of thy grace,
 How pleasant, Lord, they be !
 2 My thirsty soul longs veh'ment^{ly} ;
 Yea, faints thy courts to see :
 My very heart and flesh cry out,
 O living God, for thee.
 3 Behold, the sparrow findeth out
 An house wherein to rest ;
 The swallow also for herself
 Hath purchased a nest,

PSALM 84

- Ev'n thine own altars *, where she safe
 Her young ones forth may bring,
 O thou Almighty, Lord of hosts,
 Who art my God and King.
- 4 Blest are they in thy house that dwell,
 They ever give thee praise.
- 5 Blest is the man whose strength thou art,
 In whose heart are thy ways.
- 6 Who passing thorough Baca's vale,
 Therein do dig up wells :
 Also the rain that falleth down
 The pools with waters fills.
- 7 So they from strength unweari'd go
 Still forward unto strength,
 Until in Zion they appear
 Before the Lord at length.
- 8 Lord God of hosts, my prayer hear,
 O Jacob's God, give ear.
- 9 See God, our Shield, look on the face
 Of thine Anointed dear :
- 10 For in thy courts one day excels
 A thousand : rather in
 My God's house will I keep a door,
 Than dwell in tents of sin.
- 11 For God the Lord's a sun and shield ;
 He'll grace and glory give ;

* To me it is inconceivable how sparrows or swallows could fix their nests in the altars of God, which were of brass or rough stones, and had a fire perpetually burning upon them, and multitudes of priests and Levites crowding around them. God did not allow of any trees to be planted near to them. I cannot believe God's tabernacle or temple was polluted with the nests and ordure of birds, in the manner of our ruinous churches. Nor can I see this idea answerable to the context or scope of the Psalm: Might not the verse be rather translated, *As the sparrow findeth the house, and the swallow the nest for herself, where she hath put her young ones, my soul findeth thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God, i. e. with inexpressible ardor I long for, and desire them; and with ineffable pleasure I approach them, in order to intimate fellowship with my God. Compare ver. 1, 2. 10. of this Psalm with Psalms xlii. 1, 2.—xliii. 3, 4.*

PSALM 85

And will with-hold no good from them,
That uprightly do live.

12 O thou that art the Lord of hosts,
That man is truly blest,
Who by assured confidence,
On thee alone doth rest.

PSALM 85

To the chief Musician, A Psalm for the sons of Korah.

This Psalm relates to some remarkable deliverance of the Jewish nation; but whether that effected by the advancement of David to the throne, or that from the Assyrian invasion, 2 Kings, xix. or from the Chaldean captivity, Ezra, i. is uncertain. It contains (1) Thankful acknowledgments of divine favours received, ver. 1,—3. (2) Supplications that further favours and deliverances may be speedily bestowed, ver. 4, 7. (3) Firm expectations of a gracious answer in the coming, mediation, and blessings of the Messiah, ver. 8,—13.—¶ While I sing, let my soul be affected with the mercies, which I, which Britain, which the Church of God, have enjoyed. Let me be thereby encouraged to plead for more. And let me, without doubting, credit the promises, and expect supply from the fulness of Christ.

O LORD, thou hast been favourable
To thy beloved land:
Jacob's captivity thou hast
Recall'd with mighty hand.
2 Thou pardoned thy people hast
All their iniquities,
Thou all their trespasses and sins,
Hast cover'd from their eyes.
3 Thou took'st off all thine ire, and turn'dst
From thy wrath's furiousness.
4 Turn us, God of our health, and cause
Thy wrath 'gainst us to cease.
5 Shall thy displeasure thus endure
Against us without end?
Wilt thou to generations all
Thine anger forth extend?
6 That in thee may thy people joy,
Wilt thou not us revive?

PSALM 86

- 7 Shew us thy mercy ; Lord, to us
Do thy salvation give.
- 8 I'll hear what God the Lord will speak :
To his folk he'll speak peace,
And to his saints : but let them not
Return to foolishness.
- 9 To them that fear him, surely near
Is his salvation ;
That glory in our land may have
Her habitation.
- 10 Truth met with mercy, righteousness
And peace kiss'd mutually :
- 11 Truth springs from earth, and righteousness
Looks down from heaven high.
- 12 Yea, what is good the Lord shall give ;
Our land shall yield increase.
- 13 Justice, to set us in his steps,
Shall go before his face.

PSALM 86'

A Prayer of David.

This Psalm contains (1) David's fervent supplications, That God would hear his prayers, ver. 1. 6, 7. mercifully preserve and save him, ver. 2, 3. 16, afford him joy, strength, and honour, ver. 4. 11. 17. (2) His pleas, wherewith he enforceth his prayers, drawn from the goodness of God, ver. 5. 13. 15, his own relation to, and trust in God, ver. 2. 4. 16, his former experience of God's kindness, ver. 17 ; and from the malice of his enemies, ver. 14. (3) His ascription of praise to God, as matchless in his nature and work ; as the sole object of worship ; and as great and infinitely gracious, ver. 8, 9, 10. 12, 13.—¶ While I sing, let me remember that the Psalmist hath left me an example, that I should walk in his steps.

O LORD, do thou bow down thine ear,
And hear me graciously ;
Because I sore afflicted am,
And am in poverty.

2 Because I'm holy, let my soul
By thee preserved be :

O thou my God, thy servant save
That puts his trust in thee,

- 3 Sith unto thee I daily cry,
Be merciful to me.
- 4 Rejoice thy servant's soul; for, Lord,
I lift my soul to thee.
- 5 For thou art gracious, O Lord,
And ready to forgive;
And rich in mercy, all that call
Upon thee to relieve.
- 6 Hear, Lord, my pray'r: unto the voice
Of my request attend.
- 7 In troublous times I'll call on thee;
For thou wilt answer send.
- 8 Lord, there is none among the gods
That may with thee compare;
And, like the works which thou hast done,
Not any work is there.
- 9 All nations whom thou mad'st shall come,
And worship rev'rently
Before thy face; and they, O Lord,
Thy name shall glorify.
- 10 Because thou art exceeding great,
And works by thee are done,
Which are to be admir'd; and thou
Art God thyself alone.
- 11 Teach me thy way, and in thy truth,
O Lord, then walk will I;
Unite my heart, that I thy name
May fear continually.
- 12 O Lord my God, with all my heart
To thee I will give praise;
And I the glory will ascribe
Unto thy name always.
- 13 Because thy mercy toward me
In greatness doth excel;
And thou deliver'd hast my soul
Out from the lowest hell.

PSALM 87

- 14 O God, the proud against me rise,
 And vilest men have met,
 That for my soul have sought; and thee
 Before them have not set.
- 15 But thou art full of pity, Lord,
 A God most gracious;
 Long-suffering, and in thy truth
 And mercy plenteous.
- 16 O turn to me thy countenance,
 And mercy on me have:
 Thy servant strengthen, and the son
 Of thine own hand-maid save.
- 17 Shew me a sign for good, that they,
 Which do me hate, may see
 And be ashamed, because thou, Lord,
 Didst help and comfort me.

PSALM 87

A Psalm or Song for the sons of Korah.

This Psalm is an encomium upon Mount Zion, as typical of the Gospel-church, (1) For the sake of the Temple, Mount Zion is preferred to every other place in Canaan; as more honoured by God, and more delighted in by him, ver. 1,—3. (2) In respect of better inhabitants, greater stability, and more important joys and blessings, the Church is preferred to all other nations, ver. 4,—7.—¶ While I sing, let me observe the dignity of relation to JEHOVAH as my God. Let me praise him for founding his Church on Jesus the unmoveable Rock of ages, that the gates of hell cannot prevail against her. Let me rejoice in the glorious promises made concerning her, and supplicate the speedy, the remarkable fulfilment thereof. And while I with joy draw water out of her ordinances, her wells of salvation, let me live as an holy, a cheerful member of her society.

- U**PON the hills of holiness
 He his foundation sets.
- 2 God, more than Jacob's dwellings all,
 Delights in Zion's gates.
- 3 Things glorious are said of thee,
 Thou city of the Lord.
- 4 Rahab and Babel, I, to those
 That know me, will record:

PSALM 88

Behold ev'n Tyrus, and with it

The land of Palestine,

And likewise Ethiopia ;

This man was born therein.

5 And it of Zion shall be said,

This man, and that man there.

Was born ; and he that is most High

Himself shall stablish her.

6 When God the people writes, he'll count

That this man born was there.

7 There be that sing, and play ; and all

My well-springs in thee are.

PSALM 88

A Psalm or Song for the sons of Korah, to the chief Musician upon Mahalath Leanoth, Maschil of Heman the Ezrahite.

In this doleful Psalm, after a very short declaration of his faith, we have (1) Heman's bitter wailing over his distressed case, That his troubles were great ; his body at the point of death ; his soul filled with grief ; his God hiding and angry ; his mind distressed with terrors ; and his friends unkind, ver. 3,—9. 14,—18. (2) His bitter groans to, and expostulations with God, importing, That he had long cried for mercy ; that in death, nothing could be done for him, &c. ver. 1, 2. 9,—14—

¶ While I sing, let me think how dreadful hell must be, when even fatherly chastisements are so severe ; how dreadful the enormity of sin, which provokes God so grievously to afflict his dearest favourites ; and how necessary it is to retain our faith of our relation to God, amidst the worst of troubles.

LORD God, my Saviour, day and night

Before thee cry'd have I.

2 Before thee let my prayer come ;

Give ear unto my cry.

3 For troubles great do fill my soul :

My life draws nigh the grave.

4 I'm counted with those that go down

To pit, and no strength have.

5 Ev'n free among the dead, like them

That slain in grave do ly ;

Cut off from thy hand, whom no more

Thou hast in memory.

PSALM 88

- 6 Thou hast me laid in lowest pit,
In deeps and darksome caves.
- 7 Thy wrath lies hard on me; thou hast
Me press'd with all thy waves.
- 8 Thou hast put far from me my friends;
Thou mad'st them to abhor me:
And I am so shut up, that I
Find no evasion for me.
- 9 By reason of affliction,
Mine eye mourns dolefully:
To thee, Lord, do I call, and stretch
My hands continually.
- 10 Wilt thou shew wonders to the dead?
Shall they rise, and thee bless?
- 11 Shall in the grave thy love be told?
In death thy faithfulness?
- 12 Shall thy great wonders in the dark,
Or shall thy righteousness
Be known to any in the land
Of deep forgetfulness?
- 13 But, Lord, to thee I cry'd, my pray'r
At morn prevent shall thee.
- 14 Why, Lord, dost thou cast off my soul?
And hid'st thy face from me?
- 15 Distress'd am I, and from my youth
I ready am to die;
Thy terrors I have borne, and am
Distracted fearfully.
- 16 The dreadful fierceness of thy wrath
Quite over me doth go;
Thy terrors great have cut me off,
They did pursue me so.
- 17 For round about me ev'ry day
Like water they did roll:
And, gathering together, they
Have compassed my soul.

PSALM 89

18 My friends thou hast put far from me,
And him that did me love;
And those that mine acquaintance were,
To darkness didst remove.

PSALM 89

Maschil of Ethan the Ezrahite.

This Psalm was perhaps composed on the occasion of Absalom's rebellion, 2 Sam. xv, or of the revolt of the ten tribes, from their subjection to the family of David, 1 Kings, xii; or, it relates to the Chaldean oppression and captivity, 2 Kings, xxiv, xxv. In the first and joyful part, we have (1) The foundation of all comfort, happiness, honour, and stability, laid in the mercy of God and his covenant with David,— emblematic of that made with Jesus Christ for the redemption of mankind, ver. 1,—4. (2) A celebration of the God of the Covenant, in his faithfulness, glory, greatness, mercy, and equity; and of his works, ver. 5,—14. And of the glorious dignity, happiness, and safety of the covenant-people, ver. 15,—18. (3) A bundle of covenant promises, securing proper qualifications, and assistance and glory to the Head of the Covenant; and indefeasible blessings to his covenant-seed, notwithstanding their manifold sins and chastisements, ver. 19,—37.—In the 2d, and mournful part, we have (1) grievous lamentation over the dishonour, distress, and danger of David's family, ver. 38,—45. (2) Expostulations with God, concerning the same, drawn from the continuance of trouble; the shortness of human life; and certainty of death; the withdrawal of former kindnesses promised in the Covenant; and the insolent reproaches of enemies, ver. 46,—51. (3) A triumphant conclusion of praise to God, ver. 52 —¶ While I sing, let me chiefly keep mine eyes on David's Lord. Let me, with joy, behold the covenant made with him for our redemption. Let me adore my Covenant-God, as in him well pleased for his righteousness sake, and rendering him and his seed most blessed for evermore. And, as Jesus' sufferings for me, purchased my eternal happiness, let never my own, or the Church's troubles weaken my faith, or make me drop my songs of praise.

GOD's mercies I will ever sing;
And with my mouth I shall
Thy faithfulness make to be known,
To generations all.
2 For mercy shall be built, said I,
For ever to endure:
Thy faithfulness, ev'n in the heav'ns,
Thou wilt establish sure.
3 I with my chosen One have made
A cov'nant graciously:
And to my servant whom I lov'd,
To David sworn have I:

PSALM 89

- 4 That I thy seed establish shall
For ever to remain ;
And will to generations all
Thy throne build and maintain.
- 5 The praises of thy wonders, Lord,
The heavens shall express ;
And in the congregation
Of saints thy faithfulness.
- 6 For who in heaven with the Lord
May once himself compare ?
Who is like God among the sons
Of those that mighty are ?
- 7 Great fear in meeting of the saints,
Is due unto the Lord ;
And he, of all about him, should
With rev'rence be ador'd.
- 8 O thou that art the Lord of hosts,
What lord in mightiness
Is like to thee, who compass'd round
Art with thy faithfulness ?
- 9 Ev'n in the raging of the sea
Thou over it dost reign ;
And when the waves thereof do swell,
Thou stillest them again.
- 10 Rahab in pieces thou didst break,
Like one that slaughter'd is :
And with thy mighty arm thou hast
Dispers'd thine enemies.
- 11 The heav'ns are thine, thou for thine own
The earth dost also take :
The world, and fulness of the same,
Thy pow'r did found and make.
- 12 The north and south from thee alone
Their first beginning had :
Both Tabor mount and Hermon hill
Shall in thy name be glad.

PSALM 89

13 Thou hast an arm that's full of pow'r,
Thy hand is great in might:
And thy right hand exceedingly
Exalted is in height.

14 Justice and judgment of thy throne
Are made the dwelling-place:
Mercy, accompany'd with truth,
Shall go before thy face.

15 O greatly blest the people are,
The joyful sound that know;
In brightness of thy face, O Lord,
They ever on shall go.

16 They in thy name shall all the day
Rejoice exceedingly:
And in thy righteousness shall they
Exalted be on high.

17 Because the glory of their strength
Doth only stand in thee:
And in thy favour shall our horn
And pow'r exalted be.

18 For God is our defence, and he
To us doth safety bring:
The holy One of Israel
Is our almighty King.

19 In vision to thy holy One
Thou saidst, I help upon
A strong one laid; out of the folk
I rais'd a chosen one:

20 Ev'n David, I have found him out
A servant unto me;
And, with my holy oil, my king
Anointed him to be.

21 With whom my hand shall stablish'd be:
Mine arm shall make him strong.

22 On him the foe shall not exact,
Nor son of mischief wrong.

PSALM 89

- 23 I will beat down before his face
All his malicious foes :
I will them greatly plague, who do
With hatred him oppose.
- 24 My mercy, and my faithfulness
With him yet still shall be :
And in my name his horn and pow'r
Men shall exalted see.
- 25 His hand and pow'r shall reach afar,
I'll set it in the sea ;
And his right hand established
Shall in the rivers be.
- 26 Thou art my Father, he shall cry,
Thou art my God alone ;
And he shall say, Thou art the Rock
Of my salvation.
- 27 I'll make him my first-born, more high
Than kings of any land.
- 28 My love I'll ever keep for him,
My cov'nant fast shall stand.
- 29 His seed I by my pow'r will make
For ever to endure :
And, as the days of heav'n, his throne
Shall stable be and sure.
- 30 But if his children shall forsake
My laws, and go astray,
And in my judgments shall not walk,
But wander from my way ;
- 31 If they my laws break, and do not
Keep my commandments :
- 32 I'll visit then their faults with rods,
Their sins with chastisements.
- 33 Yet I'll not take my love from him,
Nor false my promise make.
- 34 My cov'nant I'll not break, nor change
What with my mouth I spake.

PSALM 89

- 35 Once by my holiness I swear,
To David I'll not lie.
- 36 His seed and throne shall as the sun
Before me last for ay.
- 37 It, like the moon, shall ever be
Establish'd stedfastly ;
And like to that which in the heav'n
Doth witness faithfully.
- 38 But thou, displeas'd, hast cast off,
Thou didst abhor and lothe ;
With him that thine anointed is,
Thou hast been very wroth.
- 39 Thou hast thy servant's covenant
Made void, and quite cast by ;
Thou hast profan'd his crown, while it
Cast on the ground doth ly.
- 40 Thou all his hedges hast broke down,
His strong holds down hast torn.
- 41 He to all passers by a spoil,
To neighbours is a scorn.
- 42 Thou hast set up his foes right hand,
Mad'st all his en'mies glad :
- 43 Turn'd his sword's edge, and him to stand
In battle hast not made.
- 44 His glory thou hast made to cease,
His throne to ground down cast ;
- 45 Short'ned his days of youth and him
With shame thou cover'd hast.
- 46 How long, Lord, wilt thou hide thyself,
For ever in thine ire ?
And shall thine indignation
Burn like unto a fire ?
- 47 Remember, Lord, how short a time
I shall on earth remain :
O wherefore is it so, that thou
Hast made all men in vain ?

PSALM 90.

- 48 What man is he that liveth here,
And death shall never see?
Or from the power of the grave
What man his soul shall free?
- 49 Thy former loving-kindnesses,
O Lord, where be they now?
Those which in truth and faithfulness
To David sworn hast thou.
- 50 Mind, Lord, thy servant's sad reproach,
How I in bosom bear
The scornings of the people all
Who strong and mighty are.
- 51 Wherewith thy raging enemies
Reproach'd, O Lord, think on;
Wherewith they have reproach'd the steps
Of thine anointed one.
- 52 All blessing to the Lord our God
Let be ascribed then:
For evermore so let it be.
Amen, yea, and amen.

PSALM 90

A Prayer of Moses, the Man of God.

This Psalm was composed by Moses, the Man of God, sometime after God had sentenced the Hebrews to wandering and death in the wilderness, Num. xiv. In it, (1) Moses comforts himself and his people with the eternal and unchangeable duration of God himself, and their interest in him, ver. 1, 2. (2) He humbles himself and his people, with the consideration of human frailty, ver. 3,—6. (3) He submits himself and his people to the righteous sentence of God, passed upon them, ver. 7,—11. (4) By prayer, he commits himself and his people, to their gracious and merciful God, and requests the sanctified use of their awful chastisements; the averting of divine wrath; the bestowal of true comforts and joys; the returns of his favour; and the progress of his work of mercy among their children, ver. 12,—17.—¶ Let me sing this, as the tenant of an hour, who hath none assurance of his present life;—Sing it as resigned to my lot on earth, however afflicted; and as active in preparation for death; and committing myself and family to the God of truth as our Redeemer, our God, and our everlasting ALL.

LORD, thou hast been our dwelling-place
In generations all.

PSALM 90

2 Before thou ever hadst brought forth
The mountains great or small ;
Ere ever thou hadst form'd the earth,
And all the world abroad ;
Ev'n thou from everlasting art
To everlasting God.

3 Thou dost unto destruction
Man that is mortal turn :
And unto them thou say'st, Again
Ye sons of men return.

4 Because a thousand years appear
No more before thy sight,
Than yesterday, when it is past,
Or than a watch by night.

5 As with an overflowing flood
Thou carry'st them away :
They like a sleep are ; like the grass
That grows at morn are they.

6 At morn it flourishes and grows,
Cut down at ev'n doth fade.

7 For by thine anger we're consum'd ;
Thy wrath makes us afraid.

8 Our sins, thou, and iniquities
Dost in thy presence place ;
And sett'st our secret faults before
The brightness of thy face.

9 For in thine anger all our days
Do pass on to an end ;
And, as a tale that hath been told,
So we our years do spend.

10 Threescore and ten years do sum up
Our days and years, we see :
Or, if by reason of more strength,
In some fourscore they be :
Yet doth the strength of such old men
But grief and labour prove ;

PSALM 90

For it is soon cut off, and we
Fly hence, and soon remove.

11 Who knows the power of thy wrath?

According to thy fear,

12 So is thy wrath. Lord, teach thou us

Our end in mind to bear :

And so to count our days that we

Our hearts may still apply

To learn thy wisdom and thy truth,

That we may live thereby.

13 Turn yet again to us, O Lord,

How long thus shall it be?

Let it repent thee now, for those

That servants are to thee.

14 O with thy tender mercies, Lord,

Us early satisfy;

So we rejoice shall all our days,

And still be glad in thee.

15 According as the days have been,

Wherein we grief have had,

And years wherein we ill have seen,

So do thou make us glad.

16 O let thy work and pow'r appear

Thy servants face before,

And shew unto their children dear

Thy glory evermore.

17 And let the beauty of the Lord

Our God be us upon :

Our handy-works establish thou ;

Establish them each one.

PSALM 91

This Psalm was perhaps penned, on the occasion of the pestilence, inflicted for numbering the people, 2 Sam. xxiv. In it, while the Psalmist, by faith, takes God for his own refuge and keeper, ver. 2. 9, he, for the encouragement of others to do the same, represents, (1) The dignity, extent, and continuance of their happiness and safety who have God for their residence, ver. 1,—4. (2) Their preservation from all malice and baleful influence of the powers of darkness, while multi-

PSALM 91

tudes are ruined thereby, ver. 3,—9. (3) Their enjoyment of angels for their guard; and their triumph over devils and other opposers, ver. 10,—12. (4) Their possession of special favour from, and delightful intimacy with God, here, and hereafter, ver. 13,—16.—¶ In singing these, let mine eyes be fixed on Jesus, the Man of God's right hand in whom all these promises were fulfilled to the highest; and, in his name, let me depend on them to be accomplished in myself. And let all the begun experience I have had thereof, encourage me to rejoice in hope of the more abundant mercies and glory of God.

- H**E that doth in the secret place
 Of the most High reside,
 Under the shade of him that is
 Th' Almighty, shall abide.
- 2 I of the Lord my God will say,
 He is my refuge still;
 He is my fortress, and my God,
 And in him trust I will.
- 3 Assuredly he shall thee save,
 And give deliverance
 From subtle fowler's snare, and from
 The noisome pestilence.
- 4 His feathers shall thee hide; thy trust
 Under his wings shall be:
 His faithfulness shall be a shield
 And buckler unto thee.
- 5 Thou shalt not need to be afraid
 For terrors of the night,
 Nor for the arrow that doth fly
 By day, while it is light:
- 6 Nor for the pestilence, that walks
 In darkness secretly;
 Nor for destruction, that doth waste
 At noon-day openly.
- 7 A thousand at thy side shall fall;
 On thy right hand shall ly
 Ten thousand dead; yet unto thee
 It shall not once come nigh.
- 8 Only thou with thine eyes shalt look,
 And a beholder be:

PSALM 92

And thou therein the just reward
Of wicked men shalt see.

9 Because the Lord, who constantly
My refuge is alone,
Ev'n the most High, is made by thee
Thy habitation.

10 No plague shall near thy dwelling come,
No ill shall thee befall :

11 For thee to keep in all thy ways
His angels charge he shall.

12 They in their hands shall bear thee up,
Still waiting thee upon ;

Lest thou at any time should'st dash
Thy foot against a stone.

13 Upon the adder thou shalt tread,
And on the lion strong :

Thy feet on dragons trample shall,
And on the lions young.

14 Because on me he set his love,
I'll save and set him free :

Because my great name he hath known,
I will him set on high.

15 He'll call on me, I'll answer him,
I will be with him still,

In trouble to deliver him,
And honour him I will.

16 With length of days unto his mind,
I will him satisfy :

I also my salvation

Will cause his eyes to see.

PSALM 92

A Psalm or Song for the Sabbath-day.

In this *Psalm or Song for the Sabbath-day*, (1) Praise the business of the Sabbath, is earnestly recommended, ver. 1,—3. (2) God's works, which are the reason of the Sabbath and ground of praise, are celebrated, in their greatness, and unsearchableness, ver. 4,—6. (3) The ruin of sinners and the felicity of saints are beautifully contrasted.

PSALM 92

Sinners shall perish ; but God the portion and life of saints shall endure for ever. Sinners, notwithstanding their temporary flourish, shall be cut off and destroyed. Saints shall be exalted and comforted. Sinners shall be confounded and ruined ; but saints, through their union to and fellowship with Christ, shall prosper and flourish, to the manifestation of God's faithfulness and equity, ver. 7,—15.—¶ While I keep the Sabbath of the Lord my God, let these things deeply affect my heart : And be it my care, by a steady conversation and manifest growth in grace, to verify these precious promises of the New Testament in Jesus' blood.

TO render thanks unto the Lord

- It is a comely thing ;
 And to thy name, O thou most High,
 Due praise aloud to sing,
 2 Thy loving-kindness to shew forth,
 When shines the morning light ;
 And to declare thy faithfulness,
 With pleasure ev'ry night.
 3 On a ten-stringed instrument,
 Upon the psaltery ;
 And on the harp with solemn sound,
 And grave sweet melody.
 4 For thou, Lord, by thy mighty works
 Hast made my heart right glad :
 And I will triumph in the works,
 Which by thine hands were made.
 5 How great, Lord, are thy works ! each thought
 Of thine a deep it is.
 6 A brutish man it knoweth not ;
 Fools understand not this.
 7 When those that lewd and wicked are
 Spring quickly up like grass,
 And workers of iniquity
 Do flourish all apace :
 It is that they for ever may
 Destroyed be and slain.
 8 But thou, O Lord, art the most High,
 For ever to remain.
 9 For lo, thine enemies, O Lord,
 Thine en'mies perish shall :

PSALM 93

The workers of iniquity
Shall be dispersed all.

10 But thou shalt like unto the horn
Of th' unicorn, exalt
My horn on high : thou with fresh oil
Anoint me also shalt.

11 Mine eyes shall also my desire
See on mine enemies :
Mine ear shall of the wicked hear,
That do against me rise.

12 But like the palm-tree flourishing
Shall be the righteous one ;
He shall like to the cedar grow
That is in Lebanon.

13 Those that within the house of God
Are planted by his grace,
They shall grow up, and flourish all
In our God's holy place.

14 And in old age, when others fade,
They fruit still forth shall bring :
They shall be fat, and full of sap,
And ay by flourishing.

15 To shew that upright is the Lord,
He is a Rock to me :
And he from all unrighteousness
Is altogether free.

PSALM 93

This Psalm is a triumphant celebration of the government of JEHovah, and of Jesus our Redeemer, in (1) The awfulness, strength, stability, and duration thereof, ver. 1, 2. (2) In his triumphant victories over all opposition, ver. 3, 4. (3) In the faithfulness and certainty of his words, and the holiness of his court, ver. 5.—¶ While I sing, let my soul rejoice in the highness of my God, and in the glories of my Redeemer.

THE Lord doth reign, and cloth'd is he
With majesty most bright :
His works do shew him cloth'd to be,
And girt about with might.

PSALM 94

The world is also stablished,
 That it cannot depart.
 2 Thy throne is fixed of old, and thou
 From everlasting art.
 3 The floods, O Lord, have lifted up,
 They lifted up their voice ;
 The floods have lifted up their waves,
 And made a mighty noise.
 4 But yet, the Lord, that is on high,
 Is more of might by far,
 Than noise by many waters is,
 Or great sea-billows are.
 5 Thy testimonies every one
 In faithfulness excel ;
 And holiness for ever, Lord,
 Thine house becometh well.

PSALM 94

This is a Psalm for the afflicted people of God, in which (1) God's just vengeance is implored, upon their haughty, active, cruel, and atheistical oppressors, whose folly is exposed from the consideration of God's works of creation, providence, and grace, ver. 1—11. (2) His gracious comforts are presented to the persecuted saints, that He will bless them in, and by their afflictions; and give them rest after them, while their enemies are ruined; that God will not cast them off, when cast down, but will, in his due time, reduce things to their right course:—to verify which, the Psalmist produceth part of his own experience, ver. 12,—24.—¶ While I sing, let all revenge be rooted from my heart: All repining at afflictions be banished from my soul. But, in every plunge of adversity, let me cast my burden on the Lord, that he may sustain me, and help me in the time of need. Let me rejoice in the assured hopes of God's yet reforming the church, and spreading his glory among the nations.

O LORD God, unto whom alone
 All vengeance doth belong,
 O mighty God, who vengeance own'st,
 Shine forth, avenging wrong.
 2 Lift up thyself, thou of the earth
 The sov'reign Judge that art,
 And unto those that are so proud
 A due reward impart.

PSALM 94

- 3 How long, O mighty God, shall they
Who lewd and wicked be,
How long shall they who wicked are,
Thus triumph haughtily ?
- 4 How long shall things most hard by them,
Be uttered and told ;
And all that work iniquity
To boast themselves be bold ?
- 5 Thy folk they break in pieces, Lord,
Thine heritage oppress :
- 6 The widow they, and stranger slay,
And kill the fatherless.
- 7 Yet say they, God it shall not see,
Nor God of Jacob know.
- 8 Ye brutish people, understand ;
Fools, when wise will ye grow ?
- 9 The Lord did plant the ear of man,
And hear then shall not he ?
He only form'd the eye, and then
Shall he not clearly see ?
- 10 He that the nations doth correct,
Shall he not chastise you ?
He knowledge unto man doth teach,
And shall himself not know ?
- 11 Man's thoughts to be but vanity
The Lord doth well discern.
- 12 Blest is the man thou chast'nest, Lord,
And mak'st thy law to learn.
- 13 That thou may'st give him rest from days
Of sad adversity,
Until the pit be digg'd for those
That work iniquity.
- 14 For sure the Lord will not cast off
Those that his people be,
Neither his own inheritance
Quit and forsake will he.

PSALM 95

- 15 But judgment unto righteousness
Shall yet return again ;
And all shall follow after it,
That are right-hearted men.
- 16 Who will rise up for me, against
Those that do wickedly ?
Who will stand up for me, 'gainst those
That work iniquity ?
- 17 Unless the Lord had been my help,
When I was sore opprest,
Almost my soul had in the house
Of silence been at rest.
- 18 When I had uttered this word,
(My foot doth slip away,)
Thy mercy held me up, O Lord,
Thy goodness did me stay.
- 19 Amidst the multitude of thoughts,
Which in my heart do fight,
My soul, lest it be overcharg'd,
Thy comforts do delight.
- 20 Shall of iniquity the throne
Have fellowship with thee,
Which mischief, cunningly contriv'd,
Doth by a law decree ?
- 21 Against the righteous souls they join ;
' They guiltless blood condemn.
- 22 But of my refuge God's the rock,
And my defence from them.
- 23 On them their own iniquity
The Lord shall bring and lay,
And cut them off in their own sin :
Our Lord God shall them slay.

PSALM 95

This Psalm contains (1) Solemn calls to celebrate the praises of Jesus and his Father, on account of what he hath done ; and what he is to us and we to him, ver. 1,—7. (2) Alarming warnings to hear his voice

PSALM 95

and not to harden our hearts, as the Israelites in the desert, who, on that account, were debarred from the promised land, ver. 7,—11.—

¶ While I sing, let me behold the glories of my Redeemer, and believe my new covenant-relation to him: and, while it is yet called to-day, let me beware of being hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. Since there is a promise left me of entering into his rest, let me take heed lest I should seem to come short of it by unbelief.

O COME let us sing to the Lord :
Come, let us ev'ry one
A joyful noise make to the Rock
Of our salvation.

2 Let us before his presence come
With praise and thankful voice :
Let us sing psalms to him with grace,
And make a joyful noise.

3 For God a great God, and great King,
Above all gods he is.

4 Depths of the earth are in his hand :
The strength of hills is his.

5 To him the spacious sea belongs,
For he the same did make :

The dry land also from his hands
Its form at first did take.

6 O come, and let us worship him ;
Let bow down withal,
And on our knees before the Lord
Our Maker, let us fall.

7 For he's our God, the people we
Of his own pasture are,
And of his hand the sheep ; to-day
If ye his voice will hear.

8 Then harden not your hearts, as in
The provocation,
As in the desert, on the day
Of the temptation ;

9 When me your fathers tempt'd and prov'd,
And did my working see.

PSALM 96

10 Ev'n for the space of forty years

This race hath grieved me :

I said, This people errs in heart,

My ways they do not know :

11 To whom I swear in wrath, that to

My rest they should not go.

PSALM 96

This Psalm was part of the hymn sung at the translation of the ark from the house of Obed-edom, to the city of David, 1 Chron. xvi. 1. 23,—33; but relates to the calling of the Gentiles to our Redeemer. Here are (1) Solemn calls to ascribe praises and glory to our high and great Immanuel, ver. 1,—9. (2) Loud proclamations of Jesus' establishment of his Gospel-church, and of his coming to judge the world, to the great joy of his friends, ver. 10,—13.—¶ While these high praises of God are in my mouth, let my heart behold the glory, believe the promises, and burn with desire after the enjoyment of Christ, and of God in him.

O SING a new song to the Lord ;

Sing all the earth to God,

2 To God sing ; bless his name ; shew still

His saving health abroad.

3 Among the heathen nations

His glory do declare ;

And unto all the people show

His works that wond'rous are.

4 For great's the Lord, and greatly he

Is to be magnify'd :

Yea, worthy to be fear'd is he

Above all gods beside.

5 For all the gods are idols dumb

Which blinded nations fear ;

But our God is the Lord, by whom

The heav'ns created were.

6 Great honour is before his face,

And majesty divine :

Strength is within his holy place,

And there doth beauty shine.

7 Do ye ascribe unto the Lord,

Of people ev'ry tribe ;

PSALM 97

- Glory do ye unto the Lord,
And mighty pow'r ascribe.
- 8 Give ye the glory to the Lord,
That to his name is due :
Come ye into his courts, and bring
An offering with you.
- 9 In beauty of his holiness,
O do the Lord adore :
Likewise, let all the earth throughout,
Tremble his face before.
- 10 Among the heathen say, God reigns :
The world shall stedfastly
Be fixed from moving, he shall judge
The people righteously.
- 11 Let heav'ns be glad before the Lord,
And let the earth rejoice :
Let seas, and all that is therein,
Cry out, and make a noise.
- 12 Let fields rejoice, and ev'ry thing
That springeth of the earth :
Then woods, and ev'ry tree shall sing
With gladness and with mirth
- 13 Before the Lord ; because he comes,
To judge the earth comes he :
He'll judge the world with righteousness,
The people faithfully.

PSALM 97

This Psalm is of the same strain with the preceding, and contains (1) Solemn calls to the Gentile nations, to rejoice at the equity, and extent of Jesus' New Testament kingdom, and at the destruction of hardened Jews and heathen idolaters, occasioned by the establishment thereof, ver. 1,—7. (2) Representations of the pure and holy joy of the saints, on account of Jesus' highness, and the glory of God manifested therein ; and of the care taken for their safety and comfort, ver 8,—12.—¶ Join the choir, O my soul ; sing praises to thy King : Sing praises with understanding.

GOD reigneth : let the earth be glad,
And isles rejoice each one.

PSALM 97

2 Dark clouds him compass; and in right
With judgment dwells his throne.

3 Fire goes before him, and his foes,
It burns up round about,

4 His lightnings lighten did the world:
Earth saw, and shook throughout.

5 Hills, at the presence of the Lord,
Like wax, did melt away:

Ev'n at the presence of the Lord
Of all the earth, I say.

6 The heav'ns declare his righteousness:
All men his glory see.

7 All who serve graven images,
Confounded let them be.

Who do of idols boast themselves,
Let shame upon them fall:

Ye that are called gods, see that
Ye do him worship all.

8 Zion did hear, and joyful was,
Glad Judah's daughters were:

They much rejoic'd, O Lord, because
Thy judgments did appear.

9 For thou, O Lord, art high above
All things on earth that are:

Above all other gods thou art
Exalted very far.

10 Hate ill, all ye that love the Lord:
His saints' souls keepeth he,

And from the hands of wicked men
He sets them safe and free.

11 For all those that be righteous
Sown is a joyful light;

And gladness sown is for all those
That are in heart upright.

12 Ye righteous, in the Lord rejoice:
Express your thankfulness,

PSALM 98

When ye into your memory
Do call his holiness.

PSALM 98

This Psalm insists on the same subject as the two preceding, and contains (1) Demands of praise to the Redeemer, for the wonders he hath wrought; the victories he hath won; the discoveries he hath made and the promises he fulfils, ver. 1,—3. (2) Demands of universal and high rejoicing at the erection and establishment of his Gospel-church; and at his coming in the clouds to judge the world, ver. 4,—9.—

¶ While my lips utter these lofty notes, let my soul, according to this time also, say, What hath the Lord wrought! What is Jesus! What is JEHOVAH to my heart! What hath he done for mankind, and what for my soul! What of Jesus! What of JEHOVAH, have mine eyes seen and my heart tasted!—And while I assuredly believe his return to judgment, let me with ardor look for that blessed hope, and glorious appearing of the great God my Saviour. Let my soul, with rapture, spring forth to meet his burning chariot-wheels, and long to see creation all on flames.

O SING a new song to the Lord,
For wonders he hath done:

His right hand and his holy arm,
Him victory hath won.

2 The Lord God his salvation
Hath caused to be known:

His justice in the heathen's sight
He openly hath shown.

3 He mindful of his grace and truth
To Isra'l's house hath been:

And the salvation of our God
All ends of th' earth have seen.

4 Let all the earth unto the Lord
Send forth a joyful noise:

Lift up your voice aloud to him,
Sing praises, and rejoice.

5 With harp, with harp, and voice of psalms
Unto JEHOVAH sing.

6 With trumpets, cornets, gladly sound
Before the Lord, the King.

7 Let seas, and all their fulness roar;
The world, and dwellers there.

8 Let floods clap hands; and let the hills
Together joy declare.

PSALM 99

9 Before the Lord; because he comes,
 To judge the earth comes he :
 He'll judge the world with righteousness,
 His folk with equity.

PSALM 99

This Psalm is of the same general nature with the three preceding, and calls men to revere, and worship, and praise, the Messiah, and his Father, (1) For the glory, greatness, mercy, and equity of his government, ver. 1,—5. (2) For the instances of his kindness to Israel, in remarkably regarding and honouring their noted deliverers and Reformers, ver. 6,—9.—¶ While I sing this, let my soul stand in awe of JEHOVAH's greatness and excellency. Let me call on God, in every time of need, that he may answer and save me. Let me hope that he will forgive and subdue, but never that he will indulge my transgressions. For the Lord my God is holy.

TH' eternal Lord doth reign as King,

Let all the people quake :

He sits between the cherubims,

Let th' earth be mov'd and shake.

2 The Lord in Zion great, and high

Above all people is.

3 Thy great and dreadful Name, (for it

Is holy) let them bless.

4 The king's strength also judgment loves ;

Thou settlest equity :

Just judgment thou dost execute

In Jacob righteously.

5 The Lord our God exalt on high,

And rev'rently do ye

Before his footstool worship him :

The holy One is he.

6 Moses and Aaron 'mongst his priests,

Samuel with them that call

Upon his name : these call'd on God,

And he them answer'd all.

7 Within the pillar of the cloud

He unto them did speak :

The testimonies he them taught,

And laws, they did not break

PSALM 100

- 8 Thou answerd'st them, O Lord our God :
Thou wast a God that gave
Pardon to them, though on their deeds
Thou wouldest veng'ance have.
- 9 Do ye exalt the Lord our God,
And at his holy hill
Do ye him worship : for the Lord
Our God is holy still.

PSALM 100

A Psalm of Praise.

This Psalm (1) Contains a solemn call to the Gentiles to praise God and rejoice in him, ver. 1,—4. (2) Furnisheth us with matter of praise viz. that he is God, and stands nearly related to us ; and that his mercy and truth are everlasting, ver. 3. 5.—¶ Knowing the Lord to be my God, let me approach his ordinances, and enter his heavenly palaces, with an heart ravished with his excellencies and kindness, and a mouth filled with his praise.

- A**LL people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
- 2 Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell ;
Come ye before him and rejoice.
- 3 Know, that the Lord is God indeed ;
Without our aid he did us make :
We are his flock, he doth us feed ;
And for his sheep he doth us take.
- 4 O enter then his gates with praise ;
Approach with joy his courts unto :
Praise, laud, and bless his name always ;
For it is seemly so to do.
- 5 For why ? the Lord our God is good ;
His mercy is for ever sure :
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

Another of the same.

- O** ALL ye lands, unto the Lord
Make ye a joyful noise.
- 2 Serve God with gladness : him before
Come with a singing voice.

PSALM 101

- 3 Know ye the Lord, that he is God;
Not we, but he us made:
We are his people, and the sheep
Within his pasture fed.
- 4 Enter his gates and courts with praise,
To thank him go ye thither:
To him express your thankfulness,
And bless his name together:
- 5 Because the Lord our God is good,
His mercy faileth never;
And to all generations
His truth endureth ever.

PSALM 101

A Psalm of David.

This Psalm was probably composed, when David assumed the government of his kingdom, and contains his holy resolutions (1) To make God's mercies and judgments the connected matter of his song; and to walk circumspectly before his family, through the assisting presence of God, ver. 1, 2. (2) To purge his family and kingdom; discouraging and punishing persons mischievous and wicked, slanderers, liars, and deceitful workers; and encouraging the pious, ver. 3,—8.—¶ While I sing, let me remember my faults; and in the strength of the grace that is in Christ Jesus, form the like resolutions.

- I** MERCY will and judgment sing;
Lord, I will sing to thee.
- 2 With wisdom in a perfect way,
Shall my behaviour be.
- O when, in kindness unto me,
Wilt thou be pleas'd to come?
- I with a perfect heart will walk
Within my house at home.
- 3 I will endure no wicked thing
Before mine eyes to be:
I hate their work that turn aside,
It shall not cleave to me.
- 4 And stubborn and froward heart
Depart quite from me shall:
A person giv'n to wickedness
I will not know at all.

PSALM 102

- 5 I'll cut him off that slandereth
 His neighbour privily :
 The haughty heart I will not bear,
 Nor him that looketh high.
- 6 Upon the faithful of the land
 Mine eyes shall be, that they
 May dwell with me : he shall me serve
 That walks in perfect way.
- 7 Who of deceit a worker is,
 In my house shall not dwell :
 And in my presence shall he not
 Remain, that lies doth tell.
- 8 Yea, all the wicked of the land
 Early destroy will I ;
 All from God's city to cut off,
 That work iniquity.

PSALM 102

*A Prayer of the afflicted when he is overwhelmed, and poureth
 out his complaint before the Lord.*

This Psalm relates to some grievous distress.—Wherein are observable (1) Bitter complaints of divine hidings and wrath ; of sore bodily troubles ; of inward griefs and perplexities ; of caluminous reproaches ; of sudden changes of condition ; and of apparent nearness to death, ver. 1,—11. (2) Seasonable comforts against these grievances, fetched in from the eternity and unchangeableness of God, ver. 12. 24. 27 ; from the deliverances, spread, and establishment, he will grant to his Church, in answer to the prayers, and for the comfort of his afflicted people, ver. 13,—28.—¶ While I sing, think my soul, if I am exercised by my troubles ; if these of the inner man bear heaviest on my heart ; and if I am a cordial partaker with Zion in her joys and griefs.

- O** LORD, unto my prayer give ear,
 My cry let come to thee ;
- 2 And in the day of my distress,
 Hide not thy face from me.
 Give ear to me what time I call,
 To answer me make haste.
- 3 For as an hearth my bones are burnt ;
 My days like smoke do waste.
- 4 My heart within me smitten is,
 And it is withered,

PSALM 102

Like very grass; so that I do
Forget to eat my bread.
5 By reason of my groaning voice,
My bones cleave to my skin.
6 Like pelican in wilderness
Forsaken have I been :
I like an owl in desert am,
That nightly there doth moan.
7 I watch, and like a sparrow am
On the house-top alone.
8 My bitter en'mies all the day
Reproaches cast on me :
And being mad at me, with rage
Against me sworn they be.
9 For why, I ashes eaten have,
Like bread in sorrows deep :
My drink I also mingled have
With tears that I did weep.
10 Thy wrath and indignation
Did cause this grief and pain :
For thou hast lift me up on high,
And cast me down again.
11 My days are like unto a shade,
Which doth declining pass :
And I am dry'd and withered,
Even like unto the grass.
12 But thou, Lord, everlasting art ;
And thy remembrance shall
Continually endure, and be
To generations all.
13 Thou shalt arise, and mercy have
Upon thy Zion yet :
The time to favour her is come,
The time that thou hast set.
14 For in her rubbish and her stones
Thy servants pleasure take :

PSALM 102

Yea, they the very dust thereof
Do favour for her sake.

15 So shall the heathen people fear
The Lord's most holy name :
And all the kings on earth shall dread
Thy glory, and thy fame.

16 When Zion by the mighty Lord
Built up again shall be,
In glory then and majesty,
To men appear shall he.

17 The prayer of the destitute
He surely will regard ;
Their prayer will he not despise,
By him it shall be heard.

18 For generations yet to come
This shall be on record :
So shall the people, that shall be
Created, praise the Lord.

19 He from his sanctuary's height
Hath downward cast his eye :
And from his glorious throne in heav'n
The Lord the earth did spy :

20 That of the mournful prisoner
The groanings he might hear,
To set them free that unto death
By men appointed are ;

21 That they in Zion may declare
The Lord's most holy name,
And publish in Jerusalem
The praises of the same :

22 When as the people gather shall
In troops with one accord ;
When kingdoms shall assembled be
To serve the highest Lord.

23 My wonted strength and force he hath
Abated in the way ;

PSALM 102

And he my days hath shortened.

24 Thus therefore did I say,
My God, in mid-time of my days,
Take thou me not away :

From age to age, eternally,
Thy years endure and stay.

25 The firm foundation of the earth
Of old time thou hast laid :
The heavens also are the work,
Which thine own hands have made.

26 Thou shalt for evermore endure,
But they shall perish all :

Yea, ev'ry one of them wax old,
Like to a garment, shall ;

Thou as a vesture shalt them change,
And they shall changed be.

27 But thou the same art, and thy years
Are to eternity :

28 The children of thy servants shall
Continually endure ;

And in thy sight, O Lord, their seed
Shall be established sure.

Another of the same.

LORD, hear my pray'r, and let my cry
Have speedy access unto thee.

2 In day of my calamity,
O hide not thou thy face from me :
Hear when I call to thee, that day
An answer speedily return.

3 My days like smoke consume away,
And, as an hearth, my bones do burn.

4 My heart is wounded very sore,
And withered, like grass, doth fade :
I am forgetful grown therefore
To take and eat my daily bread.

PSALM 102

- 5 By reason of my smart within,
And voice of my most grievous groans,
My flesh consumed is; my skin,
All parch'd, doth cleave unto my bones.
- 6 The pelican of wilderness,
The owl in desert, I do match:
- 7 And sparrow-like companionless,
Upon the house's top I watch.
- 8 I all day long am made a scorn,
Reproach'd by my malicious foes:
The mad-men are against me sworn,
The men against me that arose.
- 9 For I have ashes eaten up,
To me as if they had been bread;
And with my drink, I in my cup,
Of bitter tears a mixture made.
- 10 Because thy wrath was not appeas'd,
And dreadful indignation:
Therefore it was that thou me rais'd,
And thou again didst cast me down.
- 11 My days are like a shade alway,
Which doth declining swiftly pass;
And I am withered away,
Much like unto the fading grass.
- 12 But thou, O Lord, shalt still endure,
From change and all mutation free;
And, to all generations, sure
Shall thy remembrance ever be.
- 13 Thou shalt arise, and mercy yet
Thou to mount Zion shalt extend:
Her time for favour which was set,
Behold, is now come to an end.
- 14 Thy saints take pleasure in her stones;
Her very dust to them is dear.
- 15 All heathen lands, and kingly thrones
On earth, thy glorious name shall fear.

PSALM 103

- 16 God in his glory shall appear,
When Zion he builds and repairs.
- 17 He shall regard and lend his ear,
Unto the needy's humble pray'rs.
Th' afflicted's pray'r he will not scorn.
- 18 All times this shall be on record ;
And generations yet unborn
Shall praise and magnify the Lord.
- 19 He from his holy place look'd down ;
The earth he viewed from heav'n on high :
- 20 To hear the pris'ners mourning groan
And free them that are doom'd to die :
- 21 That Zion, and Jerus'lem too,
His name and praise may well record :
- 22 When people, and the kingdoms do
Assemble all, to praise the Lord.
- 23 My strength he weak'ned in the way :
My days of life he shortened.
- 24 My God, O take me not away
In mid-time of my days, I said :
Thy years throughout all ages last.
- 25 Of old thou hast established
The earth's foundation firm and fast
Thy mighty hands the heav'ns have made.
- 26 They perish shall, as garments do ;
But thou shalt evermore endure :
As vestures thou shalt change them so ;
And they shall all be changed sure.
- 27 But from all changes thou art free ;
Thy endless years do last for ay.
- 28 Thy servants, and their seed who be,
Establish'd shall before thee stay.

PSALM 103

A Psalm of David.

Here (1) The Psalmist earnestly stirs up himself to praise God for favours to himself in particular ; for pardon of sins, healing of diseases,

PSALM 103 .

redemption from death, ver. 1—5, and for his mercies to his people, in revealing his mind to them; pardoning their sins; sympathizing with their weakness; pitying their afflictions; and perpetuating his new-covenant mercy towards them and their seed, ver. 6,—18. (2) Conscious of his own insufficiency he requests the assistance of angels, and of all the works of God to praise him, who is their Sovereign, ver. 19,—22.—¶ Thus my soul, let all my inward powers be stirred up to praise and thank my Redeemer, for all that he hath done for me,—for Britain, and for his Church on earth.

O THOU my soul, bless God the Lord;
And all that in me is,
Be stirred up his holy Name

To magnify and bless.

2 Bless, O my soul, the Lord thy God,
And not forgetful be

Of all his gracious benefits,
He hath bestow'd on thee.

3 All thine iniquities who doth
Most graciously forgive:

Who thy diseases all and pains
Doth heal, and thee relieve.

4 Who doth redeem thy life, that thou
To death may'st not go down:

Who thee with loving-kindness doth
And tender mercies crown.

5 Who, with abundance of good things,
Doth satisfy thy mouth:

So that, ev'n as the eagle's age,
Renewed is thy youth,

6 God righteous judgment exccutes
For all oppressed ones.

7 His way to Moses, he his acts
Made known to Isra'l's sons.

8 The Lord our God is merciful,
And he is gracious.

Long-suffering, and slow to wrath,
In mercy plenteous.

9 He will not chide continually,
Nor keep his anger still.

PSALM 103

With us he dealt not as we sinn'd,
Nor did requite our ill.

11 For as the heaven in its height
The earth surmounteth far :
So great to those that do him fear
His tender mercies are.

12 As far as east is distant from
The west ; so far hath he
From us removed, in his love,
All our iniquity.

13 Such pity as a father hath
Unto his children dear ;
Like pity shews the Lord to such
As worship him in fear.

14 For he remembers we are dust,
And he our frame well knows.

15 Frail man, his days are like the grass,
As flow'r in field he grows.

16 For over it the wind doth pass,
And it away is gone ;
And of the place, where once it was,
It shall no more be known.

17 But unto them that do him fear,
God's mercy never ends ;
And to their children's children still
His righteousness extends.

18 To such as keep his covenant,
And mindful are alway
Of his most just commandments,
That they may them obey.

19 The Lord prepared hath his throne,
In heavens firm to stand :
And ev'ry thing that being hath
His kingdom doth command.

20 O ye his angels, that excel
In strength, bless ye the Lord,

PSALM 104

Ye who obey what he commands,
And hearken to his word.

21 O bless and magnify the Lord,
Ye glorious hosts of his,
Ye ministers, that do fulfil
Whate'r his pleasure is.

22 O bless the Lord, all ye his works,
Wherewith the world is stor'd,
In his dominions every where:
My soul, bless thou the Lord.

PSALM 104

This Psalm was perhaps composed along with the preceding one; and contains (1) High celebrations of God, as the God of nature; particularly of his appearances in his heavenly palaces, ver. 1,—4;—of his creation of the sea and dry land, ver. 5,—9;—of the provision he makes for his creatures, according to their respective needs, ver. 10,—28;—and of his sovereign dominion and influence over them, ver. 29,—32. (2) Holy resolutions to meditate on, and praise the Lord, in the view of his destruction of the wicked, ver. 33,—35.—¶ Lo! how stretched heavens; how refulgent luminaries; how fertile fields; how towering woods; how roaring seas; how ranging brutes;—how labouring men; how flaming Seraphs, unite their force to awaken my soul,—to tune my heart to the high praises of her REDEEMER! Let me meet my God, my Christ, in every view. In every sound let me hear his voice. In every form let me discern how great is his goodness; and how great is his beauty! Nor let creation's lower plains detain my heart. Let new covenant-relations to my unbounded ALL; Let redemption through his blood, fix all my thoughts, enrapture all my inward powers; that I may sing Anthems, all on fire, to him who loved me and gave himself for me.

BLESS God, my soul: O Lord, my God,
Thou art exceeding great;

With honour and with majesty
Thou clothed art in state.

2 With light, as with a robe, thyself
Thou coverest about;

And, like unto a curtain, thou
The heavens stretchest out.

3 Who of his chambers doth the beams
Within the waters lay;

Who doth the clouds his chariot make,
On wings of wind make way.

PSALM 104

- 26 There ships go ; there thou mak'st to play
That leviathan great.
- 27 These all wait on thee, that thou may'st
In due time give them meat.
- 28 That which thou givest unto them,
They gather for their food :
Thine hand thou op'nest lib'rally ;
They filled are with good.
- 29 Thou hid'st thy face, they troubled are :
Their breath thou tak'st away :
Then do they die, and to their dust
Return again do they.
- 30 Thy quick'ning sp'rit thou sendest forth,
Then they created be :
And then the earth's decayed face
Renewed is by thee.
- 31 The glory of the mighty Lord
Continue shall for ever :
The Lord JEHOVAH shall rejoice
In all his works together.
- 32 Earth, as affrighted, trembleth all,
If he on it but look ;
And if the mountains he but touch,
They presently do smoke.
- 33 I will sing to the Lord most high
So long as I shall live :
And while I being have, I shall,
To my God praises give.
- 34 Of him my meditation shall
Sweet thoughts to me afford :
And as for me I will rejoice
In God, my only Lord.
- 35 From earth let sinners be consum'd,
Let ill men no more be :
O thou my soul, bless thou the Lord :
Praise to the Lord give ye.

PSALM 105

This Psalm was a part of the solemn hymn sung at the translation of the ark from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David, 1 Chron. xvi; and contains (1) Solemn calls to meditate on, seek, magnify, and praise God, who is so great, so gracious, and so nearly connected with us, ver. 1,—7. (2) A narrative of the particular mercies of God to Israel for the space of 470 years, as grounds of praise: particularly, I. His covenant with their patriarchs, ver. 8,—11. II. His care of them while strangers and sojourners, ver. 12,—15. III. His advancement of Joseph to be the shepherd and store of Israel, ver. 16,—22. IV. His increasing of them in Egypt, and at last delivering them from it, in the way of inflicting manifold plagues on the Egyptians, ver. 23,—38. V. His care of them in the wilderness, and settling them in Canaan as a peculiar people to himself, ver. 39,—45.—¶ While I sing, let my soul, with affecting wonder, think what God is to me; and what he hath done for me, and his Church, in prosecution of his covenant-engagements with Jesus Christ.

GIVE thanks to God, call on his name,
To men his deeds make known.

2 Sing ye to him, sing psalms; proclaim
His wond'rous works each one.

3 See that ye in his holy name
To glory do accord:

And let the heart of ev'ry one
Rejoice that seeks the Lord.

4 The Lord almighty, and his strength,
With stedfast hearts seek ye;

His blessed and his gracious face
Seek ye continually.

5 Think on the works that he hath done,
Which admiration breed;

His wonders, and the judgments all,
Which from his mouth proceed.

6 O ye that are of Abrah'm's race,
His servant well-approv'n:

And ye that Jacob's children are,
Whom he chus'd for his own.

7 Because he, and he only, is
The mighty Lord our God:

And his most righteous judgments are
In all the earth abroad.

8 His cov'nant he rememb'red hath,
That it may ever stand:

- To thousand generations
 The word he did command.
 9 Which covenant he firmly made
 With faithful Abraham ;
 And unto Isaac, by his oath,
 He did renew the same :
- 10 And unto Jacob, for a law,
 He made it firm and sure,
 A covenant to Israel ;
 Which ever should endure ;
- 11 He said, I'll give Canaan's land
 For heritage to you :
- 12 While they were strangers there, and few,
 In number very few .
- 13 While yet they went from land to land,
 Without a sure abode ;
 And while, thro' sundry kingdoms, they
 Did wander far abroad :
- 14 Yet notwithstanding suffer'd he
 No man to do them wrong :
 Yea, for their sakes, he did reprove
 Kings, who were great and strong.
- 15 Thus did he say, Touch ye not those
 That mine anointed be,
 Nor do the prophets any harm,
 That do pertain to me.
- 16 He call'd for famine on the land,
 He brake the staff of bread.
- 17 But yet he sent a man before,
 By whom they should be fed :
- Ev'n Joseph, whom unnat'rally
 Sell for a slave did they ;
- 18 Whose feet with fetters they did hurt,
 And he in irons lay ;
- 19 Until the time that his word came,
 To give him liberty :

- The word and purpose of the Lord
 Did him in prison try :
- 20 Then sent the king, and did command,
 That he enlarg'd should be :
- He, that the people's ruler was,
 Did send to set him free.
- 21 A lord, to rule his family,
 He rais'd him, as most fit :
- To him, of all that he possess'd,
 He did the charge commit.
- 22 That he might at his pleasure bind
 The princes of the land ;
- And he might teach his senators,
 Wisdom to understand.
- 23 The people then of Israel,
 Down into Egypt came :
- And Jacob also sojourned
 Within the land of Ham.
- 24 And he did greatly by his pow'r,
 Increase his people there ;
- And stronger than their enemies
 They by his blessing were.
- 25 Their heart he turned to envy
 His folk maliciously,
- With those that his own servants were,
 To deal in subtilty.
- 26 His servant Moses he did send,
 Aaron his chosen one.
- 27 By these his signs and wonders great,
 In Ham's land were made known.
- 28 Darkness he sent, and made it dark ;
 His word they did obey.
- 29 He turn'd their waters into blood,
 And he their fish did slay.
- 30 The land in plenty brought forth frogs,
 In chambers of *their kings*.

PSALM 105

- 31 His word all sorts of flies and lice
In all their borders brings.
- 32 He hail for rain, and flaming fire,
Into their land he sent:
- 33 And he their vines and fig-trees smote,
Trees of their coasts he rent.
- 34 He spake, and caterpillars came :
Locusts did much abound,
- 35 Which in their land all herbs consum'd,
And all fruits of their ground.
- 36 He smote all first-born in their land,
Chief of their strength each one.
- 37 With gold and silver brought them forth,
Weak in their tribes were none.
- 38 Egypt was glad when forth they went,
Their fear on them did light.
- 39 He spread a cloud for covering,
And fire to shine by night.
- 40 They ask'd, and he brought quails: with bread
Of heav'n he filled them.
- 41 He op'ned rocks, floods gush'd, and ran
In deserts like a stream.
- 42 For on his holy promise he,
And servant Abrah'm, thought.
- 43 With joy his people, his elect
With gladness forth he brought.
- 44 And unto them the pleasant lands
He of the heathen gave :
That of the people's labour they
Inheritance might have.
- 45 That they his statutes might observe
According to his word;
And that they might his laws obey.
Give praise unto the Lord.

PSALM 106

This Psalm may be considered as a supplement to the preceding. That exhibited to our view the marvellous kindness of God to Israel. This exhibits the fearful rebellions of Israel against their gracious God. We have (1) a preface, ascribing praise to God, and exhibiting comfort to his saints; and requesting favours from God, ver. 1,—5. (2) An alarming confession or narrative of Israel's wickedness against their God, notwithstanding his marvellous kindness to them,—in provoking him at the Red-sea, ver. 6,—12; in lusting after sensual gratifications, ver. 13,—15; in mutinying against his vicegerents, ver. 16,—18; in worshipping the golden-calf, ver. 19,—23; in murmuring contempt of the promised land, ver. 24,—27; in joining with the Moabites and Medianites, in the worship of Baal-peor, ver. 28,—31; in quarrelling with Moses at Kadesh, ver. 32, 33; in incorporating themselves with the Canaanites, and imitating their idolatrous and cruel customs, ver. 34,—39. (3) An affecting view of God's great compassion to Israel, notwithstanding they had provoked him to inflict sore and almost destructive punishments upon them, ver. 40,—46. (4) An affectionate improvement of his kindness, in imploring his powerful deliverance, and ascription of endless praises to his name, ver. 47, 48.—¶ While I sing, let my soul be deeply affected with the dreadful nature of sin, and with men's obstinacy, nay my own obstinacy therein. Let me, with amazement, behold the unbounded mercy of God to men; and that where sin hath abounded grace doth much more abound.

GIVE praise and thanks unto the Lord,
 For bountiful is he,
 His tender mercy doth endure,
 Unto eternity.

2 God's mighty works who can express?
 Or shew forth all his praise?

3 Blessed are they that judgment keep,
 And justly do always.

4 Remember me, Lord, with that love,
 Which thou to thine dost bear;
 With thy salvation, O my God,
 To visit me draw near:

5 That I thy chosen's good may see,
 And in their joy rejoice:
 And may with thine inheritance,
 Triumph with cheerful voice.

6 We with our fathers sinned have:
 And of iniquity
 Too long we have the workers been,
 We have done wickedly.

PSALM 106

- 7 The wonders great, which thou, O Lord,
 Didst work in Egypt land,
 Our fathers, though they saw, yet them
 They did not understand ;
 And they thy mercies' multitude
 Kept not in memory ;
 But at the sea, ev'n the Red-sea,
 Provok'd him grievously.
- 8 Nevertheless, he sav'd them,
 Ev'n for his own name's sake :
 That so he might, to be well known,
 His mighty power make.
- 9 When he the Red-sea did rebuke,
 Then dried up it was :
 Thro' depths, as thro' the wilderness,
 He safely made them pass.
- 10 From hands of those that hated them,
 He did his people save :
 And from the en'mies cruel hand,
 To them redemption gave.
- 11 The waters overwhelm'd their foes,
 Not one was left alive.
- 12 Then they believ'd his word, and praise
 To him in songs did give.
- 13 But soon did they his mighty works
 Forget unthankfully,
 And on his counsel and his will,
 Did not wait patiently :
- 14 But much did lust in wilderness,
 And God in desert tempt.
- 15 He gave them what they sought, but to
 Their soul he leanness sent.
- 16 And against Moses, in the camp,
 Their envy did appear ;
 At Aaron they, the saint of God,
 Envious also were.

PSALM 106

- 17 Therefore the earth did open wide,
And Dathan did devour,
And all Abiram's company
Did cover in that hour.
- 18 Likewise among their company,
A fire was kindled then;
And so the hot consuming flame,
Burnt up these wicked men.
- 19 Upon the hill of Horeb they
An idol-calf did frame,
A molten image they did make,
And worshipped the same.
- 20 And thus their glory, and their God,
Most vainly changed they
Into the likeness of an ox
That eateth grass or hay.
- 21 They did forget the mighty God,
That had their Saviour been,
By whom such great things brought to pass,
They had in Egypt seen.
- 22 In Ham's land he did wond'rous works,
Things terrible did he,
When he his mighty hand and arm
Stretch'd out at the Red-sea.
- 23 Then said he, He would them destroy,
Had not, his wrath to stay,
His chosen Moses stood in breach,
That them he should not slay.
- 24 Yea, they despis'd the pleasant land,
Believed not his word:
- 25 But in their tents they murmured,
Not heark'ning to the Lord.
- 26 Therefore in desert them to slay
He lifted up his hand:
- 27 'Mong nations to o'erthrow their seed,
And scatter in each land.

PSALM 106

- 28 They unto Baal-peor did
 Themselves associate ;
 The sacrifices of the dead
 They did profanely eat.
- 29 Thus, by their lewd inventions,
 They did provoke his ire :
 And then upon them suddenly
 The plague brake in as fire.
- 30 Then Phineas rose, and justice did,
 And so the plague did cease.
- 31 That to all ages counted was,
 To him for righteousness.
- 32 And at the waters, where they strove,
 They did him angry make,
 In such sort, that it fared ill
 With Moses for their sake :
- 33 Because they there his spirit meek,
 Provoked bitterly,
 So that he utter'd with his lips
 Words unadvisedly.
- 34 Nor, as the Lord commanded them,
 Did they the nations slay :
- 35 But with the heathen mingled were,
 And learn'd of them their way.
- 36 And they their idols serv'd, which did
 A snare unto them turn.
- 37 Their sons and daughters they to de'ils
 In sacrifice did burn.
- 38 In their own children's guiltless blood
 Their hands they did imbrue,
 Whom to Canaan's idols they
 For sacrifices slew :
- So was the land defil'd with blood ;
- 39 They stain'd with their own way,
 And with their own inventions
 A whoring they did stray.

PSALM 107

- 40 Against his people kindled was
The wrath of God therefore,
Insomuch that he did his own
Inheritance abhor.
- 41 He gave them to the heathen's hand;
Their foes did them command.
- 42 Their enemies them oppress'd, they were
Made subject to their hand.
- 43 He many times deliver'd them ;
But with their counsel so
They him provok'd, that for their sin
They were brought very low.
- 44 Yet their affliction he beheld,
When he did hear their cry ;
- 45 And he for them his covenant
Did call to memory.

After his mercies multitude

- 46 He did repent : and made
Them to be pitied of all those ;
Who did them captive lead.
- 47 O Lord our God, us save, and gather
The heathen from among,
That we thy holy name may praise,
In a triumphant song.
- 48 Blest be JEHOVAH, Isra'l's God,
To all eternity :
Let all the people say, Amen.
Praise to the Lord give ye.

PSALM 107

This Psalm may be considered as an appendix to the two foregoing. Those represented the providence of God towards his chosen Israelites, who prefigured his Gospel-church. This (1) Represents the providences of God to the children of men in general, and calls them to praise him for his kindness and mercy therein: Particularly, (1) In directing and gathering travellers, whom he had justly dispersed, ver. 1,—7. (2) In delivering prisoners, whom he had justly confined, ver. 8,—14. (3) In healing the sick, whom he had justly plagued, ver. 15,—22. (4) In relieving mariners, whom he had justly bestowed, ver. 23,—30. (5) In

PSALM 107

changing the condition of territories, persons, and families, at his pleasure, to the comfort of his people, and the restraining of wickedness, ver. 31, 42. (2) It encourageth men to a careful observation of God's providences, ver. 43.—¶ Let me sing this, with an heart deeply affected with the various providences of God towards myself and others, while we have walked by the way; been confined in prisons; or lain in beds of languishing; traversed the surface of the depths, or laboured in our respective employments. Let me be a careful observer of providences, and compare them with the oracles of God, with my behaviour, and my prayers, and with one another. So shall I understand the loving-kindness of the Lord.

PRAISE God for he is good: for still
His mercies lasting be.

2 Let God's redeem'd say so, whom he
From th' enemy's hand did free:

3 And gather'd them out of the lands,
From north, south, east, and west.

4 They stray'd in deserts pathless way,
No city found to rest.

5 For thirst and hunger, in them faints

6 Their soul. When straits them press,

They cry unto the Lord, and he

Them frees from their distress.

7 Them also in a way to walk,

That right is he did guide,

That they might to a city go,

Wherein they might abide.

8 O that men to the Lord would give

Praise for his goodness, then,

And for his works of wonder done

Unto the sons of men!

9 For he the soul that longing is,

Doth fully satisfy;

With goodness he the hungry soul

Doth fill abundantly.

10 Such as shut up in darkness deep,

And in death's shade abide,

Whom strongly hath affliction bound,

And irons fast have ty'd:

- 11 (Because against the words of God,
They wrought rebelliously,
And they the counsel did contemn
Of him that is most High.)
- 12 Their heart he did bring down with grief,
They fell, no help could have.
- 13 In trouble then they cry'd to God,
He them from straits did save.
- 14 He out of darkness did them bring,
And from death's shade them take;
These bands wherewith they had been bound,
Asunder quite he brake.
- 15 O that men to the Lord would give
Praise, for his goodness, then,
And for his works of wonder done
Unto the sons of men!
- 16 Because the mighty gates of brass
In pieces he did tear;
By him in sunder also cut
The bars of iron were.
- 17 Fools for their sin, and their offence,
Do sore affliction bear:
- 18 All kind of meat their soul abhors
They to death's gates draw near.
- 19 In grief they cry to God; he saves
Them from their miseries:
- 20 He sends his word, them heals, and them
From their destructions frees.
- 21 O that men to the Lord would give
Praise, for his goodness, then,
And for his works of wonder done
Unto the sons of men!
- 22 And let them sacrifice to him
Off'rings of thankfulness;
And let them shew abroad his works
In songs of joyfulness.

PSALM 107

- 23 Who go to sea in ships, and in
Great waters trading be,
24 Within the deep these men God's works,
And his great wonders see.
25 For he commands, and forth in haste
The stormy tempest flies,
Which makes the sea with rolling waves,
Aloft to swell and rise.
26 They mount to heav'n, then to the depths
They do go down again :
Their soul doth faint, and melt away,
With trouble and with pain.
27 They reel and stagger like one drunk,
At their wits end they be :
28 Then they to God in trouble cry,
Who them from straits doth free.
29 The storm is chang'd into a calm,
At his command and will ;
So that the waves, which rag'd before,
Now quiet are and still.
30 Then are they glad, because at rest
And quiet now they be ;
So to the haven he them brings,
Which they desir'd to see.
31 O that men to the Lord would give
Praise for his goodness then,
And for his works of wonder done
Unto the sons of men !
32 Among the people gathered,
Let them exalt his name ;
Among the assembled elders spread,
His most renowned fame.
33 He to dry land turns water-springs,
And floods to wilderness :
34 For sins of those that dwell therein,
Fat land to barrenness.

PSALM 108

- 35 The burnt and parched wilderness
To water-pools he brings,
The ground that was dry'd up before,
He turns to water-springs.
- 36 And there, for dwelling, he a place
Doth to the hungry give,
That they a city may prepare
Commodiously to live.
- 37 There sow they fields, and vineyards plant,
To yield fruits of increase.
- 38 His blessing makes them multiply,
Lets not their beasts decrease.
- 39 Again they are diminished,
And very low brought down,
Through sorrow and affliction,
And great oppression.
- 40 He upon princes pours contempt,
And causeth them to stray,
And wander in a wilderness,
Wherein there is no way.
- 41 Yet setteth he the poor on high,
From all his miseries,
And he, much like unto a flock,
Doth make him families.
- 42 They that are righteous shall rejoice,
When they the same shall see ;
And, as asham'd, stopt her mouth
Shall all iniquity.
- 43 Whoso is wise, and will these things
Observe, and them record,
Ev'n they shall understand the love,
And kindness of the Lord.

PSALM 108

A Psalm or Song of David.

The first five verses of this Psalm are taken from Psalm lvii. 7,—12 ; and contain praises and thanksgivings to God.—The other eight are

PSALM 108

taken from Psalm lx. 5,—12; and contain prayers for, and hopes of, promised mercies.—¶ Never scruple, my soul, to think, or to sing, or to pray over, the same subjects of importance; but let there be always a nearness of affection, newness of spiritual vigour.

MY heart is fix'd, Lord : I will sing,
And with my glory praise.

2 Awake up psaltery and harp,
Myself I'll early raise.

3 I'll praise thee 'mong the people, Lord,
'Mong nations sing will I :

4 For above heav'n thy mercy's great,
Thy truth doth reach the sky.

5 Be thou above the heavens, Lord,
Exalted gloriously :

Thy glory all the earth above
Be lifted up on high.

6 That those who thy beloved are
Delivered may be ;

O do thou save with thy right hand,
And answer give to me.

7 God in his holiness hath said,
Herein I will take pleasure,
Shechem I will divide, and forth
Will Succoth's valley measure.

8 Gilead I claim as mine by right,
Manasseh mine shall be,
Ephraim is of my head the strength ;
Judah gives laws for me.

9 Moab's my washing-pot ; my shoe
I'll over Edom throw :

Over the land of Palestine
I will in triumph go.

10 O who is he will bring me to
The city fortify'd !

O who is he that to the land
Of Edom will me guide !

PSALM 109

- 11 O God, thou who hadst cast us off,
 This thing wilt thou not do?
 And wilt not thou ev'n thou, O God,
 Forth with our armies go?
 12 Do thou from trouble give us help,
 For helpless is man's aid.
 13 Through God we shall do valiantly;
 Our foes he shall down tread.

PSALM 109

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

Probably David penned this Psalm with a view to Doeg or Abitophel; and hence it is much a-kin to the 41st, 52d, 55th, 120th, and 140th. But the holy Ghost herein hath a mediate respect to Jesus and Judas the traitor, Acts, i. 20. Observe (1) the Psalmist's bitter complaints of his enemies as spiteful, deceitful, false, restless, unjust, ungrateful, ver. 1,—5. (2) His fearful denunciations of divine vengeance against his distinguished foe, That he should be delivered into the hand of Satan; should have his prayers rejected, his life shortened, his substance wasted, and his posterity rendered miserable, ver 6,—20. (3) His lamentation over his inward trouble, his approaching death, his instability of condition, pining sickness, reproach of enemies; and his prayers for mercy to himself, confusion to his enemies, and glory to his God, ver. 21,—29. (4) His triumph in God, as his supporter, and deliverer, amidst all his troubles, ver. 30, 31.—¶ While I sing, let me be affected with the sufferings of my Redeemer, and with the misery of these Jews and others, who abandon themselves to be his obstinate opposers. Let me implore, and by faith foresee, the complete ruin of all my spiritual enemies; and the full redemption of my soul, and of the whole mystical body of Christ, notwithstanding all our sinful poverty and plagues.

- O** THOU the God of all my praise,
 Do thou not hold thy peace:
 2 For mouths of wicked men to speak
 Against me do not cease:
 The mouths of vile deceitful men
 Against me open'd be;
 And with a false and lying tongue
 They have accused me.
 3 They did beset me round about
 With words of hateful spite:
 And, though to them no cause I gave,
 Against me they did fight.

PSALM 109

- 4 They for my love became my foes ;
But I me set to pray.
- 5 Evil for good, hatred for love,
To me they did repay.
- 6 Set thou the wicked over him,
And upon his right hand
Give thou his greatest enemy,
Ev'n Satan, leave to stand.
- 7 And when by thee he shall be judg'd,
Let him condemned be ;
And let his pray'r be turn'd to sin,
When he shall call on thee.
- 8 Few be his days ; and in his room
His charge another take.
- 9 His children let be fatherless ;
His wife a widow make.
- 10 His children let be vagabonds,
And beg continually ;
And, from their places desolate,
Seek bread for their supply.
- 11 Let covetous extortioners
Catch all he hath away :
Of all for which he labour'd hath,
Let strangers make a prey.
- 12 Let there be none to pity him,
Let there be none at all
That on his children fatherless,
Will let his mercy fall.
- 13 Let his posterity from earth
Cut off for ever be,
And in the following age their name
Be blotted out by thee.
- 14 Let God his father's wickedness,
Still to remembrance call ;
And never let his mother's sin
Be blotted out at all.

PSALM 109

- 15 But let them all before the Lord,
 Appear continually,
 That he may wholly from the earth
 Cut off their memory.
- 16 Because he mercy mindeth not,
 But persecuted still
 The poor and needy, the he might
 The broken-hearted kill.
- 17 As he in cursing pleasure took,
 So let it to him fall ;
 As he delighted not to bless,
 So bless him not at all.
- 18 As cursing he like clothes put on,
 Into his bowels so,
 Like water, and into his bones,
 Like oil down let it go.
- 19 Like to the garment let it be
 Which doth himself array ;
 And for a girdle, wherewith he
 Is girt about alway.
- 20 From God let this be their reward,
 That en'mies are to me ;
 And their reward, that speak against
 My soul maliciously.
- 21 But do thou, for thine own name's sake,
 O God the Lord, for me :
 Sith good and sweet thy mercy is,
 From trouble set me free.
- 22 For I am poor and indigent ;
 Afflicted sore am I ;
 My heart within me also is
 Wounded exceedingly.
- 23 I pass like a declining shade,
 Am like the locust tost.
- 24 My knees through fasting weak'ned are ;
 My flesh hath fatness lost.

PSALM 110

- 25 I also am a vile reproach,
 Unto them made to be ;
 And they that did upon me look,
 Did shake their heads at me.
- 26 O do thou help and succour me,
 Who art my God and Lord :
 And, for thy tender mercies sake,
 Safety to me afford.
- 27 That thereby they may know, that this
 Is thy almighty hand ;
 And that thou, Lord, hast done the same,
 They may well understand.
- 28 Altho' they curse with spite, yet, Lord,
 Bless thou with loving voice :
 Let them asham'd be, when they rise :
 Thy servant let rejoice.
- 29 Let thou mine adversaries all
 With shame be clothed over ;
 And let their own confusion
 Them, as a mantle, cover.
- 30 But as for me, I with my mouth
 Will greatly praise the Lord ;
 And I among the multitude
 His praises will record.
- 31 For he shall stand at his right hand
 Who is in poverty,
 To save him from all those that would
 Condemn his soul to die.

PSALM 110

A Psalm of David.

This Psalm relates wholly to Jesus Christ : And represents him (1) In his glorious offices, as a Prophet, gathering the nations by the proclamations of his gospel, the rod of his strength, ver. 2, 3; as our great High Priest, ver. 4; and as our exalted, victorious, and governing King, ver. 2, 3, 5, 6. (2) In his diversified states of debasement and exaltation, ver. 7. 1. 5 —¶ While I sing, let mine eyes be fixed, wholly fixed, on my glorious Redeemer. Behold! how, having by himself purged our sins, he sat down on the right hand of the Majesty

PSALM 110

on high! Behold him, by the word of his grace, subduing multitudes of sinful men to himself! Behold him able to save to the uttermost, because he ever liveth to make intercession for us. And let my mouth be filled with hallelujahs and hosannas in the highest, to him who by water and by blood, cometh in the name of the Lord to save me.

- T**HE Lord did say unto my Lord,
 Sit thou at my right hand,
 Until I make thy foes a stool
 Whereon thy feet may stand.
- 2 The Lord shall out of Zion send
 The rod of thy great pow'r:
 In midst of all thine enemies
 Be thou the governor.
- 3 A willing people, in thy day
 Of pow'r, shall come to thee,
 In holy beauties: from morn's womb,
 Thy youth like dew shall be.
- 4 The Lord himself hath made an oath,
 And will repent him never,
 Of th' order of Melchisedec
 Thou art a priest for ever.
- 5 The glorious and mighty Lord,
 That sits at thy right hand,
 Shall, in his day of wrath, strike through
 Kings that do him withstand.
- 6 He shall among the heathen judge:
 He shall with bodies dead
 The places fill; o'er many lands
 He wound shall ev'ry head.
- 7 The brook that runneth in the way
 With drink shall him supply:
 And, for this cause, in triumph he
 Shall lift his head on high.

PSALM 111

In this Psalm, every sentence of which begins with a new letter of the Hebrew alphabet, we have (1) The praising of God inculcated and exemplified, ver. 1. (2) The grounds of praise exhibited, viz. That God himself is gracious and full of compassion, and ever mindful of his

PSALM 111

covenant; and that his works are magnificent, pleasant, righteous, wonderful, perfect, kind, prudent, and durable, and all conformed to his promise and covenant, ver. 2,—9. (3) A recommendation of an holy and reverential obedience to God, as the beginning of wisdom, ver. 10.—¶ While I sing, let my heart be all inflamed with the believing consideration of the marvellous works of redemption, as wrought for and on my soul,—all filled with that love, which casteth out slavish fear, but powerfully prompts the filial reverence and awe of God.

PRAISE ye the Lord. With my whole heart
 I will God's-praise declare,
 Where the assemblies of the just
 And congregations are.

2 The whole works of the Lord our God,
 Are great above all measure;
 Sought out they are of ev'ry one
 That doth therein take pleasure.

3 His work most honourable is,
 Most glorious and pure;
 And his untainted righteousness
 For ever doth endure.

4 His works most wonderful he hath
 Made to be thought upon:
 The Lord is gracious, and he is
 Full of compassion.

5 He giveth meat unto all those
 That truly do him fear:
 And evermore his covenant,
 He in his mind will bear.

6 He did the power of his works
 Unto his people show,
 When he the heathen's heritage
 Upon them did bestow.

7 His handy-works are truth and right;
 All his commands are sure:

8 And done in truth and uprightness,
 They evermore endure.

9 He sent redemption to his folk;
 His covenant for ay.

PSALM 112

He did command: holy his name
And rev'rend is always.

10 Wisdom's beginning is God's fear:

Good understanding they
Have all, that his commands fulfil:
His praise endures for ay.

PSALM 112

This Psalm is also alphabetically composed, and contains (1) Invitations to praise God, ver. 1. (2) A delineation of the saints character and blessedness; That they are well principled, honest, sincere, and kind; and shall be blessed with prosperity outward and inward, with comfort amidst griefs, wisdom amidst perplexity; and with honour and stability; and shall have their posterity blessed after them, ver. 2,—9. (3) The misery of the wicked, ver. 10.—¶ While I sing this, let me try my character, and rejoice in hope of being blessed in Christ Jesus, with all spiritual, temporal, and everlasting blessings.

PRAISE ye the Lord. The man is blest

That fears the Lord aright,
He who in his commandements,
Doth greatly take delight.

2 His seed and offspring powerful
Shall be the earth upon:

Of upright men blessed shall be
The generation.

3 Riches and wealth shall ever be
Within his house in store:

And his unspotted righteousness
Endures for evermore.

4 Unto the upright light doth rise,
Though he in darkness be:

Compassionate and merciful,
And righteous is he.

5 A good man doth his favour shew,
And doth to others lend:

He with discretion, his affairs
Will guide unto the end.

6 Surely, there is not any thing
That ever shall him move;

PSALM 113

- The righteous man's memorial
 Shall everlasting prove.
- 7 When he shall evil tidings hear,
 He shall not be afraid:
 His heart is fix'd, his confidence
 Upon the Lord is stay'd.
- 8 His heart is firmly stablished,
 Afraid he shall not be,
 Until upon his enemies
 He his desire shall see.
- 9 He hath dispers'd, giv'n to the poor;
 His righteousness shall be
 To ages all: with honour shall
 His horn be raised high.
- 10 The wicked shall it see, and fret,
 His teeth gnash, melt away:
 What wicked men do most desire,
 Shall utterly decay.

PSALM 113

This Psalm with the five immediately following were called the great HALLELUJAH, and used to be sung at the passover supper, Matt. xxvi. 30. Here (1) We are solemnly called to celebrate the praises of God, ver. 1,—3. (2) We are plentifully furnisheth with matter of praise; viz. the heights of his glory and greatness, and the depths of his condescension and grace, ver. 4,—9.—¶ Think, O my soul, what the Lord hath done for me! and for mine! and for mankind!

- P**RAISE God: ye servants of the Lord,
 O praise, the Lord's name praise.
- 2 Yea, blessed be the name of God,
 From this time forth always.
- 3 From rising sun to where it sets,
 God's name is to be prais'd.
- 4 Above all nations God is high,
 'Bove heav'ns his glory rais'd.
- 5 Unto the Lord, our God, that dwells
 On high, who can compare?
- 6 Himself that humbleth things to see
 In heav'n and earth that are.

PSALM 114

7 He from the dust doth raise the poor,
 That very low doth ly;
 And from the dung-hill lifts the man
 Oppress'd with poverty :

8 That he may highly him advance,
 And with the princes set ;
 With those that of his people are
 The chief, ev'n princes great.

9 The barren woman house to keep
 He maketh, and to be
 Of sons a mother full of joy.
 Praise to the Lord give ye.

PSALM 114

In this Psalm, are celebrated (1) God's bringing Israel out of their Egyptian slavery, ver. 1. (2) His setting up his tabernacle among them, and taking them for his peculiar people, ver. 2. (3) His dividing the Red sea and Jordan before them, ver. 3. 5. (4) His awful descent on Mount Sinai to give them his law, ver. 4. 6, 7. (5) His providing them with water from the flinty rocks, ver. 8.—¶ While I sing, let my soul be affected with the grace, the glory, the power of my God ; and with the mighty things he hath done for men, chiefly in the work of our redemption ;—and be encouraged to trust him in the greatest straits,

WHEN Isra'l out of Egypt went,
 And did his dwelling change ;
 When Jacob's house went out from those
 That were of language strange :

2 He Judah did his sanctuary,
 His kingdom Isra'l make.

3 The sea it saw, and quickly fled,
 Jordan was driven back.

4 Like rams the mountains, and like lambs
 The hills skipp'd to and fro.

5 O sea, why fled'st thou ? Jordan back,
 Why wast thou driven so ?

6 Ye mountains great, wherefore was it
 That ye did skip like rams ?
 And wherefore was it, little hills,
 That ye did leap like lambs ?

PSALM 115

7 O, at the presence of the Lord,
 Earth, tremble thou for fear,
 While as the presence of the God
 Of Jacob doth appear.
 8 Who from the hard and stony rock,
 Did standing water bring :
 And, by his pow'r, did turn the flint
 Into a water-spring.

PSALM 115

This Psalm instructs us, (1) To whom glory and praise ought to be ascribed: Not to ourselves, but to God's mercy and truth, ver. 1: Not to lifeless, senseless idols, but to God, whose throne is in the heavens, and who doth whatever he pleaseth, ver. 2,—8. 15, 16. (2) How we are to glorify God, I. By trusting in him, crediting his promise, and receiving his blessings, ver. 9,—15. II. By blessing him while we live, ver. 17, 18.—¶ Learn, my soul, to deny thyself; to take up thy cross and follow Christ; and to keep thyself from idols. But make JEHOVAH, as reconciled in Christ, thy portion, thy trust, thy help, thy shield, thy blessedness, thy comfort, thy praise, and consider thine earthly enjoyment as the gracious gifts of thy God, and an earnest of thy far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

NOT unto us, Lord, not to us,
 But do thou glory take
 Unto thy name, ev'n for thy truth,
 And for thy mercy's sake.
 2 O wherefore should the heathen say.
 Where is their God now gone?
 3 But our God in the heavens is,
 What pleas'd him he hath done.
 4 Their idols silver are and gold;
 Work of men's hands they be.
 5 Mouths have they, but they do not speak;
 And eyes, but do not see:
 6 Ears have they, but they do not hear;
 Noses, but savour not:
 7 Hands, feet, but handle not, nor walk;
 Nor speak they through their throat.
 8 Like them their makers are, and all
 On them their trust that build.

PSALM 116

- 9 O Isra'l, trust thou in the Lord,
He is their help and shield.
- 10 O Aaron's house, trust in the Lord,
Their help and shield is he.
- 11 Ye that fear God, trust in the Lord,
Their help and shield he'll be.
- 12 The Lord of us hath mindful been,
And he will bless us still ;
He will the house of Isra'l bless ;
Bless Aaron's house he will.
- 13 Both small and great, that fear the Lord,
He will them surely bless.
- 14 The Lord will you, you and your seed,
Ay more and more increase.
- 15 O blessed are ye of the Lord,
Who made the earth and heav'n.
- 16 The heav'n, ev'n heav'ns are God's, but he
Earth to men's sons hath giv'n.
- 17 The dead, nor who to silence go,
God's praise do not record.
- 18 But henceforth we for ever will
Bless God. Praise ye the Lord.

PSALM 116

This is a Psalm of thanksgiving somewhat similar to the 13th, 30th, 40th, and 103d; and represents (1) The Psalmist's great distress and danger, which had almost driven him to despair, ver. 3. 10, 11. (2) The application he made to God by prayer for relief; and his experience of God's gracious kindness, in granting his requests; in hearing, pitying, and delivering him, ver. 1, 2. 4, 5, 6. 8. (3) His sincere and hearty resolutions, to make a grateful acknowledgment of God's kindness, by loving him, ver. 1; continuing to call on him and receive from him, ver. 2. 13. 17; resting in him, ver. 7; walking before him as his devoted servant, ver. 9. 16; public confession of God's tender regard to him, ver. 12. 15; and sincere and public paying of his vows to him, ver. 10, —19.—¶ While I sing, let me think, as before God, what of these blessings I have experienced: What of these duties I have earnestly practised. If God hath redeemed me from the broken law;—from the lowest hell; from the mouth of the infernal lion; and from the power of my corrupt lusts, let my soul, and all that is within me, be stirred up to bless his holy name; and let me never lose the heart-animating impressions of his benefits.

I LOVE the Lord, because my voice
And prayer he did hear.

2 I, while I live, will call on him,
Who bow'd to me his ear.

3 Of death the cords and sorrows did
About me compass round ;
The pains of hell took hold on me ;
I grief and trouble found.

4 Upon the name of God the Lord
Then did I call, and say,
Deliver thou my soul, O Lord,
I do thee humbly pray.

5 God merciful and righteous is,
Yea, gracious is our Lord.

6 God saves the meek : I was brought low,
He did me help afford.

7 O thou my soul, do thou return
Unto thy quiet rest ;

For largely, lo, the Lord to thee
His bounty hath exprest.

8 For my distressed soul from death,
Deliver'd was by thee :

Thou didst my mourning eyes from tears,
My feet from falling, free.

9 I in the land of those that live
Will walk, the Lord before.

10 I did believe, therefore I spake :
I was afflicted sore.

11 I said, when I was in my haste,
That all men liars be.

12 What shall I render to the Lord,
For all his gifts to me ?

13 I'll of salvation take the cup,
On God's name will I call.

14 I'll pay my vows now to the Lord,
Before his people all.

PSALM 117

15 Dear in God's sight is his saints death.

16 Thy servant, Lord, am I,
Thy servant sure, thine handmaid's son :
My bands thou didst unty.

17 Thank-off'rings I to thee will give,
And on God's name will call.

18 I'll pay my vows now to the Lord,
Before his people all :

19 Within the courts of God's own house,
Within the midst of thee,

O city of Jerusalem.

Praise to the Lord give ye.

PSALM 117

This Psalm relates to the Gospel-church. Here are (1) A short, but solemn call to the redeemed of all nations to praise their God, ver. 1, 2. (2) Rich matter of praise suggested, viz. the unbounded mercy and everlasting faithfulness of God; and hence the fulness, kindness, and stability of his covenant-promises, and the accomplishment thereof, ver. 2.—¶ If the Psalm be short let me sing it in the full assurance of faith, and with a heart all inflamed with the loving-kindness, and all enraptured with admiration of the goodness of God, towards men, towards the Gentiles, and towards my soul.

O GIVE ye praise unto the Lord,
All nations that be :

Likewise, ye people all, accord
His name to magnify.

2 For great to us-ward ever are
His loving-kindnesses :

His truth endures for evermore.

The Lord O do ye bless.

PSALM 118

This Psalm was probably composed by David, soon after his advancement to, and settlement on his throne, 2 Sam. v. viii. And contains (1) His earnest exhortations to persons of all ranks, offices and states, to praise the Lord for his everlasting mercy and kindness, ver. 1,—4. (2) By a recital of the great and gracious things, which God had done for him, he encourageth himself and others, to trust in God alone, ver. 5.—18. (3) His thanksgiving for God's advancement of him to the throne, notwithstanding of all opposition,—as typical of the exaltation of Jesus Christ, ver. 19,—23. (4) His and the priests and people's triumph in the expected prosperity of his reign; and of the flourishing

PSALM 118

kingdom of Christ, ver. 24,—29.—¶ While I sing, let my soul soar aloft to Jesus and his sure mercies. Let me behold him, who, for the suffering of death, was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour, having all his enemies put under his feet, but himself invested with all power in heaven and in earth,—and furnished with all gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that God the Lord may dwell among them; and, as the God of their salvation, daily load them with his benefits. Let me rejoice in his highness, and have myself and all my services, bound with cords to his altar; and God forbid I should conclude the notes without entering into the very marrow of the sense. Thou art my God, I'll thee exalt; my God, I will thee praise.

O PRAISE the Lord, for he is good:
His mercy lasteth ever.

2 Let those of Israel now say,
His mercy faileth never.

3 Now let the house of Aaron say,
His mercy lasteth ever.

4 Let those that fear the Lord, now say,
His mercy faileth never.

5 I in distress call'd on the Lord;
The Lord did answer me:

He in a large place did me set,
From trouble made me free.

6 The mighty Lord is on my side,
I will not be afraid:

For any thing that man can do
I shall not be dismay'd.

7 The Lord doth take my part with them
That help to succour me;

Therefore, on those that do me hate,
I my desire shall see.

8 Better it is to trust in God,
Than trust in man's defence:

9 Better to trust in God, than make
Princes our confidence.

10 The nations, joining all in one,
Did compass me about:

But, in the Lord's most holy name,
I shall them all root out.

- 11 They compass'd me about, I say,
 They compass'd me about :
 But, in the Lord's most holy name,
 I shall them all root out.
- 12 Like bees they compass'd me about ;
 Like unto thorns that flame,
 They quenched are : for them shall I
 Destroy in God's own name.
- 13 Thou sore hast thrust, that I might fall ;
 But my Lord helped me.
- 14 God my salvation is become ;
 My Strength and Song is he.
- 15 In dwellings of the righteous
 Is heard the melody
 Of joy and health : the Lord's right hand
 Doth ever valiantly.
- 16 The right hand of the mighty Lord
 Exalted is on high :
 The right hand of the mighty Lord
 Doth ever valiantly.
- 17 I shall not die, but live, and shall
 The works of God discover.
- 18 The Lord hath me chastised sore,
 But not to death giv'n over.
- 19 O set ye open unto me
 The gates of righteousness :
 Then will I enter into them,
 And I the Lord will bless.
- 20 This is the gate of God, by it
 The just shall enter in.
- 21 Thee will I praise, for thou me heardst,
 And hast my safety been.
- 22 That Stone is made head Corner-stone,
 Which builders did despise :
- 23 This is the doing of the Lord,
 And wond'rous in our eyes.

PSALM 119

- 24 This is the day God made, in it
 We'll joy triumphantly.
- 25 Save now, I pray thee, Lord, I pray,
 Send now prosperity.
- 26 Blessed is he, in God's great name,
 That cometh us to save.
- We, from the house which to the Lord
 Pertains, you blessed have.
- 27 God is the Lord, who unto us,
 Hath made light to arise:
 Bind ye unto the altar's horns,
 With cords the sacrifice.
- 28 Thou art my God, I'll thee exalt;
 My God, I will thee praise.
- 29 Give thanks to God, for he is good:
 His mercy lasts always.

PSALM 119

This Psalm is a collection of David's precious thoughts, sorrowful complaints, humble petitions, and holy resolutions, which, it seems, he had wrote down as they occurred; and which, in the end of his life, he digested into the form in which they now stand, consisting of as many parts as there are letters in the Hebrew alphabet, the eight verses of each always beginning with the same letter in the original. The general scope of it is to magnify God's word, and make it honourable. To intimate that it informs us of whatever we ought to expect from God, in the way of gracious donation; and of whatever he may expect from us, in the way of grateful returns of duty; it is represented under ten different characters, one or the other of which is to be found in every verse, excepting the 122d and 132d,—As God's **LAW**, because framed and published by him as our Sovereign;—His **COMMANDMENTS**, because given with authority and lodged with us as a trust;—His **PRECEPTS**, because peremptorily prescribed, and not left as a thing indifferent;—His **STATUTES**, because it is fixed and determined, and of perpetual obligation;—His **WORD**, because it is the declaration of his mind, and Christ his essential Word is **ALL** and **IN ALL** therein;—His **WAY**, because it represents Christ the way, the truth, and the life, and is the rule of our faith and obedience;—His **TESTIMONIES**, because therein, God, upon his word, his oath, and writ, declares to men the truths necessary to be known, in order to his honour and their salvation,—as ratified in the death of his Son;—His **JUDGMENTS**, because it is framed in infinite wisdom, and by it we must both judge and be judged;—but in ver. 75. 84. 121, judgment denotes righteous conduct;—it is called his **RIGHTEOUSNESS**, because it is holy, just and good, and is the perfect standard of righteousness;—and his **TRUTH** or **FAITHFULNESS**, because its leading truths are eternal; and the faithfulness of God is pledged in every point thereof.—¶ While I sing, let me all along,

PSALM 119

enter into the spirit of the Psalm. Let my delight be in God's testimonies; my desires after God's presence; and my endeavours to have God honoured. Let God's word be my rule, my food, my armour, my wealth, my comfort; and God himself, as therein revealed and bestowed, be my everlasting and infinite ALL.

ALEPH. *Part I.*

Here (1) David marks out holy men as the only blessed men, ver. 1,—3. (2) Beggeth that to his own honour and satisfaction he may be helped of God to an upright observance of his laws, ver. 4,—6. (3) In the faith of God's direction and assistance, he resolves to praise and obey him, ver. 7, 8.

BLESSED are they that undefil'd,
 And straight are in the way:
 Who in the Lord's most holy law
 Do walk, and do not stray.

2 Blessed are they, who to observe
 His statutes are inclin'd;
 And who do seek the living God,
 With their whole heart and mind.

3 Such in his ways do walk, and they
 Do no iniquity.

4 Thou hast commanded us to keep
 Thy precepts carefully.

5 O that thy statutes to observe
 Thou would'st my ways direct!

6 Then shall I not be sham'd, when I
 Thy precepts all respect.

7 Then, with integrity of heart,
 Thee will I praise and bless,
 When I thy judgments all have learn'd
 Of thy pure righteousness.

8 That I will keep thy statutes all
 Firmly resolv'd have I:
 O do not then, most gracious God,
 Forsake me utterly.

BETH. *Part II.*

He (1) Points out the proper method of mortifying lusts and attaining true holiness, ver. 9. (2) Professeth his attachment to God and his word, and supplicates wisdom, direction, and support, ver. 10,—12. (3) Reflects with satisfaction on his former regard to God's truths and ways, ver. 13, 14. And (4) Resolves to persevere therein, ver. 15, 16.

- 9 By what means shall a young man learn
His way to purify?
If he according to thy word
Thereto attentive be.
- 10 Unfeignedly thee have I sought
With all my soul and heart;
O let me not from the right path
Of thy commands depart.
- 11 Thy word I in my heart have hid,
That I offend not thee.
- 12 O Lord, thou ever blessed art,
Thy statutes teach thou me.
- 13 The judgments of thy mouth each one
My lips declared have.
- 14 More joy thy testimonies' way
Than riches all me gave.
- 15 I will thy holy precepts make
My meditation:
And carefully I'll have respect
Unto thy ways each one.
- 16 Upon thy statutes my delight
Shall constantly be set:
And by thy grace I never will
Thy holy word forget.

GIMEL. *Part III.*

(1) With eagerness and longings of heart, he supplicates divine favour and instruction in God's truths, ver. 17,—20. (2) Remarks the just vengeance of God upon such as wander from his ways, ver. 21. (3) Supplicates preservation from reproach, as he observed, meditated on, delighted in, and consulted God's word, in all his conduct, ver. 22,—24.

- 17 With me thy servant, in thy grace,
Deal bountifully, Lord;
That by thy favour I may live,
And duly keep thy word.
- 18 Open mine eyes, that of thy law
The wonders I may see.
- 19 I am a stranger on this earth,
Hide not thy laws from me.

- 20 My soul within me breaks, and doth
 Much fainting still endure,
 Thro' longing that it hath all times
 Unto thy judgments pure.
- 21 Thou hast rebuk'd the cursed proud,
 Who from thy precepts swerve,
- 22 Reproach and shame remove from me,
 For I thy laws observe.
- 23 Against me princes spake with spite,
 While they in council sat :
 But I, thy servant, did upon
 Thy statutes meditate.
- 24 My comfort, and my heart's delight,
 Thy testimonies be ;
 And they, in all my doubts and fears,
 Are counsellors to me.

DALETH *Part IV.*

He (1) Represents his distress, and his behaviour under it, ver. 25. 28. 26. 30, 31. (2) Supplicates spiritual quickening, instruction, strength, rectitude of sentiment, and honour, in the Lord's way, ver. 25,—31. (3) Resolves, under the influences of heaven, to be more active in holiness, ver. 32.

- 25 My soul to dust cleaves ; quicken me
 According to thy word.
- 26 My ways I shew'd, and me thou heardst :
 Teach me thy statutes, Lord.
- 27 The way of thy commandements
 Make me aright to know ;
 So all thy works, that wondrous are ;
 I shall to others show.
- 28 My soul doth melt, and drop away,
 For heaviness and grief :
 To me, according to thy word,
 Give strength, and send relief.
- 29 From me the wicked way of lies
 Let far removed be :
 And graciously thy holy law
 Dothou grant unto me.

PSALM 119

- 30 I chosen have the perfect way
 Of truth and verity :
 Thy judgments that most righteous are
 Before me laid have I.
- 31 I to thy testimonies clave ;
 Shame do not on me cast.
- 32 I'll run thy precepts way, when thou
 My heart enlarged hast.

HE. *Part V.*

He (1) Prays for divine instructions, sanctifying influences, and quickening grace; and for the accomplishment of God's promises to him;—and against covetousness, vanity, and reproach, ver. 33,—40. (2) Enforces his requests from his holy resolutions; his relation to God; his zeal for his honour, and his regard to his excellent declarations, promises, and precepts, ver. 33, 34. 36. 39, 40.

- 33 Teach me, O Lord, the perfect way,
 Of thy precepts divine,
 And to observe it to the end
 I shall my heart incline.
- 34 Give understanding unto me,
 So keep thy law shall I;
 Yea, ev'n with my whole heart, I shall
 Observe it carefully.
- 35 In thy law's path make me to go,
 For I delight therein.
- 36 My heart unto thy testimonies,
 And not to greed incline.
- 37 Turn thou away my sight and eyes
 From viewing vanity :
 And, in thy good and holy way,
 Be pleas'd to quicken me.
- 38 Confirm to me thy gracious word,
 Which I did gladly hear,
 Ev'n to thy servant, Lord, who is
 Devoted to thy fear.
- 39 Turn thou away my fear'd reproach :
 For good thy judgments be.

PSALM 119

40 Lo, for thy precepts I have long'd :
In thy truth quicken me.

VAU. *Part VI.*

Here are (1) The prayers he presented to God, ver. 41. 45. (2) The graces he exercised upon God and his word, *faith, hope, love*, ver. 42, 43. 47, 48. (3) The practice he resolved on through grace;—to keep God's law; to seek and cheerfully practise his precepts; boldly publish his truth to others; and to delight in, meditate on, and zealously reduce them to practice, ver. 44,—48.

41 Let thy sweet mercies also come,
And visit me, O Lord :
Ev'n thy benign salvation,
According to thy word.

42 So shall I have wherewith I may
Give him an answer just,
Who spitefully reproacheth me ;
For in thy word I trust.

43 The word of truth out of my mouth
Take thou not utterly ;
For on thy judgments righteous
My hope did still rely.

44 So shall I keep for evermore
Thy law continually.

45 And, sith that I thy precepts seek,
I'll walk at liberty.

46 I'll speak thy word to kings, and I
With shame shall not be mov'd :

47 And will delight myself always
In thy laws, which I lov'd.

48 To thy commandments which I lov'd,
My hands lift up I will :

And I will also meditate
Upon thy statutes still.

ZAIN. *Part VII.*

Represents (1) The comfort he had found in God's word, ver. 49, 50. 52. 54. (2) His desire, that God would fulfil his promises, ver. 49; and his care to remember, think on, and practise God's truth, ver. 51, 52. 55, 56. (3) The injurious reproach he suffered from the wicked; and his abhorrence of their sin, and dread of their punishment, ver. 51, 53.

PSALM 119

49 Remember, Lord, thy gracious word
 Thou to thy servant spake,
 Which, for a ground of my sure hope,
 Thou caused'st me to take.

50 This word of thine my comfort is
 In mine affliction :

For in my straits I am reviv'd,
 By this thy word alone.

51 The men, whose hearts with pride are stuff'd,
 Did greatly me deride :

Yet from thy straight commandements
 I have not turn'd aside.

52 Thy judgments righteous, O Lord,
 Which thou of old forth gave,

I did remember ; and myself
 By them comforted have.

53 Horror took hold on me, because
 Ill men thy law forsake.

54 I, in my house of pilgrimage,
 Thy laws my songs do make.

55 Thy name by night, Lord, I did mind,
 And I have kept thy law.

56 And this I had, because thy word
 I kept and stood in awe.

HNETH. *Part VIII.*

We have here (1) The portion he chose, ver. 57. (2) The purpose he formed, ver. 57. (3) The prayers offered up, for favour, mercy, and instruction, ver. 58,—64. (4) The penitential care he took to obey God's law, ver. 59, 60, 61. (5) The complaint he uttered, ver. 61. (6) His fervent thanksgiving, ver. 62. (7) His choice companions, ver. 63. (8) His deep sense of God's abundant mercy and grace, ver. 64.

57 Thou my sure portion art alone,
 Which I did chuse, O Lord :

I have resolv'd, and said, that I
 Would keep thy holy word.

58 With my whole heart I did intreat
 Thy face, and favour free :

PSALM 119

According to thy gracious word,
Be merciful to me.

59 I thought upon my former ways,
And did my life well try;
And to thy testimonies pure
My feet then turned I.

60 I did not stay, nor linger long,
As those that slothful are;
But hastily thy laws to keep
Myself I did prepare.

61 Bands of ill men me robb'd; yet I
Thy precepts did not slight.

62 I'll rise at midnight, thee to praise,
Ev'n for thy judgments right.

63 I am companion to all those
Who fear, and thee obey.

64 O Lord, thy mercy fills the earth:
Teach me thy laws, I pray.

TETH. *Part IX.*

Contains (1) Hearty acknowledgments of God's faithfulness and goodness, and of the excellency and usefulness of his word, ver. 65. 68. 72. (2) Humble acknowledgments of the advantage he had received from his afflictions ver. 67. 71. (3) Complaints of the pride, calumnious reproach, and luxurious stupidity of wicked men, ver. 69, 70. (4) Supplications for divine instruction, ver. 66. 68. (5) Declarations of his regard to God's word, and resolutions to persevere in the observance thereof, ver. 66,—72.

65 Well hast thou with thy servant dealt,
As thou didst promise give.

66 Good judgment me, and knowledge teach;
For I thy word believe.

67 Ere I afflicted was, I stray'd;
But now I keep thy word.

68 Both good thou art, and good thou dost:
Teach me thy statutes, Lord.

69 The men, that are puffed up with pride,
Against me forg'd a lie;

Yet thy commendements observe,
With my whole heart, will I.

PSALM 119

70 Their hearts, through worldly ease and wealth,
As fat as grease they be :
But in thy holy law I take
Delight continually.

71 It hath been very good for me,
That I afflicted was,
That I might well instructed be,
And learn thy holy laws.

72 The word, that cometh from thy mouth,
Is better unto me,
Than many thousands, and great sums
Of gold and silver be.

JOB. *Part X.*

Contains (1) Thankful acknowledgements of God's kindness in creation; and of his equity and faithfulness in afflicting, ver. 73. 75. (2) Earnest supplications for divine instruction, and for fresh discoveries of God's mercy; and for the confusion of enemies, and the comfortable fellowship of friends; and for an honourable soundness of heart, ver. 73. 76, 77. 79, 80 (3) Holy joy in the comfort of fellow saints, and especially in God's mercy and word, ver. 74. 76, 77. (4) An holy resolution to meditate on and cleave to God's testimonies, amidst persecution, ver. 78.

73 Thou mad'st and fashion'dst me: thy laws
To know, give wisdom, Lord:

74 So who thee fear, shall joy to see
Me trusting in thy word.

75 That very right thy judgments are
I know and do confess;
And that thou hast afflicted me,
In truth and faithfulness.

76 O let thy kindness merciful,
I pray thee, comfort me,
As to thy servant faithfully
Was promised by thee.

77 And let thy tender mercies come
To me, that I may live;
Because thy holy laws to me
Sweet delectation give.

PSALM 119

78 Lord, let the proud ashamed be ;
 For they, without a cause,
 With me perversely dealt ; but I
 Will muse upon thy laws.

79 Let such as fear thee, and have known
 Thy statutes turn to me.

80 My heart let in thy laws be sound,
 That sham'd I never be.

CAPH. *Part XI.*

Contains (1) Bitter complaints of great and long distress, ver. 81.—
 87. (2) Fervent supplications for speedy comfort, help, and quicken-
 ing, ver. 82. 86. 88. (3) Pleas, wherewith these supplications are
 enforced ; as that his distress was become insupportable ; that his hope
 was in God's word, and he clave it in his profession and practice ; that
 his life was but short, to have so much of it spent in the furnace of
 affliction ; that the malice and pride of his enemies were excessive ; and
 in fine, that God's loving-kindness was infinite, ver. 81,—88.

81 My soul for thy salvation faints ;
 Yet I thy word believe.

82 Mine eyes fail for thy word : I say,
 When wilt thou comfort give ?

83 For like a bottle I'm become,
 That in the smoke is set :

I'm black and parch'd with grief, yet I
 Thy statutes not forget.

84 How many are thy servant's days ?
 When wilt thou execute

Just judgment on these wicked men,
 That do me persecute ?

85 The proud have digged pits for me,
 Which is against thy laws.

86 Thy words all faithful are : help me,
 Pursu'd without a cause.

87 They so consum'd me, that on earth
 My life they scarce did leave :

Thy precepts yet forsook I not,
 But close to them did cleave.

88 After thy loving-kindness, Lord,
 Me quicken and preserve :

PSALM 119

The testimony of thy mouth
So shall I still observe.

LAMED. *Part XII.*

Represents (1) The eternity and unchangeableness of God's word, and works, ver. 89, 90, 91. (2) The advantage of delighting in, and cleaving to God's truths, ver. 92, 93. (3) God's interest in men, a reason of his saving the observers of his law, ver. 94. (4) David's adherence to God's truths amidst furious persecution, ver. 95. (5) The superlative excellency of God's word, above all earthly enjoyments, ver. 96.

89 Thy word for ever is, O Lord,
In heaven settled fast :

90 Unto all generations
Thy faithfulness doth last :

The earth thou hast established,
And it abides by thee.

91 This day they stand as thou ordain'st ;
For all thy servants be.

92 Unless, in thy most perfect law,
My soul delights had found,
I should have perished, when as
My troubles did abound.

93 Thy precepts I will ne'er forget :
They quick'ning to me brought.

94 Lord, I am thine, O save thou me :
Thy precepts I have sought.

95 For me the wicked have laid wait,
Me seeking to destroy :

But I thy testimonies true
Consider will with joy.

96 An end of all perfection
Here have I seen, O God :

But as for thy commandment,
It is exceeding broad.

MEM. *Part XIII.*

Represents the Psalmist's ardent affection to God's law, ver. 97. Because (1) Thereby he had attained much useful knowledge and wisdom, ver. 98,—100. (2) Thereby he was enabled to refrain from and hate sin, ver. 101, 104. (3) Thereby he was preserved steady, in the path of his duty, ver. 101, 102. (4) Thereby he obtained much comfort to his soul, ver. 103.

- 97 O how love I thy law! it is
My study all the day.
- 98 It makes me wiser than my foes;
For it doth with me stay.
- 99 Than all my teachers, now I have
More understanding far;
Because my meditation
Thy testimonies are.
- 100 In understanding I excel
Those that are ancients;
For I endeavoured to keep
All thy commandements.
- 101 My feet from each ill way I stay'd,
That I may keep thy word.
- 102 I from thy judgments have not swerv'd;
For thou hast taught me, Lord.
- 103 How sweet unto my taste, O Lord,
Are all thy words of truth!
Yea, I do find them sweeter far,
Than honey to my mouth.
- 104 I through thy precepts, that are pure,
Do understanding get:
I therefore ev'ry way that's false,
With all my heart do hate.

NUN. *Part XIV.*

Represents (1) The remarkable usefulness of God's word, ver. 105.
(2) David's solemn dedication of himself to God's service, ver. 106.
(3) His recourse to God by prayer under his afflictions, ver. 107, 108.
(4) His faithful adherence to God's way, amidst trouble and persecution, ver. 109, 110. (5) His solemn and deliberate choice of God's word, for his portion and rule, ver. 111, 112.

- 105 Thy word is to my feet a lamp,
And to my path a light.
- 106 I sworn have, and will perform,
To keep thy judgments right.
- 107 I am with sore affliction
Ev'n overwhelm'd, O Lord:
In mercy raise, and quicken me,
According to thy word.

PSALM 119

- 108 The free-will-off'rings of my mouth
 Accept, I thee beseech :
 And unto me thy servant, Lord,
 Thy judgments clearly teach.
- 109 Though still my soul be in my hand,
 Thy laws I'll not forget.
- 110 I err'd not from them, tho' for me
 The wicked snares did set.
- 111 I of thy testimonies have,
 Above all things, made choice,
 To be my heritage for ay ;
 For they my heart rejoice.
- 112 I carefully inclined have
 My heart, still to attend ;
 That I thy statutes may perform
 Always unto the end.

SAMECH. *Part XV.*

We have here, (1) David's hatred of sin and love of God's law, ver. 113. (2) His profession of dependence upon God, ver. 114. (3) His debarring of wicked men from his company, ver. 115. (4) His prayer for support, comfort, and honour, in the Lord's way, ver. 116, 117. (5) His foresight of, and trembling at the ruin of the wicked, ver. 118, —120.

- 113 I hate the thoughts of vanity,
 But love thy law do I.
- 114 My shield and hiding-place thou art :
 I on thy word rely.
- 115 All ye that evil-doers are,
 From me depart away ;
 For the commandments of my God
 I purpose to obey.
- 116 According to thy faithful word,
 Uphold and stablish me,
 That I may live, and of my hope
 Ashamed never be.
- 117 Hold thou me up, so shall I be
 In peace and safety still :

PSALM 119

And to thy statutes have respect
Continually I will.

118 Thou tread'st down all that love to stray ;
False their deceit doth prove.

119 Lewd men, like dross, away thou putt'st ;
Therefore thy law I love.

120 For fear of thee, my very flesh
Doth tremble, all dismay'd ;

And of thy righteous judgments, Lord,
My soul is much afraid.

AIN. *Part XVI.*

Here David (1) Appeals to God for his integrity and equity, ver. 121. (2) Supplicates that God would protect him against enemies; grant him merciful deliverance, and saving instruction; and arise for the maintenance of his own honour, ver. 121,—126. (3) Enforces his requests with these pleas, That he was God's servant; and that he could no longer bear up under trouble, ver. 122,—125. (4) Professeth his superlative regard to God's law, and hatred of all iniquity, ver. 127, 128.

121 To all men I have judgment done,
Performing justice right ;

Then let me not be left unto
My fierce oppressors' might.

122 For good unto thy servant, Lord,
Thy servant's surety be :

From the oppression of the proud
Do thou deliver me.

123 Mine eyes do fail with looking long
For thy salvation,

The word of thy pure righteousness
While I do wait upon.

124 In mercy with thy servant deal ;
Thy laws me teach and show.

125 I am thy servant, wisdom give,
That I thy laws may know.

126 'Tis time thou work, Lord ; for they have
Made void thy law divine.

127 Therefore thy precepts more I love
Than gold, yea, gold most fine.

PSALM 119

128 Concerning all things, thy commands
All right I judge therefore ;
And ev'ry false and wicked way
I perfectly abhor.

PE. *Part XVII.*

Here David (1) Declares his esteem of, and regard to God's word, ver. 129,—131 ; and his deep concern for men's violation thereof, ver. 136. (2) Supplicates for mercy, direction, preservation, deliverance, spiritual comfort and instruction, ver. 132,—135.

129 Thy statutes, Lord, are wonderful,
My soul them keeps with care.

130 The entrance of thy words gives light,
Make wise who simple are.

131 My mouth I have wide opened,
And panted earnestly,

While after thy commandements
I long'd exceedingly.

132 Look on me, Lord, and merciful
Do thou unto me prove,

As thou art wont to do to those
Thy name who truly love.

133 O let my footsteps in thy word
Aright still order'd be ;

Let no iniquity obtain
Dominion over me.

134 From man's oppression save thou me,
So keep thy laws I will.

135 Thy face make on thy servant shine ;
Teach me thy statutes still.

136 Rivers of waters from mine eyes
Did run down, when I saw

How wicked men run on in sin,
And do not keep thy law.

TSADDE. *Part XVIII.*

Contains (1) David's celebration of the righteousness of God's nature and work, and of the righteousness, faithfulness, and purity of his word, ver. 137, 138. 140. 142. 144. (2) His avowed remembrance of, zeal for, and delight in God's word, notwithstanding of much contempt and trouble, suffered on account of his adherence to it, ver. 139,—143. (3) His fervent prayer for spiritual instruction, ver. 144.

PSALM 119

- 137 O Lord, thou art most righteous,
 Thy judgments are upright.
- 138 Thy testimonies, thou command'st,
 Most faithful are, and right.
- 139 My zeal hath ev'n consumed me;
 Because mine enemies
 Thy holy words forgotten have,
 And do thy laws despise.
- 140 Thy word's most pure; therefore on it
 Thy servant's love is set.
- 141 Small and despis'd I am; yet I
 Thy precepts not forget.
- 142 Thy righteousness is righteousness,
 Which ever doth endure:
 Thy holy law, Lord, also is
 The very truth most pure.
- 143 Trouble and anguish have me found,
 And taken hold on me;
 Yet in my trouble my delights
 Thy just commandments be.
- 144 Eternal righteousness is in
 Thy testimonies all:
 Lord, to me understanding give,
 And ever live I shall.

KOPH. *Part XIX.*

Contains (1) David's importunate supplications for gracious audience, necessary salvation, and quickening influence, ver. 145,—147. 149. (2) His hopes in, and meditations on God's word, as perfectly true and perpetually stable, ver. 147, 148. 151, 152. (3) In danger from wicked men, he flees to God for relief, ver. 149,—151.

- 145 With my whole heart I cry'd, Lord, hear:
 I will thy word obey.
- 146 I cry'd to thee, save me, and I
 Will keep thy laws always.
- 147 I of the morning did prevent
 The dawning, and did cry:
 For all mine expectation
 Did on thy word rely.

PSALM 119

148 Mine eyes did timeously prevent
The watches of the night,
That in thy word, with careful mind;
Then meditate I might.

149 After thy loving-kindness hear
My voice, that calls on thee:
According to thy judgments, Lord,
Revive and quicken me.

150 Who follow mischief, they draw nigh:
They from thy law are far.

151 But thou art near, Lord: most firm truth,
All thy commandments are.

152 As for thy testimonies all
Of old this have I try'd,
That thou hast surely founded them
For ever to abide.

RESCH *Part XX.*

Contains (1) David's cries to God, That he would consider his affliction, plead his cause, deliver him, and quicken his soul, ver. 153, 154, 156, 159. (2) His adherence to, love for, and high esteem of God's word, ver. 153, 154, 157, 159, 160. (3) His description of the character and misery of the wicked, ver. 155, 157, 158.

153 Consider mine affliction,
In safety do me set:

Deliver me, O Lord, for I
Thy law do not forget.

154 After thy word revive thou me:
Save me, and plead my cause.

155 Salvation is from sinners far,
For they seek not thy laws.

156 O Lord, both great and manifold
Thy tender mercies be:

According to thy judgments just,
Revive and quicken me.

157 My persecutors many are,
And foes that do combine:
Yet from thy testimonies pure
My heart doth not decline.

PSALM 119

- 158 I saw transgressors, and was griev'd;
 For they keep not thy word.
 159 See how I love thy law! as thou
 Art kind, me quicken, Lord.
 160 From the beginning all thy word
 Hath been most true and sure;
 Thy righteous judgments ev'ry one,
 For evermore endure.

SCHIN. *Part XXI.*

Here (1) David complains to God of persecution from princes, ver. 161. (2) Professeth his holy awe of, and his delight in, his love to, and careful observance of God's testimonies, and his utter detestation of falsehood, ver. 162,—168. (3) Avows his persuasion of the happiness of the godly, and his own hopes of God's salvation, ver. 165, 166.

- 161 Princes have persecuted me,
 Although no cause they saw;
 But still, of thy most holy word,
 My heart doth stand in awe.
 162 I at thy word rejoice, as one
 Of spoil that finds great store.
 163 Thy law I love, but lying all
 I hate and do abhor.
 164 Sev'n times a day it is my care,
 To give due praise to thee;
 Because of all thy judgments, Lord,
 Which righteous ever be.
 165 Great peace have they who love thy law:
 Offence they shall have none.
 166 I hop'd for thy salvation, Lord,
 And thy commands have done.
 167 My soul thy testimonies pure
 Observed carefully:
 On them my heart is set, and them
 I love exceedingly.
 168 Thy testimonies and thy laws
 I kept with special care;
 For all my works, and ways each one,
 Before thee open are.

PSALM 120

THAU. *Part XXII.*

Here are (1) David's prayers for access to God, and for instruction, deliverance, help, and recovery from God, ver. 169, 170. 173. 175, 176. (2) Hearty professions of his regard to God's word, and to the salvation therein contained, ver. 169,—176. (3) His humble confession of his wandering from God, and desire to be brought back, ver. 176.

- 169 O let my earnest pray'r and cry
Come near before thee, Lord;
Give understanding unto me,
According to thy word.
- 170 Let my request before thee come:
After thy word me free.
- 171 My lips shall utter praise, when thou
Hast taught thy laws to me.
- 172 My tongue of thy most blessed word
Shall speak, and it confess:
Because all thy commandments
Are perfect righteousness.
- 173 Let thy strong hand make help to me:
Thy precepts are my choice.
- 174 I long'd for thy salvation, Lord,
And in thy law rejoice.
- 175 O let my soul live, and it shall
Give praises unto thee:
And let thy judgments gracious
Be helpful unto me.
- 176 I like a lost sheep went astray,
Thy servant seek, and find:
For thy commands I suffer'd not
To slip out of my mind.

PSALM 120

A Song of Degrees.

Why this Psalm and the fourteen following are called Songs of Degrees, we do not certainly know. It is plain some of them are suited to secret worship; some to the family; and others to the public assembly. This Psalm, from its affinity to the 52d, is supposed to refer to Doeg the Edomite, 1 Sam. xxii. We have (1) The Psalmist's prayer to God for deliverance, from the ruinous influence of malicious and false accusations, ver. 1. 2. (2) His denunciation of the just, fearful, and lasting judgments of God against his malicious accusers, ver. 3, 4. (3) His complaints of his quarrelsome and vexatious neighbours, ver. 5,—7.

PSALM 121

¶ Never dare, my soul, to utter falsehood, or even truth in a malicious manner. Never dare to rush upon the fierce and lasting indignation of the Almighty. Never chuse to make this world thy country, where sin and troubles so abound. But ye blessed abodes of peace and purity, when shall I come to you! When shall I leave my evil neighbours, and come to God, to God, mine EXCEEDING JOY.

- I**N my distress to God I cry'd,
 And he gave ear to me.
- 2 From lying lips, and guileful tongue,
 O Lord, my soul set free.
- 3 What shall be giv'n thee? or what shall
 Be done to thee, false tongue?
- 4 Ev'n burning coals of juniper,
 Sharp arrows of the strong.
- 5 Woe's me, that I in Meshech am
 A sojourner so long;
 That I in tabernacles dwell,
 To Kedar that belong.
- 6 My soul with him that hateth peace
 Hath long a dweller been.
- 7 I am for peace: but when I speak,
 For battle they are keen.

PSALM 121

A Song of Degrees.

Here (1) In the firm faith of being heard, David supplicates divine help and protection. ver. 1. 9. (2) He comforts himself and others with the assurance of God's help and protection. ver. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 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PSALM 122

- 6 The moon by night thee shall not smite,
Nor yet the sun by day.
7 The Lord shall keep thy soul, he shall
Preserve thee from all ill.
8 Henceforth thy going out and in
God keep for ever will.

PSALM 122

A Song of Degrees of David.

This Psalm appears to have been composed for the use of the Hebrews at their three solemn feasts, Lev. xxiii. We have in it, (1) Expressions of great joy in going up to Jerusalem, ver. 1, 2. (2) High commendations of the beauty, order, sanctity, and honour of Jerusalem, ver. 3, —5. (3) The duty and happiness of such as are really concerned for the welfare of Jerusalem, the Church of God, ver. 6,—9.—¶ While I sing, let me remember the Gospel-church, bewail her disorders, supplicate her welfare; and set my heart on the Jerusalem which is above, and into which nothing can enter that defileth or disturbs. O when shall my feet stand there! When shall I see my Jesus on his great white throne, and sit with him in his glory.

- I** JOY'D when to the house of God
Go up, they said to me.
2 Jerusalem, within thy gates
Our feet shall standing be.
3 Jerus'lem as a city is
Compactly built together:
4 Unto that place the tribes go up,
The tribes of God go thither.
To Isra'l's testimony, there,
To God's name thanks to pay.
5 For thrones of judgment, ev'n the thrones
Of David's house there stay.
6 Pray that Jerusalem may have
Peace and felicity:
Let them that love thee, and thy peace
Have still prosperity.
7 Therefore I wish that peace may still
Within thy walls remain;
And ever may thy palaces
Prosperity retain.

PSALM 123

- 8 Now, for my friends and brethren's sake,
Peace be in thee, I'll say.
9 And, for the house of God our Lord,
I'll seek thy good alway.

PSALM 123

A Song of Degrees.

This Psalm relates to the distressed condition of the Church, and contains (1) Earnest longings for, and believing expectations of merciful deliverances from God, ver. 1, 2. (2) An improvement of great distress, as a plea for speedy and remarkable relief, ver. 3, 4.—

¶ While I sing this, let me, in the full assurance of faith, cry to God for the mercies which my own soul, my family, and the church and nation wherewith I am connected, so much need. Nor let me accept of a denial of my believing requests.

O THOU that dwellest in the heav'ns,
I lift mine eyes to thee.

2 Behold, as servant's eyes do look

Their master's hand to see,

As hand-maid's eyes her mistress' hand,

So do our eyes attend

Upon the Lord our God, until

To us he mercy send.

3 O Lord, be gracious to us,

Unto us gracious be:

Because replenish'd with contempt

Exceedingly are we.

4 Our soul is fill'd with scorn, of those

That at their ease abide ;

And with the insolent contempt,

Of those that swell in pride.

PSALM 124

A Song of Degrees of David.

This Psalm is highly applicable to every remarkable deliverance, which God works for his Church, especially to the great Redemption wrought for his people by Christ. In it, (1) David magnifies the danger they were in, ver. 1,—5. (2) Ascribes the glory of their deliverance to God, ver. 1, 2, 6, 7. (3) Improves the deliverance, as an encouragement to trust in God, ver. 8.—¶ Let me behold JEHOVAH as a present help in trouble. Let my waiting eyes be towards him, who notwithstanding all the combined power and policy of hell and earth, is able and ready to pull my feet out of the net.

PSALM 124

HAD not the Lord been on our side,
 May Israel now say ;
 2 Had not the Lord been on our side,
 When men rose us to slay :
 3 They had us swallow'd quick, when as
 Their wrath 'gainst us did flame :
 4 Waters had cover'd us, our soul
 Had sunk beneath the stream.
 5 Then had the waters, swelling high,
 Over our soul made way.
 6 Blest be the Lord, who, to their teeth,
 Us gave not for a prey.
 7 Our soul's escaped, as a bird
 Out of the fowler's snare ;
 The snare asunder broken is,
 And we escaped are,
 8 Our sure and all-sufficient help
 Is in JEHOVAH's name ;
 His name, who did the heav'ns create,
 And who the earth did frame.

Another of the same.

NOW Israel
 May say, and that truly,
 If that the Lord
 Had not our cause maintain'd :
 2 If that the Lord
 Had not our right sustain'd,
 When cruel men
 Against us furiously
 Rose up in wrath,
 To make of us their prey :
 3 Then certainly
 They had devour'd us all,
 And swallow'd quick,
 For ought that we could deem ;

PSALM 125

Such was their rage,
 As we might well esteem.
 4 And as fierce floods
 Before them all things drown,
 So had they brought
 Our soul to death quite down.
 5 The raging streams,
 With their proud swelling waves,
 Had then our soul
 O'erwhelmed in the deep.
 6 But blest be God,
 Who doth us safely keep,
 And hath not giv'n
 Us for a living prey
 Unto their teeth,
 And bloody cruelty.
 7 Ev'n as a bird
 Out of the fowler's snare
 Escapes away,
 So is our soul set free ;
 Broke as their nets,
 And thus escaped we.
 8 Therefore our help
 Is in the Lord's great name,
 Who heav'ns and earth
 By his great pow'r did frame.

PSALM 125

A Song of Degrees.

Let me in this Psalm behold (1) The happiness of the saints ; in the fixedness of their new-covenant state ; the safety of their condition ; the seasonableness of their deliverances ; and the advantage of effectual fervent prayers in their behalf, ver. 1,—4. (2) The misery of the wicked, particularly of apostates from the ways of God, ver. 5.—
 ¶ Let me then never be of them that draw back, but of them who believe to the fixing of their heart, and the saving of their soul.

THEY, in the Lord that firmly trust,
 Shall be like Zion hill,

PSALM 126

- Which at no time can be remov'd,
 But standeth ever still.
- 2 As round about Jerusalem
 The mountains stand alway,
 The Lord his folk doth compass so
 From henceforth and for ay.
- 3 For ill men's rod upon the lot
 Of just men shall not ly:
 Lest righteous men stretch forth their hands
 Unto iniquity.
- 4 Do thou, to all those that be good,
 Thy goodness, Lord, impart;
 And do thou good to those, that are
 Upright within their heart.
- 5 But as for such, as turn aside,
 After their crooked way,
 God shall lead forth with wicked men:
 On Isra'l peace shall stay.

PSALM 126

A Song of Degrees.

This Psalm relates to some remarkable deliverance of the Jewish Church, perhaps from Babylon, as typical of those of the Gospel-church; and (1) Represents great admiration of, and thankfulness for, the deliverance, ver. 1—3. (2) Contains prayers for, and encouragements of, saints exercised with tribulations, ver. 4,—6.—¶ While I sing, let me admire the Lord's kindness to Britain;—to his Gospel-church;—to mankind;—to my soul. And in my remaining distress, personal or relative, let me sow in mourning and supplication, that I may reap joyful deliverances, and everlasting consolations through grace.

- W**HEN Zion's bondage God turn'd back,
 As men that dream'd were we.
- 2 Then fill'd with laughter was our mouth,
 Our tongue with melody:
 They 'mong the heathen said, The Lord
 Great things for them hath wrought.
- 3 The Lord hath done great things for us,
 Whence joy to us is brought.
- 4 As streams of water in the south
 Our bondage, Lord, recal.

PSALM 127—128

- 5 Who sow in tears, a reaping time
Of joy enjoy they shall.
6 That man, who, bearing precious seed,
In going forth doth mourn,
He doubtless, bringing back his sheaves,
Rejoicing shall return.

PSALM 127

A Song of Degrees for Solomon.

This Psalm relates to David's orders for building the temple, 1 Chron. xxii. xxviii, or to Solomon's actual building of it, 2 Chron. ii,—vi. It teacheth us constant dependence on God in all our concerns; particularly in (1) Prospering our undertakings, or rearing our families, ver. 1. (2) In protecting our residence and country, ver. 1. (3) In enriching us without excessive care or labour, ver. 2. (4) In giving us agreeable heirs to possess our substance, ver. 3,—5.—¶ In my undertakings, let me set the Lord always before me; and depend on his blessing as the source of my success. In all my enjoyments let my care be to enjoy God himself.

- E**XCEPT the Lord do build the house,
The builders lose their pain:
Except the Lord the city keep,
The watchmen watch in vain.
2 'Tis vain for you to rise betimes,
Or late from rest to keep,
To feed on sorrow's bread: so gives
He his beloved sleep.
3 Lo, children are God's heritage,
The womb's fruit his reward.
4 The sons of youth as arrows are,
For strong men's hands prepar'd.
5 O happy is the man that hath
His quiver fill'd with those!
They, unashamed, in the gate
Shall speak unto their foes.

PSALM 128

A Song of Degrees.

This Psalm exhibits (1) The comprehensive duty of all, particularly married persons, ver. 1. (2) The advantage of studying it; viz. success in employments; comfort and honour in relations; joy in the prosperity of God's church, and of their own offspring, ver. 2,—6.—¶ While I sing, let me be ashamed, be pained, on account of my deficiency in

PSALM 129

holiness, and of the hurt my family and the Church of God have thereby sustained. Let me behold the great gain of true godliness, having the promises of this life and of that which is to come.

- B**LEST is each one that fears the Lord,
 And walketh in his ways.
- 2 For of thy labour thou shalt eat,
 And happy be always.
- 3 Thy wife shall, as a fruitful vine,
 By thy house-sides be found :
 Thy children like to olive-plants
 About thy table round.
- 4 Behold, the man that fears the Lord,
 Thus blessed shall he be.
- 5 The Lord shall out of Zion give
 His blessing unto thee :
 Thou shalt Jerus'lem's good behold,
 Whilst thou on earth dost dwell.
- 6 Thou shalt thy children's children see,
 And peace on Israel.

PSALM 129

A Song of Degrees.

Whether this Psalm was penned when David brought up the ark of God to mount Zion, 2 Sam. vi; or relates to the Chaldean captivity is uncertain. In it the people of God, (1) Look back on their often repeated tribulations, with thankfulness to God for their deliverances from Egypt, and from their oppressors, under the Judges, Saul, &c. ver. 1,—4. (2) They look forward with a believing prayer for, and prospect of, the destruction of all their implacable enemies, ver. 5,—8.—¶ While I sing, let me not only be affected with what the Lord did for the Jewish, but chiefly with what he hath done for the Gospel-church: And let me, in faith, cry for, and expect the downfall of Antichrist, and of all the other enemies of Christ and his church.

- O**FT did they vex me from my youth,
 May Isra'el now declare :
- 2 Oft did they vex me from my youth ;
 Yet not victorious were.
- 3 The plowers plow'd upon my back,
 They long their furrows drew.
- 4 The righteous Lord did cut the cords
 Of the ungodly crew.

PSALM 130

- 5 Let Zion's haters all be turn'd
Back, with confusion.
- 6 As grass on houses tops be they,
Which fades ere it be grown :
- 7 Whereof enough to fill his hand
The mower cannot find ;
- Nor can the man his bosom fill,
Whose work is sheaves to bind.
- 8 Neither say they, who do go by,
God's blessing on you rest :
- We, in the name of God, the Lord,
Do wish you to be blest.

PSALM 130

A Song of Degrees.

This Psalm contains (1) David's earnest cries to God out of the depths of corruption, desertion, temptation, or trouble, ver. 1, 2. (2) His kindly repentance in the faith of God's merciful forgiveness, ver. 3, 4. (3) His attentive waiting on God for his favours, ver. 5, 6. (4) His encouraging expectations from God, ver. 7, 8.—¶ While I sing, let my soul go and do likewise. While the unbounded mercy and plenteous redemption of JEHOVAH remain unexhausted, let my soul cry mightily in every trouble ; believe forgiveness under the deepest sense of guilt ; and quietly hope and wait for the salvation of God. Let never hopeless despair steel my heart against a God of grace.

- L** ORD, from the depths to thee I cry'd.
2 My voice, Lord, do thou hear :
Unto my supplication's voice,
Give an attentive ear.
- 3 Lord, who shall stand, if thou, O Lord,
Should'st mark iniquity ?
- 4 But yet with thee forgiveness is,
That fear'd thou mayest be.
- 5 I wait for God, my soul doth wait ;
My hope is in his word.
- 6 More than they that for morning watch,
My soul waits for the Lord :
- I say, more than they that do watch
The morning light to see.

PSALM 131

- 7 Let Israel hope in the Lord;
 For with him mercies be;
 And plenteous redemption
 Is ever found with him.
 8 And from all his iniquities,
 He Isra'l shall redeem.

PSALM 131

A Song of Degrees of David.

This Psalm contains (1) David's candid profession of his contentment with his lot ver. 1, 2. (2) His warm encouragement of others to a constant dependence on God, ver. 3.—¶ While I sing it, let me be ashamed of my pride, and of meddling with things above my sphere. Let me desire humility as my great ornament in every station; and study, like a child of God weaned from worldly lusts, to set all my hope on God himself.

- M**Y heart not haughty is, O Lord,
 Mine eyes not lofty be;
 Nor do I deal in matters great,
 Or things too high for me.
 2 I surely have myself behav'd,
 With quiet sp'rit and mild,
 As child of mother wean'd: my soul
 Is like a weaned child.
 3 Upon the Lord let all the hope
 Of Israel rely,
 Ev'n from the time that present is,
 Unto eternity.

PSALM 132

A Song of Degrees.

Whether this Psalm was penned by David, when he brought up the ark of God from Kirjath-jearim, 2 Sam. vi. or for Solomon's dedication of the temple, 1 Kings, viii. is uncertain. It contains (1) A representation of David's pious and earnest care to provide a proper lodging for God's ark, ver. 1,—7. (2) Earnest prayers for God's presence and blessings to attend his ark, ver. 8,—10. (3) David's care to provide an habitation for God; and God's promises to David relating to the prosperity and establishment of his family, especially in the Messiah, are pled as arguments to enforce these requests, ver. 1,—5. 10,—18.—¶ While I sing, let my soul with ardour go out after God, the living God. Let nothing less than his presence in his ordinances satisfy my desire. Let the welfare of his ministers and people be matter of my deep concern. Let me admire the kindness of God, that I have so

PSALM 132

many exceeding great, and precious promises to plead upon: While I sing them, let me grasp, let me believe them with my whole heart.

- D**AVID, and his afflictions all,
Lord, do thou think upon:
2 How unto God he sware, and vow'd
To Jacob's mighty One.
3 I will not come within my house,
Nor rest in bed at all:
4 Nor shall mine eyes take any sleep,
Nor eye-lids slumber shall;
5 Till for the Lord a place I find,
Where he may make abode:
A place of habitation
For Jacob's mighty God.
6 Lo, at the place of Ephratah
Of it we understood:
And we did find it in the fields,
And city of the wood.
7 We'll go into his tabernacles,
And at his footstool bow.
8 Arise, O Lord, into thy rest,
Th' ark of thy strength, and thou.
9 O let thy priests be clothed, Lord,
With truth and righteousness:
And let all those, that are thy saints,
Shout loud for joyfulness.
10 For thine own servant David's sake,
Do not deny thy grace;
Nor of thine own anointed one
Turn thou away the face.
11 The Lord in truth to David sware,
He will not turn from it,
I of thy body's fruit will make
Upon thy throne to sit.
12 My cov'nant if thy sons will keep,
And laws to them made known,

PSALM 133

- Their children then shall also sit
 For ever on thy throne.
- 13 For God of Zion hath made choice;
 There he desires to dwell.
- 14 This is my rest; here still I'll stay,
 For I do like it well.
- 15 Her food I'll greatly bless; her poor
 With bread will satisfy.
- 16 Her priests I'll clothe with health; her saints
 Shall shout forth joyfully.
- 17 And there will I make David's horn
 To bud forth pleasantly:
 For him, that mine anointed is,
 A lamp ordain'd have I.
- 18 As with a garment I will clothe,
 With shame his en'mies all:
 But yet the crown that he doth wear
 Upon him flourish shall.

PSALM 133

A Song of Degrees of David.

This Psalm was perhaps penned when the Hebrew tribes concurred to fix David on his throne, or to restore him to it, 2 Sam. v. or xix. Here is (1) a declaration of the excellency and pleasantness of brotherly affection, ver. 1. (2) The illustration of this in two similitudes, ver. 2, 3. (3) The great advantage of it, ver. 3.—*W*hile I sit, let I should be said abroad! In my heart make me exemplify my note. How happy the churches and families where this prevails! And how blessed above all, the Church above, where LOVE, LOVE, for ever reigns.

- B**EHOOLD, how good a thing it is,
 And how becoming well,
 Together such as brethren are
 In unity to dwell.
- 2 Like precious ointment on the head,
 That down the beard did flow,
 Ev'n Aaron's beard, and to the skirts *
 Did of his garments go.

* To imagine that the sacred oil run down upon, and stained the High Priest's robe to the skirt, or lower parts thereof, to me seems

PSALM 134—135

3 As Hermon's dew, the dew that doth
 On Zion's hills descend:
 For there the blessing God commands,
 Life that shall never end.

PSALM 134

A Song of Degrees.

This Psalm was perhaps penned, when David appointed the orders of the Priests and Levites, 1 Chron. xxiii,—xxvi. In it, we have (1) The sacred watchers of the temple stirred up, to employ their time in praising God, ver. 1, 2. (2) A fervent prayer for the blessing of God on them, or on others, ver. 3.—¶ While I am in Christ's church, let me provoke myself and others, to love, and to good works.

BEHOLD, bless ye the Lord, all ye
 That his attendants are,

Ev'n you that in God's temple be,
 And praise him nightly there.

2 Your hands, within God's holy place,
 Lift up, and praise his name.

3 From Zion's hill the Lord thee bless,
 That heav'n and earth did frame.

PSALM 135

This Psalm contains (1) Earnest exertations to all concerned to praise the Lord, ver. 1,—3. 19,—21. (2) Rich matter for praise;—God considered as the God of Israel, ver. 4. As the God of gods, ver. 5. As the God of the whole world, ver. 6. 7. As a God terrible to the enemies of Israel, ver. 8,—11. But kind to Israel, ver. 12, 14. And as the only true and living God, before whom all others are but vanity and falsehood, ver. 15—18.—¶ Therefore, my soul, and sing what **JEHOVAH** is and hath done for his church, and what he is to, and hath done for me.

PRAISE ye the Lord: the Lord's name praise,
 His servants, praise ye God.

2 Who stand in God's house, in the courts
 Of our God make abode.

very inconsistent with the remarkable cleanliness prescribed by the ceremonial institutes; very inconsistent with the prescribed finery and beauty of this sacred apparel. The Hebrew word **PHI** ought therefore to have been translated not *skirt* but **COLLAR** or **NECK-BAND**, compare Job, xxx. 18. Exod. xxviii. 32.—Perhaps too the *hills of Zion*, in ver. 3. denote not these about Jerusalem, Psalm cxxv. 2, which stood an hundred miles distant from Hermon, but that which is called **SION**, Deut. iv. 48. on which, without controversy, the famed, the plentiful, the invigorating, the fructifying dews of Hermon descended.

- 3 Praise ye the Lord, for he is good :
 Unto him praises sing :
 Sing praises to his name, because
 It is a pleasant thing.
- 4 For Jacob to himself the Lord
 Did chuse of his good pleasure ;
 And he hath chosen Israel
 For his peculiar treasure.
- 5 Because I know assuredly,
 The Lord is very great ;
 And that our Lord above all gods
 In glory hath his seat.
- 6 What thing soever pleas'd the Lord,
 That in the heaven did he,
 And in the earth, the seas, and all
 The places deep that be.
- 7 He from the ends of earth doth make
 The vapours to ascend,
 With rain he lightnings makes, and wind
 Doth from his treasures send.
- 8 Egypt's first-born from man to beast
 9 Who smote. Strange tokens he
 On Pharaoh and his servants sent,
 Egypt, in midst of thee.
- 10 He smote great nations, slew great kings :
 11 Sihon of Heshbon king ;
 And Og of Bashan, and to nought
 Did Canaan's kingdoms bring :
- 12 And for a wealthy heritage
 Their pleasant land he gave,
 An heritage which Israel
 His chosen folk should have.
- 13 Thy name, O Lord, shall still endure,
 And thy memorial,
 With honour shall continu'd be,
 To generations all.

PSALM 136

- 14 For why the righteous God will judge
 His people righteously,
 Concerning those that do him serve,
 Himself repent will he.
- 15 The idols of the nations
 Of silver are and gold ;
 And by the hands of men is made
 Their fashion and mould.
- 16 Mouths have they, but they do not speak ;
 Eyes, but they do not see :
- 17 Ears have they, but hear not ; and in
 Their mouths not breathing be.
- 18 Their makers are like them : so are
 All that on them rely.
- 19 O Isra'l's house, bless God : bless God,
 O Aaron's family.
- 20 O bless the Lord, of Levi's house,
 Ye who his servants are ;
 And bless the holy name of God,
 All ye the Lord that fear.
- 21 And blessed be the Lord our God,
 From Zion's holy hill,
 Who dwelleth at Jerusalem.
 The Lord, O praise ye still.

PSALM 136

This Psalm is a continued exhortation to praise the Lord ; for the perpetual displays of his mercy. The hearty singing of it has been honoured with the most signal appearances of God's kindness, 2 Chron. v. 13. and xx. 21, 22.—We are in it directed to praise God (1) As great and good in himself, ver. 1,—3. (2) As the Creator of all things, ver. 5, 9. (3) As the God and Saviour of Israel, who brought them out of Egypt, through the Red-sea and Wilderness; and cast out the nations, and gave them the possession of Canaan, ver. 10.—22. (4) As our gracious and condescending Redeemer, ver. 23, 24. (5) As the great and sovereign Benefactor of all creatures, ver. 25, 26.—¶ While I sing it, let my heart be melted, and all inflamed with the loving-kindness and mercy of God in Christ. Let me behold, believe, and admire the unbounded extent and everlasting duration thereof.

GIVE thanks to God, for good is he :
 For mercy hath he ever.

PSALM 136

- 2 Thanks to the God of gods give ye :
For his grace faileth never.
- 3 Thanks give the Lord of lords unto :
For mercy hath he ever.
- 4 Who only wonders great can do :
For his grace faileth never.
- 5 Who by his wisdom made heav'ns high :
For mercy hath he ever.
- 6 Who stretch'd the earth above the sea :
For his grace faileth never.
- 7 To him that made the great lights shine :
For mercy hath he ever.
- 8 The sun to rule till day decline :
For his grace faileth never.
- 9 The moon and stars to rule by night :
For mercy hath he ever.
- 10 Who Egypt's first-born killed outright :
For his grace faileth never.
- 11 And Isra'l brought from Egypt-land :
For mercy hath he ever.
- 12 With stretch'd-out arm, and with strong hand ;
For his grace faileth never.
- 13 By whom the Red-sea parted was :
For mercy hath he ever.
- 14 And through its midst made Isra'l pass :
For his grace faileth never.
- 15 But Pharaoh and his host did drown :
For mercy hath he ever.
- 16 Who through the desert led his own :
For his grace faileth never.
- 17 To him great kings who overthrew :
For he hath mercy ever.
- 18 Yea, famous kings in battle slew :
For his grace faileth never.
- 19 Ev'n, Sihon king of Amorites :
For he hath mercy ever,

PSALM 136

- 20 And Og the king of Bashanites :
For his grace faileth never.
- 21 Their land in heritage to have :
(For mercy hath he ever.)
- 22 His servant Isra'l right he gave :
For his grace faileth never.
- 23 In our low state who on us thought :
For he hath mercy ever.
- 24 And from our foes our freedom wrought :
For his grace faileth never.
- 25 Who doth all flesh with food relieve :
For he hath mercy ever.
- 26 Thanks to the God of heaven give :
For his grace faileth never.

Another of the same.

PRAISE God, for he is kind,
His mercy lasts for ay.

- 2 Give thanks with heart and mind,
To God of gods always :
For certainly
His mercies dure
Most firm and sure
Eternally.
- 3 The Lord of lords praise ye ;
Whose mercies still endure.
- 4 Great wonders only he
Doth work by his great pow'r :
For certainly, &c.
- 5 Which God omnipotent,
By might and wisdom high,
The heaven and firmament
Did frame, as we may see :
For certainly, &c.
- 6 To him who did out-stretch
This earth so great and wide,

PSALM 136

Above the waters' reach,
 Making it to abide :

For certainly, &c.

7 Great lights he made to be ;
 For his grace lasteth ay.

8 Such as the sun we see,
 To rule the lightsome day :

For certainly, &c.

9 Also the moon so clear,
 Which shineth in our sight ;

The stars that do appear,
 To guide the darksome night :

For certainly, &c.

10 To him that Egypt smote ;
 Who did his message scorn ;

And in his anger hot
 Did kill all their first-born :

For certainly, &c.

11 Thence Isra'l out he brought ;
 For his grace lasteth ever.

12 With a strong hand he wrought
 And stretch'd-out arm deliver :

For certainly, &c.

13 The sea he cut in two ;
 For his grace lasted still.

14 And through its midst to go
 Made his own Israel :

For certainly, &c.

15 But overwhelm'd and lost
 Was proud king Pharaoh,

With all his mighty host,
 And chariots there also :

For certainly, &c.

16 To him who pow'rfully
 His chosen people led,

PSALM 137

Ev'n through the desert dry,
And in that place them fed:
For certainly, &c.

17 To him great kings who smote;
For his grace hath no bound.

18 Who slew, and spared not
Kings famous and renown'd:
For certainly, &c.

19 Sihon th' Amorites king;
For his grace lasteth ever.

20 Og also who did reign
The land of Bashan over:
For certainly, &c.

21 Their land by lot he gave;
For his grace faileth never.

22 That Isra'l might it have
In heritage for ever:
For certainly, &c.

23 Who hath remembered
Us, in our low estate:

24 And us delivered
From foes which did us hate:
For certainly, &c.

25 Who to all flesh gives food;
For his grace faileth never.

26 Give thanks to God most good,
The God of heav'n for ever:
For certainly, &c.

PSALM 137

This Psalm was probably composed in Chaldea, during the captivity, and contains (1) Grievous bewailing of their distress, contempt and reproach, ver. 1,—4. (2) Their tender and affectionate remembrance of, and concern for Jerusalem,—the church and ordinances of God, ver. 5, 6. (3) Denunciations of destruction to the Edomites, who had promoted, and the Chaldeans, who had effected their distress and captivity, ver. 7,—9.——¶ While I sing, let me bless the Lord, for what mercy is in my lot above that of many others. Let the welfare of God's church lay near my heart. Let me earnestly desire, and firmly expect, the ruin of all her and my spiritual foes.

PSALM 137

- B**Y Babel's streams we sat and wept,
 When Zion we thought on:
 2 In midst thereof we hang'd our harps
 The willow-trees upon.
 3 For there a song required they,
 Who did us captive bring;
 Our spoilers call'd for mirth, and said,
 A song of Zion sing:
 4 O! how the Lord's song shall we sing,
 Within a foreign land?
 5 If thee, Jerus'lem, I forget,
 Skill part from my right hand.
 6 My tongue to my mouth's roof let cleave,
 If I do thee forget,
 Jerusalem, and thee above
 My chief joy do not set.
 7 Remember Edom's children, Lord,
 Who in Jerus'lem's day,
 Even unto its foundation
 Raze, raze it quite, did say.
 8 O daughter thou of Babylon,
 Near to destruction;
 Blest shall he be that thee rewards,
 As thou to us hast done.
 9 Yea, happy surely shall he be,
 Thy tender little ones,
 Who shall lay hold upon, and them
 Shall dash against the stones.

PSALM 138

A Psalm of David.

This Psalm was perhaps composed by David, when he was newly advanced to his throne, 2 Sam. v. 1 Chron. xii. In it (1) He looks back with thankfulness upon the experience he had had of God's goodness to him, ver. 1,—3. (2) He looks forward with comfort, in hopes (1) That others would go on to praise God like him, ver. 4, 5. (2) That God would continue to do good to him, ver. 6, 7, 8.—¶ While I sing these lofty lines, let the sense of the unnumbered mercies I have received from God, and the hope of his everlasting loving-kindness, tune and animate my heart.

PSALM 138

THEE will I praise with all my heart ;
 I will sing praise to thee
 2 Before the gods : And worship will
 Toward thy sanctuary.
 I'll praise thy name, ev'n for thy truth,
 And kindness of thy love :
 For thou thy word hast magnify'd
 All thy great name above.

3 Thou didst me answer in the day
 When I to thee did cry :
 And thou, my fainting soul with strength,
 Didst strengthen inwardly.

4 All kings upon the earth that are
 Shall give thee praise, O Lord :
 When as they, from thy mouth shall hear,
 Thy true and faithful word.

5 Yea, in the righteous ways of God
 With gladness they shall sing :
 For great's the glory of the Lord,
 Who doth for ever reign.

6 Tho' God be high, yet he respects
 All those that lowly be ;
 Whereas the proud and lofty ones
 Afar off knoweth he.

7 Tho' I in midst of trouble walk,
 I life from thee shall have :
 'Gainst my foes wrath thou'lt stretch thine hand,
 Thy right hand shall me save.

8 Surely, that which concerneth me,
 The Lord will perfect make ;
 Lord, still thy mercy lasts, do not
 Thine own hands works forsake.

PSALM 139

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

This Psalm was probably penned by David, while he was loaded with some vile reproaches, and contains (1) His celebration of I. The Omniscient knowledge, ver. 1,—6. II. The Omnipresence, ver. 7,—12.

PSALM 139

And III. Creating kindness of God, ver. 13,—16. (2) His improvement of these in, I. Devout meditation on God, ver. 17, 18. II. In detestation of wicked men, ver. 19,—22. III. In solemn profession of his uprightness before God, ver. 23, 24.—¶ Let me sing, let me pray, let me live, always under the deepest impressions of God's eye upon me; his presence with me; his formation of me; his new-covenant marriage to me; and his everlasting redemption of my soul. Let my nights and my days be filled up with precious, with fixed, with pleasant thoughts, concerning these and holy improvements of them. Let me never make the Lord's enemies my intimates. Let a thorough purgation from sin, and progress in holiness, be the delight, the earnest desire of my soul.

O LORD, thou hast me search'd and known.
 2 Thou know'st my sitting down,
 And rising up; yea, all my thoughts
 Afar to thee are known.
 3 My footsteps and my lying down,
 Thou compassest always:
 Thou also most entirely art
 Acquaint with all my ways.
 4 For in my tongue, before I speak,
 Not any word can be,
 But altogether, lo, O Lord,
 It is well known to thee.
 5 Behind, before, thou hast beset,
 And laid on me thy hand.
 6 Such knowledge is too strange for me;
 Too high to understand.
 7 From thy Sp'rit whither shall I go?
 Or from thy presence fly?
 8 Ascend I heav'n, lo, thou art there:
 There, if in hell I ly.
 9 Take I the morning's wings, and dwell
 In utmost parts of sea;
 10 Ev'n there, Lord, shall thy hand me lead
 Thy right hand hold shall me.
 11 If I do say, That darkness shall
 Me cover from thy sight;
 Then surely shall the very night
 About me be as light.

PSALM 139

- 12 Yea, darkness hideth not from thee,
But night doth shine as day :
To thee the darkness and the light
Are both alike alway.
- 13 For thou possessed hath my reins,
And thou hast cover'd me,
When I within my mother's womb
Inclosed was by thee.
- 14 Thee will I praise; for fearfully
And strangely made I am ;
Thy works are marv'ous, and right well
My soul doth know the same.
- 15 My substance was not hid from thee,
When as in secret I
Was made, and in earth's lowest parts
Was wrought most curiously.
- 16 Thine eyes my substance did behold,
Yet being imperfect:
And in the volume of thy book
My members all were writ;
Which after in continuance
Were fashion'd ev'ry one,
When as they yet all shapeless were,
And of them there was none.
- 17 How precious also are thy thoughts,
O gracious God, to me !
And in their sum how passing great,
And numberless they be !
- 18 If I should count them, than the sand
They more in number be :
What time soever I awake,
I ever am with thee.
- 19 Thou, Lord, wilt sure the wicked slay :
Hence from me bloody men.
- 20 Thy foes against thee loudly speak,
And take thy name in vain.

PSALM 140

- 21 Do not I hate all those, O Lord,
That hatred bear to thee?
With those that up against thee rise,
Can I but grieved be?
- 22 With perfect hatred them I hate:
My foes I them do hold.
- 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart;
Try me, my thoughts unfold:
- 24 And see if any wicked way
There be at all in me;
And in thine everlasting way
To me a leader be.

PSALM 140

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

This Psalm was probably penned by David, when persecuted by Saul; and perhaps partly relates to Doeg the Edomite, as Psalm, lii. and cxx. In it (1) David complains of the malice of his enemies, and supplicates God's preservation from them, ver. 1,—5. (2) He encourageth himself in God as his God, ver. 6, 7. (3) He prays for, and prophesies the destruction of all his enemies, ver. 8,—11. (4) He assures himself and other saints, that all their troubles shall end happily, ver. 12, 13. —¶ Let my troubles stir me up to fervent prayers, and to an earnest believing on God as my God. Thus shall I suck honey out of flinty rocks; and the malice as well as the ruin of mine enemies, shall work for me an exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

- L**ORD, from the ill and froward man
Give me deliverance:
And do thou safe preserve me from
The man of violence:
2 Who in their heart mischievous things
Are meditating ever:
And they for war assembled are
Continually together.
3 Much like unto a serpent's tongue,
Their tongues they sharp do make:
And underneath their lips their lies
The poison of a snake.
4 Lord, keep me from the wicked's hands,
From vi'lent men me save;

PSALM 140

- Who utterly to overthrow
My goings purpos'd have.
- 5 The proud for me a snare have hid,
And cords; yea, they a net
Have by the way-side for me spread:
They grins for me have set.
- 6 I said unto the Lord, Thou art
My God: unto the cry
Of all my supplications,
Lord, do thine ear apply.
- 7 O God the Lord, who art the strength
Of my salvation;
A cov'ring, in the day of war,
My head thou hast put on.
- 8 Unto the wicked man, O Lord,
His wishes do not grant,
Nor further thou his ill device,
Lest they themselves should vaunt.
- 9 As for the head and chief of those
About that compass me,
Ev'n by the mischief of their lips,
Let thou them cover'd be.
- 10 Let burning coals upon them fall,
Them throw in fiery flame,
And in deep pits, that they no more
May rise out of the same.
- 11 Let not an evil-speaker be
On earth established:
Mischief shall hunt the vilest man
Till he be ruined.
- 12 I know God will th' afflicted'st cause
Maintain, and poor men's right.
- 13 Surely the just shall praise thy name,
Th' upright dwell in thy sight.

PSALM 141

A Psalm of David.

This Psalm was likewise composed under distress and persecution In it David prays (1) For God's kind acceptance of his prayers, ver. 1, 2. (2) For his powerful assistance in keeping his tongue, his heart, and hand, in the way of duty, ver. 3, 4. (3) That others might be helpful to him with their seasonable reproofs; and he to them with his prayers, ver. 5, 6. (4) That when he and his friends were brought to the last extremity, God would graciously appear for their relief, ver. 7, —10.—¶ Whenever I am afflicted let me pray. Let me highly prize and kindly receive Christian reproof, and earnestly improve it to my spiritual advantage. Nor let me ever despair on account of the great distress of my soul, or of the Church. Is any thing too hard for the Lord?

O LORD, I unto thee do cry,
Do thou make haste to me;
And give an ear unto my voice,
When I cry unto thee.

2 As incense let my prayer be
Directed in thine eyes;
And the uplifting of my hands
As th' ev'ning sacrifice.

3 Set, Lord, a watch before my mouth,
Keep of my lips the door.

4 My heart incline thou not unto
The ills I should abhor,
To practise wicked works with men
That work iniquity:

And with their delicates my taste
Let me not satisfy.

5 Let him, that righteous is, me smite,
It shall a kindness be;

Let him reprove, I shall it count
A precious oil to me:

Such smiting shall not break my head;
For yet the time shall fall,

When I in their calamities
To God pray for them shall.

6 When as their judges down shall be
In stony places cast:

PSALM 142

Then shall they hear my words, for they
Shall sweet be to their taste.

7 About the grave's devouring mouth
Our bones are scatter'd round,
As wood, which men do cut and cleave,
Lies scatter'd on the ground.

8 But unto thee, O God, the Lord,
Mine eyes uplifted be;

My soul do not leave destitute,
My trust is set on thee.

9 Lord, keep me safely from the snare
Which they for me prepare,
And from the subtile grins of them,
That wicked workers are.

10 Let workers of iniquity
Into their own nets fall,
Whilst I do by thine help escape
The danger of them all.

PSALM 142

Maschil of David; A Prayer when he was in the cave.

This Psalm was framed by David, when obliged by Saul's persecution to hide himself in a cave, 1 Sam. xxii. 1. or xxiv. 3. and contains (1) Bitter complaints of the subtlety, strength and malice of his enemies, and of the coldness and indifference of his friends, ver. 1,—4. 6. (2) The comfort he took in God's knowing his way, and in recognizing his claim to God as his Portion, ver. 3, 4, 5. (3) His pleasant expectations that his God would deliver him, and that his fellow-saints would join with him in thanksgiving for his deliverance, ver. 6, 7.—¶ If all men forsake me, if all men harrass me, let me cast my burdens on the Lord, that he may sustain me. Let me renew my believing claims to him as my Lord, my God, my Refuge, and my Portion. Let me rest firmly on his characters, and promises, for his sympathy, help and deliverance.

I WITH my voice cry'd to the Lord,
With it made my request:

2 Pour'd out to him my 'plaint: to him
My trouble I exprest.

3 When in me was o'erwhelm'd my spirit,
Then well thou knew'st my way:

PSALM 143

Where I did walk, a snare for me
They privily did lay.

4 I look'd on my right hand, and view'd,
But none to know me were;

All refuge failed me, no man
Did for my soul take care.

5 I cry'd to thee, I said, Thou art
My refuge, Lord, alone;

And in the land of those that live
Thou art my portion.

6 Because I am brought very low,
Attend unto my cry;

Me from my persecutors save,
Who stronger are than I.

7 From prison bring my soul, that I
Thy name may glorify:

The just shall compass me, when thou
With me deal'st bount'ously.

PSALM 143

A Psalm of David.

This Psalm was probably penned by David, during the unnatural rebellion of his son Absalom, as Psal. iii. xlii. xliii. It contains (1) Sad complaints of trouble, and of the sinking of his spirit under it, ver. 3, 4, 5, 7. (2) Fervent supplications, that God would hear his prayer, ver. 1, 7. Forgive his sins, ver. 2. Manifest his favours, ver. 6, 7, 8. Direct him in the way of duty, ver. 3,—10. Quicken him in it, ver. 11. Deliver him out of trouble, ver. 9, 11. And, in fine, punish his persecutors, ver. 12.—¶ What time my heart is overwhelmed, let God lead me to the Rock that is higher than I. Let me study to have my sin removed, first, in order, that my troubles may remove in due order, and with a rich blessing.

LORD, hear my pray'r, attend my suits:
And in thy faithfulness
Give thou an answer unto me,
And in thy right'ousness.

2 Thy servant also bring thou not
In judgment to be try'd:

Because no living man can be
In thy sight justify'd.

PSALM 143

- 3 For th' en' my hath pursu'd my soul,
My life to ground down tread:
In darkness he hath made me dwell,
As who have long been dead.
- 4 My sp'rit is therefore overwhelm'd
In me perplexedly;
Within me is my very heart
Amazed wond'rously.
- 5 I call to mind the days of old,
To meditate I use
On all thy works: upon the deeds
I of thy hands do muse.
- 6 My hands to thee I stretch: my soul
Thirsts as dry land for thee.
- 7 Haste, Lord, to hear, my spirit fails:
Hide not thy face from me,
Lest like to them I do become,
That go down to the dust.
- 8 At morn let me thy kindness hear,
For in thee do I trust:
Teach me the way that I should walk,
I lift my soul to thee.
- 9 Lord, free me from my foes: I flee
To thee to cover me.
- 10 Because thou art my God, to do
Thy will do me instruct:
Thy Sp'rit is good; me to the land
Of uprightness conduct.
- 11 Revive and quicken me, O Lord,
Ev'n for thine own name's sake;
And do thou, for thy righteousness,
My soul from trouble take.
- 12 And of thy mercy slay my foes;
Let all destroy'd be
That do afflict my soul: for I
A servant am to thee.

Another of the same.

- O**H, hear my prayer, Lord,
 And unto my desire
 To bow thine ear accord,
 I humbly thee require :
 And in thy faithfulness
 Unto me answer make,
 And in thy righteousness
 Upon me pity take.
- 2 In judgment enter not
 With me thy servant poor :
 For why, this well I wot,
 No sinner can endure
 The sight of thee, O God ;
 If thou his deeds shall try,
 He dare make none abode
 Himself to justify.
- 3 Behold, the cruel foe
 Me persecutes with spite,
 My soul to overthrow :
 Yea, he my life down quite
 Unto the ground hath smote,
 And made me dwell full low
 In darkness, as forgot,
 Or men dead long ago.
- 4 Therefore, my sp'rit much vex'd
 O'erwhelm'd is me within :
 My heart right sore perplex'd
 And desolate hath been.
- 5 Yet do I call to mind
 What ancient days record,
 Thy works of ev'ry kind
 I think upon, O Lord.
- 6 Lo, I do stretch my hands
 To thee my help alone,

PSALM 143

- For thou well understands
 All my complaint and moan:
 My thirsting soul desires,
 And longeth after thee,
 As thirsty ground requires
 With rain refresh'd to be.
- 7 Lord, let my pray'r prevail,
 To answer it make speed,
 For lo, my spirit doth fail:
 Hide not thy face in need,
 Lest I be like to those
 That do in darkness sit,
 Or him that downward goes
 Into the dreadful pit.
- 8 Because I trust in thee,
 O Lord, cause me to hear
 Thy loving-kindness free,
 When morning doth appear:
 Cause me to know the way
 Wherein my path should be,
 For why, my soul on high
 I do lift up to thee.
- 9 From my fierce enemy
 In safety do me guide:
 Because I flee to thee,
 Lord, that thou may'st me hide.
- 10 My God alone art thou,
 Teach me thy righteousness:
 Thy Sp'rit's good, lead me to
 The land of uprightness.
- 11 O Lord, for thy name's sake,
 Be pleas'd to quicken me:
 And for thy truth forth take
 My soul from misery.
- 12 And of thy grace destroy
 My foes, and put to shame

PSALM 144

All who my soul annoy :
For I thy servant am.

PSALM 144

A Psalm of David.

This Psalm was probably composed by David upon the occasion of his advancement to the throne, 1 Chron. xii. 2 Sam. v. as Psal. cxxxviii. lxxv. &c. In it, we have (1) Thankful acknowledgment of God's relation to him, and condescending kindness towards him, ver. 1,—4. (2) Supplication for divine deliverance from his enemies, who still threatened him, ver. 5,—8. And for prosperity to his kingdom, ver. 11,—14. (3) Triumphant joy in God, as his and their Deliverer, and Portion, ver. 9, 10. 15.—¶ While I sing, let me admire the relation, the kindness of God to me, who am so mean,—so frail,—so sinful! Let me rejoice in him, as my ALL in ALL; and commit my way to him, that he may bring it to pass. And let every external benefit lead up my heart to God himself.

O BLESSED ever be the Lord,
Who is my strength and might,
Who doth instruct my hands to war,
My fingers teach to fight.
2 My goodness, fortress, my high tow'r,
Deliverer, and shield,
In whom I trust; who under me
My people makes to yield.
3 Lord, what is man, that thou of him
Dost so much knowledge take?
Or son of man, that thou of him
So great account dost make?
4 Man is like vanity: his days
As shadows pass away.
5 Lord, bow thy heav'ns, come down, touch thou
The hills, and smoke shall they.
6 Cast forth thy light'ning, scatter them:
Thine arrows shoot, them rout.
7 Thine hand send from above, me save,
From great depths draw me out;
And from the hand of children strange:
8 Whose mouth speaks vanity;
And their right hand is a right hand
That works deceitfully.

PSALM 145

- 9 A new song I to thee will sing,
 Lord, on a psaltery :
 I on a ten-string'd instrument
 Will praises sing to thee.
- 10 Even he it is, that unto kings
 Salvation doth send ;
 Who his own servant David doth
 From hurtful sword defend.
- 11 O free me from strange children's hand,
 Whose mouth speaks vanity ;
 And their right hand, a right hand is
 That works deceitfully.
- 12 That as the plants our sons may be,
 In youth grown up that are ;
 Our daughters like to corner-stones,
 Carv'd like a palace fair.
- 13 That to afford all kind of store,
 Our garners may be fill'd ;
 That our sheep thousands, in our streets
 Ten thousands they may yield.
- 14 That strong our oxen be for work ;
 That no in-breaking be,
 Nor going out ; and that our streets
 May from complaints be free.
- 15 Those people blessed are, who be
 In such a case as this :
 Yea, blessed all those people are,
 Whose God JEHOVAH is.

PSALM 145

David's Psalm of Praise.

This Psalm, like the xxv. xxxiv. cxl. cxli. and cxix. is composed in an alphabetical form. It, and the five which follow, consist of pure praises to God, without so much as one complaint or petition. Here (1) David engageth himself and encourageth others to praise God, ver. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10. 21. (2) He represents the grounds of praise, viz. The greatness and glory, sovereign power, and eternity of God. (3) The greatness and glory of his works, ver. 3,—7. 11, 12, 13. His unbounded goodness, mercy and compassion, ver. 7, 8, 9. Manifested in pitying the afflicted, providing what is necessary for all creatures,

PSALM 145

and in his readiness to hear and answer his people's prayers, and preserve them from evil, and destroy their enemies, ver. 14,—20. —¶ In such high praises of God, may all my prayers issue at last. And the nearer I approach to mine end, let my heart and lips be the more filled with his praise and honour all the day. While I live on earth, let me publish the heart-engaging wonders of the nature and work of my God.

I'LL thee extol, my God, O King,
I'll bless thy name always.

2 Thee will I bless, each day, and will
Thy name for ever praise.

3 Great is the Lord, much to be prais'd;
His greatness search exceeds.

4 Race unto race shall praise thy works,
And show thy mighty deeds.

5 I of thy glorious majesty
The honour will record,
I'll speak of all thy mighty works
Which wond'rous are, O Lord.

6 Men of thine acts the might shall show,
Thine acts that dreadful are;
And I, thy glory to advance,
Thy greatness will declare.

7 The mem'ry of thy goodness great
They largely shall express;
With songs of praise they shall extol
Thy perfect righteousness.

8 The Lord is very gracious,
In him compassions flow;
In mercy he is very great,
And is to anger slow.

9 The Lord JEHOVAH unto all
His goodness doth declare:
And over all his other works
His tender mercies are.

10 Thee all thy works shall praise, O Lord,
And thee thy saints shall bless.

11 They shall thy kingdom's glory show,
Thy pow'r by speech express.

PSALM 145.

- 12 To make the sons of men to know
His acts done mightily,
And of his kingdom th' excellent
And glorious majesty.
- 13 Thy kingdom shall for ever stand,
Thy reign through ages all.
- 14 God raiseth all that are bow'd down,
Upholdeth all that fall.
- 15 The eyes of all things wait on thee,
The giver of all good,
And thou, in time convenient,
Bestow'st on them their food.
- 16 Thine hand thou op'nest lib'rally,
And of thy bounty gives
Enough to satisfy the need
Of ev'ry thing that lives.
- 17 The Lord is just in all his ways,
Holy in his works all.
- 18 God's near to all that call on him,
In truth that on him call.
- 19 He will accomplish the desire
Of those that do him fear ;
He also will deliver them,
And he their cry will hear.
- 20 The Lord preserves all who him love,
That nought can them annoy :
But he all those that wicked are
Will utterly destroy.
- 21 My mouth the praises of the Lord
To publish cease will never :
Let all flesh bless his holy name
For ever and for ever.

Another of the same.

O LORD, thou art my God and King,
Thee will I magnify and praise ;

PSALM 145

- I will thee bless, and gladly sing,
 Unto thy holy name always.
- 2 Each day I rise, I will thee bless,
 And praise thy name time without end.
- 3 Much to be prais'd, and great God is,
 His greatness none can comprehend.
- 4 Race shall thy works praise unto race,
 The mighty acts show, done by thee.
- 5 I will speak of the glorious grace,
 And honour of thy majesty ;
 Thy wond'rous works I will record.
- 6 By men the might shall be extol'd
 Of all thy dreadful acts, O Lord :
 And I thy greatness wild unfold.
- 7 They utter shall abundantly
 The mem'ry of thy goodness great,
 And shall sing praises cheerfully,
 Whilst they thy righteousness relate.
- 8 The Lord our God is gracious,
 Compassionate is he also,
 In mercy he is plenteous,
 But unto wrath and anger slow.
- 9 Good unto all men is the Lord :
 O'er all his works his mercy is.
- 10 Thy works all praise to thee afford,
 Thy saints, O Lord, thy name shall bless.
- 11 The glory of thy kingdom show
 Shall they, and of thy power tell.
- 12 That so men's sons his deeds may know,
 His kingdom's grace that doth excel.
- 13 Thy kingdom hath none end at all,
 It doth through ages all remain.
- 14 The Lord upholdeth all that fall,
 The cast-down raiseth up again.
- 15 The eyes of all things, Lord, attend,
 And on thee wait that here do live :

PSALM 146

And thou in season due dost send
Sufficient food them to relieve.

16 Yea, thou thine hand dost open wide,
And ev'ry thing dost satisfy
That lives, and doth on earth abide,
Of thy great liberality.

17 The Lord is just in his ways all,
And holy in his works each one.

18 He's near to all that on him call,
Who call in truth on him alone.

19 God will the just desire fulfil
Of such as do him fear and dread :
Their cry regard, and hear he will,
And save them in the time of need.

20 The Lord preserves all, more and less,
That bear to him a loving heart :
But workers all of wickedness,
Destroy will he, and clean subvert.

21 Therefore my mouth and lips I'll frame
To speak the praises of the Lord :
To magnify his holy name
For ever let all flesh accord.

PSALM 146

This Psalm contains (1) Pleasant engagements and encouragements to the hearty and constant praises of God, ver. 1, 2, 10. (2) Earnest dissuasives from trusting in man, who is so weak and short-lived, ver. 3, 4. (3) Powerful persuasives to trust in God, whose power and goodness appear so remarkable in creation, providence, and redemption, ver. 5,—10.—¶ While I sing, be stirred up my soul, and all that is within me, to bless his holy name,—to depend on him alone, who is my Maker, my faithful Friend, my kind and righteous Protector, my bountiful Provider, my almighty Deliverer, my gracious Enlightener, my seasonable Restorer, my perpetual Preserver, and the just Punisher of my foes ;—my King ; my God ; and mine ALL.

PRAISE God. The Lord praise, O my soul.
2 I'll praise God while I live :
While I have being, to my God
In songs I'll praises give.
3 Trust not in princes, nor man's son,
In whom there is no stay ;

PSALM 147

4 His breath departs, to's earth he turns ;
That day his thoughts decay.

5 O happy is that man and blest,
Whom Jacob's God doth aid,
Whose hope upon the Lord doth rest,
And on his God is staid :

6 Who made the earth and heav'ns high,
Who made the swelling deep,
And all that is within the same :
Who truth doth ever keep :

7 Who righteous judgment executeth
For those opprest that be ;
Who to the hungry giveth food :
God sets the pris'ners free.

8 The Lord doth give the blind their sight ;
The bowed down doth raise :
The Lord doth dearly love all those
That walk in upright ways.

9 The stranger's shield, the widow's stay,
The orphan's help is he :

-But yet by him the wicked's way
Turn'd upside down shall be.

10 The Lord shall reign for evermore,
Thy God, O Zion, he

Reigns to all generations.

Praise to the Lord give ye.

PSALM 147

This Psalm was probably penned by David, while he repaired and fortified Jerusalem, 2 Sam. v. and contains (1) Solemn calls to praise God, ver. 1. 7. 12. 20. (2) Weighty reasons for praising God, viz. (1) That as the God of nature he is infinitely intelligent and great, and the sovereign Manager of all creatures, ver. 4, 5. 8, 9. 15,—18. (2) As the God of grace, he tenderly comforts, and affectionately delights in his people, ver. 3. 6. 10, 11. (3) As the God of Israel, Jerusalem, and Zion, he settles their civil and religious state, ver. 2. 13, 14. 19, 20. —¶ When God manifests himself in so many things, be ashamed, my soul, that I discern him in so few. O to see God's power and glory in every work of his hand, and especially in every word of his mouth! and to be so affected with what he is, and hath done, and will do, as, in every thing, to give thanks.

PSALM 147

PRAISE ye the Lord: for it is good
Praise to our God to sing;

For it is pleasant, and to praise

It is a comely thing.

2 God doth build up Jerusalem:

And, he it is alone,

That the dispers'd of Israel

Doth gather into one.

3 Those that are broken in their heart,

And grieved in their minds,

He healeth, and their painful wounds

He tenderly up-binds.

4 He counts the number of the stars:

He names them ev'ry one.

5 Great is our Lord, and of great pow'r,

His wisdom search can none.

6 The Lord lifts up meek, and casts

The wicked to the ground.

7 Sing to the Lord, and give him thanks:

On harp his praises sound.

8 Who covereth the heav'n with clouds,

Who for the earth below.

Prepareth rain, who maketh grass

Upon the mountains grow.

9 He gives the beast his food, he feeds

The ravens young that cry.

10 His pleasure not in horse's strength,

Nor in man's legs, doth ly.

11 But in all those that do him fear

The Lord doth pleasure take;

In those that to his mercy do

By hope themselves betake.

12 The Lord praise, O Jerusalem:

Zion, thy God confess.

13 For thy gates bars he maketh strong:

Thy sons in thee doth bless.

PSALM 148

- 14 He in thy borders maketh peace :
 With fine wheat filleth thee.
- 15 He sends forth his command on earth :
 His word runs speedily.
- 16 Hoar-frost, like ashes, scatt'reth he ;
 Like wool he snow doth give.
- 17 Like morsels casteth forth his ice :
 Who in its cold can live ?
- 18 He sendeth forth his mighty word,
 And melteth them again :
 His winds he makes to blow, and then
 The waters flow amain.
- 19 The doctrine of his holy word
 To Jacob he doth show ;
 His statutes and his judgments he
 Gives Israel to know.
- 20 To any nation never he
 Such favour did afford ;
 For they his judgments have not known.
 O do ye praise the Lord.

PSALM 148

Here, the Psalmist, overwhelmed with enrapturing views of the glory, and sense of the goodness of the Lord, issues forth a solemn call to all his fellow-creatures, to assist him in his songs of praise. (1) To the celestial creatures above, whether intellectual beings or not, ver. 1,—6. (2) To the terrestrial creatures below, whether irrational, ver. 7,—10. or rational, ver. 11,—13; but chiefly to his chosen people, ver. 14.—¶ While angels and other rational beings actively trumpet forth his honours, and irrational creatures praise him objectively, in manifesting his excellencies marked on them, let my soul be ravished with his glory, amazed with his grace, and all inflamed with love, in uttering his praise, who, in Christ, is MY GOD and my EXCEEDING JOY. Cry out, all my powers, My God, who is like unto thee! Is there any work like unto thy work!

- P**RAISE God. From heav'ns, praise the Lord :
 In heights praise to him be.
- 2 All ye his angels, praise ye him :
 His hosts all, praise him ye.
- 3 O praise ye him, both sun and moon ;
 Praise him all stars of light.

PSALM 148

4 Ye heav'ns of heav'ns him praise, and floods
Above the heav'ns height.

5 Let all the creatures praise the name
Of our almighty Lord :

For he commanded, and they were
Created by his word.

6 He also, for all times to come,
Hath them establish'd sure :

He hath appointed them a law,
Which ever shall endure.

7 Praise ye JEHOVAH from the earth,
Dragons, and ev'ry deep.

8 Fire, hail, snow, vapour, stormy wind,
His word that fully keep.

9 All hills and mountains, fruitful trees,
And all ye cedars high.

10 Beasts, and all cattle, creeping things,
And all ye birds that fly.

11 Kings of the earth, all nations,
Princes, earth's judges all.

12 Both young men, yea, and maidens too,
Old men, and children small.

13 Let them God's name praise ; for his name
Alone is excellent :

His glory reacheth far above
The earth and firmament.

14 His people's horn, the praise of all
His saints exalteth he ;

Ev'n Isra'l's seed, a people near
To him. The Lord praise ye.

Another of the same.

THE Lord of heav'n confess ;
On high his glory raise.

2 Him let all angels bless ;

Him all his armies praise.

PSALM 148

- 3 Him glorify
Sun, moon, and stars :
- 4 Ye higher spheres,
And cloudy sky.
- 5 From God your beings are ;
Him therefore famous make.
You all created were,
When he the word but spake.
- 6 And from that place,
Where fix'd you be,
By his decree,
You cannot pass.
- 7 Praise God from earth below,
Ye dragons, and ye deeps :
- 8 Fire, hail, clouds, wind, and snow,
Whom in command he keeps.
- 9 Praise ye his name,
Hills great and small ;
Trees low and tall ;
- 10 Beasts wild and tame ;
All things that creep or fly.
- 11 Ye kings, ye vulgar throng,
All princes mean or high.
- 12 Both men and virgins young,
Ev'n young and old,
- 13 Exalt his name ;
For much his fame
Should be extoll'd.
- O let God's name be prais'd
Above both earth and sky :
- 14 For he his saints hath rais'd,
And set their horn on high ;
Ev'n those that be
Of Isra'l's race,
Near to his grace.
The Lord praise ye.

PSALM 149

This Psalm was perhaps penned by David, when he took the strong hold of Zion from the Jebusites,—and represents (1) Abundant joys to the people of God, in his relation to them, delight in, and kindness towards them, ver. 1,—5. (2) Abundance of terror to the proudest of their enemies, in their victory and power over them, ver. 6,—9.—
¶ While I sing, let mine eyes be fixed on Jesus Christ, going forth in his chariots of salvation, subduing his enemies to himself, by the gospel-rod of his strength, in the Apostolic and Millennial period, Rev. xx. 2; and in the chariots of his vengeance, destroying his incorrigible opposers, by the iron rod of his wrath, and treading them under the feet of his saints.

PRAISE ye the Lord. Unto him sing
 A new song, and his praise,
 In the assembly of his saints,
 In sweet psalms do ye raise.
 2 Let Isra'l in his Maker joy,
 And to him praises sing:
 Let all that Zion's children are
 Be joyful in their King.
 3 O let them unto his great name
 Give praises in the dance;
 Let them, with timbrel and with harp,
 In songs his praise advance.
 4 For God doth pleasure take in those,
 That his own people be;
 And he, with his salvation,
 The meek will beautify.
 5 And in his glory excellent
 Let all his saints rejoice:
 Let them to him, upon their beds,
 Aloud lift up their voice.
 6 Let in their mouth aloft be rais'd
 The high praise of the Lord,
 And let them have in their right hand
 A sharp two-edged sword;
 7 To execute the vengeance due
 Upon the heathen all,
 And make deserved punishment
 Upon the people fall:

PSALM 150

8 And ev'n with chains, as pris'ners, bind
 Their kings that them command,
 Yea, and with iron fetters strong,
 The nobles of their land ;
 9 On them the judgment to perform
 Found written in his word :
 This honour is to all his saints.
 O do ye praise the Lord.

PSALM 150

This Psalm contains thirteen calls to praise God. It directs (1) Who ought to praise him, ver. 6. And (2) Why they should praise him, viz. That he dwells with men; and for his mighty acts; and his excellent greatness, ver. 1, 2. And (3) How he ought to be praised,—in a public, earnest, and skilful manner, ver. 1, 3,—5.—¶ Dare not, my soul, to finish thy notes, and to conclude the Book, without commencing an heartiness in the work. Awake then my inward powers, let me even here, begin my high Hallelujahs and Hosannas to Him, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.

PRAISE ye the Lord. God's praise within
 His sanctuary raise :
 And to him, in the firmament,
 Of his pow'r give ye praise.
 2 Because of all his mighty acts,
 With praise him magnify :
 O praise him, as he doth excel
 In glorious majesty.
 3 Praise him with trumpets sound ; his praise
 With psaltery advance ;
 4 With timbrel, harp, string'd instruments,
 And organs, in the dance.
 5 Praise him on cymbals loud, him praise
 On cymbals sounding high.
 6 Let each thing breathing praise the Lord.
 Praise to the Lord give ye.

TRANSLATIONS AND PARAPHRASES,
IN VERSE,
OF SEVERAL PASSAGES OF
SACRED SCRIPTURE.

COLLECTED AND PREPARED BY
A COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,
IN ORDER TO BE SUNG IN CHURCHES.



NEC TAMEN CONSUMEBATUR.

TRANSLATIONS AND PARAPHRASES

IN VERSE,

OF SEVERAL PASSAGES OF

Sacred Scripture.

1 *Genesis, i.*

LET heav'n arise, let earth appear,
Said the almighty Lord:
The heav'n arose, the earth appear'd,
At his creating word.

2 Thick darkness brooded o'er the deep:
God said, "Let there be light;"
The light shone forth with smiling ray,
And scatter'd ancient night.

3 He bade the clouds ascend on high;
The clouds ascend, and bear
A wat'ry treasure to the sky,
And float upon the air.

4 The liquid element below,
Was gather'd by his hand;
The rolling seas together flow,
And leave the solid land.

5 With herbs, and plants, and fruitful trees,
The new-form'd globe he crown'd,
Ere there was rain to bless the soil,
Or sun to warm the ground.

6 Then high in heaven's resplendent arch,
He plac'd two orbs of light;
He set the sun to rule the day,
The moon to rule the night.

PARAPHRASE, 2

7 Next, from the deep, th' almighty King
 Did vital beings frame;
 Fowls of the air, of ev'ry wing,
 And fish of ev'ry name.

8 To all the various brutal tribes
 He gave their wond'rous birth;
 At once the lion and the worm
 Sprung from the teeming earth.

9 Then, chief o'er all his works below,
 At last was Adam made;
 His Maker's image bless'd his soul,
 And glory crown'd his head.

10 Fair in th' almighty Maker's eye
 The whole creation stood.
 He view'd the fabric he had rais'd,
 His word pronounc'd it good.

2 *Gen. xxviii. 20,--22.*

O GOD of Bethel! by whose hand
 Thy people still are fed;
 Who thro' this weary pilgrimage
 Hast all our fathers led;

2 Our vows, our pray'rs, we now present
 Before thy throne of grace:
 God of our fathers! be the God
 Of their succeeding race.

3 Through each perplexing path of life
 Our wand'ring footsteps guide;
 Give us each day our daily bread,
 And raiment fit provide.

4 O spread thy cov'ring wings around,
 Till all our wand'rings cease,
 And at our Father's lov'd abode
 Our souls arrive in peace.

5 Such blessings from thy gracious hand
 Our humble pray'rs implore;

PARAPHRASE 3---4

And thou shalt be our chosen God,
And portion evermore.

3 *Job, i. 21.*

NAKED as from the earth we came,
And enter'd life at first;
Naked we to the earth return,
And mix with kindred dust.

2 Whate'er we fondly call our own,
Belongs to heaven's great Lord;
The blessings lent us for a day
Are soon to be restor'd.

3 'Tis God that lifts our comforts high,
Or sinks them in the grave;
He gives; and when he takes away,
He takes but what he gave.

4 Then, ever blessed be his name!
His goodness swell'd our store;
His justice but resumes its own;
'Tis ours still to adore.

4 *Job, iii. 17,---20.*

HOW still and peaceful is the grave!
Where, life's vain tumults past,
Th' appointed house, by heaven's decree,
Receives us all at last.

2 The wicked there from troubling cease;
Their passions rage no more;
And there the weary pilgrim rests
From all the toils he bore.

3 There rest the pris'ners, now releas'd
From Slav'ry's sad abode;
No more they hear the oppressor's voice,
Or dread the tyrant's rod.

4 There servants, masters, small and great,
Partake the same repose;

PARAPHRASE 5---6

And there, in peace, the ashes mix
 Of those who once were foes.
 5 All, levell'd by the hand of death,
 Lie sleeping in the tomb ;
 Till God in judgment calls them forth
 To meet their final doom.

5 *Job*, v. 6,---12.

THOU' trouble springs not from the dust,
 Nor sorrow from the ground ;
 Yet ill on ill, by heaven's decree,
 In man's estate are found.
 2 As sparks in close succession rise,
 So man, the child of woe,
 Is doom'd to endless cares and toils
 Through all his life below.
 3 But with my God I leave my cause ;
 From him I seek relief ;
 To him, in confidence of pray'r,
 Unbosom all my grief.
 4 Unnumber'd are his wond'rous works,
 Unsearchable his ways ;
 'Tis his the mourning soul to cheer,
 The bowed down to raise.

6 *Job*, viii. 11,---22.

THE rush may rise where waters flow,
 And flags beside the stream ;
 But soon their verdure fades and dies
 Before the scorching beam.
 2 So is the sinner's hope cut off ;
 Or if it transient rise,
 'Tis like the spider's airy web,
 From ev'ry breath that flies.
 3 Fixt on his house, he leans ; his house,
 And all its props, decay :

PARAPHRASE 7

He holds it fast ; but while he holds,
The tott'ring frame gives way.

4 Fair in his garden, to the sun
His boughs with verdure smile ;
And, deeply fix'd, his spreading roots
Unshaken stand a while.

5 But forth the sentence flies from heav'n,
That sweeps him from his place ;
Which then denies him for its lord,
Nor owns it knew his face.

6 Lo ! this the joy of wicked men,
Who heaven's high laws despise ;
They quickly fall ; and in their room
As quickly others rise.

7 But, for the just, with gracious care
God will his pow'r employ ;
He'll teach their lips to sing his praise,
And fill their hearts with joy.

7 *Job, ix. 2,---10.*

HOW should the sons of Adam's race
Be pure before their God ?

If he contends in righteousness,
We sink beneath his rod,

2 If he should mark my words and thoughts
With strict inquiring eyes,

Could I for one of thousand faults
The least excuse devise ?

3 Strong is his arm, his heart is wise ;
Who dares with him contend ?

Or who that tries th' unequal strife,
Shall prosper in the end ?

4 He makes the mountains feel his wrath ?
And their old seats forsake ;

The trembling earth deserts her place,
And all her pillars shake.

- 5 He bids the sun forbear to rise ;
 Th' obedient sun forbears :
 His hand with sackcloth spreads the skies,
 And seals up all the stars.
- 6 He walks upon the raging sea ;
 Flies on the stormy wind ;
 None can explore his wond'rous way,
 Or his dark footsteps find.

8 *Job*, xiv. 1,---15.

FEW are thy days, and full of woe,
 O man, of woman born !
 Thy doom is written, "Dust thou art,
 "And shalt to dust return."

- 2 Behold the emblem of thy state
 In flow'rs that bloom and die ;
 Or in the shadow's fleeting form,
 That mock's the gazer's eye.
- 3 Guilty and frail, how shalt thou stand
 Before thy sov'reign Lord ?
 Can troubled and polluted springs
 A hallow'd stream afford ?
- 4 Determin'd are the days that fly
 Successive o'er thy head ;
 The number'd hour is on the wing
 That lays thee with the dead.
- 5 Great God ! afflict not in thy wrath
 The short allotted span,
 That bounds the few and weary days
 Of pilgrimage to man.
- 6 All nature dies, and lives again :
 The flow'r that paints the field,
 The trees that crown the mountain's brow,
 And boughs and blossoms yield,
- 7 Resign the honours of their form
 At winter's stormy blast,

PARAPHRASE 9

And leave the naked leafless plain
A desolated waste.

8 Yet soon reviving plants and flow'rs
Anew shall deck the plain;
The woods shall hear the voice of spring,
And flourish green again.

9 But man forsakes this earthly scene,
Ah! never to return:
Shall any following spring revive
The ashes of the urn?

10 The mighty flood that rolls along
Its torrents to the main,
Can ne'er recal its waters lost
From that abyss again.

11 So days, and years, and ages past,
Descending down to night,
Can henceforth never more return
Back to the gates of light.

12 And man, when laid in lonesome grave,
Shall sleep in death's dark gloom,
Until th' eternal morning wake
The slumbers of the tomb.

13 O may the grave become to me
The bed of peaceful rest,
Whence I shall gladly rise at length,
And mingle with the blest!

14 Cheer'd by this hope, with patient mind
I'll wait heav'ns high decree,
Till the appointed period come
When death shall set me free.

9 *Job*, xxvi. 6. to the end.

WHO can resist th' almighty arm
That made the starry sky?
Or who elude the certain glance
Of God's all-seeing eye?

2 From him no cov'ring veils our crimes ;
 Hell opens to his sight ;
 And all destruction's secret snares
 Lie full disclos'd in light.

3 Firm on the boundless void of space
 He poiz'd the steady pole ;
 And in the circle of his clouds
 Bade secret waters roll.

4 While nature's universal frame
 Its Maker's pow'r reveals,
 His throne, remote from mortal eyes,
 An awful cloud conceals.

5 From where the rising day ascends,
 To where it sets in night,
 He compasses the floods with bounds,
 And checks their threat'ning might.

6 The pillars that support the sky,
 Tremble at his rebuke ;
 Through all its caverns quakes the earth,
 As though its centre shook.

7 He brings the waters from their beds,
 Although no tempest blows ;
 And smites the kingdom of the proud
 Without the hand of foes.

8 With bright inhabitants above
 He fills the heav'nly land ;
 And all the crooked serpent's breed
 Dismay'd before him stand.

9 Few of his works can we survey ;
 These few our skill transcend ;
 But the full thunder of his pow'r
 What heart can comprehend ?

10 *Prov. i. 20,---31.*

IN streets, and op'nings of the gates,
 Where pours the busy crowd,

PARAPHRASE 11

- Thus heav'nly wisdom lifts her voice,
And cries to men aloud :
- 2 How long, ye scorers of the truth,
Scornful will ye remain?
How long shall fools their folly love,
And hear my words in vain?
- 3 O turn, at last, at my reproof!
And, in that happy hour,
His bless'd effusions on your heart
My Spirit down shall pour.
- 4 But since so long with earnest voice
To you in vain I call,
Since all my counsels and reproofs
Thus ineffectual fall;
- 5 The time will come, when, humbled low,
In sorrow's evil day,
Your voice by anguish shall be taught,
But taught too late to pray.
- 6 When, like the whirlwind o'er the deep,
Comes desolation's blast,
Pray'rs then extorted shall be vain,
The hour of mercy past.
- 7 The choice you made has fix'd your doom;
For this is heav'n's decree,
That with the fruits of what he sow'd
The sinner fill'd shall be.

11 *Prov. iii. 13,---17.*

- O** HAPPY is the man who hears
Instruction's warning voice,
And who celestial wisdom makes
His early, only choice!
- 2 For she has treasures greater far
Than east or west unfold;
And her rewards more precious are
Than all their stores of gold.

- Let such as would with wisdom dwell,
 Frequent the house of woe.
- 2 Better to weep with those who weep,
 And share th' afflicted's smart,
 Than mix with fools in giddy joys,
 That cheat and wound the heart.
- 3 When virtuous sorrow clouds the face,
 And tears bedim the eye,
 The soul is led to solemn thought,
 And wafted to the sky.
- 4 The wise in heart revisit oft
 Grief's dark sequester'd cell ;
 The thoughtless, still with levity
 And mirth delight to dwell.
- 5 The noisy laughter of the fool
 Is like the crackling sound
 Of blazing thorns, which quickly fall
 In ashes to the ground.

15 *Eccles. ix. 4, 5, 6, 10.*

- A**S long as life its term extends,
 Hope's blest dominion never ends ;
 For while the lamp holds on to burn,
 The greatest sinner may return.
- 2 Life is the season God hast giv'n
 To fly from hell, and rise to heav'n ;
 That day of grace fleets fast away,
 And none its rapid course can stay.
- 3 The living know that they must die ;
 But all the dead forgotten lie ;
 Their mem'ry and their name is gone,
 Alike unknowing, and unknown.
- 4 Their hatred and their love is lost,
 Their envy buried in the dust ;
 They have no share in all that's done
 Beneath the circuit of the sun.

PARAPHRASE 16---17

- 5 Then what thy thoughts design to do
 Still let thy hands with might pursue;
 Since no device nor work is found,
 Nor wisdom underneath the ground.
- 6 In the cold grave, to which we haste,
 There are no acts of pardon past;
 But fix'd the doom of all remains,
 And everlasting silence reigns.

16 *Eccles.* xii. 1.

- I**N life's gay morn, when sprightly youth
 With vital ardour glows,
 And shines in all the fairest charms
 Which beauty can disclose;
- 2 Deep on thy soul, before its pow'rs
 Are yet by vice enslav'd,
 Be thy Creator's glorious name
 And character engrav'd.
- 3 For soon the shades of grief shall cloud
 The sunshine of thy days;
 And cares and toils, in endless round,
 Encompass all thy ways.
- 4 Soon shall thy heart, the woes of age,
 In mournful groans deplore,
 And sadly muse on former joys,
 That now return no more.

17 *Isa.* i. 10,—19.

- R**ULERS of Sodom! hear the voice—
 Of heav'n's eternal Lord;
 Men of Gomorrah! bend your ear
 Submissive to his word.
- 2 'Tis thus he speaks: To what intent
 Are your oblations vain?
 Why load my altars with your gifts,
 Polluted and profane?

- 3 Burnt off'rings long may blaze to heav'n,
 And incense cloud the skies ;
 The worship and the worshipper
 Are hateful in my eyes.
- 4 Your rites, your fasts, your pray'rs I scorn,
 And pomp of solemn days :
 I know your hearts are full of guile,
 And crooked are your ways.
- 5 But cleanse your hands, ye guilty race,
 And cease from deeds of sin ;
 Learn in your actions to be just,
 And pure in heart within.
- 6 Mock not my name with honours vain,
 But keep my holy laws ;
 Do justice to the friendless poor,
 And plead the widow's cause.
- 7 Then, though your guilty souls are stain'd
 With sins of crimson dye.
 Yet, through my grace, with snow itself
 In whiteness they shall vie.

18. *Isa. ii. 2,—6.*

- B**EHOLD! the mountain of the Lord
 In latter days shall rise
 On mountain tops, above the hills,
 And draw the wond'ring eyes.
- 2 To this the joyful nations round,
 All tribes and tongues shall flow ;
 Up to the hill of God, they'll say,
 And to his house, we'll go.
- 3 The beam that shines from Zion hill
 Shall lighten ev'ry land ;
 The King who reigns in Salem's tow'rs
 Shall all the world command.
- 4 Among the nations he shall judge ;
 His judgments truth shall guide ;

PARAPHRASE 19

- His sceptre shall protect the just
 And quell the sinner's pride,
 5 No strife shall rage, nor hostile feuds
 Disturb those peaceful years;
 To ploughshares men shall beat their swords,
 To pruning-hooks their spears.
 6 No longer hosts encount'ring hosts,
 Shall crouds of slain deplore;
 They hang the trumpet in the hall,
 And study war no more.
 7 Come then, O house of Jacob! come
 To worship at his shrine,
 And, walking in the light of God,
 With holy beauties shine.

19 *Isa. ix. 2,—8.*

- T**HE race that long in darkness pin'd
 Have seen a glorious light;
 The people dwell in day who dwelt
 In death's surrounding night.
 2 To hail thy rise, thou better Sun!
 The gath'ring nations come,
 Joyous, as when the reapers bear
 The harvest-treasures home.
 3 For thou our burden hast remov'd,
 And quell'd th' oppressor's sway;
 Quick as the slaughter'd squadrons fell
 In Midian's evil day.
 4 To us a child of Hope is born,
 To us a Son is giv'n;
 Him shall the tribes of earth obey,
 Him, all the hosts of heav'n.
 5 His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
 For evermore ador'd,
 The Wonderful, the Counsellor,
 The great and mighty Lord.

PARAPHRASE 20

6 His pow'r increasing still shall spread ;
His reign no end shall know ;
Justice shall guard his throne above,
And peace abound below.

20 *Isa. xxvi. 1,—7.*

HOW glorious Zion's courts appear,
The city of our God !
His throne he hath establish'd here,
Here fix'd his lov'd abode.

2 Its walls defended by his grace,
No pow'r shall e'er o'erthrow ;
Salvation is its bulwark sure
Against th' assailing foe.

3 Lift up the everlasting gates,
The doors wide open fling ;
Enter ye nations who obey
The statutes of our King.

4 Here shall ye taste unmingled joys,
And dwell in perfect peace,
Ye who have known Jehovah's name,
And trusted in his grace.

5 Trust in the Lord, for ever trust !
And banish all your fears ;
Strength in the Lord Jehovah dwells,
Eternal as his years.

6 What tho' the wicked dwell on high ?
His arm shall bring them low ;
Low as the caverns of the grave
Their lofty heads shall bow.

7 Along the dust shall then be spread
Their tow'rs, that brave the skies ;
On them the needy's feet shall tread,
And on their ruins rise.

PARAPHRASE 21---22

21 *Isa. xxxiii. 13,—18.*

ATTEND, ye tribes that dwell remote,
Ye tribes at hand give ear ;
Th' upright in heart alone have hope,
The false in heart have fear.

2 The man who walks with God in truth,
And ev'ry guile disdains,
Who hates to lift oppression's rod,
And scorns its shameful gains ;

3 Whose soul abhors th' impious bribe
That tempts from truth to stray ;
And from th' enticing snares of vice
Who turns his eyes away :

4 His dwelling 'midst the strength of rocks,
Shall ever stand secure ;
His Father will provide his bread,
His water shall be sure.

5 For him the kingdom of the just
Afar doth glorious shine ;
And he the King of kings shall see
In majesty divine.

22 *Isa. xl. 27. to the end.*

WHY pour'st thou forth thine anxious plaint,
Despairing of relief,
As if the Lord o'erlook'd thy cause,
And did not heed thy grief?

2 Hast thou not known, hast thou not heard,
That firm remains on high
The everlasting throne of him
Who form'd the earth and sky?

3 Art thou afraid his pow'r shall fail
When comes thy evil day?
And can an all-creating arm
Grow weary or decay?

- 4 Supreme in wisdom as in pow'r
The Rock of Ages stands ;
Tho' him thou canst not see, nor trace
The working of his hands.
- 5 He gives the conquest to the weak,
Supports the fainting heart ;
And courage in the evil hour
His heav'nly aids impart.
- 6 Mere human power shall fast decay,
And youthful vigour cease ;
But they that wait upon the Lord,
In strength shall still increase.
- 7 They with unweari'd feet shall tread
The path of life divine ;
With growing ardour onward move,
With growing brightness shine.
- 8 On eagle's wings they mount, they soar,
Their wings are faith and love,
Till, past the cloudy regions here,
They rise to heav'n above.

23 *Isa.* xlii. 1,—13.

- B**EHOLD my servant ! see him rise
Exalted in my might !
Him have I chosen, and in him
I place supreme delight.
- 2 On him, in rich effusion pour'd,
My Spirit shall descend ;
My truths and judgments he shall show
To earth's remotest end.
- 3 Gentle and still shall be his voice ;
No threats from him proceed ;
The smoking flax he shall not quench,
Nor break the bruised reed.
- 4 The feeble spark to flames he'll raise ;
The weak will not despise ;

Judgment he shall bring forth to truth,
And make the fallen rise.

5 The progress of his zeal and pow'r
Shall never know decline,
Till foreign lands, and distant isles,
Receive the law divine.

6 He who erected heav'n's bright arch,
And bade the planets roll,
Who peopled all the climes of earth,
And formed the human soul,

7 Thus saith the Lord, Thee have I rais'd,
My prophet thee install;
In right I've rais'd thee, and in strength
I'll succour whom I call.

8 I will establish with the lands
A covenant in thee,
To give the Gentile nations light,
And set the pris'ners free.

9 Asunder burst the gates of brass;
The iron fetters fall;
And gladsome light and liberty,
Are straight restor'd to all.

10 I am the Lord, and by the name
Of great Jehovah known;
No idol shall usurp my praise,
Nor mount into my throne.

11 Lo! former scenes, predicted once,
Conspicuous rise to view;
And future scenes, predicted now,
Shall be accomplished too.

12 Sing to the Lord in joyful strains!
Let earth his praise resound,
Ye who upon the ocean dwell,
And fill the isles around!

13 O city of the Lord! begin
 Th' universal song;
 And let the scatter'd villages
 The cheerful notes prolong.

14 Let Kedar's wilderness afar
 Lift up its lonely voice,
 And let the tenants of the rock
 With accents rude rejoice;

15 Till midst the streams of distant lands,
 The islands sound his praise;
 And all combin'd, with one accord,
 Jehovah's glories raise.

24 *Isa. xlix. 13,---17.*

YE heav'ns send forth your song of praise!
 Earth raise your voice below!
 Let hills and mountain join the hymn,
 And joy thro' nature flow.

2 Behold how gracious is our God!
 Hear the consoling strains
 In which he cheers our drooping hearts,
 And mitigates our pains.

3 Cease ye, when days of darkness come,
 In sad dismay to mourn,
 As if the Lord could leave his saints
 Forsaken or forlorn.

4 Can the fond mother e'er forget
 The infant whom she bore?
 And can its plaintive cries be heard,
 Nor move compassion more?

5 She may forget; nature may fail
 A parent's heart to move;
 But Zion on my heart shall dwell
 In everlasting love.

Full in my sight, upon my hands
 I have engrav'd her name;

My hands shall build her ruin'd walls,
And raise her broken frame.

25 *Isa. liii.*

HOW few receive with cordial faith
The tidings which we bring?
How few have seen the arm reveal'd
Of heaven's eternal King?

2 The Saviour comes! no outward pomp
Bespeaks his presence nigh;
No earthly beauty shines in him,
To draw the carnal eye.

3 Fair as a beaut'ous tender flow'r
Amidst the desert grows,
So, slighted by a rebel-race,
The heav'nly Saviour rose.

4 Rejected and despised of men,
Behold a man of woe!
Grief was his close companion still,
Through all his life below.

5 Yet all the griefs he felt were ours,
Ours were the woes he bore;
Pangs not his own, his spotless soul,
With bitter anguish tore.

6 We held him as condemn'd by heav'n,
An outcast from his God,
While for our sins he groan'd, he bled,
Beneath his Father's rod.

7 His sacred blood hath wash'd our souls
From sin's polluted stain;
His stripes have heal'd us, and his death
Reviv'd our souls again.

8 We all, like sheep, had gone astray
In ruin's fatal road;
On him were our transgressions laid;
He bore the mighty load.

- 9 Wrong'd and oppress'd, how meekly he
 In patient silence stood!
 Mute, as the peaceful harmless lamb,
 When brought to shed its blood.
- 10 Who can his generation tell?
 From prison see him led,
 With impious shew of law condemn'd,
 And number'd with the dead.
- 11 'Midst sinners low in dust he lay;
 The rich a grave supply'd:
 Unspotted was his blameless life,
 Unstain'd by sin he died.
- 12 Yet God shall raise his head on high,
 Though thus he brought him low;
 His sacred offering when complete,
 Shall terminate his woe.
- 13 For, saith the Lord, my pleasure then
 Shall prosper in his hand;
 His shall a numerous offspring be,
 And still his honours stand.
- 14 His soul, rejoicing, shall behold
 The purchase of his pain;
 And all the guilty whom he sav'd
 Shall bless Messiah's reign.
- 15 He with the great shall share the spoil,
 And baffle all his foes;
 Though rank'd with sinners here he fell,
 A conqueror he rose.
- 16 He died to bear the guilt of men,
 That sin might be forgiv'n:
 He lives to bless them and defend,
 And plead their cause in heav'n.

26 *Isa. lv.*

HO! ye that thirst, approach the spring
 Where living waters flow;

- Free to that sacred fountain all
 Without a price may go.
- 2 How long to streams of false delight
 Will ye in crowds repair?
 How long your strength and substance waste
 On trifles light as air?
- 3 My stores afford those rich supplies
 That health and pleasure give;
 Incline your ear, and come to me,
 The soul that hears shall live.
- 4 With you a cov'nant I will make,
 That ever shall endure;
 The hope which gladden'd David's heart
 My mercy hath made sure.
- 5 Behold he comes! your leader comes,
 With might and honour crown'd;
 A witness, who shall spread my name
 To earth's remotest bound.
- 6 See! nations hasten to his call
 From ev'ry distant shore;
 Isles yet unknown shall bow to him,
 And Israel's God adore.
- 7 Seek ye the Lord, while yet his ear
 Is open to your call;
 While offer'd mercy still is near,
 Before his footstool fall.
- 8 Let sinners quit their evil ways,
 Their evil thoughts forego;
 And God, when they to him return,
 Returning grace will show.
- 9 He pardons with o'erflowing love;
 For hear the voice divine:
 My nature is not like to yours,
 Nor like your ways are mine:

- 10 But far as heaven's resplendent orbs
 Beyond earth's spot extend,
 As far my thoughts, as far my ways,
 Your ways and thoughts transcend.
- 11 And as the rains from heav'n distil,
 Nor thither mount again,
 But swell the earth with fruitful juice,
 And all its tribes sustain :
- 12 So not a word that flows from me
 Shall ineffectual fall ;
 But universal nature prove
 Obedient to my call.
- 13 With joy and peace shall then be led
 The glad converted lands ;
 The lofty mountains then shall sing,
 The forests clap their hands.
- 14 Where briers grew 'midst barren wilds,
 Shall firs and myrtles spring ;
 And nature, through its utmost bounds,
 Eternal praises sing.

27 *Isa. lvii. 15, 16.*

- T**HUS speaks the high and lofty One ;
 Ye tribes of earth, give ear ;
 The words of your almighty King
 With sacred rev'rence hear :
- 2 Amidst the majesty of heav'n
 My throne is fix'd on high ;
 And through eternity I hear
 The praises of the sky :
- 3 Yet, looking down, I visit oft
 The humble hallow'd cell ;
 And with the penitent who mourn,
 'Tis my delight to dwell :
- 4 The down-cast spirit to revive,
 The sad in soul to cheer ;

PARAPHRASE 28--29

And from the bed of dust the man
Of heart contrite to rear :

5 With me dwells no relentless wrath
Against the human race ;

The souls which I have form'd shall find
A refuge in my grace.

28 *Isa. lviii. 5,--9.*

ATTEND, and mark the solemn fast
Which to the Lord is dear ;
Disdain the false unhallow'd mask
Which vain dissemblers wear.

2 Do I delight in sorrow's dress ?
Saith he who reigns above ;

The hanging head and rueful look,
Will they attract my love ?

3 Let such as feel oppression's load
Thy tender pity share ;

And let the helpless, homeless poor,
Be thy peculiar care.

4 Go, bid the hungry orphan be
With thy abundance bless'd ;

Invite the wand'rer to thy gate,
And spread the couch of rest.

5 Let him who pines with piercing cold
By thee be warm'd and clad ;

Be thine the blissful task to make
The downcast mourner glad.

6 Then, bright as morning, shall come forth,
In peace and joy, thy days ;

And glory from the Lord above
Shall shine on all thy ways.

29 *Lament. iii. 37,—40.*

AMIDST the mighty where is he
Who saith, and it is done ?

Each varying scene of changeful life
Is from the Lord alone.

2 He gives in gladsome bow'rs to dwell,
Or clothes in sorrow's shroud ;
His hand hath form'd the light, his hand
Hath form'd the dark'ning cloud.

3 Why should a living man complain
Beneath the chast'ning rod ?

Our sins afflict us ; and the cross
Must bring us back to God.

4 O sons of men ! with anxious care
Your hearts and ways explore ;
Return from paths of vice to God ;
Return, and sin no more.

30 *Hosea*, vi. 1,---4.

COME, let us to the Lord our God
With contrite hearts return ;
Our God is gracious, nor will leave
The desolate to mourn.

2 His voice commands the tempest forth,
And stills the stormy wave ;

And though his arm be strong to smite,
'Tis also strong to save.

3 Long hath the night of sorrow reign'd,
The dawn shall bring us light ;

God shall appear, and we shall rise
With gladness in his sight.

4 Our hearts, if God we seek to know,
Shall know him, and rejoice ;

His coming like the morn shall be,
Like morning songs his voice.

5 As dew upon the tender herb,
Diffusing fragrance round ;

As show'rs that usher in the spring,
And cheer the thirsty ground :

PARAPHRASE 31---32

6 So shall his presence bless our souls,
 And shed a joyful light ;
 That hallow'd morn shall chase away
 The sorrows of the night.

31 *Micah*, vi. 6,---9.

THUS speaks the heathen? how shall man
 The Pow'r Supreme adore?
 With what accepted off'rings come
 His mercy to implore?
 2 Shall clouds of incense to the skies
 With grateful odour speed?
 Or victims from a thousand hills
 Upon the altar bleed?
 3 Does justice nobler blood demand
 To save the sinner's life?
 Shall, trembling, in his offspring's side,
 The father plunge the knife?
 4 No; God rejects the bloody rites
 Which blindfold zeal began;
 His oracles of truth proclaim
 The message brought to man.
 5 He what is good hath clearly shown,
 O favour'd race! to thee.
 And what doth God require of those
 Who bend to him the knee?
 6 Thy deeds, let sacred justice rule;
 Thy heart, let mercy fill;
 And walking humbly with thy God,
 To him resign thy will.

32 *Habak.* iii. 17, 18.

WHAT though no flow'rs the fig-tree clothe,
 Tho' vines their fruit deny;
 The labour of the olive fail,
 And fields no meat supply?

- 2 Though from the fold with sad surprise,
 My flock cut off I see;
 Though famine pines in empty stalls,
 Where herds were wont to be?
- 3 Yet in the Lord will I be glad,
 And glory in his love;
 In him I'll joy, who will the God
 Of my salvation prove.
- 4 He to my tardy feet shall lend
 The swiftness of the roe;
 Till, rais'd on high, I safely dwell
 Beyond the reach of woe.
- 5 God is the treasure of my soul,
 The source of lasting joy;
 A joy which want shall not impair,
 Nor death itself destroy.

33 *Matth.* vi. 9,—14.

- F**ATHER of all! we bow to thee,
 Who dwell'st in heaven ador'd;
 But present still through all thy works,
 The universal Lord.
- 2 For ever hallow'd be thy name
 By all beneath the skies;
 And may thy kingdom still advance,
 Till grace to glory rise.
- 3 A grateful homage may we yield,
 With hearts resign'd to thee;
 And as in heav'n thy will is done,
 On earth so let it be.
- 4 From day to day we humbly own
 The hand that feeds us still:
 Give us our bread, and teach to rest
 Contented in thy will.
- 5 Our sins before thee we confess;
 O may they be forgiv'n!

As we to others mercy show,
We mercy beg from heav'n.

6 Still let thy grace our life direct ;
From evil guard our way ;
And in temptations fatal path
Permit us not to stray.

7 For thine the pow'r, the kingdom thine ;
All glory's due to thee ;
Thine from eternity they were,
And thine shall ever be.

34 *Matth. xi. 25, to the end.*

THUS spoke the Saviour of the world,
And rais'd his eyes to heav'n !
To thee O Father ! Lord of all,
Eternal praise be giv'n.

2 Thou to the pure and lowly heart
Hast heav'nly truth revealed ;
Which from the self-conceited mind
Thy wisdom hath conceal'd.

3 Even so, thou Father ! hast ordain'd
Thy high decree to stand ;
Nor men nor angels may presume
The reason to demand.

4 Thou only know'st the Son : from thee
My kingdom I receive ;
And none the Father know but they
Who in the Son believe.

5 Come then to me, all ye who groan,
With guilt and fears oppress'd ;
Resign to me the willing heart,
And I will give you rest.

6 Take up my yoke, and learn of me
The meek and lowly mind ;
And thus your weary troubled souls
Repose and peace shall find.

7 For light and gentle is my yoke ;
 The burden I impose
 Shall ease the heart, which groan'd before
 Beneath a load of woes.

35 *Matth. xxvi. 26,—29.*

'T WAS on that night, when doom'd to know
 The eager rage of ev'ry foe,
 That night in which he was betray'd,
 The Saviour of the world took bread ;

2 And after thanks and glory giv'n
 To him that rules in earth and heav'n,
 That symbol of his flesh he broke,
 And thus to all his followers spoke :

3 My broken body thus I give
 For you, for all ; take, eat, and live ;
 And oft the sacred rite renew,
 That brings my wondrous love to view.

4 Then in his hands the cup he rais'd,
 And God anew he thank'd and prais'd ;
 While kindness in his bosom glow'd,
 And from his lips salvation flow'd.

5 My blood I thus pour forth, he cries,
 To cleanse the soul in sin that lies ;
 In this the covenant is seal'd,
 And heaven's eternal grace reveal'd.

6 With love to man this cup is fraught,
 Let all partake the sacred draught ;
 Through latest ages let it pour,
 In mem'ry of my dying hour.

36 *Luke, i. 46,—56.*

MY soul and spirit, fill'd with joy,
 My God and Saviour praise,
 Whose goodness did, from poor estate,
 His humble handmaid raise,

- 2 Me bless'd of God, the God of might,
 All ages shall proclaim ;
 From age to age his mercy lasts,
 And holy is his name.
- 3 Strength with his arm th' Almighty shew'd ;
 The proud his looks abas'd ;
 He cast the mighty to the ground,
 The meek to honour rais'd.
- 4 The hungry with good things were fill'd,
 The rich with hunger pin'd ;
 He sent his servant Israel help,
 And call'd his love to mind :
- 5 Which to our fathers' ancient race
 His promise did ensure,
 To Abra'am and his chosen seed,
 For ever to endure.

37 *Luke, ii. 8,—15.*

- W**HILE humble shepherds watch'd their
 In Bethle'm's plains by night, [flocks
 An angel sent from heav'n appear'd,
 And fill'd the plains with light.
- 2 Fear not, he said, (for sudden dread
 Had seiz'd their troubled mind);
 Glad tidings of great joy I bring
 To you and all mankind.
- 3 To you, in David's town, this day,
 Is born, of David's line,
 The Saviour who is Christ the Lord ;
 And this shall be the sign :
- 4 The heav'nly babe you there shall find
 To human view display'd,
 All meanly wrapt in swaddling bands,
 And in a manger laid.
- 5 Thus spake the seraph ; and forthwith
 Appear'd a shining throng

Of angels praising God; and thus
 Address'd their joyful song :
 6 All glory be to God on high,
 And to the earth be peace ;
 Good will is shewn by heav'n to men,
 And never more shall cease.

38 *Luke*, ii. 25,---33.

JUST and devout old Simeon liv'd ;
 To him it was reveal'd,
 That Christ, the Lord, his eyes should see,
 Ere death his eye-lids seal'd.
 2 For this consoling gift of heav'n
 To Israel's fallen state,
 From year to year with patient hope
 The aged saint did wait.
 3 Nor did he wait in vain ; for, lo !
 Revolving years brought round,
 In season due, the happy day,
 Which all his wishes crown'd.
 4 When Jesus to the temple brought
 By Mary's pious care,
 As heaven's appointed rites requir'd,
 To God was offer'd there.
 5 Simeon into those sacred courts
 A heav'nly impulse drew ;
 He saw the Virgin hold her Son,
 And straight his Lord he knew.
 6 With holy joy upon his face,
 The good old father smil'd ;
 Then fondly in his wither'd arms
 He clasp'd the promis'd child ;
 7 And while he held the heav'n-born babe,
 Ordain'd to bless mankind,
 Thus spoke, with earnest look, and heart,
 Exulting yet resign'd :

- 8 Now, Lord! according to thy word,
 Let me in peace depart;
 Mine eyes have thy salvation seen,
 And gladness fills my heart.
- 9 At length my arms embrace my Lord,
 Now let their vigour cease;
 At last my eyes my Saviour see,
 Now let them close in peace.
- 10 This great salvation, long prepar'd,
 And now disclos'd to view,
 Hath prov'd thy love was constant still,
 And promises were true.
- 11 That Sun I now behold, whose light
 Shall heathen darkness chase;
 And rays of brightest glory pour
 Around thy chosen race.

39 *Luke, iv. 18,---19.*

- H**ARK, the glad sound, the Saviour comes!
 The Saviour promis'd long;
 Let ev'ry heart exult with joy,
 And ev'ry voice be song!
- 2 On him the Spirit, largely shed,
 Exerts its sacred fire;
 Wisdom and might, and zeal and love,
 His holy breast inspire.
- 3 He comes! the pris'ners to relieve
 In Satan's bondage held;
 The gates of brass before him burst,
 The iron fetters yield.
- 4 He comes! from dark'ning scales of vice
 To clear the inward sight,
 And on the eye-balls of the blind,
 To pour celestial light.
- 5 He comes! the broken hearts to bind,
 The bleeding souls to cure,

And with the treasures of his grace
Enrich the humble poor.

6 The sacred year has now revol'd,
Accepted of the Lord,
When heaven's high promise is fulfill'd,
And Israel is restor'd.

7 Our glad hosannahs, Prince of Peace!
Thy welcome shall proclaim;
And heaven's exalted arches ring
With thy most honour'd name.

40 *Luke, xv. 13,---25.*

THE wretched prodigal behold
In mis'ry lying low,
Whom vice had sunk from high estate,
And plunged in want and woe.

2 While I, despis'd and scorn'd, he cries,
Starve in a foreign land,
The meanest in my father's house
Is fed with bounteous hand:

3 I'll go and with a mourning voice
Fall down before his face:
Father! I've sinn'd 'gainst heav'n and thee,
Nor can deserve thy grace.

4 He said, and hasten'd to his home,
To seek his father's love:
The father sees him from afar,
And all his bowels move:

5 He ran and fell upon his neck,
Embrac'd and kiss'd his son;
The grieving prodigal bewail'd
The follies he had done.

6 No more, my father, can I hope
To find paternal grace;
My utmost wish is to obtain
A servant's humble place.

7 Bring forth the fairest robe for him,
The joyful father said;

To him each mark of grace be shown,
And ev'ry honour paid.

8 A day of feasting I ordain;
Let mirth and song abound;

My son was dead, and lives again,
Was lost, and now is found.

9 Thus joy abounds in paradise,
Amongst the hosts of heav'n,

Soon as the sinner quits his sins,
Repents, and is forgiv'n.

41 *John*, iii. 14,—19.

AS when the Hebrew prophet rais'd
The brazen serpent high,
The wounded look'd, and straight were cur'd,
The people ceas'd to die:

2 So from the Saviour on the cross
A healing virtue flows;

Who looks to him with lively faith,
Is sav'd from endless woes.

3 For God gave up his Son to death,
So gen'rous was his love,

That all the faithful might enjoy
Eternal life above.

4 Not to condemn the sons of men
The Son of God appear'd;

No weapons in his hand are seen,
Nor voice of terror heard;

5 He came to raise our fallen state,
And our lost hopes restore;

Faith leads us to the mercy-seat,
And bids us fear no more.

6 But vengeance just for ever lies
On all the rebel-race,

Who God's eternal Son despise,
And scorn his offer'd grace.

42 *John, xiv. 1,—7.*

LET not your hearts with anxious thoughts
Be troubled or dismay'd;
But trust in Providence divine,
And trust my gracious aid.

2 I to my Father's house return;
There numerous mansions stand,
And glory manifold abounds
Through all the happy land.

3 I go your entrance to secure,
And your abode prepare;
Regions unknown are safe to you,
When I your friend am there.

4 Thence shall I come, when ages close,
To take you home with me;
There we shall meet to part no more,
And still together be.

5 I am the way, the truth, the life:
No son of human race;
But such as I conduct and guide,
Shall see my Father's face.

43 *John, xiv. 25,—28.*

YOU now must hear my voice no more;
My Father calls me home;
But soon from heav'n the Holy Ghost,
Your Comforter, shall come.

2 That heav'nly Teacher, sent from God,
Shall your whole soul inspire;
Your minds shall fill with sacred truth,
Your hearts with sacred fire.

3 Peace is the gift I leave with you,
My peace to you bequeath;

Peace that shall comfort you through life,
And cheer your souls in death.

4 I give not, as the world bestows,
With promise false and vain;
Nor cares, nor fears, shall wound the heart
In which my words remain.

44 *John, xix. 30.*

BEHOLD the Saviour on the cross,
A spectacle of woe!

See from his agonizing wounds
The blood incessant flow,

2 Till death's pale ensigns o'er his cheek
And trembling lips were spread;
Till light forsook his closing eyes,
And life his drooping head.

3 'Tis finish'd—was his latest voice;
These sacred accents o'er,
He bow'd his head, gave up the ghost,
And suffer'd pain no more.

4 'Tis finish'd—The Messiah dies
For sins, but not his own;
The great redemption is complete,
And Satan's pow'r o'erthrown.

5 'Tis finish'd—All his groans are past;
His blood, his pain, and toils,
Have fully vanquished our foes,
And crown'd him with their spoils.

6 'Tis finish'd—Legal worship ends,
And gospel ages run;
All old things now are past away,
And a new world begun.

45 *Rom. ii. 4,—8.*

UNGRATEFUL sinners! whence this scorn
Of God's long-suff'ring grace?

- And whence this madness, that insults
Th' Almighty to his face?
- 2 Is it because his patience waits,
And pitying bowels move,
You multiply transgressions more
And scorn his offer'd love?
- 3 Dost thou not know, self-blinded man!
His goodness is design'd
To wake repentance in thy soul,
And melt thy harden'd mind?
- 4 And wilt thou rather choose to meet
Th' Almighty as thy foe,
And treasure up his wrath in store
Against the day of woe!
- 5 Soon shall that fatal day approach,
That must thy sentence seal,
And righteous judgments now unknown,
In awful pomp reveal;
- 6 While they who full of holy deeds
To glory seek to rise,
Continuing patient to the end,
Shall gain th' immortal prize.

46 *Rom. iii. 19,—22.*

VAIN are the hopes the sons of men
Upon their works have built;
Their hearts by nature are unclean,
Their actions full of guilt.

2 Silent let Jew and Gentile stand,
Without one vaunting word;
And, humbled low, confess their guilt
Before heaven's righteous Lord.

3 No hope can on the law be built
Of justifying grace;
The law, that shows the sinner's guilt,
Condemns him to his face.

4 Jesus! how glorious is thy grace!
 When in thy name we trust,
 Our faith receives a righteousness
 That makes the sinner just.

47 *Rom. vi. 1,—7.*

AND shall we then go on to sin
 That grace may more abound?
 Great God! forbid that such a thought
 Should in our breast be found!

2 When to the sacred fount we came,
 Did not the rite proclaim,
 That, wash'd from sin, and all its stains,
 New creatures we became?

3 With Christ the Lord we died to sin;
 With him to life we rise,
 To life, which now begun on earth,
 Is perfect in the skies.

4 Too long enthrall'd to Satan's sway,
 We now are slaves no more;
 For Christ hath vanquish'd death and sin,
 Our freedom to restore.

48 *Rom. viii. 31. to the end.*

LET Christian faith and hope dispel
 The fears of guilt and woe;
 The Lord Almighty is our friend,
 And who can prove a foe?

2 He who his Son, most dear and lov'd,
 Gave up for us to die,
 Shall he not all things freely give
 That goodness can supply?

3 Behold the best, the greatest gift,
 Of everlasting love!
 Behold the pledge of peace below,
 And perfect bliss above!

- 4 Where is the judge who can condemn,
 Since God hath justified?
 Who shall charge those with guilt or crime
 For whom the Saviour died?
- 5 The Saviour died, but rose again
 Triumphant from the grave;
 And pleads our cause at God's right hand,
 Omnipotent to save.
- 6 Who, then, can e'er divide us more
 From Jesus and his love,
 Or break the sacred chain that binds
 The earth to heav'n above!
- 7 Let troubles rise, and terrors frown,
 And days of darkness fall;
 Through him all dangers we'll defy,
 And more than conquer all.
- 8 Nor death, nor life, nor earth, nor hell,
 Nor time's destroying sway,
 Can e'er efface us from his heart,
 Or make his love decay.
- 9 Each future period that will bless,
 As it has bless'd the past;
 He lov'd us from the first of time;
 He loves us to the last.

49 1 Cor. xiii.

THOUGH perfect eloquence adorn'd
 My sweet persuading tongue,
 Though I could speak in higher strains
 Than ever angel sung;

2 Though prophecy my soul inspir'd,
 And made all myst'ries plain;
 Yet, were I void of Christian love,
 These gifts were all in vain.

3 Nay, though my faith, with boundless pow'r,
 Ev'n mountains could remove,

- I still am nothing, if I'm void
Of charity and love.
- 4 Although with lib'ral hand I gave
My goods the poor to feed,
Nay, gave my body to the flames,
Still fruitless were the deed.
- 5 Love suffers long; love envies not;
But love is ever kind;
She never boasteth of herself,
Nor proudly lifts the mind.
- 6 Love harbours no suspicious thought,
Is patient to the bad;
Griev'd when she hears of sins and crimes,
And in the truth is glad.
- 7 Love no unseemly carriage shows,
Nor selfishly confin'd;
She glows with social tenderness,
And feels for all mankind.
- 8 Love beareth much, much she believes,
And still she hopes the best;
Love meekly suffers many a wrong,
Though sore with hardship press'd.
- 9 Love still shall hold an endless reign
In earth and heav'n above,
When tongues shall cease, and prophets fail,
And ev'ry gift but love.
- 10 Here all our gifts imperfect are;
But better days draw nigh,
When perfect light shall pour its rays,
And all those shadows fly.
- 11 Like children here we speak and think,
Amus'd with childish toys;
But when our pow'rs their manhood reach,
We'll scorn our present joys.

12 Now dark and dim, as through a glass,
 Are God and truth beheld ;
 Then shall we see, as face to face,
 And God shall be unveil'd.

13 Faith, Hope, and Love, now dwell on earth,
 And earth by them is blest ;
 But Faith and Hope must yield to Love,
 Of all the graces best.

14 Hope shall to full fruition rise,
 And Faith to sight above ;
 These are the means, but this the end ;
 For saints for ever love.

50 1 Cor. xv. 52. to the end.

WHEN the last trumpet's awful voice
 This rending earth shall shake,
 When op'ning graves shall yield their charge,
 And dust to life awake.

2 Those bodies that corrupted fell,
 Shall incorrupted rise ;
 And mortal forms shall spring to life
 Immortal in the skies.

3 Behold, what heav'nly prophets sung,
 Is now at last fulfill'd,
 That death should yield his ancient reign,
 And vanquish'd quit the field.

4 Let faith exalt her joyful voice,
 And thus begin to sing :
 O grave ! where is thy triumph now ?
 And where, O death ! thy sting !

5* Thy sting was sin, and conscious guilt ;
 'Twas this that arm'd thy dart ;
 The law gave sin its strength, and force
 To pierce the sinner's heart.

6 But God, whose name be ever blest !
 Disarms that foe we dread,

And makes us conqu'rors when we die,
 Through Christ our living head.
 7 Then stedfast let us still remain,
 Though dangers rise around,
 And in the work prescrib'd by God
 Yet more and more abound ;
 8 Assur'd that though we labour now,
 We labour not in vain,
 But, through the grace of heaven's great Lord,
 Th' eternal crown shall gain.

51 2 *Cor.* v. 1,---11.

SOON shall this earthly frame dissolv'd
 In death and ruins lie ;
 But better mansions wait the just,
 Prepar'd above the sky.

2 An house eternal, built by God,
 Shall lodge the holy mind ;
 When once those prison walls have fall'n
 By which 'tis now confin'd.

3 Hence, burden'd with a weight of clay,
 We groan beneath the load,
 Waiting the hour which sets us free,
 And brings us home to God.

4 We know that when the soul uncloth'd
 Shall from this body fly,
 'Twill animate a purer frame,
 With life that cannot die.

5 Such are the hopes that cheer the just ;
 These hopes their God hath giv'n ;
 His Spirit is the earnest now,
 And seals their souls for heav'n.

6 We walk by faith of joys to come,
 Faith grounded on his word ;
 But while this body is our home,
 We mourn an absent Lord.

- 7 What faith rejoices to believe,
 We long and pant to see;
 We would be absent from the flesh,
 And present, Lord! with thee.
- 8 But still, or here, or going hence,
 To this our labours tend,
 That, in his service spent, our life
 May in his favour end.
- 9 For, lo! before the Son, as Judge,
 Th' assembled world shall stand,
 To take the punishment or prize
 From his unerring hand.
- 10 Impartial retributions then
 Our diff'rent lives await;
 Our present actions, good or bad,
 Shall fix our future fate.

52 *Phil. ii. 6,---12.*

- Y**E who the name of Jesus bear,
 His sacred steps pursue;
 And let that mind which was in him
 Be also found in you.
- 2 Though in the form of God he was,
 His only Son declar'd,
 Nor to be equally ador'd
 As robb'ry did regard.
- 3 His greatness he for us abas'd,
 For us his glory veil'd;
 In human likeness dwelt on earth,
 His majesty conceal'd.
- 4 Nor only as a man appears,
 But stoops a servant low;
 Submits to death, nay bears the cross,
 In all its shame and woe.
- 5 Hence God this gen'rous love to men,
 With honours just hath crown'd,

And rais'd the name of Jesus far
Above all names renown'd.

6 That at this name, with sacred awe,
Each humbled knee should bow,
Of hosts immortal in the skies,
And nations spread below.

7 That all the prostrate pow'rs of hell
Might tremble at his word,
And ev'ry tribe, and ev'ry tongue,
Confess that he is Lord.

53 1 *Thess.* iv. 13, to the end.

TAKE comfort, Christians! when your friend
In Jesus fall asleep;

Their better being never ends;
Why then dejected weep?

2 Why inconsolable as those
To whom no hope is giv'n?
Death is the messenger of peace,
And calls the soul to heav'n.

3 As Jesus died, and rose again
Victorious from the dead;
So his disciples rise, and reign
With their triumphant head.

4 The time draws nigh, when from the clouds
Christ shall with shouts descend,
And the last trumpet's awful voice
The heav'ns and earth shall rend.

5 Then they who live shall changed be,
And they who sleep shall wake;
The grave shall yield their ancient charge,
And earth's foundations shake.

6 The saints of God, from death set free,
With joy shall mount on high;
The heav'nly hosts with praises loud
Shall meet them in the sky.

7 Together to their Father's house,
 With joyful hearts they go;
 And dwell for ever with the Lord,
 Beyond the reach of woe.

8 A few short years of evil past,
 We reach the happy shore,
 Where death-divided friends at last
 Shall meet to part no more.

54 2 *Tim.* i. 12.

I'M not asham'd to own my Lord,
 Or to defend his cause,
 Maintain the glory of his cross,
 And honour all his laws.

2 Jesus, my Lord! I know his name,
 His name is all my boast;
 Nor will he put my soul to shame,
 Nor let my hope be lost.

3 I know that safe with him remains,
 Protected by his pow'r,
 What I've committed to his trust,
 Till the decisive hour.

4 Then will he own his servant's name,
 Before his Father's face,
 And in the New Jerusalem
 Appoint my soul a place.

55 2 *Tim.* iv. 6, 7, 8, 18.

MY race is run; my warfare's o'er;
 The solemn hour is nigh,
 When, offer'd up to God, my soul
 Shall wing its flight on high.

2 With heav'nly weapons I have fought
 The battles of the Lord;
 Finish'd my course, and kept the faith,
 Depending on his word.

- 3 Henceforth there is laid up for me
 A crown which cannot fade ;
 The righteous Judge at that great day
 Shall place it on my head.
- 4 Nor hath the sov'reign Lord decreed
 This prize for me alone ;
 But for all such as love like me
 Th' appearance of his Son.
- 5 From ev'ry snare and evil work
 His grace shall me defend,
 And to his heav'nly kingdom safe
 Shall bring me in the end.

56 *Titus*, iii. 3,---9.

HOW wretched was our former state,
 When slaves to Satan's sway,
 With hearts disorder'd and impure,
 O'erwhelm'd in sin we lay !

- 2 But, O my soul ! for ever praise,
 For ever love his name,
 Who turn'd thee from the fatal paths
 Of folly, sin, and shame.
- 3 Vain and presumptuous is the trust
 Which in our works we place,
 Salvation from a higher source
 Flows to the human race.
- 4 'Tis from the mercy of our God
 That all our hopes begin ;
 His mercy sav'd our souls from death,
 And wash'd our souls from sin.
- 5 His Spirit, through the Saviour shed,
 Its sacred fire imparts,
 Refines our dross, and love divine
 Rekindles in our hearts.
- 6 Thence, rais'd from death, we live anew ;
 And, justify'd by grace.

We hope in glory to appear,
And see our Father's face.

7 Let all who hold this faith and hope
In holy deeds abound ;

Thus faith approves itself sincere
By active virtue crown'd.

57 *Heb. iv. 14. to the end.*

JESUS, the Son of God, who once
For us his life resign'd,
Now lives in heav'n our great High Priest,
And never-dying friend.

2 Through life, through death, let us to him
With constancy adhere ;

Faith shall supply new strength, and hope
Shall banish ev'ry fear.

3 To human weakness not severe
Is our High Priest above ;

His heart o'erflows with tenderness,
His bowels melt with love.

4 With sympathetic feelings touch'd,
He knows our feeble frame ;

He knows what sore temptations are,
For he has felt the same.

5 But though he felt temptation's pow'r,
Unconquer'd he remain'd ;

Nor 'midst the frailty of our frame
By sin was ever stain'd.

6 As in the days of feeble flesh
He pour'd forth cries and tears ;

So, though exalted, still he feels
What ev'ry Christian bears.

7 Then let us with a filial heart,
Come boldly to the throne

Of grace supreme, to tell our griefs,
And all our wants make known ;

8 That mercy we may there obtain
 For sins and errors past,
 And grace to help in time of need,
 While days of trial last.

58 *Another version of the same passage.*

WHERE high the heav'nly temple stands,
 The house of God not made with hands,
 A great High Priest our nature wears ;
 The guardian of mankind appears.

2 He who for men their surety stood,
 And pour'd on earth his precious blood,
 Pursues in heav'n his mighty plan,
 The Saviour and the friend of man.

3 Though now ascended up on high,
 He bends on earth a brother's eye ;
 Partaker of the human name,
 He knows the frailty of our frame.

4 Our fellow-sufferer yet retains
 A fellow-feeling of our pains ;
 And still remembers, in the skies,
 His tears, his agonies, and cries.

5 In ev'ry pang that rends the heart,
 The man of sorrows had a part ;
 He sympathizes with our grief,
 And to the suff'rer sends relief.

6 With boldness therefore at the throne,
 Let us, make all our sorrows known ;
 And ask the aid of heav'nly pow'r,
 To help us in the evil hour.

59 *Heb. xii. 1,---13.*

BEHOLD what witnesses unseen
 Encompass us around ;
 Men once like us with suff'ring tried,
 But now with glory crown'd.

- 2 Let us, with zeal like theirs inspir'd,
 Begin the Christian race,
 And, freed from each incumb'ring weight,
 Their holy footsteps trace.
- 3 Behold a witness nobler still,
 Who trod affliction's path,
 Jesus, at once the finisher
 And author of our faith.
- 4 He, for the joy before him set,
 So gen'rous was his love,
 Endur'd the cross, despis'd the shame,
 And now he reigns above.
- 5 If he the scorn of wicked men
 With patience did sustain,
 Becomes it those for whom he died
 To murmur or complain?
- 6 Have ye, like him, to blood, to death,
 The cause of truth maintain'd?
 And is your heav'nly Father's voice
 Forgotten or disdain'd?
- 7 My son, saith he, with patient mind
 Endure the chast'ning rod;
 Believe, when by affliction tried,
 That thou art lov'd by God.
- 8 His children thus most dear to him,
 Their heav'nly Father trains,
 Through all the hard experience led
 Of sorrows and of pains.
- 9 We know he owns us for his sons,
 When we correction share;
 Nor wander as a bastard race,
 Without our Father's care.
- 10 A father's voice with rev'ence we
 On earth have often heard;

The Father of our spirits now
Demands the same regard.

11 Parents may err; but he is wise,
Nor lifts the rod in vain;

His chast'nings serve to cure the soul
By salutary pain.

12 Affliction, when it spreads around,
May seem a field of woe,

Yet there, at last, the happy fruits
Of righteousness shall grow.

13 Then, let our hearts no more despond,
Our hands be weak no more;

Still let us trust our Father's love,
His wisdom still adore.

60 *Heb. xiii. 20, 21.*

FATHER of peace, and God of love!
We own thy pow'r to save,
That pow'r by which our Shepherd rose
Victorious o'er the grave.

2 Him from the dead thou brought'st again,
When by his sacred blood,
Confirm'd and seal'd for evermore,
Th' eternal cov'nant stood.

3 O may thy Spirit seal our souls,
And mould them to thy will,
That our weak hearts no more may stray,
But keep thy precepts still;

4 That to perfection's sacred height
We nearer still may rise,
And all we think, and all we do,
Be pleasing in thine eyes.

61 *1 Pet. i. 3,---5.*

BLESS'D be the everlasting God,
The Father of our Lord;

Be his abounding mercy prais'd,
His majesty ador'd.

2 When from the dead he rais'd his Son,
And call'd him to the sky,
He gave our souls a lively hope
That they should never die.

3 To an inheritance divine
He taught our hearts to rise;
'Tis uncorrupted, undefil'd,
Unfading in the skies.

4 Saints by the pow'r of God are kept
Till the salvation come:
We walk by faith as strangers here;
But Christ shall call us home.

62 2 *Pet.* iii. 3,---14.

LO! in the last of days behold
A faithless race arise;
Their lawless lust their only rule;
And thus the scoffer cries:

2 Where is the promise, deem'd so true,
That spoke the Saviour near?
E'er since our fathers slept in dust,
No change has reach'd our ear.

3 Years roll'd on years successive glide,
Since first the world began,
And on the tide of time still floats,
Secure, the bark of man.

4 Thus speaks the scoffer; but his words
Conceal the truth he knows,
That from the water's dark abyss
The earth at first arose.

5 But when the sons of men began
With one consent to stray,
At heaven's command a deluge swept
The godless race away.

- 6 A different fate is now prepar'd
 For Nature's trembling frame;
 Soon shall her orbs be all inwrapt
 In one devouring flame.
- 7 Reserv'd are sinners for the hour,
 When to the gulf below,
 Arm'd with the hand of sov'reign pow'r
 The Judge consigns his foe.
- 8 Though now, ye just! the time appears
 Protracted, dark, unknown,
 An hour, a day, a thousand years,
 To heaven's great Lord are one.
- 9 Still all may share his sov'reign grace,
 In ev'ry change secure;
 The meek, the suppliant contrite race,
 Shall find his mercy sure.
- 10 The contrite race he counts his friends,
 Forbids the suppliant's fall;
 Condemns reluctant, but extends
 The hope of grace to all.
- 11 Yet as the night-wrapt thief who lurks
 To seize th' expected prize,
 Thus steals the hour when Christ shall come,
 And thunder rend the skies.
- 12 Then at the loud, the solemn peal,
 The heav'ns shall burst away;
 The elements shall melt in flame
 At Nature's final day.
- 13 Since all this frame of things must end,
 As heav'n has so decreed,
 How wise, our inmost thoughts to guard,
 And watch o'er ev'ry deed;
- 14 Expecting calm th' appointed hour,
 When Nature's conflict o'er,

A new and better world shall rise,
Where sin is known 'no more!

63 1 *John*, iii. 1,---4.

BEHOLD th' amazing gift of love
The Father hath bestow'd
On us, the sinful sons of men,
To call us sons of God.

2 Conceal'd as yet this honour lies,
By this dark world unknown,
A world that knew not when he came,
Ev'n God's eternal Son.

3 High is the rank we now possess;
But higher we shall rise;
Though what we shall hereafter be
Is hid from mortal eyes:

4 Our souls, we know, when he appears,
Shall bear his image bright;
For all his glory full disclos'd
Shall open to our sight.

5 A hope so great and so divine
May trials well endure,
And purge the soul from sense and sin,
As Christ himself is pure.

64 *Rev.* i. 5,---9.

TO Him that lov'd the souls of men,
And wash'd us in his blood,
To royal honours rais'd our head,
And made us priests to God;

2 To him let ev'ry tongue be praise,
And ev'ry heart be love!
All grateful honours paid on earth,
And nobler songs above!

3 Behold, on flying clouds he comes!
His saints shall bless the day;

While they that pierc'd him sadly mourn
 In anguish and dismay.

4 I am the First, and I the Last ;
 Time centers all in me ;
 Th' almighty God, who was, and is,
 And evermore shall be.

65 *Rev. v. 6, to the end.*

BEHOLD the glories of the Lamb
 Amidst his Father's throne ;
 Prepare new honours for his name,
 And songs before unknown.

2 Lo ! elders worship at his feet ;
 The church adores around,
 With vials full of odours rich,
 And harps of sweetest sound.

3 These odours are the pray'rs of saints,
 These sounds the hymns they raise ;
 God bends his ear to their requests ;
 He loves to hear their praise.

4 Who shall the Father's record search,
 And hidden things reveal ?
 Behold the Son that record takes,
 And open's ev'ry seal !

5 Hark ! how the adoring hosts above
 With songs surround the throne ;
 Ten thousand thousand are their tongues ;
 But all their hearts are one.

6 Worthy the Lamb that dy'd, they cry,
 To be exalted thus ;
 Worthy the Lamb, let us reply,
 For he was slain for us.

7 To him be pow'r divine ascrib'd,
 And endless blessings paid ;
 Salvation, glory, joy, remain
 For ever on his head !

8 Thou hast redeem'd us with thy blood,
And set the pris'ners free ;

Thou mad'st us kings and priests to God,
And we shall reign with thee.

9 From ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tongue,
Thou brought'st thy chosen race ;
And distant lands and isles have shar'd
The riches of thy grace.

10 Let all that dwell above the sky,
Or on the earth below,
With fields, and floods, and ocean's shores,
To thee their homage show.

11 To him who sits upon the throne,
The God whom we adore,
And to the Lamb that once was slain,
Be glory evermore.

66 *Rev. vii. 13, to the end.*

HOW bright these glorious spirits shine !
Whence all their white array ?
How came they to the blissful seats
Of everlasting day ?

2 Lo ! these are they from suff'rings great
Who came to realms of light,
And in the blood of Christ have wash'd
Those robes which shine so bright.

3 Now, with triumphal palms, they stand
Before the throne on high,
And serve the God they love, amidst
The glories of the sky.

4 His presence fills each heart with joy,
Tunes ev'ry mouth to sing ;
By day, by night, the sacred courts
With glad hosannas ring.

5 Hunger and thirst are felt no more,
Nor suns with scorching ray ;

PARAPHRASE 67

God is their sun, whose cheering beams
Diffuse eternal day.

6 The Lamb which dwells amidst the throne
Shall o'er them still preside ;
Feed them with nourishment divine,
And all their footsteps guide.

7 'Mong pastures green he'll lead his flock,
Where living streams appear ;
And God the Lord from ev'ry eye
Shall wipe off ev'ry tear.

67 *Rev. xxi. 1,---9.*

LO! what a glorious sight appears
To our admiring eyes!

The former seas have pass'd away,
The former earth and skies.

2 From heav'n the new Jerus'lem comes,
All worthy of its Lord ;

See all things now at last renew'd,
And paradise restor'd!

3 Attending angels shout for joy,
And the bright armies sing ;

Mortals! behold the sacred seat
Of your descending King!

4 The God of glory down to men
Removes his bless'd abode ;

He dwells with men; his people they,
And he his people's God.

5 His gracious hand shall wipe the tears
From ev'ry weeping eye ;

And pains and groans, and griefs and fears,
And death itself shall die.

6 Behold I change all human things!
Saith he, whose words are true ;

Lo! what was old is past away,
And all things are made new!

PARAPHRASE 67

- 7 I am the First, and I the Last,
Through endless years the same;
I AM, is my memorial still,
And my eternal name.
- 8 Ho, ye that thirst! to you my grace
Shall hidden streams disclose,
And open full the sacred spring
Whence life for ever flows.
- 9 Bless'd is the man that overcomes;
I'll own him for a son;
A rich inheritance rewards
The conquests he hath won.
- 10 But bloody hands, and hearts unclean,
And all the lying race,
The faithless, and the scoffing crew,
Who spurn'd at offered grace,
11 They, seizd by justice, shall be doom'd
In dark abyss to lie;
And in the fiery burning lake
The second death shall die.
- 12 O may we stand before the Lamb,
When earth and seas are fled,
And hear the Judge pronounce our name,
With blessings on our head !

H Y M N S.



HYMN 1

- W**HEN all thy mercies, O my God!
My rising soul surveys,
Transported with the view, I'm lost
In wonder, love, and praise.
- 2 O how shall words with equal warmth,
The gratitude declare
That glows within my ravish'd heart?
But thou canst read it there.
- 3 Thy providence my life sustain'd,
And all my wants redress'd,
When in the silent womb I lay,
And hung upon the breast.
- 4 To all my weak complaints and cries
Thy mercy lent an ear,
Ere yet my feeble thoughts had learn'd
To form themselves in pray'r.
- 5 Unnumber'd comforts to my soul
Thy tender care bestow'd,
Before my infant heart conceiv'd
From whom these comforts flow'd.
- 6 When in the slipp'ry paths of youth
With heedless steps I ran,
Thine arm unseen convey'd me safe,
And led me up to man:
- 7 Through hidden dangers, toils, and deaths,
It gently clear'd my way;
And through the pleasing snares of vice,
More to be fear'd than they.

HYMN 2

- 8 When worn with sickness, oft hast thou
 With health renew'd my face ;
 And when in sins and sorrows sunk,
 Reviv'd my soul with grace.
- 9 Thy bounteous hand with worldly bliss
 Hath made my cup run o'er ;
 And in a kind and faithful friend
 Hath doubled all my store.
- 10 Ten thousand thousand precious gifts
 My daily thanks employ ;
 Nor is the least a cheerful heart,
 That tastes these gifts with joy.
- 11 Through ev'ry period of my life
 Thy goodness I'll proclaim ;
 And after death, in distant worlds,
 Assume the glorious theme.
- 12 When nature fails and day and night
 Divide thy works no more,
 My ever-grateful heart, O Lord,
 Thy mercy shall adore.
- 13 Through all eternity to thee
 A joyful song I'll raise ;
 For, oh ! eternity's too short
 To utter all thy praise.

HYMN 2

- T**HE spacious firmament on high,
 With all the blue etherial sky,
 And spangled heav'ns, a shining frame,
 Their great original proclaim.
- 2 The unwearied sun from day to day,
 Does his Creator's pow'r display ;
 And publishes to ev'ry land
 The work of an almighty hand.
- 3 Soon as the ev'ning shades prevail,
 The moon takes up the wond'rous tale,

HYMN 3

- And nightly to the list'ning earth
Repeats the story of her birth ;
- 4 While all the stars that round her burn,
And all the planets in their turn,
Confirm the tidings as they roll,
And spread the truth from pole to pole.
- 5 What though in solemn silence all
Move round the dark terrestrial ball?
What though no real voice, nor sound,
Amidst their radiant orbs be found?
- 6 In reason's ear they all rejoice,
And utter forth a glorious voice ;
For ever singing, as they shine,
" The hand that made us is divine."

HYMN 3

- W**HEN rising from the bed of death,
O'erwhelm'd with guilt and fear,
I see my Maker face to face,
O how shall I appear !
- 2 If yet while pardon may be found,
And mercy may be sought,
My heart with inward horror shrinks,
And trembles at the thought ;
- 3 When thou, O Lord ! shalt stand disclos'd
In majesty severe,
And sit in judgment on my soul,
O how shall I appear !
- 4 But thou hast told the troubled mind
Who doth her sins lament,
That timely grief for errors past
Shall future woe prevent.
- 5 Then see the sorrows of my heart,
Ere yet it be too late ;
And hear my Saviour's dying groans,
To give those sorrows weight.

HYMN 4---5

6 For never shall my soul despair
Of mercy at thy throne,
Who knows thy only Son has dy'd,
Thy justice to atone.

HYMN 4

BLEST morning! whose first dawning rays
Beheld the Son of God
Arise triumphant from the grave,
And leave his dark abode.

2 Wrapt in the silence of the tomb
The great Redeemer lay,
Till the revolving skies had brought
The third, th' appointed day.

3 Hell and the grave combin'd their force
To hold our Lord in vain;
Sudden the conqueror arose,
And burst their feeble chain.

4 To thy great name, almighty Lord!
We sacred honours pay,
And loud hosannahs shall proclaim
The triumphs of the day.

5 Salvation and immortal praise
To our victorious king!
Let heav'n and earth, and rocks, and seas,
With glad hosannahs ring.

6 To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom we adore,
Be glory as it was, and is,
And shall be evermore.

HYMN 5

THE hour of my departure's come;
I hear the voice that calls me home;
At last, O Lord! let trouble cease,
And let thy servant die in peace.

HYMN 5

- 2 The race appointed I have run ;
The combat's o'er ; the prize is won ;
And now my witness is on high,
And now my record's in the sky.
- 3 Not in mine innocence I trust ;
I bow before thee in the dust ;
And through my Saviour's blood alone
I look for mercy at thy throne.
- 4 I leave the world without a tear,
Save for the friends I held so dear :
To heal their sorrows, Lord, descend,
And to the friendless prove a friend.
- 5 I come, I come, at thy command,
I give my spirit to thy hand ;
Stretch forth thine everlasting arms,
And shield me in the last alarms !
- 6 The hour of my departure's come,
I hear the voice that calls me home :
Now, O my God ! let trouble cease,
Now let thy servant die in peace.

FINIS.

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HYMNS.

	Hymn
When all thy mercies, O my God	1
The spacious firmament on high	2
When rising from the bed of death	3
Blest morning whose first dawning rays	4
The hour of my departure's come;	5

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be clearly documented and supported by appropriate evidence. This ensures transparency and accountability in the financial process.

Furthermore, it is noted that regular audits are essential to identify any discrepancies or errors. By conducting these audits, organizations can prevent fraud and ensure that their financial statements are reliable. The document also highlights the need for clear communication between all parties involved in the financial process.

In conclusion, the document stresses that a strong financial foundation is crucial for the long-term success of any organization. By adhering to these principles, businesses can build trust and ensure their financial health.

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