

[13] Thereupon Esther said to the king, Let the Jews be allowed to use to-morrow in like manner, that they may hang up the ten sons of Haman. [14] Accordingly he granted them leave to do so, and ordered the bodies of the ten sons of Haman, to be thrown out to the Jews to be hanged up. [15] So the Jews at Susa assembled on the fourteenth day of the month Adar, and slew three hundred men, but took no spoil.

[16] Now the rest of the Jews who were in the kingdom, assembled and assisted each other, and had rest from their enemies, for they slew fifteen thousand of them on the thirteenth of the month Adar, but took no spoil. [17] And having rested on the fourteenth of the month, they kept it as a day of rest with joy and gladness. [18] But the Jews of Susa having assembled on the fourteenth and then rested, kept the fifteenth with joy and gladness. [19] Therefore because the Jews, who were scattered through all the distant provinces, keep the fourteenth of the month Adar, as a holy day, with joy, sending portions to one another,

[20] Mordecai wrote an account of these matters in a book, and sent it to all the Jews who were in the kingdom of Artaxerxes far and near, [21] to set apart as holy days and to keep both the fourteenth and the fifteenth of the month Adar, [22] for in those days the Jews had rest from their enemies: And with regard to the month Adar, in which they had a change from grief to joy and from sorrow to gladness, to keep the whole month as good days of weddings and joy, sending portions to their friends and to the poor. [23] And the Jews took this upon them. As Mordecai wrote to them [24] how Haman of Amadathu, the Macedonian, warred against them—how he made calculations and cast lots to destroy them, [25] and how he went to the king with an intention to hang Mordecai, but all the evils he endeavoured to bring on the Jews, fell upon himself, and he and his sons were hanged; [26] therefore these days were called Phourai, because of the lots, which in their language are called Phourai [in Hebrew, *Purim*].

On the account of the things contained in that letter and of all that they suffered in consequence thereof, and all that happened to them, as he instituted, [27] so the Jews took upon themselves and their posterity, and upon all that joined them, never to use those days in any other manner. [28] Therefore let these days be a lasting memorial from generation to generation, in every city, country and province; and let these days of Phourai be kept forever; and let the memorial of them never perish from among their generations.

[29, 30] Then queen Esther, the daughter of Aminadab, and

Mordecai the Jew, wrote all that they did, and a confirmation of the letter respecting the Phourai. [31] And Mordecai and Esther the queen privately enjoined [a fast], on themselves, having at that time established that counsel against their health. [32] Thus did Esther perpetually establish it by command, and it was written to be kept in remembrance.

* CHAPTER X *

THEN the king laid a tribute upon the dominion both of the land and the sea. [2] But with regard to his power and his valour and the riches and the glory of his kingdom, behold they are written in the book of the kings of the Persians and the Medes to be kept in remembrance. [3] Now Mordecai became viceroy to king Artaxerxes, and was great in the kingdom, and being honoured by the Jews, and beloved of all his nation, he watched over their guidance.

And Mordecai said, These things have been done by God; for I remember the dream I had concerning these matters, and not one particular has failed [to occur]. A little fountain became a river, and there was light, and the sun, and much water. This river is Esther, whom the king married, and made queen; and the two dragons are myself and Haman. And the nations were those that gathered to destroy the name of the Jews; and my nation is Israel, they that cried unto God and were delivered.

For the Lord hath delivered His people, and the Lord hath saved us from all these evils. And God hath wrought signs and great wonders that have not been performed among the gentiles. Therefore hath he ordained two lots; one for the people of God and another for all the gentiles. And these two lots came in an hour and time and day of judgment before the face of God, and for all nations.

And God remembered His people, and vindicated His inheritance. And they shall observe those days in the month Adar—the fourteenth and fifteenth day of the month—with an assembly, and joy, and gladness before God, among His people Israel throughout the generations forever.

In the fourth year of the reign of Ptolemy and Cleopatra, Dositheos, who said he was a priest and a Levite, and his son, Ptolemy, brought this published epistle of Phourai, which they said was the same [as the original by Mordecai], and which Lysimachos, the son of Ptolemy [Dositheos' son], had interpreted.

THERE was a man in the country of Ausitis whose name was Job. He was a man of truth and integrity, just, pious, and who abstained from everything that was evil. [2] He had seven sons and three daughters; and his cattle were seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred breeding asses. [3] His attendants were numerous, and his works great in the country. He was also a man of illustrious birth, among the people of the east.

[4] Now his sons had a custom of meeting at each other's houses, and making an entertainment, each on his day, taking along with him their three sisters to eat and drink with them. [5] And soon as the days of the entertainment were over, Job sent for, and purified them early the next morning, and offered sacrifices for them according to their numbers; a young bull for a sin offering for each of them; for Job said, Perhaps my children have in their mind conceived evil before God. In this manner therefore Job acted after every of those days.

[6] And it came to pass that on the same day, when lo! the angels of God came to present themselves before the Lord, Satan also came with them; [7] and the Lord said to Satan, Whence comest thou? And Satan in reply said to the Lord, Having gone round the earth, and roved the whole of it under heaven, I am come here. [8] And the Lord said to him, Hast thou harboured in thy mind anything against My servant Job? For there is not like him on the earth, a man unblamable, true, pious, abstaining from everything evil. [9] And Satan in reply said before the Lord, Doth Job worship the Lord for nothing? [10] Hast Thou not made a hedge about all that he hath, abroad and at home, and about all that belong to him round about, and blessed the works of his hands, and multiplied his cattle on the earth? [11] But put forth Thine hand and touch all that he hath, he will indeed openly renounce Thee. [12] Then the Lord said to Satan, Behold all that he hath I deliver into thine hand; but himself thou must not touch.

So Satan went out from the Lord, and after that, [13] on the same day, when the sons and daughters of Job were drinking

wine at their elder brother's house, [14] lo! a messenger came to Job, and said to him, The oxen were ploughing and the asses feeding near them, [15] and the plunderers came and carried them off. Thy servants also they slew with the sword, and I alone having escaped, am come to tell thee. [16] While he was yet speaking, another messenger came, and said to Job: Fire hath fallen from heaven and burned up the sheep, and devoured the shepherds likewise; and I, alone having escaped, am come to tell thee.

[17] While this one was still speaking, another messenger came and said to Job, The horsemen, having formed three bands against us, surrounded the camels and have carried them off, and slain thy servants with the sword; and I, alone having escaped, am come to tell thee. [18] While he was still speaking, another messenger came, and said to Job, While thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking at their eldest brother's, [19] a great blast of wind came up suddenly from the wilderness, and took the four corners of the house, so that the house fell upon thy children, and they are dead, and I, alone having escaped, am come to tell thee.

[20] Upon this Job rising up rent his clothes, and shaved his head, and falling on the ground he worshipped [21] and said, Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I shall depart hence. The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away. As it pleased the Lord, so hath it come to pass. Blessed be the name of the Lord. [22] In all these things which befell him, Job transgressed not against the Lord, nor imputed indiscretion to his God.

AGAIN on the day when the angels of God came to present themselves before the Lord, Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. [2] And the Lord said to Satan, Whence comest thou? And Satan said before the Lord, Having traversed that which is under heaven, and roved through the whole of it, I am come here.

[3] And the Lord said to Satan, Thou hast therefore taken notice of my servant Job, that there is not of those on the earth a man like him,—guiltless, true, unblamable, abstaining from all evil. Still he retaineth his innocence; so that thou hast ordered the destruction of his property, without accomplishing thy purpose.

[4] In reply to which Satan said to the Lord, Skin for skin. All that a man hath he will give for his life. [5] Only put forth Thy

hand, and touch his bones and his flesh, he will indeed openly renounce Thee.

[6] Then the Lord said to Satan, Behold I deliver him up to thee, only preserve his life. [7] Thereupon Satan withdrew from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with foul ulcers from head to foot, [8] so that he took a shell to scrape away the ichor, and sat down in an unclean place without the city.

[9] And much time having elapsed, his wife said to him, How long wilt thou persist saying, Behold I will wait yet a little longer, in hope and expectation of my deliverance? For behold the memorial of thee—those sons and daughters, whom I brought forth with pangs and sorrow, and for whom I toiled in vain, are vanished from the earth; and thou thyself sittest among the putrefaction of worms, all night long in the open air, while I am wandering about, or working for wages, from place to place and from house to house, wishing for the setting of the sun, that I may rest from the labours and sorrows I endure. Do but say something for the Lord and die. [10] Whereupon he looking steadfastly at her said, Like one of the women without understanding hast thou spoken? If we have received good things at the hand of the Lord, shall we not bear up under afflictions? In all these things which befell him, Job transgressed not with his lips against God.

[11] Now when his three friends heard of all the calamities which were come upon him, they came to him each from his own country, namely, Eliphaz the king of the Thaimanites, Baldad the sovereign of the Sauchians, and Sophar the king of the Minaians. Having made an appointment they came to him to comfort and take care of him, but seeing him at a distance they did not know him. [12] Then raising their voices they wept aloud, and having rent each his robe and sprinkled themselves with dust, [13] they sat down by him seven days and seven nights. And none of them spoke. For they saw that the stroke was grievous and very great.

* CHAPTER III *

AFTER this Job opened his mouth and cursed his day, [2] saying:

[3] Perish the day in which I was born—and the night in which they said, It is a male! [4] Let that night be darkness: let not the Lord from above regard it, nor splendour come upon it: [5] but let darkness and the shadow of death cover it: upon it let there

come a thick darkness. May the day be execrated! [6] And as for that night, may a pitchy darkness sweep it away! May that never come into the days of the year; nor be numbered among the days of months. [7] But as for that night, may it be sorrow, and may there never come upon it gladness or mirth! [8] But let Him curse it who curseth the day—Him Who is to attack the great sea-monster. [9] May the stars of that night be obscured in darkness: may it long for light but never reach it; nor see the rising of the morning star: [10] because it shut not up the door of my mother's womb: for that would have removed sorrow from mine eyes: [11] for why did I not end my days in the womb?

Or when I came forth from the belly why did I not instantly perish? [12] Why was I dandled upon the knees? And why have I sucked the breasts? [13] I might now have lain still and been quiet; I might have gone to sleep and been at rest; [14] with despots of the earth who gloried in their swords: [15] or with chiefs who abounded in gold—who filled their houses with silver; [16] or like an untimely birth sent forth from its mother's womb: or like infants which never saw the light. [17] There the wicked have ceased to be a terror: there the weary have got rest for their body: [18] and they of old who are assembled there together; have never heard the exactor's voice. [19] Small and great are there on a level—the servant, with his dreaded lord. [20] For why is light given to them in misery; or life to souls distressed with sorrow, [21] who long for death but find it not; though they dig for it as for treasures; [22] and would rejoice exceedingly if they should chance to find it.

[23] For God hath shut up death from a man to whom it would have been a repose. [24] For my groaning cometh before my meat; and I pour forth tears, begirt with sorrow. [25] For the terror, which I dreaded, is come upon me; and that of which I was afraid hath befallen me. [26] Did I not cultivate peace? was I not quiet? was I not at rest? Yet wrath is come upon me.

* CHAPTER IV *

HERE Eliphaz the Thaimanite, interrupting him, said:

[2] Should frequent replies be made to thee in distress? But who can bear the vehemence of thy words? [3] For if thou hast instructed many; and strengthened hands which were weak; and raised up with words them who were fainting; [4] and given cour-

age to knees which were strengthless; [5] but now, when trouble hath come upon thee and touched thee, thou art impatient: [6] is not either thy fear grounded on folly—or thy hope? And this calamity the effect of thy conduct? [7] Recollect therefore. Who ever perished, being innocent? Or when were the righteous utterly destroyed? [8] As I have seen men ploughing improper grounds: they who sow such places shall reap sorrows. [9] By the decree of the Lord they shall perish; and by the blast of His ire be utterly consumed. [10] The strength of a lion and the roaring of a lioness and the boastful pride of dragons have been extinguished. [11] The old lions have perished for want of food: and young lions have forsaken each other. [12] But had there been any truth in thy words none of these evils would have happened to thee.

[13] Should not my ear receive unusual things coming from him? At a dreadful sound by night, when terror appalleth men, [14] I was seized with a horror and trembling, which gave a violent shaking to my bones. [15] A wind indeed blew full in my face, and my hair stood erect and my flesh quivered. [16] I started up, but could perceive nothing: I looked, but there was no form before my eyes. I only heard a sound and a voice, saying: [17] What! can a mortal be pure before the Lord, or a man by his works be blameless? [18] If in His servants He placeth not confidence, and in His angels perceiveth some blemish: [19] how should He treat them who dwell in houses of clay (of which clay we indeed are), but as worms? [20] But from morning till noon—and they are no more. [21] Because they could not help themselves they were destroyed. For He blowed on them and they withered: they perished because they had not wisdom.

* CHAPTER V *

APPEAL now, will anyone answer. Or shalt thou see any of the holy angels? [2] Passion indeed transporteth the foolish, and envy killeth the wanderer. [3] Now I have seen the foolish taking root, but their sustenance was quickly consumed. [4] Let their children be but far from safety, and insulted at the gates of minors, there will then be none to deliver them. [5] For what they have collected the righteous shall eat. Nor will they themselves be exempt from wrongs, should their power be exhausted. [6] For trouble cannot come forth out of the earth; nor will affliction spring up from mountains.

[7] But man is born for trouble, as the young of the vulture soar aloft; [8] but notwithstanding this, let me supplicate the Lord; and call upon the Lord, the master of all, [9] Who doth great and unsearchable things—things glorious and wonderful, not to be numbered. [10] Who giveth rain on the earth and sendeth water on all under heaven. [11] Who setteth on high them who are low, and raiseth up them who have been ruined. [12] Who changeth the counsels of the crafty, so that their hands can perform no enterprise. [13] Who entangleth the wise in their wisdom, and defeateth the counsel of the artful. [14] In the daytime, darkness shall meet them, that they may grope at noonday as at night, [15] and that they may perish in battle, and the weak escape from the hand of the mighty. [16] And that the feeble may have hope, and the mouth of the wicked be stopped.

[17] But happy the man whom the Lord correcteth. Therefore despise not thou the correction of the Almighty. [18] For He causeth pain and again removeth it: and him whom He smote, His hands have healed. [19] From six distresses He will deliver thee, and in the seventh evil shall not touch thee. [20] In famine He will deliver thee from death, and in battle save thee from the edge of the sword. [21] He will hide thee from the scourge of the tongue: and thou need'st not be afraid of impending ills. [22] At the wicked and unrighteous thou shalt laugh: [23] and of savage beasts need'st not be afraid; for the beasts of the field shall be at peace with thee. [24] Thou shalt know that thy family is at peace, and that the provision for thy household shall not fail. [25] Thou shalt know also that thy seed shall be great: thy children shall be like the grass of the field. [26] And thou shalt come to the grave like ripe grain cut in due season; or like a heap from a threshing floor, carried home in time.

[27] Behold these are the things which, by investigation, we have found to be so. These are things which we have heard: apply them to thyself, if thou hast done anything.

* CHAPTER VI *

TO this, Job in reply said:

[2] O that some person would weigh my passion, and poise in a balance against it my calamities. [3] But these would outweigh the sand of the sea, though you seem to think my words too vehement; [4] for the arrows of the Lord are in my body, the fury of

which drinketh up my blood. When I attempt to speak they pierce me.

[5] What! will a wild ass bray without cause? Will it do so, except when in search of food? Or will an ox low, having fodder in his stall? [6] Can bread be eaten without salt, or is there any relish in vain words? [7] For my temper cannot be calm, while my meat is horrible as the smell of a lion. [8] O that He would grant!—that my request might be complied with!—that the Lord would grant me what I long for!

[9] Let the Lord, having begun, wound me, but not utterly destroy me. [10] Let but the grave be my city, having got on its walls I will not be slack to enter, for I have not disputed the holy commands of my God. [11] For what is my strength that I should bear up! what my time, that my life is prolonged? [12] Is my strength the strength of stones, or is this flesh of mine made of brass? [13] Or have I not confided in Him? But help is far from me. [14] Mercy hath bidden me adieu. When the superintending care of the Lord overlooked me, [15] my nearest friends did not regard me: like a failing brook, or like a wave of the sea, they passed me by. [16] They who had assiduously paid me court, now made me a slight visit, like snow or hoar frost, [17] which melting at the approach of heat, the place where it was is not known. [18] Thus was I forsaken by all, and being undone, I became an outcast.

[19] Take a view of the ways of the Thaimanites, ye who mark out the Sabean tracks! [20] and they who trust in cities and wealth must blush. But now when you have come to me, it is without compassion— [21] just to see my wound and be terrified. But why? [22] Have I asked anything of you, or do I crave any help from you?— [23] to save me from mine enemies—or deliver me out of the hand of the mighty?

[24] Teach me and I will hold my tongue. If I have erred, tell me plainly. [25] But my words, it seems, are devoid of truth, because I do not beg assistance from you.

[26] Your reproof can neither stop my speaking, nor can I bear the tone of your oration: [27] because, you not only fall upon the orphan, but also insult your friend.

[28] But now, having looked you in the face, I will not lie. [29] Sit down I pray you, and let there be no more reproaches. Indeed, you again meet a righteous man. [30] For there are no reproaches on my tongue, and as for my palate, doth it not relish wisdom?

* CHAPTER VII *

IS not the life of man on the earth a state of trial, and his days like the days of a hireling? [2] Is he not like a servant, who in a shade is afraid of his lord? Or like a hireling waiting for his hire?

[3] Just so have I waited months in vain, and wearisome nights have been doled out to me. [4] When I lay me down to rest, I say, When will it be day? And soon as I rise; I again say, When will it be evening? I am full of pains from evening till morning; [5] and my body swarms with the putrefaction of worms: and I moisten the clods of earth with the ichor of ulcers. [6] Though my life is swifter than a word; yet it is destroyed with vain hope.

[7] Remember therefore that my life is but a breath; and that mine eyes shall never return again to see good. [8] The eye of him who seeth me now shall not see me again. Thine eyes are upon me and I am gone. [9] I am like a cloud swept clean away from the sky. For when a man goeth down to the mansion of the dead [10] he can never reascend again—he can never return again to his own house; nor shall his place know him anymore.

[11] For this cause then I will not refrain my mouth: I will speak though I am in anguish: though distressed, I will unfold the bitterness of my soul. [12] Am I a sea or a dragon, that Thou hast set a guard over me? [13] Did I say my bed will comfort me—I will converse with myself privately on my bed? [14] Thou terrifiest me with dreams and affrightest me with visions. [15] Wilt Thou drive away my life from my spirit; and yet keep my bones from death? [16] For I am not to live forever, that I should bear patiently. Withdraw from me; for my life is vanity.

[17] For what is man, that Thou hast magnified him; or that Thou payest attention to him? [18] Wilt Thou keep a watch upon him till the morning. And judge him to the time of going to rest? [19] How long wilt Thou not let me alone: nor let me go, that I may swallow my spittle? [20] If I have sinned what can I do? O Thou who knowest the hearts of men; why hast Thou set me up as Thy mark to shoot at? Am I indeed a burden to Thee? [21] Why hast Thou not made an oblivion of my transgression; or a purification for my sin? Now therefore let me depart into the earth: and when Thou risest in the morning, I am no more.

* CHAPTER VIII *

HERE Baldad the Sauchean interposing said, [2] How long wilt thou speak such things? The breath of thy mouth is profuse in words. [3] Will the Lord in judging pass an unrighteous judgment? Or will He who made all things pervert justice? [4] If thy children have sinned in His sight, He hath dismissed them for their transgression: [5] But rise thou betimes and supplicate the Lord Almighty. [6] If thou art pure and upright, He will hear thy prayer; and render to thee the reward of righteousness. [7] Let thy beginning therefore be ever so small, thy end will be unspeakably great. [8] For inquire of the former generation; and search diligently among the race of fathers; [9] for we are but of yesterday and know nothing—for our life on the earth is but a shadow. [10] Will not they teach thee, and declare; and from the heart utter these maxims:— [11] Can the papyrus grow without water? [12] Or can grass grow rank without drink? While grass is low it should not be mown. Before drinking doth not every herb wither?

[13] Such therefore shall be the end of all who forget the Lord: for the hope of the ungodly shall perish. [14] For his house shall be uninhabited: and his tent shall fly away like a spider's web. [15] Though he prop up his house, it cannot stand: Though he take hold of it, it will not abide, [16] for is he somewhat green underneath the sun? Though a tender branch may start up from his rottenness; his bed is on a heap of stones: [17] and can he live among flint stones? [18] Should he wish to drink, the place will disappoint him.

Hast thou not seen such things—that such is the catastrophe of the wicked? [19] But out of the ground He will cause another to spring up: [20] for the Lord will not cast off the innocent, nor from the ungodly accept a gift: [21] but He will fill the mouth of the upright with laughter, and their lips with sons of thanksgiving: [22] and their enemies shall be clothed with shame; and the dwellings of the wicked shall come to naught.

* CHAPTER IX *

TO this Job replied, [2] Of a truth I know that it is so. For how can a mortal be righteous with the Lord? [3] For were it his

pleasure to come to trial with Him, he could not join issue to answer one charge of His in a thousand. [4] For He is wise in heart and strong and great. Who is hardy enough to stand up against [5] Him Who maketh mountains old insensibly—Who overturneth them in His anger— [6] Who shaketh the earth to its foundations, so that the pillars thereof totter— [7] Who commandeth the sun and it riseth not; and Who sealet up against the stars— [8] Who alone hath outspread the heaven; and Who walketh on the sea as on a pavement— [9] Who is the maker of the Pleiads and Hesperus, [10] and of Arcturus and the chambers of the south—Who doth things great and unsearchable; things glorious and wonderful not to be numbered?

[11] When He passed over me I did not see Him. When He passed by me, I did not know how. [12] If He dismiss who shall bring back? Or who shall say to Him, What hast Thou done? [13] For He himself slighted anger—by Him the monsters under heaven were bowed down. [14] But if He will come to a trial with me, or will take cognisance of my affairs, [15] (for if I be righteous will He not hearken to me—shall I not supplicate His decision? [16] And if I call and He will not answer, I do not believe that He hath hearkened to my voice?) [17] let Him not break me with a tempest.

But He hath multiplied my wounds without cause. [18] For He suffereth me not to take breath, and hath filled me with bitterness. [19] For because He is strong, He prevaieth. Who then can withstand His decrees? [20] For if I am righteous shall my mouth be wicked? [21] And if I am blameless, shall I go away crouching? For if I have acted wickedly, I am not conscious of it myself: Nevertheless my life is taken away.

[22] Say, then, wrath destroyeth the great and powerful; [23] that the wicked fall by an untimely death. But [say too that] the righteous are laughed to scorn: [24] for they have been delivered into the hands of the wicked. He covereth the faces of the judges of that wrath. If it is not He, who is it?

[25] Now my days are swifter than a courier. They are gone without being perceived. [26] Is there any track left by ships in their passage? Or of an eagle flying in pursuit of its prey? [27] Now if I say, Let me forget speaking, let me bow down my face and groan: [28] I shudder in all my limbs; for I know that Thou wilt not let me alone, though innocent. [29] Now since I am wicked, why have I not died? [30] For though I have washed myself with snow, and purified myself with clean hands, [31] Thou

hast so thoroughly plunged me in filth that my very robes abhor me. [32] For Thou art not a man as I am, with whom I can contend; that we may come together to a trial. [33] O that there were a mediator betwixt us—one to determine between and hear us both. [34] Let Him remove His rod from me; and let not the dread of Him terrify me— [35] Let me not be terrified, but speak, (for otherwise I am not master of myself).

* CHAPTER X *

WEARY of my life I would pour forth with groans my words before Him: oppressed as I am I would speak in the bitterness of my soul, [2] and say to the Lord, Teach me not to be impious. Now, for what cause hast Thou thus condemned me? [3] Is it agreeable to Thee that I should commit iniquity; seeing Thou hast rejected the works of Thy hands and favoured the counsel of the wicked? [4] As a mortal looketh dost Thou look down? Or as a man looketh wilt Thou behold? [5] Are Thy days as the days of a mortal; or Thy years, the years of a man; [6] that Thou hast sought out mine iniquity, and diligently traced my sins?

[7] For Thou knowest that I am not impious: but who can deliver out of Thy hands? [8] Thy hands have fashioned me and made me. After that Thou hast changed Thy mind and smitten me. [9] Remember that Thou hast made me of clay, and art turning me again into mould. [10] Hast Thou not churned me as milk, and curdled me as cheese; [11] and clothed me with skin and flesh; and fenced me with bones and sinews, [12] and granted me life and favour, and by Thy visitation preserved my spirit? [13] As Thou hast these things in thyself; I know that Thou canst do all things, and that with Thee nothing is impossible.

[14] If I indeed have sinned inadvertently, Thou hast me in custody, and hast not acquitted me of transgression. [15] If I indeed am impious, woe is me. [16] And if I be righteous, I cannot hold up my head, for I am full of ignominy. For I am hunted as a lion for slaughter. For turning again furiously Thou destroyest me. [17] Renewing the examination against me, Thou hast exercised against me great wrath; and hast brought against me tortures. [18] Why then didst Thou bring me forth from the womb? And why did I not die without an eye seeing me; [19] and become as if I never had existed? Why was I not carried from the womb to the grave? [20] Is not the term of my life of short duration?

permit me to enjoy a little repose: [21] before I go, whence I shall not return; [22] to a land dark and gloomy—to a land of everlasting darkness; where there is no light—no seeing the life of mortals.

* CHAPTER XI *

HERE Sophar and Minaian answering said:

[2] He who speaketh much should be answered: else the fine speaker thinketh himself just; and the short-lived offspring of woman is blessed. [3] Be not profuse of words, because there is none to answer thee: [4] nor say I am pure in works and irreprehensible before him. [5] But how would the Lord speak to thee; were He to open his lips against thee? [6] Indeed were He to unfold to thee the power of wisdom; because it must needs be double to what are with thee: then thou wouldst know that what have come upon thee from the Lord are answerable to the sins which thou hast committed.

[7] Canst thou trace the footsteps of the Lord? Or hast thou reached the extent of what the Almighty hath done? [8] The heaven is high, what then canst thou do? And there are things deeper than the mansion of the dead; what dost thou know? [9] Of greater extent than the measure of the earth or the breadth of the sea? [10] Now were he to overturn all these, who could say to Him, What hast Thou done? [11] For He knoweth the works of the wicked, and on seeing wickedness will not overlook it.

[12] But man vainly floateth about in words—but a mortal born of woman is like a wild ass. [13] For if thou hast made thy heart pure, and lift thy hands to Him: [14] if there be any iniquity in thy hand, put it far from thee; and let not injustice lodge in thy dwelling. [15] For thus will thy countenance brighten like pure water: thou wilt disrobe thyself of filth, and no more be terrified: [16] thou shalt forget thy trouble like a wave that is past and not be afraid; and thy wish will spring up like the morning star; [17] and life will arise for thee from noon day: [18] and thou shalt be in a state of security because thou hast hope. And out of sorrow and care, peace will shine upon thee. [19] For thou shalt rest at ease, and none shall be at war with thee: and many, changing their conduct, will intreat thy favour. [20] But safety shall forsake them: for their hope shall be their destruction; and the eyes of the wicked shall melt away.

* CHAPTER XII *

TO this Job replied:

[2] You, forsooth, are men, and wisdom will die with you. [3] But I indeed have understanding as well as you. [4] For a just man and one irreprehensible hath been made a mocking stock.

[5] For it hath been ordered that for a time he shall fall beneath others: and that his houses shall be wasted by transgressors.

[6] Nevertheless let no wicked man indulge a confidence that he shall escape condemnation. Whoever provoke the Lord to anger, shall not they also undergo a trial?

[7] But ask, I pray thee, the beasts of the field, if they could speak to thee—and the birds of the air, if they could tell thee—

[8] speak to the earth, if it could converse with thee—even the fishes of the sea can tell thee. [9] Who then among all these doth not know that the hand of the Lord hath done these things? [10] Is not the life of all living beings in His hand—and the breath of every man?

[11] The ear indeed discerneth words, and the palate tasteth meats. [12] By length of time wisdom is acquired; and by long life, experience.

[13] [But] with Him is wisdom and power—with Him counsel and understanding. [14] If He demolish, who can rebuild? If He shut against men, who can open? [15] If He withhold water, He drieth the earth. And when He let it loose, he overthrew and destroyed it. [16] With Him is strength and power—with Him knowledge and understanding. [17] He hath led counsellors away captive, and confounded the judges of the earth. [18] It is He Who setteth kings on thrones and girded their loins with a girdle— [19] Who sendeth priests into captivity and overthrew the sovereigns of the earth— [20] Who changeth the lips of liege men and knoweth the wisdom of elders— [21] Who poureth contempt on princes and hath healed them who were low— [22] Who revealeth deep things from darkness; and hath brought to light the shades of death— [23] Who leadeth nations into error and destroyeth them— Who prostrateth nations and conducteth them— [24] Who changeth the hearts of the rulers of a land and hath caused them to wander in a way which they knew not; [25] that they might grope in darkness without light; and that they might stagger like a drunken man.

* CHAPTER XIII *

BEHOLD these things mine eye hath seen and mine ear heard: [2] for I know all that you know and am not inferior to you in knowledge. [3] Nevertheless I would speak to the Lord; and argue before Him, were it His pleasure. [4] Now you are all bad physicians and curers of maladies. [5] Could you hold your peace, it would be your wisdom.

[6] Hear now the argument of my mouth and the pleading of my lips. [7] Are you not speaking in the presence of the Lord? [8] And do you in His presence utter deceit in a solemn manner? Or will you keep back anything? Judge for yourselves. [9] For will it be well for you, if He mark your steps? For though feigning all these things you apply them for Him: [10] He will, notwithstanding this, reprove you. And if you secretly respect persons, [11] will not His awful majesty confound you; and the terror of Him fall upon you? [12] And your boasting be dissipated like ashes; and your bodies be reduced to clay.

[13] Keep silence that I may speak, and have some respite from wrath. [14] Taking my flesh in my teeth I will put my life in my hand. [15] Though the Almighty, as He hath begun, may subdue me: yet I will speak and plead before Him. [16] And this will contribute to my deliverance: for no deceit shall come before Him.

[17] Hear, hear my words: for I will proclaim them in your hearing. [18] Behold I am near my trial. I know that I shall appear just. [19] For who is there who will plead for me? For now I will be silent and expire.

[20] Now two things Thou art to grant me: then I will not hide myself from Thy presence— [21] withdraw Thy hand from me: and let not the dread of Thee overwhelm me with terror. [22] Then call and I will answer Thee: or speak and I will make Thee a reply. [23] How many are my sins and mine iniquities? Teach me what they are. [24] Why dost Thou hide Thyself from me and hast accounted me Thine adversary? [25] Canst Thou be afraid of one who is like a leaf moved with a breath of wind? Or as against dried grass carried away with a blast, dost Thou set thyself against me? [26] For thou hast written evil things against me; and laid to my charge the inadvertencies of youth; [27] and put my feet in a clog and watched all my doings; and hast tracked the soles of my feet.

* CHAPTER XIV *

HE who is born of a woman waxeth old like a leathern bag: or like a garment which is moth-eaten; for he is mortal, short-lived and full of disquiet: [2] or like a flower which fell when in bloom. He glideth away indeed like a shadow and can make no stay. [3] And is it not such a one Thou hast called to account; and caused such a one to come to trial before Thee? [4] For who can be free from stain? Surely none. [5] Whether the course of his life on earth be one day; or months be numbered out for him, he cometh to the term thou hast set, but cannot pass it. [6] Turn away from him, that he may take rest, and comfort his life like a hireling. [7] For there is hope for a tree; for if lopped, it may sprout again, and the tender branch may not fail. [8] And if its root become old in the earth, or die on a rock: [9] its stem by the scent of water may blossom; and produce a crop like a tree lately planted. [10] But when a man dieth he is gone: when a mortal falleth, he is no more. [11] For in a course of time a sea is spent; and a river when unsupplied is dried up: [12] and man when composed in the grave cannot rise again—until the heaven be folded up they shall not be awakened from their sleep.

[13] O! that Thou hadst kept me in the mansion of the dead; and hid me till thine indignation should cease: and that Thou wouldst set me a time when Thou wouldst remember me [14] (for though a man die he may be revived, after finishing the days of this life of his); I would wait patiently, until I come again into existence. [15] Then call and I will answer. But reject not the works of Thy hands. [16] Now Thou hast numbered up my devices, and not one of my inadvertencies could escape Thee. [17] Thou hast sealed up mine iniquities in a bag; and set a mark on every transgression, which I inadvertently committed. [18] But not to mention that a falling mountain will continue its fall; even a rock may by force be removed from its place. [19] Waters have worn stones smooth; and waters have washed away mounds of earth; and Thou hast destroyed the patience of man. [20] Thou hast brought him to an end, and he is gone: Thou hast set Thy face against him and dismissed him. [21] And though his children be multiplied, he knoweth it not: and if they become few in number, he doth nor perceive it. [22] His flesh hath been for nothing but to suffer pain; and his soul only to suffer grief.

* CHAPTER XV *

HERE Eliphaz the Thaimanite taking up the argument said: [2] Will a wise man give the wind of knowledge for an answer; though he hath therewith filled his labouring belly? [3] Or in pleading use arguments which he ought not; and words in which there is no profit? [4] Hast thou not cast off fear, and used such arguments before the Lord? [5] By the arguments of thine own mouth thou art guilty; and hast not discerned the arguments of the mighty. [6] Let thine own mouth and not me convict thee: thine own lips indeed will testify against thee.

[7] What! wast thou born before men? Or wast thou brought into being before the hills? [8] Or hast thou heard the established system of the Lord? Or hath God used thee as His counsellor? Or hath wisdom made application to thee? [9] For what knowest thou, which we do not know? Or what dost thou understand which we do not? [10] Among us indeed are elders and aged men, more venerable for years than thy father. [11] Thou hast been chastised less than thy sins deserve. [12] Thou hast spoken with excessive haughtiness. To what a pitch of boldness is thy heart raised; or at what have thine eyes taken aim; [13] that thou shouldst vent wrath before the Lord, and utter such words from thy mouth? [14] For who being mortal can be irreprehensible? Or can the offspring of woman be righteous? [15] If in His holy ones he placeth not confidence; and the heaven is not pure in His sight; [16] how abominable and filthy must man be; who drinketh iniquity in, like water!

[17] But let me tell thee—hear what I have seen— [18] let me tell thee what the wise say, and their fathers have not concealed— [19] they, to whom alone the earth was given; and no stranger came among them:

[20] The whole life of the wicked is spent in anxiety. Though a certain number of years is given to the oppressor, [21] yet the sound of terror is in his ears. When he seemeth to be at peace his destruction shall come. [22] Let him not hope to return out of darkness; for he is already doomed to the edge of the sword, [23] and destined to be food for vultures. He knoweth within himself that he waiteth for a fall; and a dark day will torture him. [24] Distress and anguish will overwhelm him; like a general at the head of troops falling upon him.

[25] Because he lifted up his hands against the Lord, and hardened his neck against the Lord Almighty: [26] therefore He ran upon him contemptuously with the thick boss of His buckler. [27] Because he covered his face with fatness; and made collops of fat upon his thighs; [28] let him therefore lodge in deserted cities, and go into uninhabited houses; and what they had got ready, let others carry off. [29] Let him neither be enriched, nor what he hath continue. [30] Let him never cast a shadow on the ground, nor escape out of darkness. [31] Let the wind blast his bud, and his blossom fall prematurely. Let him not hope to continue, for vanity shall be his portion. [32] Let his branch lopped unseasonably, die; and let not his young shoot flourish. [33] Let him be gathered like unripe grapes before his time, and fall like the olive blossom.

[34] For death is the testimonial of a wicked man: and a fire shall consume the tents of bribery. He shall conceive sorrows and bring forth vanity, and his belly shall produce an illusion.

* CHAPTER XVI *

TO this Job replied, [2] I have heard many such things, ye miserable comforters all! [3] what! have words of wind a regular succession? Or can they give thee offence, considering thine answer? [4] I indeed could speak as you do. But were your soul in my soul's stead, would I insult you with words and shake my head at you? [5] And should there be strength in my mouth; would I not spare moving my lips? [6] For if I speak shall I not bemoan the wound? And if I hold my peace, shall I be any the less wounded? [7] But now when He hath made me a poor rotten fool; [8] thou indeed hast fallen upon me. My lie is become a witness, and hath risen up against me—it hath answered me to my face.

[9] When in His wrath He threw me down and gnashed His teeth at me; the darts of his executioners fell upon me. [10] When with the darts of His eyes He had transfixed me—with His spear had brought me on my knees: they with one consent rushed upon me. [11] The Lord hath indeed delivered me up to the unrighteous; and turned me over to the ungodly. [12] When I was at peace He broke me up—taking me by the hair He shook me—He

set me up as a mark. [13] They surrounded me with javelins, darting them into my reins—without mercy they poured my gall on the ground. [14] They shot me, one deadly wound on another—they ran against me with all their might. [15] They sewed sackcloth on my skin: and my strength was extinguished in the dust. [16] My belly was burned up with wailing; and on mine eyelids were the shades of death: [17] yet there was no iniquity in my hands. And my prayer was pure.

[18] O earth, cover not the blood of my flesh, nor let there be a place for this cry of mine. [19] Even now, behold my witness is in heaven; and He who hath a perfect knowledge of me is on high. [20] O that my suit could come before the Lord, and that before Him mine eye could drop a tear! [21] That a man could plead before the Lord, as a son of man may with his neighbour! [22] But my numbered days are come, and I must go the way, by which I cannot return.

* CHAPTER XVII *

I AM dying with a tortured spirit, and wishing for a burial, but do not obtain it. [2] I am supplicating in distress, yet what have I done? Strangers have stolen my substance—who is the man? [3] Let him be brought to trial with me. [4] Because Thou hast hid their heart from understanding, Thou shouldst not for this cause exalt them. [5] Shall he reckon misfortunes for his portion—and were his eyes melted for his children? [6] But Thou hast made me a byword among nations, and I am become a subject of laughter for them. [7] For mine eyes are dim with sorrow, and I am closely besieged by all. [8] At this the upright are astonished.

[9] Now 'the righteous should prevail over the wicked': and 'he who is faithful should hold on his way': and 'he who hath clean hands should take courage.' [10] On these maxims you all rely. But come now; for I do not find truth among you: [11] my days have passed in groans, and my very heart-strings are broken. [12] I have put night for day. Is light near on account of darkness? [13] For though I have waited patiently, the mansion of the dead is to be my house, and my bed is made in darkness. [14] I have called on death to be my father—and on corruption to be my sister and mother. [15] Where then have I any ground of hope? Or

shall I see those good things of mine? [16] Shall they go down with me to the mansion of the dead? Or shall we go together beneath the mound?

* CHAPTER XVIII *

HERE Baldad the Sauchean interrupting him said:

[2] How long will it be ere thou wilt stop? Forbear, that we may speak. [3] Why should we like beasts be silent before thee? [4] Passion hath taken possession of thee. What! If thou die, shall the earth be uninhabited? or the mountains overturned from their foundations?

[5] The light of the wicked shall indeed be extinguished; and from them a spark shall not ascend. [6] The light in his dwelling shall be darkness, and the lamp for him shall be extinguished.

[As it is said:] [7] 'Let the weakest plunder his substance, and his own counsel subvert him.' [8] His foot is caught in a trap; [9] in a net let him be entangled, and let snares come upon him. He will strengthen the thirsty against him. [10] A gin is hid for him in the ground, and the trap for him by the wayside. [11] May surrounding sorrows destroy him, and many come round his foot in sore famine.

[12] For him indeed a direful destruction is prepared. [13] May the toes of his feet be eaten up, and death devour his comeliness. [14] May health be expelled from his dwelling, and distress lay hold on him with the authority of a king. [15] It will make its abode in his tent; in his night all his finery will be strewed with sulphur. [16] Underneath his roots will be dried up; and above, his product will fall.

[17] May the memorial of him be destroyed from the earth. [18] When his name shall be published abroad, may they drive him from light to darkness. [19] He will not be acknowledged among his people, nor will his household be safe under the cope of heaven. But in his possessions others shall live secure. [20] They who came after groaned for him, but horror seized them who were before.

[21] Such are the houses of the unrighteous, and such the place of them who know not the Lord.

* CHAPTER XIX *

TO this Job replied:

[2] How long will you make my soul sorrowful? You are indeed destroying me with words. Know at least—because the Lord hath dealt thus with me, [3] you speak against me—without shame you fall upon me. [4] Take it for granted that I have erred (though my error remaineth with myself) in speaking words which I ought not: and that my words are erroneous and unseasonable: but granted also, [5] that you magnify yourselves against me, and insult me with reproach. [6] Know then, That it is the Lord Who hath terrified me, and raised His bulwark against me. [7] Behold I laugh at reproach—I will not speak—I will cry aloud, There is no judgment. [8] I am fenced about and cannot get out. Before me He hath placed darkness. [9] He hath stripped me of my glory, and hath taken the crown from my head. [10] He broke me on every side and I fled: and He hath cut down my hope like a tree. [11] When He exercised great wrath against me, and counted me as an enemy: [12] With one consent His troops fell upon me; they who were in ambush beset my ways. [13] My brethren stood aloof from me, they acknowledged strangers rather than me; and my friends were not compassionate. [14] My nearest relations paid me no attention: and they who knew my name forgot me. [15] As for my domestics and maid servants, in their view I was a stranger. [16] When I called my servant, he did not answer me. [17] When with my mouth I entreated and supplicated my wife, and called affectionately the children of my concubines: [18] they renounced me forever. When I insist, they speak against me. [19] They who saw me, abhorred me; and they whom I loved rose up against me. [20] The flesh next my skin became rotten, and my bones begin to be corroded. [21] Pity me, pity me, O my friends, for the hand of the Lord hath touched me. [22] Why do you persecute me as the Lord doth, and are not satisfied with my flesh?

[23] O that my words were written and recorded in a book forever! [24] That they were engraven with a graver of iron on lead, or on rocks! [25] For I know that He is eternal, [26] Who is about to dissolve me on earth, to raise anew this body of mine which suffereth these things. [27] For from the Lord those things have been done to me, of which I alone am conscious—which mine eyes have seen, and no other; and which have all been done to me

in my bosom. [28] Now if you will say, What shall we say against him? And what ground of accusation shall we find in him? [29] Stand in awe, I beseech you, of the developing scene; for wrath will come upon the unrighteous, and it shall then be known, where their filthiness is.

* CHAPTER XX *

THEN answered Sophar the Minaian and said:

[2] I did not suppose that thou wouldst return such an answer, nor do you understand more than I. [3] I hear this disgraceful rebuke and my spirit of understanding answers me. [4] Thou hast never known such things heretofore, from the time man was placed on the earth!

[5] 'But the mirth of the wicked is sudden ruin, and the joy of transgressors, destruction, [6] though his gifts mount up to heaven, and his sacrifice reach the clouds. [7] For when he thinketh that he is now firmly established, then shall he be utterly destroyed; and they who have seen him will say, Where is he? [8] Like a dream which is gone, he cannot be found. He is vanished, like a spectre in the night. [9] The eye which saw him, shall see him no more; and his place shall no more observe. [10] Let minors destroy his children, and his own hands light up the signals of distress. [11] His bones were full of his youth, but with him it shall go to rest beneath the mound. [12] If wickedness be sweet in his mouth, he will hide it under his tongue. [13] He will not be sparing of it, nor forsake it, but will gather it together in his mouth; therefore let him not be able to help himself.

[14] The poison of an asp is in his belly. [15] Riches collected unrighteously shall be vomited up. Out of his house let an angel drag him. [16] May he suck the venom of dragons! and may the tongue of the viper slay him! [17] may he never see the milking of his kine, nor the distribution of his honey and butter! [18] He hath wearied himself for emptiness and vanity—for riches, of which he shall not have a taste, which are like a bur, neither to be chewed nor drunk. [19] Because he broke up the families of princes; and plundered dwellings and suffered them not to stand. [20] There is no security for his possessions; nor shall he be saved by what he valueth highly. [21] Not a scrap of his provisions is left. His good things shall not, on this account, be renewed. [22] In the fullness of his sufficiency

he shall be afflicted, and all manner of distress shall come upon him. [23] If by any means he be permitted to fill his belly; may He send against him fiery indignation, and pour upon him sorrows!

[24] Let him not escape from the edge of the sword! [25] May the brazen bow wound him, and the dart pass through his body, and stars light on his dwellings! [26] May terrors stalk around him and total darkness await him! An unkindled fire devoureth him. May his guest also afflict his family! [27] may the heaven disclose his iniquities, and the earth rise up against him! [28] May destruction bring his house to an end! Upon him may there come a day of wrath!

[29] This is the portion of a wicked man from the Lord, and this his possession from the superintending Being.

* CHAPTER XXI *

TO this Job replied:

[2] Hear, hear my words. Can I not have this consolation from you? [3] Bear with me, and when I speak do not deride me. [4] What! is my pleading with man? Or, why shall I not be inflamed with indignation? [5] Look on me and be amazed, having laid your hand on your cheek. [6] For at the bare recollection I shudder: and tortures rack my flesh. [7] Why do the wicked live and grow old, abounding in wealth? [8] Their crops are to their wish, and their children before their eyes. [9] Their houses flourish and they have no dread; and a scourge from the Lord is not upon them. [10] Their kine bring not forth untimely births, but go their time safely, and cast not their calves. [11] They abide continually like a flock, and their little ones frolic about them. [12] They take up the psaltery and kithara, and are charmed with the sound of the song; [13] and having spent their life in festivity, they are composed to rest in the peaceful grave. [14] Yet he saith to the Lord: Depart from me, I desire not to know Thy ways; [15] what is the Almighty, that we should serve Him: and what the advantage, that we should wait on him? [16] For their prosperity was by their own hands.

[17] Now doth not He observe the works of the wicked? and should not the lamp, at least of wicked men, be extinguished, and destruction come upon them? And [should not] pangs seize them, on account of [His] anger: [18] and they be like chaff driven by the wind, or like dust swept away by a whirlwind?

[19] His substance should fail from among his children; He should retribute [his deserts] to him. And he should know it. [20] His eyes should see his own destruction, and he should not escape from the Lord. [21] Because his desire is in his family with him; therefore the number of their months should be cut short.

[22] Is it not the Lord Who teacheth wisdom and understanding, and doth He discriminate murderers? [23] One is to die in his full strength, all his life being successful and prosperous; [24] his entrails are clothed with fat, and his bones abound with marrow. [25] Another dieth with bitterness of soul, having never tasted anything good. [26] But they are both composed alike underground, and putrefaction hath covered them.

[27] I know you charge me with presumption, [28] that you will say, Where is the house of the chief, and where is the covering of the tents of the wicked?

[29] Ask them who travel the high ways, or their monuments, you cannot miss them. [30] Because the wicked is reserved for a day of destruction: let them be carried to prison for the day of His indignation. [31] Who shall tell him his way to his face, and who shall retribute to him what he hath done? [32] Even when he should be carried to the burying place, he had caused a watch to be kept over his tomb. [33] The flints of the torrent have been sweetened for him, and every man shall go after him, as innumerable have gone before him. [34] How then do ye comfort me with vanity? There is nothing from you to give me consolation.

* CHAPTER XXII *

UPON this, Eliphaz the Thaimanite answered, and said:

[2] Is it not the Lord Who teacheth wisdom and understanding? [3] What! Is it any advantage to the Lord, if thou, in works, art irreprehensible? or any profit, that thou shouldst keep a straight course? [4] Or will He, instituting a suit against thee, argue and come to a trial with thee? [5] Is not thy wickedness great, and thy sins innumerable? [6] Thou hast taken pledges of thy brethren for nought, and hast stripped the naked of their clothing. [7] Thou hast not given drink to the thirsty: but hast robbed the hungry of their morsel. [8] Thou hast respected the persons of some and settled them in the land; [9] but hast sent widows away empty, and done injustice to orphans. [10] Therefore snares have beset thee, and an unexpected war hath made thee shudder. [11] The

light hath become darkness to thee, and water hath overwhelmed thee when asleep. [12] Doth not He who dwelleth on high, observe; hath He not humbled the haughty? [13] Yes, thou hast said, How can the Almighty know? Can He judge in darkness?

[14] A cloud is His covering, so that He cannot be seen, though He traverse the circuit of heaven. [15] Thou wilt not keep the ancient way, which righteous men trod, [16] who were borne aloft, and whose foundations were the surging stream. As for them [17] who said, What can the Lord do to us, or what can the Almighty bring upon us? [18] (He, who had indeed filled their houses with good things, though the counsel of the wicked is far from Him), [19] when the righteous saw them, they smiled; and he who was blameless laughed them to scorn. [20] Had not the whole of them disappeared, a fire would have consumed the residue.

[21] Become firm now, if thou so remain thou shalt be rewarded with good things. [22] Receive, I pray thee, from His mouth, the terms of deliverance, and lay up His words in thy heart. [23] If thou wilt return and humble thyself before the Lord, having removed iniquity far from thy dwelling, [24] thou shalt be placed on a mount, founded on a rock, and be like the rock of the torrent Sophir. [25] Then will the Almighty be thy defence from enemies; and He will make thee pure as silver tried by fire. [26] Then indeed thou shalt have confidence before the Lord; and mayst look up to heaven with cheerfulness. [27] And when thou prayest to Him, He will hearken to thee, and will enable thee to pay thy vows; [28] and He will assign thee an habitation of righteousness, and light shall shine upon thy ways.

[29] Because thou hast humbled thyself, thou wilt say, Such a one was insolent—but He will save him whose eyes are lowly. [30] He indeed will save the innocent. Save thyself, therefore, with clean hands.

* CHAPTER XXIII *

IN reply to this, Job said:

[2] I know very well, this trial is not in my disposal. And that His hand is made heavy by my groaning. [3] But O that some person would let me know, that I might find Him, and come to an issue; [4] that I might order the trial of myself, and that He would stop my mouth with arguments. [5] That I might know what remedies He will prescribe for me, and understand what He will

announce to me! [6] Though He may come against me with great majesty, He will not employ it in threatening me. [7] For truth and argument proceed from Him; and He would bring my cause to an issue. [8] For if I am to go first and am no more, how do I know what will be at the last? [9] When He wrought on my left, I comprehended not; He may encompass my right and I not see. [10] For He already knoweth my way and hath tried me like gold.

[11] And I will come out at His commands; for I have kept His ways, and will not turn aside from His commands, [12] nor transgress in my bosom: indeed I have hid His words. [13] But if He hath judged thus, who can gainsay him? For He hath done what was His pleasure. [14] For this cause my shuddering is at Him; and on being chastened, I thought of Him. [15] For this cause I am to be awed at his presence—I am to meditate on and be in dread of Him. [16] It is the Lord indeed who hath softened my heart. It is the Almighty Who hath made me shudder. [17] For I did not know that darkness was to come upon me; and thick darkness covered my view before me.

* CHAPTER XXIV *

BUT why have certain times escaped the notice of the Lord, [2] when the wicked transgressed all bounds and ravaged both the flock and the shepherd? [3] They have driven away the ass of the fatherless; and taken the widow's cow for a pledge. [4] They have turned the weak out of the right way; and with one accord the meek of the earth have hid, [5] and are gone away like asses in a field. They are departed beyond me in their own band. His bread is sweet to his little ones.

[6] They have reaped before dawn a field not their own; exhausted of strength, have worked the vineyards of the wicked without wages and without food.

[7] They [the wicked] have caused many to sleep naked without covering—they have stripped them of clothing necessary for life. [8] These are wet with the dew of the mountains: and having no shelter, they cling to a rock.

[9] They have torn the orphan from the breast: and him who had fallen they have pressed down.

[10] They have by injustice caused some to be naked; and robbed the hungry of their morsel.

[11] They have entrapped some unjustly in straits, and the path of justice they did not know.

[12] Some are expelled from the city and their own houses: and the soul of babes heave heavy groans.

[13] Now why hath He not called these to account while on earth? Though they did not acknowledge—though they did not know the way of justice; did they not still go on in their courses?

[14] And hath He who knew their works delivered them up to darkness? And will He be as a thief in the night?

[15] When the eye of the adulterer watched for darkness; saying, No eye shall discover me—when he having put a mask on his face [16] digged through houses in the dark: (during the day they had shut themselves up—they had no acquaintance with light) [17] because the morning is to all these as the shadow of death—because the terror of the shadow of death should acknowledge them; [18] it is swift on the face of the water.

The portion of these on the earth should be cursed [19] and their plants exposed dry on the ground: for they plundered the sheaf of orphans. [20] Now was such a one's sin brought to remembrance?

Though he was dark as the darkness of night; retribution should be made for what he hath done: and every wicked man should be broken, like a tree which cannot be healed.

[21] Because he did not treat the barren with tenderness, and had no compassion for a poor weak woman. [22] But overthrew the helpless with wrath: therefore when he riseth he should have no security for his own life: [23] when sick, he should have no hopes of recovery: but should perish by his disorder.

[24] As his exaltation afflicted many: he should wither like mallows by heat: or like an ear of corn which fell of itself from the stalk.

[25] Now if this is not the case, who can say I have spoken falsehoods: and set my words at naught?

* CHAPTER XXV *

HEREUPON Baldad the Sauchean answered and said:

[2] What! Is there any apology, or fear with Him Who made the universe and is supreme? [3] For let none suppose, because robbers have a respite, that snares shall not come from Him on

any. [4] For how can a mortal be just before the Lord or any offspring of woman make himself clean? [5] If he setteth the moon beside Him, it shineth not: and the stars are not pure in His sight. [6] Grant then that man is rottenness and that the son of man is a worm.

* CHAPTER XXVI *

TO this Job replied:

[2] Whom dost thou assist, or whom art thou going to help? Is it not Him, Who hath mighty power and Whose arm is strong? [3] For whom hast thou been acting as counsellor? Is it not for Him Who hath all wisdom? Whom art thou about to follow? Is it not Him, Whose army is beyond compare? [4] For whom hast thou announced dictates? And whose breath is it which proceeded from thee? [5] Are giants going to rise up from beneath the water and the places in its neighbourhood? [6] The mansion of the dead is naked before Him: and destruction hath no covering.

[7] He it is, Who stretcheth out Boreas [the North Wind] over empty space—Who suspendeth the earth upon nothing— [8] Who bindeth up water in His clouds, and the cloud under it is not rent— [9] Who taketh possession of the front of His throne and over it spreadeth His cloud. [10] His decree had drawn a circle on the face of the water, at the confines of light and darkness. [11] The pillars of heaven flutter and are struck with consternation at His rebuke. [12] By Power He calmed the sea; and by Wisdom the sea-monster was overthrown. [13] The bars of heaven were terrified at Him; and by a decree He doomed to death the apostate dragon.

[14] Behold these are [mere] parts of His ways. And we will hearken to the least breath of His word. As for the strength of His thunder; who knoweth when He will employ it?

* CHAPTER XXVII *

FURTHERMORE Job proceeded and by way of preface said:

[2] As God liveth, Who hath thus condemned me,—even the Almighty Who hath made my life bitter: [3] while I have the power of breathing and the breath of God is in my nostrils, [4] my lips shall not speak wickedness, nor shall my soul contrive mischief.

[5] Far be it from me to acknowledge you to be right; for till I die, I will not give up mine innocence. [6] And for asserting my righteousness I make no apology; for I am not conscious to myself of having done amiss.

[7] Should not mine enemies then be as the overthrow of the wicked? And they who rise up against me as the destruction of transgressors?

[8] Now whatever hope a wicked man hath, that he persisteth; shall he who hath trusted in the Lord be indeed safe? [9] Or will God hear his prayer? Or when trouble cometh upon him, [10] hath he any assurance before Him? Or upon his calling, will He hearken to him?

[11] But now let me tell you what is by the hand of the Lord. What are from the Almighty I will not falsify. [12] Behold you all know that you heap vanity on vanities, saying:

[13] "This is the portion of a wicked man from the Lord: and the possession of oppressors, which shall come to them from the Almighty. [14] If their children be many they shall be for slaughter; and if they grow up to men, they shall be beggars. [15] Those who are about him shall die by pestilence: and their widows none shall compassionate. [16] Though he heap up silver as dust; and store up gold as clay: [17] the righteous shall take charge of all these; and men of truth shall enjoy his wealth. [18] His house is gone like moths or like a cobweb. [19] He shall lie down rich but shall not continue so. He hath opened his eyes, and all is gone. [20] Sorrows flowed in upon him like water: In a night a tempest swept him away. [21] A burning wind shall take him up and go he must. It shall blow him away out of his place. [22] He will dash upon him and will not spare. Should he by flight flee from His hand, [23] He will cause them to clap their hands at him and will hiss him out of his place."

* CHAPTER XXVIII *

THERE is indeed a place, from which silver is got; and a place from which gold is strained. [2] Iron indeed is made out of the earth, and brass is hewn from a quarry, like stones. [3] He hath assigned a station for darkness: but every boundary he assigned is diligently explored—stones, darkness and the shadow of death; [4] the channels of brooks choked up with sand: where to such as know not the right way, strength is unavailing and they

are removed from among men. [5] As for the earth out of which bread cometh; from underneath it something like fire hath been turned up. [6] The stones thereof is the place of the sapphire. And the dust thereof supplieth man with gold. [7] A path is explored which no bird knew; and which the vulture's eye hath not seen— [8] which the race of boasters have not travelled; and over which the lion hath not stalked.

[9] He hath stretched forth His hand with a pick and hath overturned mountains from the roots, [10] and hath broken through the whirlpools of rivers: and His eye hath seen every precious thing. [11] He hath laid bare the bottoms of rivers and given manifest proofs of His power. [12] But where is wisdom to be found? And where is the place of understanding? [13] A mortal knoweth not the way thereof; nor hath it indeed been found out by men. [14] The abyss said, It is not in me: and the sea said, It is not in me. [15] Would not one give for it all he hath got? [16] But silver cannot be weighed as its price; nor can it be purchased with the gold of Saphir—with the precious onyx or the sapphire. [17] Gold and crystal cannot equal it in value; nor can jewels of gold be a barter for it. [18] Things above need not be mentioned: but prize thou wisdom above all things below. [19] The topaz of Ethiopia cannot equal it in value: nor is it to be rated by pure gold.

[20] But where can wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding? [21] It hath escaped the knowledge of every man; and is hid from the birds of the air. [22] Destruction and death said, We have heard the fame of it. [23] God is perfectly acquainted with its way and knoweth its place. [24] For He surveyeth the whole world; and knoweth all on the earth— [25] all that He hath made—the weight of winds and the measures of water.

[26] When He had made and seen and numbered them; and also a way for the pealing thunder: [27] then did He see it and declare it: and having prepared and traced it, [28] He said to man: Behold, the worshipping of God is wisdom: and to abstain from evil is understanding.

* CHAPTER XXIX *

JOB still further continued his speech, with this exordium: [2] O! that I were reinstated as in times past! As in the days of the months when God preserved me [3] when His lamp shined

over my head, when by His light I walked through darkness, [4] when I was making my way steadfastly—when God watched over my family [5] when I was thick-set with branches, and my servants were around me— [6] when my ways abounded in butter, and my mountains flowed with milk— [7] when I walked early through the city, and a seat was set for me in the streets!

[8] The young when they saw me hid themselves; and all the aged stood up. [9] The nobles forbore talking and put their finger on their mouth. [10] And while they who heard me were blessing me, their tongue cleaved to the roof of their mouth. [11] When the ear heard me it blessed me; and the eye when it saw me, turned aside: [12] for I saved the poor from the hand of the mighty; and assisted the orphan who had no helper. [13] The blessing of him who was perishing came upon me: and the mouth of the widow blessed me. [14] I put on righteousness and clothed myself with justice as with a mantle. [15] I was eyes to the blind and feet to the lame. [16] I was a father to those in distress; and the cause which I knew not I searched out. [17] And I broke the jaws of the unrighteous; and plucked the prey from betwixt their teeth.

[18] Therefore I said, My youth shall advance to old age. Like the stock of a palm, I shall live long. [19] My root is spread out by the water; and the dew will abide on my produce. [20] This vain glory of mine shall attend me: my bow is directed by His hand. [21] They who heard me paid close attention; [22] and at my counsel they were silent. To my decree they added nothing, But were overjoyed when I spoke to them. [23] As the thirsty earth receiveth rain, so did they my speech. [24] If I smiled on them they could scarce believe it. And the light of my countenance was not lost. [25] I chose their way and sat as chief, and dwelt as a king among warriors—as one who comforteth the afflicted.

* CHAPTER XXX *

BUT now the meanest have me in derision: now, those undertake to admonish me; whose fathers I held in contempt: whom I did not think worthy the dogs of my flocks. [2] What indeed was the strength of their hands to me? Destruction would have been lost upon them. [3] By reason of want and famine it was useless. Already they were fleeing ineffectually from distress and

misery— [4] they were crowding round the sapphire on the sounding shore; and feeding on sea-weeds as their food; despicable and contemned and in want of everything good, they through extreme want were chewing even the roots of trees.

[5] Against me thieves have risen up, [6] whose habitations were the clefts of rocks. [7] Amidst this tuneful choir, are to be heard the brawls of them who lived under hedges. [8] A race of fools and despicable wretches, whose name and honour are extinguished from the earth.

[9] But now I am become their song: and they have me for their byword: [10] and have abhorred me and stood at a distance: and have not spared to spit in my face.

[11] Because He opened His quiver and afflicted me: therefore they have cast off the restraint, which they were under at my presence. [12] At the right of their brood they have taken their stand: they have stretched out their foot; and vindicated against me their destructive ways. [13] My ways are destroyed; for I am stripped of my robe.

With His darts He hath pierced me— [14] He hath used me at His pleasure. I am become loathsome by sorrows. [15] My sorrows roll back upon me. My hope is gone like a breath, and like a cloud, my safety. [16] And now my soul is melting within me.

Days of sorrow take hold of me; and at night my bones are melted and my sinews are quite dissolved. [18] With great force He took hold of my garment; and girded me about like the collar of my vest.

[19] Thou hast accounted me as dirt: and my portion is in dust and ashes. [20] Though I have cried to Thee, Thou hearest me not: but they stood up and observed me; [21] and came upon me without mercy.

Thou hast chastised me with a heavy hand; [22] and placed me among sorrows; and cast me away far from safety. [23] For I know that death will destroy me: for earth is the house for every mortal. [24] For O! how I wish that I might lay violent hands on myself; or beseech another to do this for me.

[25] As for me I indeed wept for everyone in trouble; and sighed, when I saw a man in distress. [26] But when I expected prosperity: behold days of affliction came upon me. [27] My bowels have boiled and could not rest: days of misery have prevented me. [28] I have gone mourning without restraint; and have stood in the congregation and cried. [29] I have been made a brother

to jackals, and a companion to ostriches. [30] My skin is become very black; and my bones are burning with heat. [31] My kithara is turned into mourning, and my song to wailing for myself.

* CHAPTER XXXI *

I MADE a covenant with mine eyes, that I would not gaze on a virgin: [2] yet what portion hath God dealt out from above? [3] And what, alas, the lasting portion from on high? 'Destruction is for the wicked and banishment for transgressors.' [4] Why will He not behold my way and number all my steps? [5] Have I walked with scoffers or hath my foot hastened to deceit? [6] For I have been weighed in a just balance; and the Lord knoweth mine integrity. [7] If my foot hath deviated from the way or my heart gone astray after mine eyes; or if with my hands I have touched bribes: [8] may I sow and others eat; and let me have no root in the land.

[9] If my heart hath gone after another man's wife, or if I have lain in wait at her gates; [10] let my wife gratify another, and mine infant children be dishonoured. [11] For the defiling of another man's wife exciteth a fury of wrath not to be restrained. [12] For it is a fire burning in all the limbs; which will not go out, till it hath utterly consumed.

[13] If I have slighted the cause of my man servant or maid servant when they had a controversy with me, [14] what shall I do when the Lord maketh inquest? And when He visiteth, what answer shall I make? [15] Was not I formed in the womb as they were? And were we not alike fashioned in the belly? [16] Far from depriving the poor of what they had, or causing the heart of a widow to fail; [17] if I have eaten my morsel alone, and have not shared it with the orphan; [18] (for from my youth I as a father nourished them, and was their guide from my mother's womb) [19] If I have seen the naked perishing and have not clothed them; [20] and if the poor have not blessed me, and their shoulders been warmed with the fleece of my lambs; [21] If I have raised a hand against the fatherless, because I had around me greater support: [22] may my shoulder bone be dislocated, and my arm broken at the elbow. [23] For the fear of the Lord restrained me, and the burden of that I could not endure.

[24] If I have made gold my measure, or placed my confidence in precious stones: [25] or if I have exulted because my wealth was

great, or laid my hand on what was not counted out to me: [26] (do we not see the refulgent sun sometimes eclipsed, and the moon continually changing? for it is not in them [to be steadfast]: [27] or if then my heart hath been secretly enticed, and I have laid my hand on my mouth and kissed it; [28] let this be reckoned to me as the greatest transgression, that I have lied in the presence of the Lord, the Most High.

[29] If I have rejoiced at the downfall of mine enemies, and my heart hath said, Aha! [30] Let mine ear hear myself cursed, and let me be a by-word among the people, when I am afflicted.

[31] If my maid servants have often said, O that we had some of his flesh-meat to eat! while I was living luxuriously: [32] (indeed the stranger lodged not in the street, and my door was open to every comer:) [33] If when I sinned inadvertently, I concealed my sin; [34] for I was not so awed by the multitude as not to mention it before them—(now if I had suffered a poor man to go from my door with an empty pocket, [35] who could have heard me with patience?). And if I had not feared the hand of the Lord [36] I would have put on my shoulders the writing which I had against anyone, and have acknowledged it as a crown: [37] But if I did not tear it in pieces and give it up, without taking any thing from the debtor: [38] if ever my ground hath cried out against me, and the furrows thereof joined in the complaint: [39] if I have eaten alone the strength thereof without money, and by rapine caused the heart of the owner of the soil to grieve: [40] let nettles spring up for me instead of wheat, and bramble bushes instead of barley.

* CHAPTER XXXII *

HERE Job closed his speech, and his three friends ceased from making further reply to him; for he was righteous in their sight. [2] Then was kindled the wrath of Elius the son of Barachiel the Buzite, of the family of Ram, of the country of Ausitis. His wrath was kindled against Job to a high degree, because he had declared himself just before the Lord. [3] And with the three friends he was very angry, because they were not able to answer Job's defence, though they had charged him with being wicked.

[4] Now Elius had waited to answer Job, because the others were older than he. [5] But when he saw that there was no answer in the mouth of the three men, he was fired with indignation;

[6] therefore Elius the son of Barachiel the Buzite taking up the argument, said [to Job]:

I indeed am young and you are old; therefore I kept silence and was afraid to give my opinion. [7] For I said, Is it not age which speaketh? And by many years they have gained wisdom.

[8] But there is a spirit in mortals; and it is the inspiration of the Almighty which teacheth. [9] They who live longest are not the wisest, nor is the knowledge of judgment confined to the aged. [10] Wherefore I said, Hear me, and I will tell you what I know. [11] Listen attentive to my words, for I will speak in your hearing that you may examine them. [12] Even now I could wish to attend to you: but behold there is none who convicteth Job—none of you who refuteth his arguments: [13] that you might not say, We the Lord's advocates have found wisdom. [14] And you have left a man at liberty to use hereafter the same arguments.

[15] They were daunted. They answered not again. They have antiquated their own speeches. [16] I waited patiently: for I had not spoken. Because they stopped and made no reply, therefore Elius interposing, saith, I will speak again, [18] for I am full of words—for I am pained with a spirit within me— [19] for I am like a vessel full of new wine, in fermentation, without vent; or like the labouring bellows of a smith. [20] I will speak that I may have ease, by opening my lips. [21] For I should not be awed by man: nor put to the blush because of a mortal. [22] For I am not apt to admire persons. Will not worms devour them as well as me.

* CHAPTER XXXIII *

NOW therefore, Job, hear thou my words, and listen attentively to my speech; [2] for lo! I have opened my mouth, and my tongue hath begun to speak. [3] My words shall proceed from a pure heart; and the sentiments of my lips shall be pure. [4] It is the divine spirit, which made me, even the inspiration of the Almighty which teacheth me. [5] If thou art able, give me an answer; come to trial, and let us stand face to face. [6] Thou art formed out of clay, and so am I: we are both made of the same material. [7] By the dread of me thou wilt not be terrified; nor will this hand of mine be heavy on thee. [8] Now thou hast said in my hearing—I heard the sound of thy words: for thou saidst, [9] "I am pure, I have not sinned; I am irreprehensible, for I have

not transgressed. [10] But He hath invented an accusation against me, and hath accounted me as an enemy. [11] He hath put my foot in a clog, and watched all my ways." [12] Now how dost thou say: "I am righteous, yet He hath not hearkened to me"? For He, Who is over mortals, is eternal.

[13] And dost thou say, Why in my trial, hath He not hearkened to me on every matter? [14] For the Lord may have spoken once, and again.— [15] In a dream, for instance, or in a nightly vision: As when a dread horror falleth on men, during their slumbers on a bed; [16] then doth He open the understanding of men. [17] With such appearances of terror He frightened them, to turn man away from iniquity. Again, He hath saved one's body from a fall, [18] and hath rescued his soul from death; and hath not suffered him to fall in battle.

[19] Again, He hath rebuked him with sickness on a bed, and benumbed all his bones; [20] so that he cannot take any nourishment, (though his soul longeth for food) [21] until his flesh become rotten, and he can show his bones bare. [22] When his soul hath come near to death, and his life near to the mansion of the dead, [23] though there may be a thousand messengers of death, not one of them can mortally wound him, [24] if he determine in his heart to turn to the Lord. When He shall have shewn man His charge against him, and pointed out to him his folly, He will support him, that he may not fall to death, [25] and will renew his body like the plastering on a wall, and fill his bones with marrow; and make his flesh soft like that of an infant, and restore him to full strength among men. [26] And when he hath prayed to the Lord, and shall enjoy acceptable things, he will come with a cheerful countenance and with thanks: and render justice to men.

[27] Then will such a man blame himself, and say, What I have done! He hath not chastened me, as my sins deserve! [28] Save my soul, that it may not go to destruction, and let my life see light.

[29] Behold in these three ways the Almighty doth all these things with man. [30] He hath indeed delivered my soul from death; that in light my life may praise Him.

[31] Listen attentively, Job, and hear me: keep silence that I may speak. [32] If thou hast anything to say, answer me: speak; for I wish thee to be justified. [33] If not, hearken to me: keep silence and I will teach thee.

* CHAPTER XXXIV *

THEN Elius proceeded and said:

[2] Hearken to me, ye wise men, and ye who have knowledge listen attentively. [3] For the ear trieth words and the palate tasteth meats. [4] Let us take upon us the right of judging: Let us know among ourselves what is good. [5] For Job hath said, "I am righteous: the Lord hath removed from me the trial; [6] and hath disappointed me of my trial. My wound is grievous without transgression." [7] What man is there like Job, who drinketh up scorning like water— [8] who hath neither sinned, nor been guilty of impiety—nor associated with the workers of iniquity to walk with impious men? [9] For thou shouldst not say, There shall be no visitation of man. He shall indeed have a visitation from the Lord. [10] Therefore hearken to me, ye who are wise in heart. Far be it from me to be profane before the Lord; or before the Almighty to disturb the course of justice.

[11] But [thou sayest] He should render to every man according to each one's work; so that in His own paths every man may find Him. [12] But dost thou think that the Lord will do improper things? Or will the Almighty who made the earth, pervert judgment? [13] Now who is this maker of the world and of all the things therein? [14] For were it His pleasure to confine, and keep to Himself, the wind, [15] all flesh would expire together; and every mortal would return to earth, of which they were formed. [16] See that thou be not chastened. Hear these things; listen attentively to the sound of words. [17] Consider that He who hateth iniquity; and that He who destroyeth the wicked, being eternal, is just.

[18] He is irreverent, who saith to a king, Thou transgressest; [or] to princes, You are acting impiously. [19] Who hath no respect for the person of an honourable man; nor knoweth how to honour nobles by respecting their persons. [20] But it should be in vain for them to cry or to entreat a man, for they behaved wickedly in turning aside the weak. [21] For He is the observer of men's actions, and nothing that they do can escape His notice: [22] nor can there be a place, where the workers of iniquity can be concealed.

[23] That He will not yet set Himself against a [single] man [24] is because the Lord superintendeth all, in ways unsearchable: glorious and wonderful, not to be numbered.

[25] "As He knoweth their works [thou sayest], He should bring on night and they should be humbled. [26] But hath He extinguished the wicked though they are visible before Him? [27] Because they turned aside from the law of God and did not acknowledge His judgments, [28] when they cause the cry of the poor to ascend to Him, He should hearken to the cry of the poor."

[29] But when He giveth rest, who shall call Him to account? When He hideth His face, who can see Him? Both against a nation, and against a man at the same time, [30] He maketh a hypocritic man king; because of the perverseness of a people.

[31] Because one saith to the Almighty, "I have taken, I will not again take a pledge: [32] I will look beyond myself; do thou shew me: If I have done iniquity, I will do so no more." [33] Will He punish thee for that iniquity? For thou must deny—for thou must draw the conclusion, not I: therefore speak what thou knowest. [34] For they who are wise in heart will say the same: and a wise man hath heard this word of mine.

[35] Job indeed hath not spoken with wisdom: his words are not with understanding. [36] Therefore let Job learn and no more make reply like the foolish; [37] that we may not add to our transgressions. For iniquity will be charged to our account, if we multiply speeches before the Lord.

* CHAPTER XXXV *

THEN Elius proceeded and said:

[2] What thinkest thou of this in thy pleading? Who art thou that thou shouldst say, I am righteous before the Lord? [3] Or wilt thou say, What can I do if I sin?

[4] I will answer thee and these three friends of thine. [5] Look up to yonder heaven and see; and observe the clouds, how high above thee they are. [6] If thou hast sinned, what canst thou do? And if thou hast multiplied transgressions, what canst thou effect? [7] If thou art righteous, what canst thou give Him? Or will He receive anything at thy hands? [8] Thy wickedness may affect a man like thyself: and thy righteousness, a son of man. [9] On the account of a multitude, they who are falsely accused will scream: They will call aloud because of the arm of many, [10] but none said: Where is the God who made me; [11] who regulateth the watches of the night; who distinguisheth me from the beasts of the earth and from the birds of the air? [12] There let them

scream. He indeed may not hearken even at the abuse of bad men.

[13] "Since [thou sayest] it is not the Lord's desire to see improper things—since He, the Almighty, [14] is the observer of them who do injustice, He should save me." But he judged against Him.

[Yet] thou canst magnify and praise Him as heretofore. [15] Because He doth not regard his anger; and hath not severely regarded my offence: [16] yet Job vainly openeth his mouth; he loadeth his speeches with folly.

* CHAPTER XXXVI *

THEN Elius proceeded further and said:

[2] Bear with me a little longer that I may teach thee: for I have still something further to say; [3] taking my knowledge from abroad and from my own works, [4] I will speak righteous things with truth, without considering in an unjust manner things which are unjust. [5] Know then that the Lord, who is mighty in power and wisdom; [6] will not reject the innocent, nor save the wicked: and that He will administer justice to the oppressed. [7] He will not withdraw His eyes from the righteous, but will seat them at last with kings on a throne and they shall be exalted. [8] When they shall be bound with fetters or held with cords of affliction, [9] He will shew them their works and their transgressions, that they bear.

[10] But He will hearken to what is just, and hath ordered them to turn from iniquity. [11] If they hearken and serve; they shall end their days in prosperity and their years in the enjoyment of things convenient. [12] But the impious He saveth not: because they would not know the Lord, and because, when they were admonished, they were disobedient, [13] the hypocrites in heart shall incur wrath: they will not cry because He bound them: [14] Let their soul therefore perish in youth and their life be wounded by angels. [15] Because they afflicted the weak and feeble, He will support the cause of the meek.

[16] Though the abyss from the mouth of an enemy, [17] the overflow of that from underneath, hath deceived thee; and thy table which was full of fatness hath fallen: yet the cause of the righteous shall not fail. [18] But there shall be wrath against the ungodly, on account of the wicked bribes which they received for injustice.

[19] Let not the earnest entreaty of the weak in distress turn aside thee; and all those in the exercise of authority. [20] Do not spin out the night that crowds may come to their assistance. [21] But be careful not to do improper things: for by such a conduct thou wilt extricate thyself from distress.

[22] Behold the Almighty will strengthen with His strength: for who is powerful as He? Or who can examine His works? [23] Or who can say, He hath done unjust things?

[24] Remember that His works are greater than what men have attempted. [25] Every man hath seen by himself how many mortals are wounded.

[26] Behold the Almighty is multifarious in operations beyond our comprehension.

The number of His years are indeed infinite [27] and by Him the particles of rain can be counted. [28] When they are collected into a cloud for rain, the heavens will pour down. But when the clouds cast a shade over the dumb creation He impressed a care on beasts, and they know the order for going to bed. [29] At all these things is not thine understanding confounded? And is not thy heart starting from the body?

Now though the outspread cloud be rushing together, to the whole extent of its pavilion, [30] behold! with a clap of thunder He will expand it over it. He hath indeed covered the out-branchings of the sea! [31] For with what He judgeth nations He can give food in abundance.

[32] When with His hands He hath covered the light, and hath given provisional orders concerning food; [33] the Lord will warn His friend that there is a portion also for injustice.

* CHAPTER XXXVII *

THEREFORE on the account of this my heart was troubled, and moved violently out of its place.

[2] Hear the report made by the fierce anger of the Lord! when a threat shall proceed from His mouth; [3] as His dominion extendeth over all under heaven, and His light over the wings of the earth. [4] After it He will thunder with a voice—He will thunder with the voice of His indignation. (And should it not make a change in those men when He shall cause His voice to be heard?) [5] With His voice the Almighty will thunder to our astonishment;

for He hath done great things which we cannot comprehend; [6] issuing a command to snow: Be thou on the earth, and the tempest and storms of rain, under His command.

[7] He seals up against the hand of every man, that every man may know his own weakness— [8] when the beasts have entered their coverts, and have gone to rest on their beds; [9] sorrows issue forth from their chambers, and cold from its lofty summits; [10] which by the blast of the Almighty produce frost, Who governeth the water as He pleaseth.

[11] But when a cloud covereth a man of His choice, His light can disperse the cloud: [12] and He at His sovereign pleasure, can cause the revolving agents to return to their works. [13] What things soever He giveth them in charge: these are ordered by Him on the earth; and whether they be for correction, or for the benefit of the earth; or for mercy, He is to be found in them.

[14] Hearken, Job, to these things and stand instructed with regard to the power of the Lord. We know that God hath disposed His works—that He hath made light out of darkness—That He knoweth the different purposes of clouds, and the miraculous fall of wicked men. [17] Now thy clothing is warm and there is peace in the land. [18] With Him are powerful cordials for inveterate disorders: what an appearance of an infusion! [19] Therefore teach me what we shall say to Him. And let us refrain from much speaking. [20] Have I had a book or a scribe by me, that by stopping the man I could be silent?

[21] Though the light is not visible to all, there is a brightening in the heavens, like that which cometh in clouds from him. [22] From the north the clouds brighten like effulgent gold. For these things great is the glory and honour of the Almighty. [23] As we cannot find another equal to Him in majesty; dost thou not think that He who judgeth righteously will hear? [24] Men therefore ought to fear Him. They indeed who are wise in heart, will fear Him.

* CHAPTER XXXVIII *

AFTER Elius had finished his speech, the Lord from a whirlwind and clouds, said to Job:

[2] Who is this who is concealing counsel from Me, and who hiding words in his heart thinketh to hide them from Me? [3] Gird up thy loins like a man and I will question thee, and answer

thou Me. [4] Where wast thou, when I laid the foundations of the earth? And tell Me, if thou hast understanding, [5] who settled the measures of it? Dost thou know? Or who stretched the line upon it? [6] To what are the hooks of it fastened? And who laid the corner-stone thereof? [7] When the stars were made, all my angels praised Me with a loud voice.

[8] It was I who shut up the sea with gates, when it rushed eagerly from its mother's womb. [9] It was I who made a cloud its clothing; and thick darkness its swaddling bands. [10] It was I who set bounds to it; surrounded it with bars and gates; [11] and said to it, Thus far thou shalt come and no farther: but in thyself thy waves shall be spent.

[12] Was it in concert with thee that I ordered the morning light; and that the day spring knew its appointed time [13] to tinge the wings of the earth—to scare the wicked from it? [14] Didst thou take clay of the earth and form an animal and place on the earth a creature endowed with speech? [15] Hast thou withdrawn the light from the wicked, and broken in pieces the arms of the haughty? [16] Hast thou gone to the head spring of the sea; and walked in the footsteps of the abyss? [17] Are the gates of Hades opened to thee in fear, and are the porters of Hades struck with awe at seeing thee? [18] Hast thou informed thyself of the breadth of that which is under heaven? Tell Me, then, what is the extent of it. [19] In what country doth light make its abode, and of what sort is the place of darkness? [20] If thou wouldst lead Me to their borders, and if thou knewest their paths, [21] I would know that thou wast then born, and that the number of thy years is great. [22] Hast thou gone to the treasuries of snow, or hast thou seen the treasuries of hail? [23] Are they stored up for thee, for a time of enemies—for a day of battles and combat? [24] From what place doth hoarfrost issue, or whence is the south wind scattered over the earth?

[25] Who hath prepared a course for the tempest, [26] and a way for impetuous storms to water the ground, where there is not a man—the desert where no man dwelleth—to saturate an untrodden, uninhabited land [27] and cause the bud of the tender herb to spring? [28] Who is the father of rain, and who hath begotten the drops of dew? [29] From Whose womb doth ice proceed, and Who in the sky hath brought forth hail [30] which descendeth like a shower? Who hath struck with terror the face of the wicked? [31] Dost thou know the band of the Pleiades, or hast thou opened the barrier of Orion? [32] Canst thou cause

[the constellation] Mazouroth to come forth in his season, or drag out Hesperus* by his hair? [33] Dost thou know the revolutions of heaven, or the things on earth corresponding to them?

[34] Canst thou summon a cloud with thy voice, and will it, with the trembling of a water spout, answer thee? [35] Canst thou despatch thunders, that they may go, and will they say to thee, Here we are? [36] Who hath given woman a skill in weaving, and a knowledge of the art of embroidering? [37] Who is it who numbereth the clouds with wisdom, and hath caused the heaven to incline to the earth, when the earth was poured out like dust, and when I have cemented the very clod as for a stone? [39] Wilt thou hunt the prey for lions, or satisfy the appetites of dragons? [40] For they are trembling for fear in their dens, and lying in ambush in their coverts. [41] Who hath provided food for the raven? For his young have cried to the Lord, wandering about in search of provisions.

* CHAPTER XXXIX *

HAST thou known the time of the rock-goat's delivery, and watched the pangs of hinds in travail? [2] Hast thou numbered the months they go with young, and hast thou dismissed their pangs? [3] Hast thou brought up their young, devoid of fear, and wilt thou dismiss their pangs also? [4] Shall they cast off their young, and be increased with a new progeny, and shall they go forth and no more return to them? [5] Who hath sent forth the wild ass free, and Who hath loosed his bands? [6] As I made the desert his habitation, and the saltish soil his place of encampment; [7] he scorneth the crowds of a city, and regardeth not the clamours of a driver. [8] The range of mountains he will consider as his pasture, and he searcheth after everything green.

[9] Will the unicorn condescend to serve thee, or go to rest at thy stall? [10] Canst thou bind his yoke with thongs, or will he draw thy furrows in the field? [11] Hast thou relied on him because his strength is great? [12] Wilt thou leave thy labours to him, and trust that he will carry out thy seed, and bring home thy threshed grain?

[13] Why is the wing of the peacock a delight? And is the ostrich like the stork when she conceives, [14] for she will commit her eggs to the ground, and hatch them in the dust, [15] not

* The evening star.

remembering that the foot may crush, and wild beasts trample them. [16] She hardened herself against her young, as if not hers; she laboured in vain without fear; [17] because God had silenced wisdom in her. But did he not impart to her some understanding? [18] At a suitable occasion she will rear herself aloft; she will laugh to scorn the horse and his rider.

[19] Hast thou invested the horse with strength, and clothed his neck with terror? [20] When thou arrayedst him with armour didst thou inspire his dauntless breast with courage? [21] Pawing in the plain he swelleth with pride, and rusheth impetuous to the field. [22] Meeting a king he meeteth him with scorn, and turneth not back for fear of the sword. [23] On him the bow and the sword swell with pride; and his rage will cause the ground to vanish, [24] nor will he believe till the trumpet sounds: [25] but at the sound of the trumpet he saith, Aha, and sniffeth the battle from afar, with a bound and neighing.

[26] Hath the hawk by thy wisdom poised herself aloft with wings expanded, unmoved, surveying the regions of the south?

[27] At thy command doth the eagle soar, and the vulture abide seated on its nest, [28] on the high crag of a rock, and in secret, [29] and continuing there seek its food? Its eyes take an extensive survey, [30] and its young are besmeared with blood. Wherever carcasses are, there are they suddenly found.

* CHAPTER XL *

THEN the Lord God addressing Job, said, [2] Doth he decline a trial with the Almighty? Surely he who commenceth a suit against God, should support it.

[3] Whereupon Job, in reply, said to the Lord, [4] Why should I continue the debate any further? I stand corrected for commencing a suit against the Lord. On hearing such things, what answer can I, who am nothing, make to Thee? I will lay my hand on my mouth. [5] Once I have spoken, but I will not proceed a second time. I heard of Thee before, with the hearing of the ear; but now mine eye hath seen Thee, therefore I abhor myself, and am ready to drop into dissolution, and account myself as dust and ashes.

[6] Whereupon the Lord further said to Job from the cloud: [7] No, but gird now up thy loins like a man, and let Me question

thee; and do thou answer Me. [8] Decline not the trial with Me. Dost thou think that I have spoken to thee for any other purpose, but that thou mayst appear justified? [9] Hast thou an arm to contend against the Lord, or dost thou thunder with a voice against Him? [10] Assume then majesty and power, and array thyself with glory and excellence; [11] and send forth angels in wrath, and humble everyone who is insolent. [12] Extinguish also the haughty, and turn the wicked into instant corruption. [13] Hide them in the earth together, and cover their faces with dishonour. [14] Then will I confess that thine own right hand can save thee.

[15] But behold now the wild beasts around thee, which feed upon grass like cattle— [16] behold that one in particular whose strength is in his loins, and whose power is in the navel of his belly. [17] He hath raised his tail like a cypress, and his sinews are plaited together. [18] His ribs are ribs of brass, and his backbone is molten iron; [19] he is a chief of the Lord's fashioning, made to be insulted by His angels only. [20] When he went up to the craggy mountain, he gave joy to the four-footed beasts in the vale. [21] They go to rest under trees of every sort, by the papyrus, the reed and the bulrush: [22] But by him large trees with branches, and the bushes of the field are overshadowed. [23] Should there come a flood he would not regard it; he is confident the Jordan can roll into his mouth. [24] Can one look steadily at him, can one craftily bore his nose?

* CHAPTER XLI *

CANST thou draw out Dragon with a hook, or put a bandage round his nostrils? [2] Or canst thou fasten a ring in his snout, or bore his lip for a jewel? [3] Will he speak to thee with entreaties—with soothing supplications? [4] Will he make a covenant with thee? And wilt thou take him for a perpetual servant? [5] Wilt thou play with him as with a bird, or bind him as a sparrow for a child? [6] Do the nations feed upon him, or the Phœnicians divide him among them? [7] With their whole fleet they could not carry the first skin of his tail, nor his head in their fishing barks. [8] Wilt thou lay thine hand on him, recollecting the battle made by his mouth? Do not so again. [9] Hast thou not seen him? Hast thou not been amazed at what is said of him? Hast thou not been afraid that he was prepared against Me? [10] But

who is there, who hath risen up against Me— [11] or who can rise up against Me and stand to it? If the whole world is Mine, [12] I cannot be put to silence by him.

On the account of his power one may pity his equal [opponent]. [13] Who can strip off his outer robe, or who can come within the folds of his breastplate? [14] Who can open the doors of his mouth? His teeth are encompassed with terror. [15] His scales are shields of brass; and his ligature, like a smyrite stone. [16] They are glued one to another, so that no air may pass through to him. [17] They are to adhere close to each other; they stick so close that they cannot be torn asunder. [18] At his sneezing lightnings flash: and his eyes have the lustre of the morning star. [19] Out of his mouth issue as it were burning lamps; and flaky flames, in appearance, are belched out. [20] From his nostrils issueth the smoke of a furnace, [21] flaming with a fire of burning coals. His animal life is glowing coals; and a flame proceedeth out of his mouth.

[22] In his neck, strength maketh its abode; and destruction runneth before him. [23] The flesh of his body is glued together; it is so abundant that he cannot be shaken. [24] His heart is hard as a stone, and firm as an immovable anvil. [25] When he turneth himself about, all the four-footed beasts on the earth shrink with fear. Though spears oppose him, [26] they effect nothing; for with regard to the lance and the breast-plate, [27] he considereth iron as straw, and brass as rotten wood. [28] The bow of steel cannot wound him; and stones from a sling he considereth as grass. [29] Battering rams are accounted as stubble; and he laugheth at the shock of eruptive fire. [30] His bed is sharp-pointed obelisks; and all the gold in the sea under him, is but as dirt. [31] He causeth the deep to boil like a cauldron; and considereth the sea as a pot of ointment. [32] The deepest gulf of the sea he accounteth his captive; and reckoneth the abyss itself as his parade. [33] Upon the earth there is not his fellow; made to be insulted only by My angels. [34] He beholdeth everything that is high; and he is king over all that are in the waters.

* CHAPTER XLII *

THEN Job in reply, said to the Lord:

[2] I know that Thou canst do all things, and that with Thee nothing is impossible. [3] Who indeed can conceal counsel from Thee? Though he forbear to speak, can he think to hide it

from Thee? But who will tell me those things which I did not know—those great and wonderful things which I did not understand. [4] Hear me, O Lord, that I may speak. And let me ask, and do Thou teach me. [5] I have heard the report of Thee by mine ear before; but now mine eye has seen Thee. [6] Wherefore I have counted myself vile, and have fainted; and I esteem myself dust and ashes.

[7] Now after the Lord had spoken all these things to Job, the Lord said to Eliphaz, the Thaimanite, Thou hast sinned and thy two friends. For you have not spoken anything true before Me, as my servant Job hath. [8] Now therefore take seven young bulls and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and he will make an offering for you; and My servant Job will pray for you. For him only I will accept; for were it not for his sake, I would destroy you, because you have not spoken what is true against My servant Job.

[9] So Eliphaz the Thaimanite, and Baldad the Sauchean, and Sophar the Minaian, went and did as the Lord commanded them, and He forgave them their sin for Job's sake. And the [10] Lord increased Job.

Upon his making supplication for his friends, the Lord forgave them their sins, and the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. [11] When all his brethren and his sisters heard what had befallen him, they came to him, together with all those who were formerly acquainted with him, and having eaten and drunk at his house, they comforted him, and expressed their amazement at all that the Lord had brought upon him. And everyone presented to him a lamb, and a quarter of a drachm of gold bullion. [12] And the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than the former: so that his stock was fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, a thousand breeding asses. [13] And he had seven sons born to him, and three daughters, the eldest of whom he called Hemera, and the second Kasia, [14] and the third Amalthaiakeres. [15] And in all the land there were no women found so fair as the daughters of Job. And their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers.

[16] And Job lived after this affliction a hundred and seventy years. So that all the years which he lived were two hundred and forty. And Job saw his children and his childrens' children, to the fourth generation, [17] and died an old man and full of days. And it is written that he will rise again with them whom the Lord raiseth up.

*This is translated out of a book in the Syrian language: For he [Job] dwelt in the land of Ausitis, on the confines of Idumea and Arabia. His first name was Jobab, and having married an Arabian woman, he had by her a son whose name was Ennon. Now he himself was a son of [his] father Zare, one of the sons of Esau, and his mother's name was Bosorrha: so that he was the fifth in descent from Abraham. Now these were the kings who reigned in Edom, over which country he also bore rule. The first was Balak, the son of Beor, and the name of his city was Dannaba. And after Balak, Jobab, who is called Job; and after him, Asom, who was general from the region of Thaimanitis; and after him, Adad, son of Barad, who smote Madiam in the plain of Moab; and the name of his city was Gethaim. And the friends who came to Job were Eliphaz, of the sons of Esau, the king of the Thaimanites; Baldad, the sovereign of the Saucheans, and Sophar, the king of the Minaians.**

* This interesting historical subscription appears at the end of the book of Job in the Septuagint text, as a continuation of what is now called Ch. XLII, v. 17.

P S A L M S

* I *

HAPPY the man, who hath not walked by the counsel¹ of the wicked; nor stood in the way of sinners; nor sat in the seat of the scornful. [2] His delight will be in the law of the Lord only. And on His law he will meditate day and night. [3] And he will be like the tree planted by the streams of water, which will yield its fruit in due season, and its leaf shall not fall untimely. In all that he doth he shall be prospered. [4] Not so the wicked; not so. They are like the chaff, which the wind driveth from the face of the earth. [5] Therefore the wicked shall not stand in judgment, nor sinners in the counsel of the righteous. [6] For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: and the way of the ungodly shall perish.

* II *

WHY did nations rage? And tribes meditate vain things? [2] The kings of the earth combined; and the chiefs assembled together, against the Lord and against his Anointed, [saying]: [3] Let us break their bands asunder and throw off from us their yoke. [4] He who dwelleth in heaven will laugh them to scorn—the Lord will treat them with derision. [5] Then will He speak to them in His wrath and trouble them with His sore displeasure. [6] But as for me, by him I am appointed king on Sion, His holy mountain. [7] I proclaim the decree of the Lord; to me the Lord said:

Thou art my Son, this day I have begotten thee, [8] Ask of Me, and I will give thee nations for thine inheritance, and the utmost parts of the earth for thy possession. [9] Thou shalt rule them with a rod of iron. Thou shalt break them to pieces like a potter's vessel.

[10] Now therefore, O kings, be wise: Be instructed, all ye, who judge the earth.

[11] Serve the Lord with fear: and rejoice for Him with trembling. [12] Keep fast hold of instruction; the Lord may be angry

and you may perish out of the right way. When His anger suddenly blazeth forth, happy are all they who have trusted in Him.

+ III +

A Psalm by David, when he fled from the presence of his son Abessalom

O LORD! why have they who afflicted me multiplied? Many are risen up against me. [2] Many say respecting my life, In this God of his he hath no safety.*

[3] But Thou, O Lord, art my protector; my glory, and the lifter up of my head. [4] With my voice I cried to the Lord, and from His holy mount He heard me.

[5] I laid me down to rest and slept—I awoke. Because the Lord will protect me, [6] I will not be afraid of myriads of people—of them who are besetting me round about.

[7] Arise, O Lord; save me, O my God! Because Thou hast smitten all them, who foolishly were mine enemies—hast broken the teeth of sinners: [8] this deliverance is the Lord's: let Thy blessing be upon Thy people also.

+ IV +

For the conclusion of psalms. An Ode by David

WHEN I made my supplication, my righteous God heard me: Thou hast enlarged me in distress: be gracious to me and hear my prayer.

[2] Sons of men! how long will you be stubborn! why love ye vanity and seek falsehood? [3] Know that the Lord hath made His holy one wonderful. The Lord will hearken to me when I cry to Him. [4] Are you provoked to wrath? Do not therefore commit sin. What you say in your hearts be sorry for, on your beds. [5] Offer a sacrifice of righteousness and trust in the Lord. [6] Many say, Who will shew us good things? On us, Lord, is marked the light of Thy countenance: [7] Thou hast put gladness in my

* Here appears the Greek word *Διάψαλμα* (Heb. *Shalah*, Chald. *Shelah* ܫܠܗ), denoting a pause in the singing of the psalm. It is merely a direction to the musician and singer, and is hereinafter omitted.

heart. Because of the increase of their corn and wine and oil they are filled; [8] while I will lay me down in peace and sleep because Thou, O Lord, hast only caused me to dwell in hope.

+ V +

For the conclusion, concerning her who obtaineth the inheritance. A Psalm by David

O LORD, hear my words—attend to my cry. [2] Listen to the sound of my prayer, my king and my God! For to Thee, O Lord, I will pray.

[3] In the morning Thou shalt hear my voice: in the morning I will wait on Thee and look up.

[4] Because Thou art not a God pleased with iniquity; therefore he who is wicked cannot dwell near Thee: [5] nor shall transgressors continue in Thy presence.

Thou O Lord, hatest all the workers of iniquity: [6] thou wilt destroy all them who speak lies—a bloody and deceitful man the Lord abhorreth. [7] As for me, I through Thine abundant mercy, will go to Thy house: I will worship before Thy holy temple, in Thy fear.

[8] Lead me, O Lord, in Thy saving goodness: direct my way before Thee, because of mine enemies— [9] because there is no truth in their mouth. Their heart is false; their throat, an open sepulchre: with their tongue they practised deceit.

[10] Judge them, O God; let them fall for their devices: according to the multitude of their crimes cast them out; because they have provoked Thee, O Lord.

[11] But let all, whose hope is in Thee, rejoice. They shall exult forever, and Thou wilt dwell among them: and all who love Thy name will glory in Thee; [12] because Thou wilt bless the righteous. Thou, O Lord, hast covered us as with armour of favour.

+ VI +

*For the conclusion, among Hymns for the eighth day.
A Psalm by David*

O LORD, rebuke me not in Thy wrath; nor chasten me in Thine anger.

[2] Pity me, O Lord, for I am weak. Heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled.

[3] My soul is troubled exceedingly: but O Lord, for how long?

[4] Return, O Lord; deliver my soul: save me for Thy mercy's sake.

[5] For in death none can make mention of Thee. In the mansion of the dead, who can give Thee thanks?

[6] I am weary with my groaning. Am I every night to bedew my bed and water my couch with my tears?

[7] Mine eye is troubled with indignation: I am grown old among all mine enemies.

[8] Away from me, all ye workers of iniquity. For the Lord hath heard the voice of my weeping— [9] the Lord hath heard my supplication: the Lord hath received my petition.

[10] Let all mine enemies be shamed and greatly troubled. Let them be turned back and instantly put to shame.

* VII *

A Psalm by David which he sung to the Lord respecting the words of Chousi the Jeminite

O LORD, my God, in Thee I have put my trust: save me from all my persecutors and deliver me: [2] perhaps he like a lion may tear my soul; if there be none to redeem—none to deliver.

[3] O Lord, my God, if I have done this—if there be iniquity in my hands: [4] if I have requited them evil who did me wrong; let me fall by mine enemies as a worthless man: [5] let mine enemy pursue my soul and take it—let him tread down my life to the earth and lay my honour in the dust.

[6] Arise, O Lord, in thine indignation: exalt Thyself in the borders of mine enemies. Awake, O Lord my God, in the judgment Thou hast enjoined. [7] And when the congregation of the tribes encompass Thee; ascend Thou on high above them: [8] The Lord is the judge of the tribes; judge me, O Lord, according to my righteousness: and according to mine innocence be for me. [9] Let the wickedness of sinners be brought to an end.

Thou wilt indeed direct the righteous: Thou art the God who searcheth hearts and inward parts. [10] Rightful is my help from that God Who saveth the upright in heart.

[11] God, Who is a judge just and powerful; (though He is long-

suffering and doth not execute vengeance every day) [12] will, unless you turn back, sharpen his sword. [13] He hath bent His bow and made it ready: and hath fitted to it the instruments of death—those flaming bolts of His which He hath forged.

[14] Behold this man hath travailed with injustice. He conceived mischief and brought forth iniquity: [15] he hath digged a pit and covered it: into the pit which he made he will fall: [16] his mischief will return on his own head—on his own head his injustice will come down. [17] I shall praise the Lord for His loving kindness. I shall sing to the name of the Lord Most High.

* VIII *

For the conclusion. For the wine presses. A Psalm by David

O LORD, our Lord, how Thy name ought to be admired in all the earth, since Thine excellence is exalted above the heavens! [2] From the mouth of babes and sucklings Thou hast perfected praise, on account of Thine enemies—[on account] of destroying an enemy and a revenger.

[3] When I behold the heavens, the work of Thy fingers—the moon and stars which Thou hast established, [4] what is man that Thou shouldst be mindful of him, or a son of man that Thou shouldst visit him! [5] Thou madest him a little lower than angels, with glory and honour Thou hast crowned him, [6] and set him over the works of Thy hands. Thou hast put all things under his feet— [7] flocks and herds of all sorts—also the beasts of the field— [8] the birds of the air, and fishes of the sea—whatever travel the paths of the seas. [9] O Lord, our Lord, how Thy name ought to be admired in all the earth!

* IX *

*For the conclusion. On the mysteries of the Son.
A Psalm by David*

I WILL praise Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart, [2] I will relate all Thy wondrous works. Let me be gladdened and rejoice in Thee; to Thy name I will sing, O Thou Most High. [3] When this enemy of mine is turned back, at Thy presence they shall

faint and perish; [4] because Thou hast maintained my right and my cause.

Thou the righteous judge hast sat on the throne; [5] Thou hast rebuked nations, and the wicked one is destroyed. Thou hast blotted out their name for ever and ever. [6] The enemy's swords have utterly failed, and Thou hast completely destroyed cities, the memorial of them with their din is gone.

[7] But the Lord will endure forever: He hath prepared His throne for judgment; [8] He will judge the world with righteousness—with rectitude He will judge tribes. [9] The Lord was a refuge for the distressed, a seasonable helper in adversity. [10] Let them who know Thy name confide in thee; For Thou, O Lord, hast not forsaken them who seek Thee.

[11] Sing to the Lord who dwelleth in Sion; among the nations proclaim His designs, [12] for in making inquisition for blood, He had them in remembrance—He forgot not the prayer of the distressed.

[13] Have mercy upon me, O Lord! Behold my affliction, because of mine enemies, O Thou who raisest me up from the gates of death, [14] that I may proclaim all Thy praises in the gates of the daughter of Sion. Let me exult with joy for Thy salvation.

[15] The nations were completely entrapped by the destruction which they contrived; in the gin which they hid, their foot is caught. [16] The Lord is known by executing judgments; by the works of his own hands the sinner is taken.

A responsive Ode

[17] Let the sinners be turned back to the mansion of the dead—all the nations who forget God.

[18] For the poor shall not be quite forgotten—the expectation of the needy shall never perish.

[19] Arise, O Lord, let not man prevail—let nations be judged in Thy presence.

[20] Appoint, O Lord, a legislator over them—let nations know that they are men.

* X *

WHY, O Lord, hast Thou stood at a distance—dost Thou overlook at proper occasions—in adversity?

[2] When the wicked exulteth with pride, the poor is set on fire—they are caught by the counsels which they devise.

[3] Because the sinner is praised for the desires of his soul;—therefore he who committeth injustice is blessed.

[4] The sinner hath greatly provoked the Lord—according to His great anger will He not make inquisition?

God is not before his eyes— [5] his ways are polluted on every occasion.

Thy judgments are removed from his sight—shall he have a mastery over all his enemies?

[6] For he said in his heart, I shall not be moved and I shall never be in adversity.

[7] Is not his mouth full of cursing, and bitterness and deceit?—Under his tongue there is mischief and sorrow.

[8] He sat in secret places with the rich to slay the innocent—his eyes are on the watch for the distressed.

[9] He lurketh in secret like a lion in his den—he lurketh to make a prey of the poor.

To make a prey of the poor when he hath drawn him in—in his net he will humble him.

[10] He will stoop and crouch at his tyrannising over the poor—

[11] For he said in his heart, God hath forgotten—He hath turned His face from ever seeing.

[12] Arise, O Lord God, let Thy hand be lifted up—Forget not the oppressed.

[13] Why hath the wicked provoked God?—For he said in his heart, He will not make inquisition.

[14] Thou seest (for Thou observest mischief and wrath)—that they have delivered themselves into Thy hands.

To Thee the poor hath committed himself—Thou art the helper of the fatherless.

[15] Break the arm of the sinful and malicious man. Let his sin be sought out till no more can be found.

[16] Let the Lord reign for ever and ever!
Perish ye nations out of His land! [17] The Lord hath hearkened to the desire of the oppressed.

Thine ear hath attended to the preparation of their heart; [18] to administer justice to the fatherless and the weak.

That man may no longer continue his insolence in the land.

* XI

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David

IN the Lord I have placed my confidence; how say ye to my soul, Away to the mountains as an ostrich.

[2] For behold the sinners have bent a bow: they have provided arrows for a quiver; to shoot privily the upright in heart.

[3] For what Thou didst build up, they have pulled down.

Now what hath the righteous done? [4] The Lord is in His holy temple. The Lord, Whose throne is in heaven; Whose eyes look down on the needy; Whose eyelids examine the sons of men— [5] the Lord examineth both the righteous and the wicked. He then who loveth iniquity hateth his own soul.

[6] Upon the wicked He will rain snares. Fire and brimstone and a tempestuous wind, shall be the portion of their cup.

[7] Because the Lord is righteous, therefore He loved righteousness; His countenance beheld uprightness.

* XII *

For the conclusion, for the eighth [day]. A Psalm by David

SAVE me, O Lord! for a holy one hath ceased [to appear]; for truths are scarce among the sons of men. [2] They spoke vanities one to another: their lips are deceitful, they spoke with a double heart.

[3] May the Lord destroy all deceitful lips; and the tongue which speaketh swelling words— [4] them who say, We will magnify our tongue: our lips are our own: who is Lord over us?

[5] Because of the oppression of the poor, because of the groans of the needy, now will I arise, saith the Lord; I will set in safety and speak boldly.

[6] The oracles of the Lord are pure oracles—tried silver, clear of dross, seven times purified. [7] Thou, O Lord, wilt keep us and preserve us, from this generation forth, and forever.

[8] The wicked are walking about: Thou, in Thy sublimity, hast carefully observed the sons of men.

* XIII *

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David

HOW long, O Lord, wilt Thou forget me? For ever? How long wilt Thou turn away Thy face from me?

[2] How long shall I revolve counsels in my mind, and sorrows in my heart? For years? How long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?

[3] Look down, hearken to me, O Lord, my God. Enlighten mine eyes, that I may not sleep unto death— [4] lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed over him. They who afflict me will rejoice, if I be moved.

[5] As for me, I have trusted in Thy mercy; let my heart rejoice in Thy salvation: [6] I will sing to the Lord my benefactor; and hymn to the name of the Lord Most High.

* XIV *

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David

THE fool said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt and by their works abominable: there is none who doeth good. No not one.

[2] The Lord looked down from heaven on the children of men, to see if any had understanding or were seeking God. [3] They had all gone aside, they were altogether become vile: there is none who doeth good—no not one. Their throat is an open sepulchre: with their tongues they practised deceit: the poison of asps is under the lips of them whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: their feet are swift to shed blood: destruction and misery are in their ways: and the way of peace they did not know: there is no fear of God before their eyes.

[4] Will they all continue senseless? They are going on in a course of iniquity: they are eating up my people as they do bread: they have not called on the Lord. [5] They were seized with terror, where there was no fear; because God was among a righteous generation.

[6] Have you despised the counsel of the poor; because his trust is in the Lord?

[7] O that He would for Sion's sake send deliverance to Israel! When the Lord hath brought back the captives among His people: Let Jacob rejoice and let Israel be glad.

* XV *

A Psalm by David

O LORD! who shall sojourn at Thy tabernacle? And who shall dwell on Thy holy mountain?

[2] He who walketh blameless and worketh righteousness: And who speaketh truth from his heart. [3] Who hath not deceived with his tongue; nor done evil to his neighbour; nor taken up a reproach against his neighbours. [4] In whose sight an evil doer is contemned; but who honoureth them who fear the Lord: who sweareth [truly] to his neighbour, and doth not violate his engagements: [5] who hath not lent his money on usury; nor taken bribes against the innocent. He whose practise is such, shall never be moved.

* XVI *

An inscription for a pillar. By David

PRESERVE me, O Lord: for in Thee I have trusted. [2] I said to the Lord, Thou art my Lord: Thou hast no need of my goods. [3] By the hallowed things in this land of His He had marvellously displayed all His designs. [4] Their infirmities were multiplied: after these hallowed things they hastened.

I will no more assemble their congregations for blood, nor make mention of their names with my lips. [5] The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: Thou art He who restoreth me mine inheritance. [6] The lines have fallen to me in the best places: for this inheritance of mine is the best for me.

[7] I will bless the Lord Who hath given me understanding: even now at night my reigns have instructed me. [8] I saw the Lord continually before me. Because He is at my right hand that I may not be moved; [9] therefore my heart was gladdened; and

my tongue exulted with joy: moreover my flesh also will dwell in hope; [10] that Thou wilt not leave my soul in the mansion of the dead nor suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

[11] Thou hast made known to me the ways of life: Thou with Thy presence wilt fill me with joy. At Thy right hand are pleasures for evermore.

* XVII *

A Prayer of David

HEARKEN, O Lord, to my justification; attend to my supplication: give ear to my prayer which is not made with feigned lips.

[2] Let my sentence come forth from Thy presence: Let mine eyes behold righteous decisions.

[3] Thou hast proved my heart: Thou hast watched me by night: Thou hast tried me: and in me there was found no injustice.

[4] That my mouth might not speak the works of these men; I, because of the words of Thy lips, kept rugged ways.

[5] Establish my footsteps in Thy paths; that my footsteps may not be moved.

[6] I have cried, because Thou, O God, didst hear me: incline Thine ear to me and hear my words. [7] Display marvellously Thy mercies, O Thou, who, with Thy right hand, savest from adversaries them who trust in Thee. [8] Keep me as the apple of an eye: with the cover of Thy wings Thou wilt shelter me [9] from the face of the wicked who afflict me. [10] These enemies of mine beset my soul: they shut up their fat; their mouth spoke proudly. [11] Having driven me out they now enclosed me. They set their eyes inclining to the ground. [12] They observed me, like a lion eager for prey, and like a young lion lurking in coverts.

[13] Arise, O Lord, prevent them and cause them to stumble. Deliver my soul from the wicked: [14] wrest Thy sword from Thine enemies' hand. Dismiss them, O Lord, from the land: disperse them in their lifetime. Though their belly was filled with Thy stores, they glutted themselves with swine's flesh, and left the remains for their children.

[15] But as for me, let me appear righteous before Thee; let me be satisfied with a display of Thy glory.

* XVIII *

For the conclusion. By David the servant of the Lord: who spake to the Lord the words of this Ode on the day when the Lord delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul; and he said:

I WILL love Thee, O Lord, my strength! [2] The Lord is my support, my refuge and my deliverer. My God is my helper, in Him I will trust: my protector, the horn of my salvation and my defender.

[3] In songs of praise I will call on the Lord, and I shall be saved from mine enemies.

[4] The pangs of death encompassed me; and floods of iniquity startled me. [5] The pangs of Hades surrounded me, and the snares of death were before me. [6] In my distress I called on the Lord, and to my God I raised my cry. From His holy temple He heard my voice; and my cry before Him reached His ears.

[7] Then was the earth shaken: it trembled; and the foundations of the hills were convulsed and shaken; because at mine enemies God was incensed. [8] A smoke ascended in His ire, and at His presence a fire flamed, by which coals were kindled to a glow. [9] And He bowed the heaven and came down, and darkness was under His feet. [10] He mounted on cherubs and flew—He flew on the wings of winds. [11] But He made darkness His covering, His tent around Him was dark water in clouds of air. [12] At the flash of the lightning before Him, the clouds burst. Hail stones and coals of fire! [13] Then the Lord thundered from heaven, the Most High uttered His voice: [14] He sent forth His bolts and scattered them: He multiplied His lightnings and confounded them.

[15] Then were seen the head springs of waters, and the foundations of the world were disclosed, at Thy rebuke, O Lord—at the blowing of the blast of Thine anger. [16] He sent from on high and took me—He took me to Himself from many waters. [17] He will deliver me from my potent enemies; and from them who hate me; because they are stronger than I. [18] They surprised me in the day of my distress; [19] but the Lord was my firm support; and brought me out to a large place. He will deliver me because He delighted in me. [20] The Lord will reward me according to my righteousness, and recompense me according to

the cleanness of my hands. [21] Because I have kept the ways of the Lord, and have not wickedly departed from my God— [22] because all His judgments were before me, and His rules of rectitude were not far from me; [23] therefore with Him I shall be unblemished, and I will guard myself from mine iniquity; [24] and the Lord will reward me according to my righteousness, and according to the cleanness of my hands in His sight.

[25] With the merciful Thou wilt shew thyself merciful, [26] and with a harmless man Thou wilt be harmless; with a warrior Thou wilt be a warrior, and with the wily, Thou wilt practise wiles. [27] Because Thou wilt save a dejected people; therefore the eyes of the lofty Thou wilt humble. [28] Because Thou, O Lord, wilt light my lamp—Thou, O my God, wilt enlighten my darkness— [29] by Thee therefore I shall be delivered from a roving band; and by my God I shall overleap a wall. [30] As for my God, His way is spotless—the oracles of the Lord are tried, He is the protector of all who trust in Him.

[31] For who is God, besides the Lord? And who is God, save our God? [32] It is Thou, O God, Who girdest me with strength, and hast made my way spotless— [33] Who makest my feet like those of a hind, and who steadiest me on high places; [34] Who instructest my hands for battle, and hast made my arms like a bow of steel, [35] and given me a defence for my safety; and Thy right hand hath helped me, and Thy discipline hath upheld me to the last: this discipline of Thine will still teach me. [36] Thou hast enlarged my steps under me, and my tread was not unsteady.

[37] I shall pursue mine enemies and overtake them, and not turn back till they are destroyed. [38] I shall harass them that they may not be able to stand; they shall fall down under my feet. [39] For Thou hast girded me with strength for battle, and subdued under me all that rose up against me. [40] Thou hast given me the backs of mine enemies, and utterly destroyed them who hate me. [41] They cried aloud, but there was no saviour—to the Lord, but He hearkened not to them. [42] So that I shall beat them small as dust before the wind, and trample them down like dirt in the street.

[43] Deliver me from the contentions of the people. Thou wilt set me at the head of nations.

A people whom I knew not have served me. [44] As soon as they heard, they obeyed me. [45] Strange children have paid me feigned obedience. Strange children became old and limped away from their paths.

[46] Live the Lord! and blessed be my God! and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

[47] The God who hath executed vengeance for me: and subjected peoples under me—my deliverer from outrageous enemies.

[48] From them who rise up against me, Thou wilt lift me up; from the man of violence Thou wilt deliver me.

[49] For this cause I will praise Thee, O Lord, among the nations; and sing melodiously to Thy name:

[50] He is magnifying the deliverances of His king, and shewing mercy to His anointed—to David and his seed forever.

+ XIX +

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David

THE heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaimeth the work of His hands.

[2] Day to day pronounceth a decree; and night to night proclaimeth knowledge.

[3] Are they not speeches and are they not words, of which is not their utterance heard?

[4] To every land their sound is gone forth: and their doctrines to the limits of the world.

In the sun He placed His tabernacle. [5] And he is like a bridegroom coming forth from his chamber. He will rejoice as a giant to run his course.

[6] His going forth is from the summit of heaven; and his course is to the summit thereof, and from his heat none can be hid.

[7] The law of the Lord is perfect, it restoreth souls: The testimony of the Lord is faithful, it maketh infants wise.

[8] The statutes of the Lord are right, they rejoice the heart. The commandment of the Lord is clear, it enlighteneth the eyes.

[9] The fear of the Lord is pure, it endureth forever. The judgments of the Lord are true, they are justified for being so.

[10] They are more to be desired than gold, or many precious stones; and sweeter than honey or the honeycomb.

[11] These indeed Thy servant keepeth; for keeping them there is a great reward.

[12] Who can understand his errors? [13] Cleanse thou me from those of mine which are hid; and for those of others, spare

Thy servant. If they gain not a dominion over me: then shall I be spotless, and clean from great transgression. [14] And the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart, will be continually acceptable in Thy sight—O Lord, my helper and my redeemer.

+ XX +

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David

THE Lord hearken to thee in a day of distress! The name of the God of Jacob defend thee;

[2] May He send thee help from the Sanctuary: And assist thee out of Sion.

[3] May He remember all thy sacrifice; And make thy whole burnt offerings fat.

[4] May He grant thee thy heart's desire: And fulfill all thy counsel.

[5] We will rejoice in Thy salvation, and triumph in the name of our God. May the Lord fulfill all thy petitions!

[6] Now I know that the Lord hath saved His anointed. From His holy heaven He will hearken to him. The salvation of His right hand is with power.

[7] Some boast of chariots and some of horses; but by the name of the Lord our God we shall be magnified.

[8] They were entangled and fell; but we arose and were kept upright.

[9] O Lord, save the king, and hearken to us, when we invoke Thee.

+ XXI +

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David

O LORD, in Thy strength, the king will rejoice; and exult greatly in Thy salvation.

[2] Thou hast granted him the desire of his soul, and hast not denied him the request of his lips.

[3] For Thou hast pre-engaged him with kind blessings. Thou hast set on his head a crown of precious stones.

[4] He asked of Thee life; and Thou hast given him length of days forever.

[5] By Thy salvation his glory is great. Thou wilt confer on him honour and majesty.

[6] For Thou wilt give him everlasting blessing; and with the joy of Thy countenance make him glad.

[7] Because the king trusteth in the Lord: therefore, through the mercy of the Most High, he cannot be shaken.

[8] Let Thine enemies feel Thy hand: and Thy right hand find out all that hate Thee.

[9] Thou wilt make them like an oven of fire, at the time of Thy presence. The Lord with His wrath will confound them, and a fire shall devour them.

[10] Thou wilt destroy their fruit from the earth, and their seed from among the sons of men.

[11] Because on Thee they were turning evils. Were devising a counsel which they could not accomplish— [12] because Thou wilt set them behind those Thou hast left—wilt prepare others to be before them.

[13] Be Thou, O Lord, exalted by Thy power: let us sing and extol Thy acts of government.

* XXII *

*For the conclusion. On the help of the morning.
A Psalm by David*

O GOD, my God! attend to me! why hast Thou forsaken me? have the acts of my transgressions [removed Thee] far from saving me? [2] O my God, shall I cry to Thee by day, and Thou not listen, and by night, and Thou not hear me? [3] Thou indeed dwellest in a holy place; Thou art the praise of Israel. [4] In Thee our fathers placed their trust—they trusted and Thou didst deliver them. [5] To Thee they cried and they were saved; in Thee they trusted and were not put to shame.

[6] As for me, I am a worm, and no man—the scorn of men and the people's contempt. [7] All that see me have laughed me to scorn; they said with their lips while they shook their head; [8] He trusted in the Lord, let him deliver him; let Him save him, since he delighteth in Him. [9] Because Thou art He, who drew me forth from the womb: my hope, when at the breasts of my

mother— [10] I was cast on Thy care from my very birth—from my mother's womb Thou art my God; O stand not at a distance from me; [11] for trouble is near—for there is no helper.

[12] Many bulls have encompassed me—fat bulls have beset me around. [13] Against me they have opened their mouth, like a ravening and roaring lion. [14] I am poured out like water, and all my bones are torn asunder: my heart within me is melted like wax. [15] My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue cleaveth to my palate—Thou hast indeed brought me to the dust of death.

[16] Because many dogs have encompassed me, an assembly of wicked men have beset me—have pierced my hands and my feet— [17] have counted all my bones, and have stared and looked at me; [18] they have parted my garments among them, and for my vesture have cast lots;

[19] Therefore, O Lord, delay not Thou my help, draw near to my assistance; [20] rescue my soul from the sword—this only begotten of mine from the paw of a dog. [21] Save me from the mouth of a lion, and this lowliness of mine from the unicorn's horns. [22] I will declare Thy name to my brethren: in the midst of a congregation I will sing praise to Thee.

[23] Praise Him, ye who fear the Lord, praise Him, all ye seed of Jacob. Let all the seed of Israel fear Him; [24] for He hath not slighted, nor abhorred the prayer of the distressed; nor turned away His face from me: but hearkened to me when I cried to Him. [25] My praise shall be of Thee in a great congregation: I will pay my vows before them who fear Him.

[26] The needy shall eat and be satisfied: and they who seek the Lord will praise Him. Their heart shall be forever alive. [27] All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before Him: [28] for the kingdom is the Lord's and He ruleth the nations. [29] All the fat ones of the earth have eaten and worshipped: before Him shall bow all that go down to the dust. Let my soul therefore live for Him.

[30] My seed indeed will serve Him: a generation which is coming shall be announced for the Lord: [31] and they will proclaim His saving mercy to a people that shall be born, whom the Lord made.

* XXIII *

A Psalm by David

THE Lord is my shepherd, I shall want nothing. [2] In a verdant pasture He hath fixed my abode. He hath fed me by gently flowing water [3] and restored my soul. He hath led me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. [4] For though I walk amidst the shades of death: I will fear no ills, because Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff have been my comfort. [5] Thou hast spread a table before me; in the presence of them who afflict me. With oil Thou hast anointed my head; and Thine exhilarating cup is the very best. [6] Thy mercy will surely follow me all the days of my life; and my dwelling shall be in the house of the Lord to length of days.

* XXIV *

A Psalm by David, on the first day of the week

THE earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world and all its inhabitants. [2] Upon the seas He laid its foundations; and established it upon the floods. [3] Who shall ascend to the hill of God, and who shall stand in His holy place? [4] He whose hands are clean and whose heart is pure. Who hath not devoted his soul to vanity; nor sworn deceitfully to his neighbour. [5] Such shall receive a blessing from the Lord; and bounteous supplies from God his saviour. [6] Such is the generation of them who seek Him; who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

[7] Open wide your gates, ye chiefs! and be opened wide, ye everlasting doors; that the glorious king may enter. [8] Who is the glorious king? The Lord strong and mighty: the Lord mighty in battle. [9] Open wide your gates, ye chiefs; and be opened wide ye everlasting doors; that the glorious king may enter. [10] Who is this glorious king? The Lord of Hosts. He is the king of glory.

* XXV *

A Psalm by David

TO Thee, O Lord, I have lifted up my soul: [2] O my God, in Thee I have put my trust: let me not be shamed, nor let mine enemies deride me; [3] for none who wait on Thee should be put to shame. Let them be shamed who vainly transgress. [4] O Lord, shew me Thy ways and teach me Thy paths. [5] Lead me to Thy truth, and teach me: for Thou, O God, art my saviour, and for Thee I have waited all the day long. [6] O Lord, remember Thy compassion and Thy tender mercies; for they are from everlasting. [7] Remember not the sins and follies of my youth; according to Thy mercy remember me, O Lord, for Thy goodness' sake.

[8] The Lord is gracious and righteous: therefore He will instruct sinners in the way: [9] He will guide the meek in judgment: He will teach the meek His ways. [10] All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth; to them who seek His covenant and His testimonies. [11] For the sake of Thy name therefore, O Lord, pardon this sin of mine, for it is manifold.

[12] What man soever habitually feareth the Lord, him He will instruct in the way he hath chosen; [13] his life shall be spent in the enjoyment of good things and his offspring shall inherit the land. [14] The Lord is the strength of them who fear Him; and it is His covenant to display it for them. [15] Mine eyes are continually towards the Lord; because He can extricate my feet from the snare. [16] Look down upon me and compassionate me; for I am an only begotten, though distressed: [17] the troubles of my heart are multiplied: O deliver me from these my distresses. [18] Look on my humiliation and my trouble and forgive all my sins.

[19] View mine enemies, for they are multiplied; and have hated me with unjust hatred. [20] O preserve my soul and deliver me: let me not be shamed, because I have trusted in Thee. [21] To me the innocent and the upright cleaved; because I waited for Thee, O Lord. [22] God redeem Israel from all their afflictions!

* XXVI *

By David

JUDGE me, O Lord, for I have walked in mine integrity; and trusting in the Lord I should not be shaken. [2] Examine me, O Lord, and prove me: try my reins and my heart. [3] Because Thy mercy is before mine eyes; and I have delighted in Thy truth: [4] I did not sit with the council of vanity; nor can I go with them who transgress: [5] I hated the assembly of evil doers; and with the ungodly I cannot sit. [6] I will wash my hands in innocence and go round Thine altar, O Lord: [7] that I may hear the voice of praise; and tell all Thy wonderful acts.

[8] O Lord, I have loved the beauty of Thy house; and the place of the mansion of Thy glory. [9] Destroy not my soul with the wicked nor my life with bloodthirsty men; [10] in whose hands are iniquities; and whose right hand is full of bribes. [11] As for me, I have walked in mine integrity: Redeem me, and be merciful to me. [12] My foot hath been steadfast in rectitude: in assemblies I will bless Thee, O Lord.

* XXVII *

A Psalm of David before he was anointed

THE Lord is my Light and my Saviour. Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the Defender of my life. Of whom shall I be afraid? [2] When evil doers approached me, to devour my flesh; they, who afflicted me, even mine enemies fainted and fell. [3] Though a host be drawn up against me, my heart will not be dismayed; though war rise up against me, still I exercise hope. [4] One favour I have asked of the Lord; and this I will earnestly seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life—that I may contemplate the delight of the Lord and visit His temple. [5] Because in His pavilion He hid me, in the day of my calamities—in the secret of His tabernacle He covered me; He set me upon a rock; [6] and now, behold! He hath raised up my head against mine enemies: I have gone round and offered at His tent a sacrifice of thanksgiving: with music vocal and instrumental I will praise the Lord.

[7] Hear, O Lord, my voice when I cry; have mercy on me and hearken to me. [8] To Thee my heart said, I have sought Thy face; Thy face, O Lord, I will seek. [9] Turn not away Thy face from me; withdraw not in anger from Thy servant. Be Thou my helper: leave me not, nor forsake me, O God, my saviour. [10] Since my father and my mother have left me; and the Lord hath taken me to Himself: [11] instruct me in Thy way and lead me in the right path, because of mine enemies. [12] Deliver me not up to the will of them who are afflicting me. Because false witnesses have risen up against me and injustice hath belied itself; [13] I am confident of seeing the goodness of the Lord, in the land of the living. [14] Wait for the Lord and be of good courage; let thy heart be strengthened and wait for the Lord.

* XXVIII *

A Psalm of David

TO Thee, O Lord, I have cried: O my God, pass me not by in silence. Shouldst Thou pass me by in silence: I shall be like them who go down to the pit. [2] Hear the sound of my supplication, when I pray to Thee—when I lift up my hands to Thy holy temple. [3] Draw not my soul in with sinners; nor destroy me with the workers of iniquity—with them who speak peace to their neighbours and harbour mischief in their hearts. [4] Give them according to their deeds; and according to the wickedness of their devices. According to the works of their hands give them—retribute to them their deserts. [5] Because they did not regard the works of the Lord; nor the operations of His hands: Thou wilt utterly destroy them and not build them up again.

[6] Blessed be the Lord, because He hath heard the voice of my prayer. [7] The Lord is my helper and my protector: on Him my heart relied, and I am helped. My flesh also is revived, that with cheerfulness I may praise Him. [8] The Lord is the strength of His people; and the safeguard of His anointed. [9] O save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance; feed them also and lift them up forever.

* XXIX *

A Psalm of David, at the exode of the Tabernacle

OFFER to the Lord, ye children of God—offer to the Lord the offspring of rams. Offer to the Lord glory and honour: [2] offer to the Lord, glory to His name. Worship the Lord in His holy court. [3] The voice of the Lord on the waters! The God of the glory thundered! The Lord is over many waters. [4] The voice of the Lord is with power: the voice of the Lord is with majesty. [5] The voice of the Lord rending the cedars! The Lord will rend the cedars of Lebanon, and shatter them to pieces: [6] as a young unicorn would a calf; so will the beloved [shatter] Lebanon itself.

[7] The voice of the Lord bursting through a flame of fire! The voice of the Lord shaking the wilderness. [8] The Lord will shake the wilderness of Kades. [9] The voice of the Lord collecting the hinds; when He shall lay the forests bare. When in His temple everyone uttereth praise; [10] the Lord will cause that which was deluged to be inhabited: and the Lord will sit enthroned king forever. [11] The Lord will give strength to His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace.

* XXX *

For the conclusion. The Psalm of an Ode at the dedication of David's house

I WILL extol Thee, O Lord, because Thou hast upheld me, and hast not suffered mine enemies to rejoice over me. [2] O Lord my God, to Thee I cried and Thou didst heal me. [3] Thou, O Lord, hast brought my soul up out of Hades; and saved me from among them who go down to the pit. [4] O sing to the Lord, ye His saints; and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness. [5] Because at His wrath there is vexation; but in His favour, life; in the evening weeping may pitch its tent; and in the morning, joy. [6] As for me, I in my prosperity said, I can never be moved: [7] (to my comeliness, thou, Lord, in Thy good pleasure hadst added strength); but Thou didst turn away Thy face, and I was involved in trouble.

[8] To Thee, O Lord, I cried and to my God made supplication— [9] What profit is there in my blood—by my going down to corruption? Can dust celebrate Thy praise; or can it proclaim Thy truth? [10] The Lord heard and compassionated me: the Lord became my helper. [11] Thou didst turn my mourning into joy; Thou didst rend in pieces my sackcloth and gird me with gladness, [12] that my glory might sound Thy praise; and that I might not be absorbed in grief. O Lord, my God, to Thee I will give thanks for evermore.

* XXXI *

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David, in sudden fear

IN Thee, O Lord, I have trusted. Let me never be put to shame. In Thy saving mercy rescue me and deliver me— [2] Incline Thine ear to me! haste to deliver me. Be Thou to me a protecting God—a house of refuge to save me. [3] Because Thou art my strength and my refuge; Thou therefore, for Thy name's sake, wilt guide and nourish me: [4] Thou wilt extricate me from this snare, which they have privily laid for me. Because Thou, O Lord, art my protector; [5] into Thy hands I will commit my spirit. Thou, O Lord the God of truth hast redeemed me. [6] Thou hatedst them who fruitlessly regard vanities; but I have trusted in the Lord. [7] I will exult with joy and rejoice in Thy mercy: because Thou hast looked on my humiliation—hast delivered my soul from these distresses— [8] hast not shut me up into an enemy's hand—hast set my feet in a roomy place.

[9] Pity me, O Lord, for I am afflicted: with indignation mine eye was troubled—my soul and all within me. [10] Because my life was spent with grief, and my years with sighing—with affliction my strength was exhausted and my bones were troubled; [11] among all mine enemies I became a reproach; and to my neighbours especially, and to my acquaintance, a terror. They who saw me abroad fled from me; [12] like a dead man out of mind I was quite forgotten: I became like a broken vessel. [13] Because I heard the whispers of many who dwell around me; when they assembled together against me they consulted how to take my life; [14] but as for me, I put my trust in Thee, O Lord; I said, Thou art my God; [15] in Thy hands are my lots; deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them who are

persecuting me. [16] Let Thy face shine upon Thy servant: save me for Thy mercy's sake. [17] O Lord, let me not be shamed, because I have invoked Thee. Let the wicked be shamed and driven down to the mansion of the dead. [18] Let those deceitful lips become speechless, which speak injustice against the righteous with pride and contempt.

[19] How great, O Lord, is the abundance of Thy kindness, which Thou hast laid up in store for them who fear Thee—hast provided for them who trust in Thee before the sons of men. [20] In the secret of Thy presence Thou wilt hide them from the trouble of men; Thou wilt shelter them in a pavilion from the strife of tongues. [21] Blessed be the Lord, because He hath marvellously displayed His mercy in a city besieged. [22] As for me, on my surprisal I said, I am cast far from Thy presence; therefore Thou, O Lord, didst hear the voice of my supplication when I cried to Thee. [23] O love the Lord, all ye His saints, for the Lord searcheth out truth, and retributeth largely to the insolent. [24] Take courage and let your hearts be strong, all ye whose trust is in the Lord.

* XXXII *

On understanding. By David

HAPPY they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. [2] Happy the man, to whose account the Lord will not charge sin, and in whose mouth there is no guile. [3] Because I kept silence, my bones were consumed; by reason of my crying all the live long day. [4] Because day and night Thy hand was heavy on me, I was reduced to misery by a piercing thorn. [5] I acknowledged my sin and did not conceal mine iniquity. I said, Against myself I will confess mine iniquity to the Lord, [6] thereupon Thou didst forgive the wickedness of my heart. For this every pious man should pray to Thee in due time. Moreover in a flood of many waters, are they not to draw near to Him? [7] Thou art my refuge from affliction, which surroundeth me—my jubilee to redeem me from them who encompass me.

[8] Let Me instruct thee and teach thee the way thou shouldst go. I will fix steadily Mine eyes upon thee. [9] Be not like a horse or a mule, which have no understanding, the mouths of which, when they come not to thee, thou must strain with a bridle

or a cavesson. [10] Many are the chastisements of the sinner; but mercy will encompass him who trusteth in the Lord. [11] Rejoice in the Lord and exult ye righteous, and shout for joy all ye who are upright in heart.

* XXXIII *

By David

REJOICE ye righteous in the Lord: praise becometh the upright. [2] Praise the Lord with the kithara—with the ten stringed psaltery sing praises to Him. [3] Sing to Him a new song; sing in harmonious and triumphant strains. [4] For the word of the Lord is right, and all His works are true. [5] He loveth mercy and judgment; the earth is full of the mercy of the Lord. [6] By the word of the Lord the heavens were established, and all their host by the breath of His mouth. [7] He gathered as in a vessel the waters of the sea; He laid up the deeps in store houses. [8] Let all the earth fear the Lord; and all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him; [9] for He spake and they were brought into being— [10] He commanded and they were created.

The Lord dissipateth the counsels of nations, and disannulleth the devices of peoples. He disannulleth also the counsels of chiefs. [11] But the counsel of the Lord shall endure forever, the thoughts of His heart from generations to generations. [12] Happy is the nation, whose God is the Lord—the people, whom He hath chosen for His heritage.

[13] Out of heaven the Lord looked down; He took a view of all the children of men. [14] He looked down from His fixed habitation on all the inhabitants of the earth. [15] It is He alone who formed their hearts: He knoweth completely all their works. [16] A king is not saved because of a numerous army: nor can a giant be saved by his abundant strength. [17] A horse is a false thing for safety; nor can he with all his power save himself.

[18] Behold the eyes of the Lord are on them who fear Him—on them who confide in His mercy; [19] to deliver their souls from death; and to nourish them in a famine. [20] Let our soul wait for the Lord; because He is our helper and our protector. [21] Because by Him our heart can be made glad, therefore in His Holy Name we have trusted. [22] Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have put our trust in Thee.

* XXXIV *

By David, when he had changed his behaviour before Abimelech, and, being dismissed by him, had gone away

I WILL bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall be continually in my mouth. [2] Let my soul glory in the Lord: let the meek hear and be gladdened. [3] O magnify the Lord with me; and let us extol His name together. [4] I sought the Lord and He heard me; and brought me safe out of all my sojourns. [5] Come to Him and be enlightened and your faces shall never be shamed. [6] This afflicted man cried; and the Lord heard him; and saved him out of all his afflictions. [7] The angel of the Lord will encamp round them that fear Him, and deliver them. [8] O taste and see that the Lord is good! happy is the man, who trusteth in him. [9] O fear the Lord all ye his saints! for they who fear him have no want. [10] Rich men have become poor and hungry: But they who seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.

[11] Come, ye children, hearken to me: and I will teach you the fear of the Lord. [12] What man soever desireth life and loveth to see good days: [13] keep thy tongue from evil; and thy lips from speaking guile: [14] depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. [15] The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous: and His ears are open to their prayer. [16] But the face of the Lord is against them that do evil; to destroy the remembrance of them from the earth.

[17] The righteous cried and the Lord heard them; and delivered them out of all their afflictions. [18] The Lord is near to those of a contrite heart; and will save them who are lowly in spirit. [19] Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but out of them all the Lord will deliver them. [20] He keepeth all their bones, not one of them shall be broken. [21] Wretched is the death of sinners; yet they who hate what is just will transgress. [22] The Lord will redeem the souls of His servants: and none will transgress who trust in Him.

* XXXV *

By David

JUDGE them, O Lord, who do me wrong. Fight against them who are at war with me. [2] Take hold of the shield and buckler;

and stand up in my defence. [3] Unsheath the sword and stop my pursuers: say to my soul, I am thy safety. [4] Let them who seek my life be shamed and confounded: let them be turned back and put to shame; who are devising evils against me. [5] Let them be like dust before the wind, when the angel of the Lord is afflicting them. [6] Let their way be dark and slippery, when the angel of the Lord is pursuing them. [7] Seeing they have without cause, hid for me their destructive snare—have, without reason, reproached my soul; [8] let a snare, which they know not, come upon them, and the gin catch them, which they have hidden; and by that very snare let them fall.

[9] But let my soul rejoice in the Lord, and be delighted with His salvation. [10] Let all my bones say, O Lord, who is like Thee, who deliverest the afflicted from the hand of them who are stronger than he—the afflicted and needy from them who spoil him? [11] False witnesses having risen up against me, laid to my charge things which I knew not; [12] they returned me evil for good, even bereavement to my soul. [13] As for me, while they were raising troubles against me I clothed myself with sackcloth, and humbled my soul with fasting. Though my prayer is to return into mine own bosom, [14] as I would a friend, as I would an own brother, so did I endeavour to conciliate. I humbled myself as one in mourning and deep sorrow. [15] But against me they rejoiced and gathered together; for me, scourges were collected and I did not know: they were split—and they had no compunction. [16] They tortured me—with scoffs they derided me; they gnashed their teeth at me.

[17] O Lord, when wilt Thou look down—rescue my soul from their malice. This only begotten of mine, from lions. [18] I will render Thee thanks in a great congregation; among a mighty people I will praise Thee. [19] Over me, let not these, my bitter enemies, vainly rejoice; who hate me without cause, and give assent with their eyes. [20] For to me indeed they spoke words of peace, while with wrath they were contriving plots. [21] Then they opened their mouth wide against me; they said, Aha! aha! our eyes have seen.

[22] Thou, O Lord, hast seen; keep silence no longer. O Lord, stand not at a distance from me. [23] Arise, O Lord, and attend to my trial, O my God and my Lord, for my justification. [24] Judge me, O Lord, according to Thy righteousness, O Lord my God! and let them not rejoice over me. [25] Let them not say in their hearts, Aha! aha! it is to our mind; nor let them say, We

have swallowed him up. [26] Let them who rejoice at my calamities be shamed, and confounded together; let them be clothed with shame and confusion, who magnify themselves against me. [27] Let them who desire my justification, exult with joy and be gladdened. Let them who wish the peace of Thy servant, say continually, The Lord be magnified. [28] So shall my tongue speak of Thy righteousness—of Thy praise all the day long.

* XXXVI *

For the conclusion. By David, the servant of the Lord

THE transgressor, in order that he may sin, saith within himself, [that] he hath, before his eyes, no fear of God's finding out and hating his iniquity: [2] because, before Him, he hath acted with deceit. [3] The words of his mouth are iniquity and deceit. He would not be wise to do good. [4] He contrived mischief on his bed; he persisted in every course which was not good, and did not abhor wickedness.

[5] O Lord, Thy mercy is in the heavens, and Thy truth reacheth to the clouds. [6] Thy saving goodness is like the mountains of God, and Thy judgments like the vasty deep. Thou, O Lord, preservest men and beasts. [7] As Thou, O Lord, hast multiplied Thy mercy: let the sons of men therefore trust in the shelter of Thy wings. [8] With the fatness of Thy house they shall be plentifully fed; and Thou wilt give them for drink, the full flowing stream of Thy pleasures: [9] for with Thee there is a fountain of life, and by Thy light we shall see light. [10] Extend thy mercy to them that know Thee, and Thy goodness to them who are upright in heart. [11] Let not the foot of pride come against me, nor the hand of sinners shake me. [12] There all the workers of iniquity are fallen! They were thrust out and could not stand.

* XXXVII *

By David

FRET not because of evil doers: nor envy them who commit iniquity. [2] For like grass, they shall quickly wither: and like the tender herb, they shall quickly fall. [3] Trust in the Lord and

exercise kindness; dwell in the land and thou shalt be fed with the riches thereof. [4] Indulge thyself with delight in the Lord, and He will give thee the desires of thy heart. [5] Lay open thy way before the Lord, and trust in Him; and he will accomplish— [6] He will indeed bring forth thy righteousness like light, and thy judgment, as the noon day. [7] Submit thyself to the Lord, and supplicate Him; fret not at the man who prospereth in his way—at the man who committeth iniquity. [8] Cease from anger and forsake wrath—be not fretted so as to do evil; [9] for they who do evil shall be cut off: but they who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land. [10] Yet a little while, and the sinner shall be no more; though thou mayst seek his place, thou shalt not find it.

[11] But the meek shall inherit the land, and delight themselves in the abundance of peace. [12] The sinner may watch the righteous, and gnash his teeth at him; [13] but the Lord will laugh him to scorn, for He foreseeth that his day will come. [14] The sinners drew the sword—they bent their bow, to overthrow the afflicted and needy—to slay the upright in heart. [15] Let their sword pierce their own heart; and their bows be broken to shivers. [16] Better is the little which a righteous man hath, than the abundant wealth of sinners. [17] For the arms of sinners shall be broken; but the Lord supporteth the righteous. [18] The Lord knoweth the ways of the spotless; and their inheritance shall last forever. [19] In time of troubles they shall not be shamed, and in days of famine they shall be plentifully fed. [20] Because the sinners shall perish.

Therefore when the enemies of the Lord were exalted and glorified—they were flitting away like smoke, and vanishing. [21] The sinner borroweth and will not repay; but the righteous sheweth mercy and giveth. [22] Hence they who bless Him shall inherit the land; but they who curse Him shall be rooted out. [23] The steps of a man will be directed by the Lord, when He taketh delight in his way. [24] When he happeneth to fall, he shall not fall with violence; for the Lord is a stay to his hand. [25] I have been young and am now old, yet I have never seen the righteous utterly forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. [26] All the day long he is merciful and lendeth, and his seed shall be entitled to a blessing. [27] Depart from evil and do good and dwell for evermore. [28] Because the Lord loveth judgment and will not forsake His saints; they shall be preserved forever.

The spotless shall be avenged, when the seed of the wicked shall be utterly cut off; [29] the righteous shall inherit the land,

and dwell therein forever. [30] The mouth of the righteous will speak wisdom, and his tongue will talk of justice. [31] The law of his God is in his heart, and his footsteps shall not slide. [32] The sinner watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to kill him; [33] but the Lord will not leave him in his hand, nor suffer him to condemn him when he is judged. [34] Wait on the Lord and keep His way: and He will exalt thee to inherit the land.

When sinners are cut off, thou shalt see it. [35] I have seen the wicked highly exalted, towering aloft like the cedars of Lebanon. [36] Again I passed by, and lo! he was gone. Though I sought him, his place could not be found. [37] Preserve innocence and eye rectitude; for there is a remnant for the man of peace. [38] But transgressors shall be cut off together—the remnants of the wicked shall be rooted out. [39] The safety of the righteous is from the Lord; and He is their protector in time of trouble. [40] The Lord will help them and deliver them; He will rescue them from sinners, and save them: because in Him they have put their trust.

* XXXVIII *

A Psalm for remembrance, respecting rest

O LORD, rebuke me not in Thy wrath; nor chasten me in Thine anger. [2] For in me Thy shafts are deeply fixed—and on me Thou hast heavily laid Thy hand. [3] There is no soundness in my flesh because of Thine anger—no rest to my bones, because of my sins. [4] Because mine iniquities mounted above my head; like a heavy burden they were heavy on me. [5] The wounds, on account of my folly putrefied and became corrupt. [6] I was in misery and wholly bent down: all the longsome day I went mourning. [7] For my soul was filled with illusions; and there was no soundness in my flesh. [8] I was afflicted and exceedingly depressed: I roared because of the groans of my heart.

[9] Now all my desire was before Thee, and my groans were not hid from Thee. [10] My heart panted, my strength failed me: and the light of mine eyes is no more with me. [11] My friends and my neighbours stood over against me: they drew near and stopped—even my near relations stood aloof. [12] But they who seek my life pressed forward: and they who seek my ruin spake

vanities. All the day long they studied deceits. [13] As for me, I, as if deaf, did not hear: and like one dumb I opened not my mouth.

[14] I became indeed like a man who heareth not; and in whose mouth there are no reproofs; [15] for in Thee, O Lord, I put my trust. (Thou, O Lord my God, wilt hearken—) [16] for I said, Perhaps mine enemies may rejoice over me: (Indeed when my feet slipped, they used swelling words against me) [17] for I was prepared for stripes, and my sorrowful situation was continually before me; [18] that I might declare mine iniquity, and express my sorrow for my sin. [19] But as for mine enemies they live and are stronger than I: and they who hate me wrongfully are multiplied. [20] They who reward me evil for good, traduced me: because I followed righteousness.

[21] Forsake me not utterly, O Lord, my God: stand not at a distance from me. [22] Draw near to my assistance, O Lord of my salvation.

* XXXIX *

For the conclusion. For Idithun. An Ode by David

I SAID, Let me watch my ways; that I may not sin with my tongue. I set a guard on my mouth; when the sinner stood before me. [2] I was dumb and humbled and silent from good things; and my grief was renewed. [3] My heart was warmed within me. That by my meditation a fire might be kindled; I spake with my tongue— [4] Make known to me, O Lord mine end; and the number of my days, what it is. That I may know what I lack of it. [5] Behold Thou hast made my days old; and mine existence is as nothing before Thee. The universe—every man living—is vanity. [6] Man indeed walketh about as an image; still he troubleth himself in vain. He heapeth up treasures and knoweth not for whom he is to gather them. [7] Now then what is my expectation? Is it not the Lord?

In Thee is my hope. [8] Deliver me from all my transgressions. Thou hast made me the reproach of a fool: [9] I was dumb and opened not my mouth: because Thou art He who didst make me. [10] O! Remove Thy scourges from me: by the blow of Thy hand I fainted. [11] With rebukes Thou hast corrected man for iniquity; and caused his life to waste like a spider. Still every man troubleth himself in vain. [12] Harken, O Lord, to my

prayer: give ear to my supplication: hold not Thy peace at my tears: since I am a sojourner in the land; and a stranger as all my fathers were; [13] O spare me that I may recover strength; before I go hence and be no more.

* XL *

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David

I WAITED patiently for the Lord and He attended to me and heard my prayer: [2] and brought me up from a horrible pit and from miry clay; and set my feet on a rock and directed my steps, [3] and put in my mouth a new song—a hymn to our God. Many will see and be struck with awe, and trust in the Lord. [4] Happy the man, whose hope is the name of the Lord, and who hath not looked to vanities and lying fooleries. [5] Many are Thy wonders which thou, O Lord my God, hast wrought; and for Thy thoughts there is none to be compared to Thee. I have declared and spoken. They are multiplied beyond computation. [6] Sacrifice and offerings Thou didst not desire, but preparedst for me a body; whole burnt offerings and offerings for sin Thou didst not require.

[7] Then I said, Behold I come; (in the volume of a book it is written respecting me) [8] to perform, O my God, Thy will, I was determined, even that law of Thine, within my heart. [9] I have published the good news of Thy righteousness, in a great congregation. Behold I will not refrain my lips; Thou, O Lord, knowest my righteousness. [10] I have not hid Thy truth in my heart, but have mentioned Thy salvation—I have not concealed Thy mercy and Thy truth from a great congregation. [11] Withhold not Thou then, O Lord, Thy tender mercies from me. Thy mercy and Thy truth have continually upheld me. [12] Because evils without number encompassed me—mine iniquities had overtaken me, therefore I was notable to look up; they were multiplied above the hairs of my head, therefore my heart failed me.

[13] Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me. O Lord, draw near to my assistance. [14] Let them who seek my life to destroy it, be shamed and confounded together. Let them be turned back and shamed who wish me evil; [15] let those quickly bear their shame who say to me, Ha! ha! [16] Let all who seek Thee, O Lord, rejoice and be glad for Thee; let them who love Thy salvation say

continually, The Lord be magnified! [17] As for me, I am distressed and needy, the Lord will care for me. Thou art my helper and my protector, O my God, make no delay.

* XLI *

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David

HAPPY he who is considerate with regard to the distressed and needy; in time of trouble the Lord will deliver him. [2] May the Lord preserve him and keep him alive, and make him happy in the land, and may He never deliver him into the hands of his enemy! [3] May the Lord support him on his bed of languishing! Thou hast made all his bed in this sickness of his. [4] I said, Lord be merciful to me: heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee. [5] Mine enemies said wickedly of me, When will he die and his name perish?

[6] And if one came to see me, his heart spoke vainly. He collected iniquity for himself; he went abroad and spoke for that purpose. [7] All mine enemies spread whispers against me; against me they devised things hurtful to me. They hurled a wicked word against me: [8] Now he is confined to his bed, let him never rise again. [9] Nay, mine own familiar friend in whom I trusted, who ate of my bread, lifted up his heel against me.

But Thou, O Lord, have compassion on me, and raise me up, that I may requite them. [11] By this, I know that Thou hast delighted in me, because mine enemy hath not triumphed over me. [12] And for mine innocence Thou hast upheld me; and established me before Thee forever. [13] Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Amen. Amen.

* XLII *

For the conclusion. (An instruction for the sons of Kore)*

AS the hart panteth for fountains of water, so panteth my soul for Thee, O God. [2] My soul hath thirsted for the living God; When shall I come and appear before God? [3] My tears

* See Numbers XVI.6.

were my food day and night, when they said to me continually, Where is thy God? [4] On recollecting these things, I have poured out my soul by myself.

Since I am to pass on, at the place of an awful tabernacle, to the house of God, with a voice of joy and praise—with the acclamations of them who celebrate a festival: [5] why art thou, O my soul, cast down; and why disquietest thou me? Trust in God, for I shall praise Him: He is the health of my countenance. [6] O my God, my soul within me was troubled; therefore I will remember Thee, from the land of Jordan and Ermoneim, bordering on the little mountain. [7] Deep calleth on deep to form Thy roaring cataracts; all Thy meteors and Thy billows passed over me. [8] By day the Lord will command His kindness, and in the night He will make it manifest. Let there be with me a prayer to the God of my life. [9] Let me say to God, Thou art my helper.

Why hast Thou forgotten me—why go I pensive because of mine enemy's oppression? [10] When my bones were bruised, mine enemies reproached me, by their saying to me every day, Where is thy God. [11] Why art thou, O my soul, cast down—and why disquietest thou me? Trust in God, for I shall praise Him; He is the health of my countenance and my God.

* XLIII *

A Psalm by David

JUDGE me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation: deliver me from an unjust and deceitful man. [2] Since Thou, O God, art my strength, why hast Thou cast me off? and why go I mourning, because of mine enemy's oppression? [3] O send forth Thy light and Thy truth; these have conducted me, and led me to Thy holy mountain, and to Thy tabernacles. [4] Let me go to the altar of God—to God, the joy of my youth. With a kithara I will praise Thee, O God, my God. [5] Why art thou, O my soul, cast down—and why disquietest thou me? Trust in God, for I shall praise Him. My God is the health of my countenance.

* XLIV *

A Psalm for the conclusion. (An instruction for the sons of Kore)

O GOD, we have heard with our ears—our fathers have told us the work which Thou didst in the days of old. [2] When Thy hand had extirpated nations, Thou didst plant them: Thou didst afflict nations and drive them out. [3] For they took not possession of the land with their own sword: nor was it their own arm that saved them: but Thy right hand and Thine arm, and the light of Thy countenance, because Thou tookest pleasure in them. [4] Thou, Who didst command the deliverances of Jacob; even Thou art my king and my God. [5] By Thee we can push down our enemies, and through Thy name, scorn them who rise up against us. [6] For in mine own bow I will not put trust, nor is it mine own sword that can save me. [7] For Thou hast saved us from our enemies, and hast put to shame them who hated us. [8] In God let us boast, all the day long: and to Thy name give thanks forever.

[9] And hast Thou now cast us off and put us to shame, and wilt not go forth with our armies! [10] Thou hast turned us back before our enemies; and they who hate us have spoiled for themselves. [11] Thou hast delivered us up as sheep, to be devoured, and hast scattered us among the nations. [12] Thou hast sold Thy people for nought; the shouts of victory gave no abundance. [13] Thou hast made us a reproach to our neighbours—a scoff and derision to those around us. [14] Thou hast made us a by-word among the nations—a shaking of the head among the tribes. [15] All the day long, my confusion is before me, and the shame of my face hath covered me, [16] because of a reproacher's and a defamer's voice; and by reason of an enemy and an avenger.

[17] All these things have come upon us, though we have not forgotten Thee—nor dealt falsely in Thy covenant. [18] Though our heart hath not turned back, yet Thou hast turned our steps from Thy way. [19] Because Thou hast humbled us in the place of affliction, and covered us with the shadow of death; [20] Have we forgotten the name of our God—or have we stretched out our hands to a strange god? [21] Will not God search out these things, for He knoweth the secrets of the heart? [22] Since for Thy sake

we are killed all the day long, and accounted as sheep for slaughter. [23] Awake! why sleepest Thou, O Lord? Arise and cast us not off forever. [24] Why turnest Thou away Thy face forgetting our distress and our affliction? [25] Because our soul is humbled to the dust, and our belly cleaveth to the ground; [26] arise O Lord; come to our assistance and deliver us for the sake of Thy name.

* XLV *

For the conclusion. For antiphony. (An instruction for the sons of Kore.) An Ode concerning the beloved

MY heart hath indited a good word, I recite my performances to the king. My tongue is the pen of a ready writer. [2] Thou art fairer than the sons of men: grace is poured out by thy lips; for this cause God hath blessed thee forever. [3] Gird thy sword on thy thigh, O thou mighty! To thy comeliness and thy beauty give energy, [4] and prosper and reign for truth, meekness, and justice's sake; and let thine own right hand marvellously conduct thee. [5] Thine arrows are sharpened, O mighty one, nations shall fall under thee; they are in the heart of the king's enemies. [6] Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever; the sceptre of Thy kingdom is a sceptre of rectitude.

[7] Thou didst love righteousness and hate iniquity, therefore God, Thy God, anointed thee with the oil of joy above thy fellows. [8] There is myrrh and stacte and cassia for thy garments—for the ivory rooms of state from which kings' daughters gladdened thee. [9] In honour of thee the queen stood on thy right hand, arrayed in robes of gold and embroidery.

[10] Hear, O daughter, and behold, and incline thine ear, and forget thy people and thy father's house. [11] Because the king is enamoured of thy beauty—because he is thy lord; [12] when the daughters of Tyre bow down to him with gifts, the richest people of the land will supplicate thy favour. [13] All this honour is for the daughter of the king within; she is surrounded with chain-works of gold, and robed in embroidery. [14] The virgins in her train shall be introduced to the king. They who are related to her shall be introduced to thee. [15] They shall be introduced with gladness and rejoicing. They shall be brought to the temple

of the king. [16] Instead of thy fathers, sons are born to thee; these thou shalt make princes over all the land. [17] They shall cause thy name to be remembered in all ages, therefore nations shall praise thee forever.

* XLVI *

At the conclusion. (For the sons of Kore.) A Psalm concerning hidden things

GOD is our refuge and strength; our helper in the troubles which often befall us. [2] Therefore we will not be dismayed, though the earth be shaken, and mountains be hurled to the midst of seas. [3] Their waters roared and were troubled. By His power the mountains were convulsed. [4] The swelling streams of this river gladden the city of God: the Most High hath hallowed His own dwelling: [5] God is in the midst of it; it cannot be shaken; God by His presence will support it. [6] The nations were troubled, kingdoms tottered; He uttered His voice, the earth was shaken. [7] The Lord of Hosts is with us; our helper is the God of Jacob.

[8] Come and see the works of the Lord— The wonders which He hath done on the earth: [9] He is making wars to cease to the ends of the earth. He will break the bow and shiver the lance, and shields He will utterly consume with fire.

[10] Be still and know that I am God: let Me be exalted among the nations, let Me be exalted in the earth.

[11] The Lord of Hosts is with us, our helper is the God of Jacob.

* XLVII *

A Psalm for the conclusion. (For the sons of Kore)

O CLAP your hands, all ye nations; shout to God with a triumphant voice: [2] for the Lord Most High is awful—a great king over all the earth. [3] He hath subjected tribes to us, nations also under our feet. [4] He hath chosen for us His inheritance the excellency of Jacob which He loved. [5] God ascended at the triumphant shout—the Lord, at the trumpet's sounding.

[6] O sing praises to our God; sing praises. Sing praises to our king; sing praises. [7] Since God is king of the whole earth; O sing praises with understanding, [8] God hath commenced His reign over the nations: God is seated on His holy throne. [9] The heads of families assembled with the God of Abraham. Because the mighties of the land belong to God, they have been exceedingly exalted.

* XLVIII *

*A psalmic Song [to be sung] on the second day of the week.
(For the sons of Kore)*

THE Lord is great and greatly to be praised; in the city of our God—on His holy mountain. [2] To the great joy of the whole earth, He is establishing firmly Sion's mountains. On the sides to the north is the city of the great king. [3] God is known in its palaces, when He undertaketh its defence. [4] For lo! the kings of the land assembled—they came together. [5] Having taken a view they were so astonished; they were frightened, they were shaken: [6] a trembling seized them: pangs were there as of a woman in travail. [7] With a tempestuous blast Thou wilt dash to pieces the ships of Tarsish. [8] As we have heard, so have we seen; at the city of the Lord of armies—at the city of our God. God hath established it forever. [9] We waited, O God, for Thy mercy, in the midst of Thy people.

[10] According to Thy name, O God; so be Thy praise to the ends of the earth. Thy right hand is full of righteousness. [11] Let mount Sion be gladdened: and let the daughters of Judea exult for joy; because of Thy judgments, O Lord. [12] Go round Sion, and encompass it: make proclamation in the towers thereof; [13] mark with attention its strength; and take a distinct view of its palaces: that you may tell another generation, [14] that He is our God forever and ever. He will tend us as a shepherd for evermore.

* XLIX *

A Psalm for the conclusion. (For the sons of Kore)

HEAR these things, all ye nations; listen attentively, all ye inhabitants of the world! [2] both ye of lowest rank, and heads of

families; both rich and poor together. [3] My mouth shall speak wisdom; and the meditation of my heart understanding. [4] I will incline mine ear to a parable: with a psaltery I will unfold my problem. [5] Why am I terrified in an evil day? The iniquity at my heel will surround me. [6] Some put confidence in their power: and some boast of the abundance of their wealth. [7] A brother is not redeemed. Is a man to redeem himself? [8] He cannot give to God an atonement for himself; and the price for the redemption of his life: [9] Though he laboured for the age that he may live to the end. Shall he therefore not see corruption? [10] When he seeth the wise dying; together the foolish and senseless shall perish. And they shall leave their wealth to others.

[11] But their graves shall be their houses forever—their dwelling places to all generations. On these parcels of earth, they have put their names. [12] When a man, who is in honour, hath not understanding: he hath been compared to the brute beasts and is like them— [13] this very way of theirs was to them a stumbling block; and after this shall it with their mouth be praised? [14] They are pent-up like sheep in the mansion of the dead: death shall feed them and the early watches will rule over them: and that help of theirs from their glory, shall in the mansion of the dead become obsolete.

[15] But God will redeem my soul from the power of that mansion when it receiveth me. [16] Fear not when a man groweth rich, nor when the glory of his house is increased. [17] For when he dieth he can carry nothing away: nor will this glory of his descend with him. [18] Because during this life his soul shall be blessed; let him praise Thee when Thou doest him a benefit. [19] He shall go to the generation of his fathers; he shall never see light. [20] A man who is in honour and hath not understanding, hath been compared to the brute beasts, and is like them.

* L *

A Psalm of Asaph

THE God of gods, the Lord hath spoken, and summoned the earth from the rising to the setting of the sun. [2] Out of Sion the perfection of His comeliness—God in full manifestation, [3] even our God will come and will not keep silence. Before Him a

fire shall blaze; and around Him shall be a mighty tempest. [4] He will call to the heaven above and to the earth, to judge His people. [5] Gather His saints together to Him—they who are in covenant with Him touching upon sacrifices; [6] and let the heavens declare His righteousness.

Because God is judge, [7] hear, O my people and I will speak to ye—O Israel and I will testify to thee! I am God, thy God I am. [8] I will not reprove thee for thy sacrifices. And as for thy whole burnt offerings which are continually before Me, [9] I will not take young bulls from thy house, nor he-goats from thy folds. [10] For all the beasts of the forests are Mine, the cattle on the mountains, and the oxen. [11] I claim all the birds of the air; and to Me belong the ripe fruits of the field. [12] If I were hungry, I would not tell thee; for the world is Mine and the fullness thereof. [13] Do I eat the flesh of bulls? Or do I drink the blood of goats? [14] Sacrifice to God a sacrifice of praise, and pay thy vows to the Most High. [15] Then call on Me in the day of trouble; and I will deliver thee and thou shalt praise Me.

[16] But to the sinner God said, Why dost thou mention My judgments, or take My covenant in thy mouth? [17] As for thee, thou hast hated instruction, and cast My words behind thy back. [18] When thou sawest a thief, thou didst run with him—and hast been a partaker with adulterers. [19] Thy mouth hath abounded in wickedness, and thy tongue hath framed deceits. [20] Sitting down thou hast spoken against thy brother, and against thy mother's son, propagated falsehood. [21] These things thou hast done and I was silent. Thou unjustly didst suppose that I would be like thyself. I will reprove thee and set things in order before thee. [22] Now then, consider this, ye who forget God; lest He tear you in pieces and there be none to deliver. [23] The sacrifice of praise will glorify Me.

And this is the way in which I will shew him the salvation of God.

* LI *

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David, when Nathan the prophet came to him after he had gone to Bersabe

HAVE mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy great compassion: and according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out this my crime, [2] wash me thoroughly from this iniquity

of mine; and purify me from this my sin. [3] For I acknowledge my transgression; and my sin is continually before me. [4] Against Thee especially I have sinned; and in Thy sight done this evil. So that thou must be justified in thine acts, and must overcome, when thou art judged. [5] For behold I was born in iniquity; in sins my mother conceived me: [6] for behold Thou lovedst truth; to me Thou hadst manifested the obscure and hidden things of Thy wisdom. [7] Sprinkle me with hyssop and I shall be purified; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. [8] Cause me to hear joy and gladness; let the bones, which have been humbled, rejoice.

[9] O Turn away Thy face from my sins; and blot out all mine iniquities. [10] Create in me, O God, a pure heart; and renew a right spirit within me. [11] Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy holy spirit from me. [12] Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation; and support me with a becoming spirit, [13] that I may teach transgressors Thy ways, and sinners may turn to Thee. [14] Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation! That my tongue may with joy proclaim Thy forgiving mercy. [15] O Lord, open my lips, that my mouth may proclaim Thy praise.

[16] Hadst Thou desired sacrifice, I would have given it. In whole burnt offerings Thou wilt not take delight. [17] The sacrifice for God is a contrite spirit. A broken and an humble heart, thou, O God, wilt not despise. [18] Deal favourably, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure, with Sion. And let the walls of Jerusalem be builded. [19] Then wilt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness as an offering, and on Thine altar young bulls shall then be offered up as whole burnt offerings.

* LII *

[A Psalm] for the conclusion [of services]. (Instruction [to the musicians]). By David, when Doek the Idumean came and told Saul and said to him, David went to Abimelech's house

WHY boastest thou in mischief, O mighty man of iniquity? All the day long he devised injustice. [2] Thy tongue is like a sharp razor: thou hast practised deceit. [3] Thou hast loved evil more than good—lying more than speaking the truth. [4] Thou hast loved all the decrees of destruction—a tongue practised in

deceit. [5] For this cause God will utterly destroy thee—tear thee up and hurl thee from thy dwelling; even thy rooted stock out of the land of the living.

[6] The righteous will see indeed and be afraid. And they will laugh at him and say, [7] Behold the man who made not God his strength: and trusted in the abundance of his wealth; and strengthened himself in his vanity! [8] As for me, I shall be like a fruitful olive tree in the house of God. I have trusted in the mercy of God for this age and for the age of the ages. [9] I will praise Thee for this age because Thou hast made it; and wait for Thy name, because it is good in the sight of Thy saints.

* LIII *

For the conclusion, with dancing. (Instruction). By David

THE fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.

They have corrupted themselves and are become abominable by iniquities, there is none who doeth good. [2] God looked down from heaven on the children of men to see if any had understanding or were seeking God. [3] They had all turned aside: they are all together become vile. There is none doing good: no not one. [4] They will not bethink themselves, they are all working iniquity, they are eating up My people as they do bread? They have not called upon God. [5] They were seized with terror on the spot where there was no fear; because God had scattered the bones of men pleasers. They were put to shame because God despised them. [6] O that He would for Sion's sake grant safety to Israel! When the Lord hath released the captivity of His people Jacob will rejoice and Israel will be glad.

* LIV *

For the conclusion of the Hymns. (Instruction). By David, when the Ziphites came and said to Saul, Behold is not David hid among us

SAVE me, O God, by Thy name; and judge me by Thy power. [2] O God, hearken to my prayer. Give ear to the words of my mouth. [3] For strangers have risen up against me; and

men of power have sought my life. They have not set God before them. [4] Behold God is my helper. The Lord is the protector of my life. [5] He will turn these evils on mine enemies.

Destroy Thou them in Thy truth. [6] With free-will offerings I will sacrifice to Thee: I will praise Thy name, O Lord; for it is good: [7] because Thou hast delivered me from all affliction; and among mine enemies mine eye hath looked on.

* LV *

For the conclusion of the Hymns. (Instruction). By David

GIVE ear, O God, to my prayer; and overlook not my supplication. [2] Attend to me and hear me. I have mourned in my meditation and am troubled: [3] because of the voice of an enemy and because of the oppression of a sinner.

Because upon me they cast iniquity and boiled with malice against me; [4] my heart within me was troubled; and the terror of death fell upon me. [5] Fear and trembling came against me; and a dark gloom overwhelmed me. [6] So that I said, O that I had wings like those of a dove; that I might fly away and be at rest. [7] Behold I had removed far away, as a fugitive, and taken up my lodging in the wilderness. [8] I waited for him who delivereth me from distress and a furious tempest. [9] Confound, O Lord, and divide their tongues, for I saw iniquity and contradiction in the city. [10] Day and night shall transgression go round it on its walls [11] and trouble be in the midst of it, and injustice? Usury and fraud have not departed from its streets.

[12] Had an enemy reproached me I could have borne it. And had the man who hated me magnified himself against me, I could have hid myself from him. [13] But thou, O man, my second self, my guide, mine intimate friend! [14] Who being with me didst sweeten my repasts! In the house of God, we walked in unanimity.

[15] Let death come upon them; Let them go down alive to the mansion of the dead: because there was wickedness in their dwellings—in the midst of them. [16] As for me, I cried to God, and the Lord heard me. [17] Evening and morning and at noon I will declare and proclaim; and He will hearken to my voice. [18] He will deliver my soul in peace from them who come near

me. Because they among many were with me; [19] God Who existeth before the ages will hear and afflict them. For there is no redemption for them. They indeed did not fear God: [20] He hath stretched forth His hand with retribution. They profaned and broke His covenant: [21] they were scattered by the indignation of His countenance.

When His heart was near, His words were smoother than oil. Now they are daggers. [22] Cast Thy care on the Lord, and He will sustain thee. He will never suffer the righteous to be shaken. [23] But Thou, O God, wilt drag them down to the pit of destruction. Bloody and deceitful men shall not live half their days. But as for me I will trust in Thee, O Lord.

* LVI *

*For the conclusion. For people far removed from the Holies.
By David for a monumental inscription, when the Philistines
had him in their power at Geth*

PITY me, O God, for a man hath trodden me down. Fighting all the day long he hath afflicted me. [2] Mine enemies have trodden me down the whole day, with the day in their favour. [3] Because they who fight against me are many, let them be confounded. [4] But let me trust in Thee: to God let me commend my words. In God I have trusted all the day long: I will not fear what flesh can do to me. [5] All the day long they spurned my words: all their thoughts were against me for mischief.

[6] Some are to dwell near and hide themselves: some are to watch my footsteps. [7] As I have suffered this for my life, Thou wilt on no account save them. In Thine indignation Thou wilt cast down peoples. [8] O God, to Thee I have unfolded my life: Thou hast placed my tears before Thee. [9] According to Thy promise mine enemies shall turn back; on the day when I invoke Thee. Behold I know that Thou art my God. [10] For God let me approve the decree: for the Lord let me approve the word.

[11] In God I have put my trust; I will not fear what man can do to me. [12] On me, O God, are the vows of Thy praise, which I will pay: [13] because Thou hast delivered my soul from death; and my feet from falling: that I may worship acceptably before God; in the light of the living.

* LVII *

For the conclusion. Destroy not. By David for a monumental inscription, when he fled to the cave from the presence of Saul

BE merciful to me, O God; be merciful to me. For in Thee my soul hath trusted: and in the shadow of Thy wings I will put my trust, until this iniquity pass away. [2] I will cry to God the Most high; to God Who to me hath been kind. [3] He sent from heaven and saved me. He delivered up to reproach them who were treading me down. God sent forth His mercy and His truth; [4] and delivered my soul from the midst of lions. I laid me down to sleep, troubled as I was.

As for the sons of men, their teeth are weapons and darts; and their tongue is a sharp sword. [5] Be Thou, O God, exalted above the heavens; and Thy glory over all the earth. [6] They had prepared snares for my feet; and had caused my soul to bow down. They dug a pit before me: but into it they themselves have fallen.

[7] My heart is prepared, O God; my heart is prepared I will sing and to vocal join instrumental music. [8] Awake my glory—awake psaltery and kithara: I myself will awake early. [9] I will praise Thee, O Lord, among peoples: among nations I will hymn Thy praise. [10] For Thy mercy is magnified up to heaven and Thy truth up to the clouds. [11] Be Thou, O God, exalted above the heavens, and Thy glory over all the earth.

* LVIII *

For the conclusion. Destroy not. By David, for a monumental inscription

DO you indeed speak righteousness? Do you judge uprightly, O sons of men? [2] In heart, indeed, you are working iniquity in the land: your hands are weaving injustice. [3] From the womb the wicked are in a state of alienation, they have gone astray from their birth—they spoke lies. [4] They have a venom like that of a serpent—like that of a deaf adder which stoppeth its ears; [5] which will not hearken to the voice of charmers; nor to the charm administered by the wise.

[6] God hath broken their teeth in their mouth: the Lord hath

broken the lion's grinders. [7] They shall be despised like water passing by. He will bend His bow till they be weakened. [8] Like melting wax they shall be dissolved. A fire fell and they saw not the sun. [9] Before your bramble bush can make its prickles felt; it will devour you as it were alive, as with wrath. [10] The righteous will rejoice when he seeth the punishment of the wicked; he will wash his hands in the blood of the sinner. [11] And man will say, Since there is indeed a reward for the righteous, there is a God who judgeth those on the earth.

* LIX *

For the conclusion. Destroy not. By David, for a monumental inscription, when Saul sent and watched his house in order to put him to death

DELIVER me, O God, from mine enemies: and redeem me from them who rise up against me. [2] Deliver me from them who work iniquity; and save me from bloodthirsty men. [3] For behold they have hunted my life: the mighty are set against me: though there is no transgression—no sin, O Lord, in me. [4] Without transgression I ran and kept a straight course; awake to meet me and behold. [5] Do thou, O Lord, the God of hosts, the God of Israel! attend to visit all the nations: shew no mercy to any workers of iniquity. [6] They are to return at evening; and suffer hunger like a dog, and go round the city.

[7] Behold they are to speak oraculously with their mouth; and have a sword in their lips. For, [they say], Who heard? [8] But Thou, O Lord, wilt laugh them to scorn. Thou canst set at nought all the nations. [9] My strength is with Thee: I will keep watch: for Thou, O God, art my supporter. [10] My God will cause His mercy to go before me: my God will display it to me among mine enemies. [11] Slay them not. Perhaps they may have forgotten Thy law. Scatter them with Thy power; and bring them back, O Lord, my defender. [12] Let them be but arrested in their pride; the destructions attendant on their oath and falsehood, will shew the sin of their mouth, the word of their lips. [13] Under destructive wrath they cannot subsist. Let them know that the God of Jacob ruleth over the ends of the earth. [14] They are to return at evening and suffer hunger like a dog and

go round the city. [15] Let them disperse, that they may eat; and if they are not satisfied, let them murmur.

[16] But I will sing of Thy power; and in the morning exult in Thy mercy: because Thou wast my supporter, and my refuge in the day of my affliction. [17] Thou art my helper; to Thee, O my God, I will sing; Thou art my supporter, my God, my comfort.

* LX *

At the conclusion, for an antiphony. For a monumental inscription. (Instruction). By David, when he had burned Syrian Mesopotamia, and Syrian Sobal; and Joab had returned, when he smote in the valley of Salt, twelve thousand

O GOD, Thou didst cast us off and destroy us; Thou wast angry, but hast had compassion on us. [2] Thou hast shaken the land and troubled it. Heal the breaches of it; for it hath been shaken. [3] Thou hast shewn Thy people hard things; Thou hast made us drink the wine of astonishment. [4] Thou hast given to them who fear Thee, a signal to flee from the face of the bow— [5] that Thy beloved may be delivered, save with Thy right hand and hearken to me. [6] God hath spoken in His sanctuary. I shall rejoice and divide Sikima, and mete out the valley of tents.

[7] Galaad is mine; and mine is Manasses: Ephraim is the strength of my head; Juda, my king; [8] Moab is the cauldron of my hope. Over Idumea I will extend my march: to me the Philistines are subjected. [9] Who will lead me to the fortified city: who will guide me to Idumea? [10] Wilt not Thou, O God, Who didst cast us off—wilt not Thou, O God, go out with our armies? [11] Grant us help, because of affliction; safety from man is indeed vain. [12] Through God we can exert power, He can bring to nothing them who afflict us.

* LXI *

For the conclusion of the Hymns. By David

HEAR, O God, my supplication: attend to this prayer of mine. [2] From the extremity of the land, I cried to Thee, when

my heart began to despond: at Petra Thou didst raise me up, and conduct me. [3] Because Thou hast been my hope—a strong tower from the face of a foe; [4] I shall dwell at Thy tabernacle forever—I shall be sheltered in the covert of Thy wings. [5] Because Thou, O God, hast heard my prayer—hast given a possession to them who fear Thy name; [6] Thou wilt add days to the days of a king, and prolong his years to endless ages; [7] he will continue forever in the presence of God. O that every of them may find out His mercy and truth! [8] So will I sing to Thy name forever, that I may, day by day, perform my vows.

* LXII *

For the conclusion. For Idithun. A Psalm by David

SHALL not my soul be subjected to God? For from Him is my salvation. [2] For my God and my Saviour Himself, is my supporter—I shall never any more be shaken. [3] How long will you set yourselves against a man? You are all committing murder, as with a bended wall and a rampart pushed down. [4] But they had determined to pull down my honour. I was fleeing in thirst; with their mouth they blessed, but with their heart they imprecated curses. [5] But be thou, O my soul, subjected to God: for from Him is mine expectation. [6] Because my God and my Saviour Himself, is my support; I shall no more wander as an exile.

[7] In God is my safety and my glory; He is the God of my help, and on God is my reliance. [8] Trust in Him all ye congregated people: pour out your hearts before Him; for God is our helper. [9] But as for the vain sons of men—the lying sons of men; Even in an unfair balance they are altogether vanity. [10] Trust not in oppression—nor eagerly covet plunder; if riches flow in, set not your heart on them. [11] Once God hath spoken; these two things I have heard: That strength belongeth to God, [12] and that mercy, O Lord, is Thine: that Thou wilt render to every one according to his works.

* LXIII *

A Psalm by David, when he was in the wilderness of Idumea

O GOD, my God! to approach Thee, I rise early. My soul thirsted for Thee. For Thee [I thirst] with all the vehement desire with which my flesh pines in a land, desert, trackless and without water. [2] Thus have I appeared to Thee in the sanctuary; that I might see Thy power and Thy glory. [3] Because Thy kindness is better than life; my lips shall continually praise Thee. [4] Thus will I bless Thee while I live: and in Thy name I will lift up my hands. [5] Let my soul be filled as with marrow and fatness; that my joyful lips may praise Thy name. [6] If I recollected Thee on my bed: in the morning watches I meditated on Thee.

[7] Because Thou hast been my helper: therefore in the shadow of Thy wings I will rejoice. [8] My soul hath kept close to Thee: Thy right hand hath supported me. [9] But as for these who sought my life in vain; they shall go to the lowest parts of the earth. [10] They shall be delivered up to the edge of the sword: they shall be portions for jackals. [11] But the joy of the king will be in God. Every one who sweareth by Him shall glory; because the mouth of them who speak lies is stopped.

* LXIV *

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David

HEAR, O God, my prayer when I invoke Thee. From the fear of an enemy deliver my soul. [2] Thou hast sheltered me from the conspiracy of wicked men—from the multitude of them who are working iniquity. [3] They sharpened their tongues like a sword: they bent a bow, a bitter thing, to shoot secretly a blameless man: [4] They are to shoot him suddenly and not be afraid. [5] They strengthened for themselves an evil matter: they talked of hiding snares, saying, Who can see us? [6] They searched for iniquity: they failed in the search.

A man is to come [before Thee] with a deep heart; and God is to be exalted. [7] Their wounds became the dart of infants: [8] when their tongues vilified Him. All that saw them were troubled: [9] Then every man was afraid. Then they rehearsed the works

of God; then they understood His doings. [10] Let the righteous rejoice in the Lord and trust in Him: and let all the upright in heart be praised.

* L X V *

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David. A Song

TO Thee, O God, a hymn in Sion is seemly: and to Thee a vow should be paid. [2] Harken to my prayer. To Thee all flesh should come. [3] The acts of transgressors prevailed over us: but Thou canst pardon our sins. [4] Happy he, whom Thou hast chosen and taken to Thyself! He shall dwell in Thy courts. [5] Let us be satisfied with the good things of Thy house: Thy temple is holy. Thou art wonderful for righteousness: hear us, O God, our Saviour.

Thou art the hope of all the ends of the earth: and of them at sea far off. [6] Thou establishest the mountains by Thy power: Thou art begirt with majesty. [7] Thou causest the cavity of the sea to rage; the billows thereof to roar. [8] When nations are troubled and the inhabitants on its borders terrified at Thy signs; Thou canst make the outgoings of the morning and evening joyous.

[9] Thou hast visited the earth and watered it: Thou hast multiplied the means of enriching it. The river of God is full of water: Thou hast provided the supply for it. Because such is Thy provision, O! water its furrows plenteously: multiply its productions. [10] By these showers on it, it will be gladdened; and will give a spring to vegetation. [11] Bless the crown of the year with Thy goodness: and let the fields be filled with fatness— [12] let the mountains of the wilderness be made fertile; and the hills be girt with joy. [13] The rams of the flocks have clothed themselves: and the valleys abound with corn. Let them shout and hymn Thy praise.

* L X V I *

For the conclusion. A psalmic Song. On resurrection

SHOUT for God in triumphant strains, all ye lands. [2] Sing harmoniously to His name, ascribe glory to His praise. [3] Say to God, How awful are Thy works! For the greatness of Thy power, let Thine enemies submit to Thee. [4] Let all the earth

worship Thee. With music vocal and instrumental let them sing to Thee—let them sing harmoniously to Thy name.

[5] Come and see the works of God! He is awful in counsels touching the sons of men. [6] He it is Who turned the sea into dry land; that they might march on foot through a flood. There let us rejoice in Him [7] Who ruleth by His everlasting power. His eyes look down on the nations. Let not the rebellious exalt themselves.

[8] O! Bless our God, ye nations; and cause the sound of His praise to be heard. [9] He it is Who hath kept my soul alive; and hath not given my feet to the briny deep. [10] For Thou, O God, didst prove us, Thou hast tried us as silver is tried. [11] Thou didst bring us into the net: [12] Thou didst lay affliction on our back: Thou didst mount men over our heads; we have passed through fire and water. But Thou hast brought us to a place of rest. [13] I will go to Thy house with whole burnt offerings: To Thee I will perform my vows; [14] which my lips have enjoined; and which my mouth spoke in my affliction. [15] To Thee I will offer whole burnt offerings; full of marrow, with frankincense and rams. To Thee I will sacrifice bullocks and goats.

[16] Come, hearken, all ye who fear God, and I will tell you what He hath done for my soul. [17] To Him I uttered a cry with my mouth; and with my tongue repeated this aloud.

[18] If I have regarded iniquity in my heart; let not the Lord hearken. [19] For this cause God hearkened to me: He attended to the sound of my prayer. [20] Blessed be God Who hath not rejected my prayer; nor turned away His mercy from me.

* L X V I I *

For the conclusion of the Hymns. A Psalm by David

GOD be merciful to us, and bless us; and may He cause His face to shine on us. [2] Because of knowing Thy way on the earth, Thy salvation among all nations; [3] let peoples praise Thee, [4] O God, let all peoples praise Thee. Let nations be glad and rejoice, because Thou judgest peoples righteously, and wilt guide nations on the earth. [5] Let peoples praise Thee, O God, let all peoples praise Thee. [6] The earth hath yielded its increase: may God, our God, bless us! [7] May God bless us! And let all the ends of the earth fear Him.

* LXVIII *

For the conclusion. By David. A Psalmic Song

LET God arise and His enemies be scattered; and let them who hate Him flee before Him. [2] As smoke vanisheth, let them disappear: as wax melteth before fire, so let sinners perish at the presence of God. [3] But let them who are righteous rejoice—let them shout for joy at the presence of God—let them be transported with gladness.

[4] Sing to God; celebrate His name in songs: make way for Him Who is riding westward. His name is the Lord, rejoice before Him. [5] Let them be awed at the presence of Him, Who is the father of the fatherless, and the judge of them who are widows. God is in a place consecrated to Him: [6] God settlETH the lonely in a family, having brought out with strength them who had been bound; in like manner them who were rebellious—them, whose habitation is now in tombs.

[7] When Thou, O God, wentest forth before Thy people; when Thou wast marching through the wilderness; [8] the earth shook and the heavens dissolved in showers at the presence of the God of Sina—at the presence of the God of Israel. [9] Thou, O God, canst assign to Thy heritage rain, at pleasure; when they were fainty Thou didst refresh them. Thine animals dwell among them: in Thy goodness Thou didst provide for the distressed.

[11] God the Lord will issue an order to them, who publish good news to the mighty host— [12] the King of the armies of the Beloved [to the army] of the Beloved, to divide spoils for beautifying the house. [13] Though you may have slept in kitchens; the wings of a dove covered with silver, while its back is spangled with yellow gold, shall, [14] when the Almighty scattereth kings before it, be white as the snow on Selmon.

[15] The mountain of God! a fertile mountain! Is a curdled mountain a fertile mountain? [16] But why do you suppose curdled mountains? This is the mount on which God is pleased to dwell, for the Lord will at length dwell there.

[17] The chariots of God are innumerable: there are thousands of happy attendants. The Lord was among them at Sina, [18] In this holy place having ascended on high Thou hast led captivity captive; and received gifts in the manner of man in token (for some were incredulous) of Thy dwelling there. [19] Blessed be

the Lord God! Blessed be the Lord. Day by day let the God of our salvation prosper us!

[20] Our God is the God to save; and to the Lord belong the out-goings of death. [21] But God will crush the heads of His enemies—the hairy head of them who persist in their trespasses. [22] The Lord said, I will bring back from Basan; I will bring back through the depths of a sea; [23] that thy foot may be dipped in blood—the tongue of thy dogs, in that of His enemies.

[24] Thy marches, O God, have been seen—the marches of my God, my king, in this holy place. [25] The chiefs went before next to the band of music, in the midst of damsels playing on timbrels, [26] *Bless ye God in assemblies—the Lord, ye from the fountains of Israel.* [27] There was young Benjamin in a rapture; there the chiefs of Juda, the leaders; the chiefs of Zabulon, the chiefs of Nephthaleim. [28] Command, O God, Thine army; strengthen this, O God, which Thou hast established among us. [29] Because of Thy temple at Jerusalem, let kings bring Thee gifts. [30] Rebuke the wild beasts of the reed, that the silvery shoals may not be intercepted. Is there an assembly of bulls among the heifers of the people? Scatter the nations which delight in war.

[31] Ambassadors shall come from Egypt; Ethiopia shall stretch out her hands to God. [32] O ye kingdoms of the earth, sing to God—sing to the Lord in harmonious strains; in harmonious strains sing to God, [33] who rode on the eastern firmament of heaven. Behold with His voice He will utter a voice of power. [34] Ascribe ye glory to God. His excellency is over Israel; and His power is in the clouds. [35] God is awful among His saints: He is the God of Israel. He will give power and strength to His people. Blessed be our God!

* LXIX *

For the conclusion. For antiphony. By David

SAVE me, O God; for waters have broken in on my soul. [2] I am sunk down into deep mire, and there is no support beneath. I am come into the depth of the sea, and a tempest hath overwhelmed me. [3] I am weary with crying; my throat is hoarse; and mine eyes fail while I wait for my God. [4] They who hate

me without cause are more than the hairs of my head. Mine enemies who persecute me wrongfully are become strong. I have made compensation on the spot for what I did not take by violence. [5] Thou, O God, knowest my folly—and my trespasses are not hid from Thee. [6] Let not them who wait for Thee, O Lord of hosts, be put to shame on my account. Let not them be put to confusion for my sake, who are seeking Thee, O God of Israel.

[7] Because for Thy sake I have borne reproach, confusion hath covered my face. [8] To my brethren I am become an alien, and a stranger to the children of my mother. [9] For my zeal for Thy house hath consumed me; and on me have fallen the reproaches of them, who reproached Thee. [10] When I bowed down my soul with fasting; it furnished occasion for reproaching me. [11] When I clothed myself with sackcloth, I became to them a proverb— [12] they who sat in the gate spoke against me; and they who drank wine, made me their song. [13] But to Thee, O Lord, I, in my prayer, applied: it was a time of favour. O God, in the multitude of Thy mercy—in the truth of Thy salvation, hearken to me. [14] Save me from mire that I may not sink down. Let me be delivered from them who hate me and out of this depth of waters. [15] Let not a flood of water overwhelm me, nor a whirlpool swallow me up, nor a pit shut its mouth upon me. [16] Hear me, O Lord, for Thy lovingkindness is good; according to Thine abundant mercy, look down upon me. Turn not away Thy face from Thy servant; [17] because I am in distress, hear me speedily.

[18] Draw near to my soul and redeem it; deliver me, because of mine enemies. [19] For Thou knowest my reproach, and my shame and my confusion; all mine adversaries are before Thee. [20] My soul expected reproach and misery. I waited for a comforter, but there was none—for a comforter, but none could I find. [21] They indeed have given me gall for my food, and for my thirst, have made me drink vinegar.

[22] Let their table before them become a snare and a recompense and a stumbling block. [23] Let their eyes be darkened that they may not see, and bow down their neck continually. [24] Pour out Thine indignation upon them, and let Thy wrathful ire take hold of them. [25] Let their fold be desolate, and in their dwellings no inhabitant. [26] Because him, whom Thou smotest, they persecuted, and have added to the pains of my wounds; [27] add Thou iniquity to their iniquity, and let them not come into

Thy righteousness. [28] Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be enrolled with the righteous.

[29] I am afflicted—I am full of pain; but the salvation of Thy countenance hath upheld me. [30] I will praise the name of my God with an Ode: I will magnify Him with thanksgiving; [31] this indeed will be more pleasing to God than a young bull with horns and hoofs. [32] Let the afflicted behold and rejoice: seek God diligently and you shall live. [33] For the Lord hath hearkened to the needy, and hath not despised His prisoners. [34] Let the heavens and the earth praise Him—the sea and all that move therein. [35] For God will save Sion, and the cities of Judea shall be rebuilt, and the seed of His servants shall dwell there. [36] They shall inherit it and possess it; and they who love His name shall dwell therein.

+ L X X +

For the conclusion. By David. For a remembrance, that the Lord may save me

O GOD, draw near to my assistance: O Lord, make haste to help me. [2] Let them who seek my life be shamed and confounded; let them be turned back and put to shame who wish me evils. [3] Let them who say to me, Ha! Ha! be turned back suddenly, covered with shame. [4] Let all who seek Thee exult, and rejoice for Thee. Let them who love Thy salvation, say continually, Let God be magnified. [5] As for me, I am afflicted and needy; O God, assist me. Thou art my help and my deliverer: O Lord, make no delay.

+ L X X I +

By David. Sung by the children of Jonadab, and the first captives

IN Thee, O Lord, I have put my trust: let me never be put to confusion. [2] In Thy saving mercy deliver me and rescue me: incline Thine ear to me and save me. [3] Be Thou to me a protecting God, and a place of strength to save me: [4] for Thou art my fortress and my refuge. O my God, deliver me out of a sinner's

hand—out of the hand of an unrighteous and cruel man. [5] For Thou, O Lord, art mine expectation—Thou, Lord, art my hope, from my youth; [6] upon Thee I have leaned from the womb: from my birth Thou art my protector; Thou art the constant subject of my song. [7] To many I became a wonder; but Thou wast my powerful assistant. [8] Let my mouth be filled with praise, that I may celebrate Thy glory—Thy majesty, all the day long.

[9] Cast me not off in the time of old age: forsake me not when my strength faileth. [10] Because mine enemies have said to me—nay, my assassins have consulted together, [11] saying, “God hath forsaken him; pursue and take him, for he hath no deliverer.” [12] O God, be not far from me; draw near, O my God, to my assistance. [13] Let them who plot against my life be confounded, and perish;—let them, who seek to do me hurt, be clothed with shame and confusion. [14] But as for me, I will hope continually; and I will yet praise Thee more and more. [15] My mouth shall proclaim Thy saving mercy—Thy salvation all the day long. [16] Because I am unpractised in studies I will go in the strength of the Lord; I will mention the saving mercy of Thee, O Lord, alone. [17] Thou, O God, hast taught me from my youth: and thus far I can declare Thy wonders— [18] even to old age and grey hairs.

O God, forsake me not, till I declare Thine arm to the rising generation— [19] Thy power and Thy righteousness, O God Most High—the great things which Thou hast done. Who is like Thee, O God? [20] O what afflictions many and sore hast Thou shewn me! But Thou hast returned and quickened me; and brought me up again from the depths of the earth. [21] Thou hast multiplied Thy saving mercy: Thou hast returned and comforted me; and hast brought me up again from the depths of the earth. [22] Therefore with a musical instrument I will praise Thee—Thy truth, O God: I will sing and play on a kithara to Thee, the Holy One of Israel. [23] My lips shall rejoice, when I play to Thee; my soul also which Thou hast redeemed. [24] My tongue shall still talk of Thy saving mercy all the day long, when they who seek my hurt are shamed and confounded.

* LXXII *

For Solomon

O GOD, give the king Thy judgment; and Thy righteousness to the king's son. [2] That he may judge Thy people with right-

eousness; and Thy distressed ones with judgment. [3] Let the mountains and the hills resume peace for Thy people:

[4] Let him [the king] judge righteously such of the people as are distressed; and save the children of the needy: and humble oppressors: [5] and continue, as long as the sun and moon, through all generations. [6] Let him descend like rain on a fleece; and like showers gently falling on the ground. [7] In his days let righteousness spring up, with abundance of peace, till the moon is no more. [8] And let him rule from sea to sea; and from the river to the limits of the world. [9] Let the Ethiopians bow down before him; and let his enemies lick the dust. [10] Let the kings of Tharsis and the isles bring gifts; the kings of the Arabs and Saba offer presents. [11] Let all the kings pay him homage—all the nations serve as vassals.

[12] Because he delivered the poor from the oppressor, and the needy who had no helper: [13] he will spare the afflicted and needy; and save the lives of those in distress— [14] from usury and injustice he will redeem their lives; and their name will be precious in his sight: [15] and he shall live, and to him shall be given of the gold of Arabia; and prayer shall be made for him continually: and he will be blessed all the day long. [16] Let there be in the land a settlement on the tops of the mountains; the fruit thereof will overtop Lebanon: and they of a city shall flourish like the grass of the earth. [17] Let his name be blessed for ever! His name shall endure longer than the sun: and by him all the tribes of the earth shall be blessed. All the nations shall hail him happy.

[18] Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel; Who alone doth wonderful things. [19] And blessed be His glorious name for ever and ever: and let all the earth be filled with His glory. Amen. Amen.

[20] *An intermission of the Hymns of David, son of Jessai*

* LXXIII *

A Psalm by Asaph

HOW good is God to Israel! To such as are upright in heart! [2] But as for me, my feet were almost gone: my steps had well nigh slipped; [3] for I envied the unrighteous; when I saw the

prosperity of sinners. [4] For there is no lifting up of eyes in their death: and in their affliction they have support. [5] They are not in trouble like other men; nor with other men to be scourged. [6] Therefore haughtiness hath got a mastery over them—they have clothed themselves with their iniquity and impiety. [7] Their iniquity springeth up as it were out of fatness; they passed on to the purpose of their heart. [8] They thought and spoke wickedly—they spoke injustice with a lofty air.

[9] They set their mouth against heaven; and their tongue passed on over the earth. [10] Shall my people therefore turn to this; and will full days be found by them? [11] They indeed said, How doth God know? and, Is there any knowledge in the Most High? [12] Behold these who are sinful men; are always prosperous and have gotten wealth. [13] Nay, I myself said, Have I then in vain kept my heart just and washed my hands in innocence? [14] All the day long I have been scourged; and the accusation against me is renewed every morning. [15] Had I said, I will make such a declaration openly: I should have been treacherous to the generation of thy children. [16] I therefore supposed, the trouble of knowing this is before me. [17] When I go to the sanctuary of God; I may understand the final issue. [18] It is but for their frauds Thou hast dealt thus with them.

Thou hast overthrown them by their exaltation. [19] O! how they were for destruction! They are gone in a moment! They perished for their iniquity! [20] As a dream of one awakened out of sleep. Thou, O Lord, in Thy city wilt spurn their ghost; [21] therefore my heart was cheered and my reins were changed. [22] I indeed was despicable for my want of knowledge; I was brutish as a beast before Thee. [23] As for me I shall be with Thee continually: Thou hast held me by my right hand: [24] with Thy counsel Thou hast guided me, and taken me to thyself with glory.

[25] For what is there in heaven for me; or what on earth have I desired, besides Thee? [26] Hath my heart and my flesh failed? God is the strength of my heart—God is my portion forever. [27] Seeing they who withdrew themselves from Thee, shall perish—Thou hast cut off everyone who goeth a-whoring from Thee: [28] It is therefore good for me to cleave to God—to place my hope upon the Lord: that I may publish all Thy praises in the gates of the daughter of Sion.

* LXXIV *

Of understanding. By Asaph

O GOD, why hast Thou utterly cast off? Why is Thy wrath extreme against the sheep of Thy pasture? [2] Remember Thy congregation which Thou hast purchased of old; this portion to Thine inheritance which Thou hast redeemed; this mount Sion on which Thou hast dwelt. [3] Lift up Thy hands against their perpetual haughtiness; for all that the enemy hath wickedly done in Thy Holies. [4] They who hate Thee have indeed triumphed: in the midst of Thy festival they set up their own signs: [5] The signs pointing to the entrance above they did not know. As if in a forest of trees, [6] they cut down with axes the doors of that entrance. Then with hatchets and mattocks they broke it down. [7] They burned Thy sanctuary to the ground with fire: they profaned the habitation of Thy name. [8] They said, The whole brood of them are in their heart set upon this: come, let us cause to cease from the land the festivals of the Lord.

[9] The signs peculiarly ours we do not see: there is no more a prophet; nor will he any more acknowledge us. [10] How long O God, shall the enemy reproach? Shall the adversary blaspheme Thy name forever? [11] Why dost Thou withdraw Thy hand? Let Thy right hand be ever out of Thy bosom.

[12] God was indeed our king of old. He wrought deliverance in the midst of this land. [13] Thou by Thy power didst exercise dominion over the sea: Thou didst crush the heads of the dragons in the water. [14] Thou didst crush the heads of the dragon: Thou gavest him to be meat for the Ethiopian tribes. [15] Thou didst cause springs and torrents to burst forth. Thou didst dry up the rivers of Etham. [16] Thine is the day and the night is Thine: it is Thou Who preparedst the sun and moon. [17] Thou hast made all the borders of the earth: summer and spring were made by Thee. [18] Remember this creation of Thine.

An enemy hath reproached the Lord; a foolish people hath blasphemed Thy name. [19] Deliver not up to the wild beasts a soul which praiseth Thee. Forget not forever the souls of Thy afflicted people. [20] Have respect to Thy covenant, because the dark places of this land have been filled with habitations of iniquity, [21] let not him who hath been humbled and shamed be utterly scorned: let the afflicted and needy praise Thy name.

[22] Arise, O God, plead Thine own cause: remember the reproaches cast on Thee, all day long, by a fool. [23] Forget not the voice of Thy suppliants: let the pride of them, who hate Thee, ascend continually before Thee.

* L X X V *

*For the conclusion. Destroy not.
A Psalmic Song by Asaph*

(p) LET us praise Thee, O God; let us praise and invoke Thy name. Let me proclaim all Thy wonderous works. [2] (J) When I find a suitable time, I execute righteous judgment. [3] (p) The land, with all its inhabitants, is wasted. (J) It was I who strengthened the pillars thereof. [4] I ordered the transgressors not to transgress, and said to sinners, Exalt not a horn. [5] Lift not up your horn on high; speak not iniquity against God. [6] For it is neither from east nor from west, nor is it from desert mountains; [7] for God is judge;—He humbleth one and He exalteth another. [8] For in the hand of the Lord there is a cup, filled with mixed wine of horror; and out of this He hath poured into that: but the dregs of it are not emptied out; all the sinners of the land shall drink it. [9] (p) Let me then exult with joy forever, and tune my lyre for the God of Jacob. [10] (J) I will break all the horns of sinners, but the horn of the righteous shall be exalted.

* L X X V I *

*For the conclusion of hymns. A Psalm by Asaph.
An Ode on the Assyrians*

IN Judea, God is known; His name is great in Israel. [2] His place was in Eirene; and His dwelling is on Sion. [3] There He broke the strong bows, armour, and sword and battle.

[4] From everlasting mountains, Thou shinest marvellously; [5] all the foolish-hearted, were struck with consternation. All those mighty men have slept their sleep, and found nothing of their wealth for their hands. [6] At Thy rebuke, O God of Jacob, they

(p) The prophet or psalmist. (J) Jehovah.

who had mounted their horses fell fast asleep. [7] Thou art terrible; who therefore can withstand Thee, on the account of Thine indignation. [8] From heaven Thou didst cause the sentence to be heard; the earth was terrified and was still: [9] when God arose for judgment, to save all the meek in heart. [10] Since the secret purpose of man can contribute to Thy praise, let the remainder of it cause a festival to be celebrated for Thee. [11] Vow and pay your vows to the Lord our God: let all around Him bring gifts to Him who is awful— [12] to Him who taketh away the spirits of chiefs— to Him who is terrible to the kings of the earth.

* L X X V I I *

For the conclusion. For Idithun. A Psalm by Asaph

WITH my voice I cried to the Lord, and my voice was to God, and He hearkened to me. [2] In the day of my affliction I sought God with my hands in the night before Him; and I was not disappointed. My soul had refused to be comforted; [3] I remembered God and was made glad—I meditated, though my spirit was in despondency. [4] All mine enemies had previously mounted guard; I was troubled and did not speak. [5] I considered the days of old: I recollected the years of ancient times; [6] I meditated at night—I conversed with my heart—I searched my spirit diligently. [7] Will the Lord cast off forever, and will He no more be favourable? [8] Will He entirely cut off mercy, from generation to generation? [9] Will God forget to be gracious? Will He in His anger restrain His compassion?

[10] Then I said, I have now made a beginning; this is the change of the right hand of the Most High. [11] I called to remembrance the works of the Lord. Seeing I can remember Thy wonders of old: [12] let me therefore meditate on all Thy works, and muse on Thine institutions. [13] O God, Thy way is in that which is holy; what god is great as our God? [14] Thou art the God Who worketh miracles: Thou hast made Thy power known among the tribes. [15] With Thine arm Thou didst redeem this people of Thine—the children of Jacob and Joseph. [16] The waters saw Thee, O God!—the waters saw Thee and were terrified, and the deep gulphs were troubled. [17] Great was the roaring of the waters; the clouds uttered a sound: for Thy bolts were passing through them. [18] The sound of Thy thunder was

in the round expanse: Thy lightnings illumed the world; the earth shook and trembled. [19] Thy way was through the sea, and Thy paths through many waters; but Thy footsteps could not be known. [20] Thou leddest Thy people like a flock: by the ministry of Moses and Aaron.

* LXXVIII *

On understanding. By Asaph

ATTEND, my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. [2] I will open my mouth with parables—I will utter dark sayings of old;— [3] such as we have heard and known, which our fathers have related to us. [4] They were not hid from their children: one generation told another the praises of the Lord, His acts of power, and the wonders which He hath done. [5] Thus He raised up a testimony in Jacob, and established a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers to make known to their children: [6] that the succeeding generation—the children to be born, might know it, and rise and tell the same to their children: [7] that they might put their trust in God, and not forget the works of God, but seek diligently His commandments— [8] that they might not be like their fathers—a perverse and rebellious generation—a generation which set not their hearts aright, and whose spirit was not steadfast with God.

[9] The sons of Ephraim, who bend and shoot the bow, were turned back in the day of battle. [10] They did not keep the covenant of God, and would not walk in His law. [11] They indeed forget His acts of kindness—those wonders of His which He had shewn them— [12] wonders which He did in the sight of their fathers: in the land of Egypt, in the plain of Tanis. [13] He had cleft the sea and led them through it; He had stayed the waters as in a bottle. [14] He had led them with a cloud by day, and all the night long with a light of fire; [15] He had cleft a rock in the wilderness, and given them drink as from a great abyss; [16] He had brought water out of a rock, and caused streams to flow down like rivers: [17] But still they proceeded to sin against Him—they provoked the Most High in a desert. [18] Still they made trial of God in their hearts, by asking for meats to their appetites.

[19] Nay, they spoke against God and said, Can God provide a table in a desert? [20] When He smote a rock, waters gushed

out, and streams swelled to an overflowing flood. But can He also give bread, or provide a table for His people? [21] Therefore the Lord heard and was provoked; and a fire was kindled among Jacob; and wrath came up against Israel. [22] Because they believed not in God, nor trusted in His salvation.

[23] Though He had commanded the clouds above, and had opened the doors of heaven, [24] and had rained down manna for them to eat, and had given them the bread of heaven, [25] (man was eating the bread of angels) He sent meat for them to satiety. [26] He removed the south east wind out of heaven, and by His power brought on the south west: [27] and rained upon them flesh, like dust: and feathered fowls as the sand of the sea; [28] they fell in the midst of their encampment, and all around their habitation. [29] Though they ate and were filled abundantly, and He had given them their desire; [30] their longing desire was not stayed; therefore while the meat was still in their mouths, [31] the anger of God came up against them, and slew them amidst their fat viands, and fettered the chosen men of Israel.

[32] Notwithstanding all these things they still sinned, and did not believe His wonderous works; [33] therefore their days glided away in vanity, and their years were attended with impatience. [34] When He smote them and they sought Him, and returned and inquired early after God, [35] and remembered that God was their helper, and that God the Most High was their redeemer; [36] though they expressed love for Him with their mouth, they lied to Him with their tongue, [37] and their heart was not right with Him, nor were they steadfast in His covenant. [38] But He being merciful forgave their sins, and would not utterly destroy them. Yea, many a time did He turn away His wrath, and would not suffer all His wrath to blaze forth; [39] for He remembered that they were flesh—a breath going out and not again returning.

[40] How often did they provoke Him in the wilderness, and excite Him to anger in the desert? [41] They actually turned back and tempted God, and provoked to wrath the Holy One of Israel. [42] They remembered not His hand, on the day when He rescued them out of the hand of an oppressor; [43] how He had displayed His signs in Egypt, and His wonders in the plain of Tanis; [44] and had turned their rivers into blood, and their cisterns so that they could not drink— [45] had sent against them the dog fly which devoured them, and swarms of frogs which destroyed them; and had given their crops to the canker worm, and their labours to the locust— [47] had smitten their vineyards with hail, and

their sycamore trees with frost; [48] and delivered up their cattle to hail, and their substance to the fire— [49] having sent out against them His fierce anger, wrath and indignation and affliction—a mission executed by evil angels: [50] He paved a way for His vengeance—He spared not their lives from death: He delivered up their cattle to pestilence, [51] and smote every first-born in the land of Egypt—the first fruits of their labours in the tents of Cham; [52] and brought out His people like sheep, and led them like a flock in the desert, [53] and guided them safely, so that they were not afraid, though the sea overwhelmed their enemies; [54] and brought them to the mount of His holiness—to this mountain which His right hand purchased; [55] and drove out nations from before them, and gave them by lot their several portions, and settled in their dwellings the tribes of Israel.

[56] Still they tempted and provoked God the Most High, and did not keep His testimonies; [57] but turned back and broke covenant like their fathers. They turned aside like a deceitful bow. [58] They provoked Him with their mounts, and with their graven images moved Him to jealousy. [59] God heard and despised them and greatly contemned Israel, [60] and He abandoned the tabernacle of Selom—the tent in which He had dwelt among men; [61] and delivered up their strength to captivity, and their glory into an enemy's hand; [62] and gave up His people to the sword, and slighted His inheritance. [63] A fire consumed their young men, and their virgins made no lamentation. [64] Their priests fell by the sword and their widows are not to bewail them.

[65] At length the Lord awaked as one out of sleep, as a mighty man recovered from wine; [66] and He smote His enemies in the hinder parts, and cast an everlasting reproach on them. [67] But He rejected the habitation of Joseph, and did not choose the tribe of Ephraim; [68] but made choice of the tribe of Juda—of this mount Sion which He loved, [69] and built His sanctuary like that of unicorns; in this land He founded it for this age, [70] and He chose David His servant and took him from the flocks of sheep— [71] He took them from tending the ewes with young to feed His servant Jacob and Israel, His inheritance. [72] And He fed them in the integrity of His heart, and guided them by the skill of His hands.

* LXXIX *

A Psalm by Asaph

O GOD, nations are come into Thine inheritance: they have polluted Thy holy temple. They have made Jerusalem a depository for summer fruits. [2] They have given the carcasses of Thy servants to be meat for the birds of the air—the flesh of Thy saints, to the wild beasts of the earth. [3] They have poured out their blood like water round Jerusalem; and there was none to bury them. [4] We are become a reproach to our neighbours—A scoff and a derision to them around us. [5] How long, O Lord, wilt Thou be angry? Shall Thy jealousy burn like fire forever? [6] Pour out Thy wrath on the nations that have not acknowledged Thee; and on kingdoms which have not invoked Thy name.

[7] For they have devoured Jacob, and laid waste this place of his. [8] Remember not our former iniquities: let Thy tender mercies overtake us speedily: as we are greatly distressed; [9] help us, O God, our saviour: for Thy glory of Thy name deliver us; and pardon our sins for Thy name's sake. [10] Perhaps they may say among the nations, Where is their God? Let therefore the avengement of the blood of Thy servants, which hath been shed; be known among the nations in our sight. [11] Let the groans of the prisoners come before Thee. According to the mighty power of Thine arm; protect the children of them who are slain. [12] Retribute to these neighbours of ours—into their bosom sevenfold; their reproach, with which they have reproached Thee, O Lord. [13] For we are Thy people and the sheep of Thy pasture: to Thee we will render thanks forever: we will proclaim Thy praise to all generations.

* LXXX *

*For the conclusion. For antiphony. A testimony, by Asaph.
A Psalm respecting the Assyrian*

GIVE ear, O shepherd of Israel! Who leadest Joseph like a flock—Thou who art enthroned on the cherubim; [2] shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasses: stir up Thy strength and come for our salvation. [3] Turn us, O God; and let Thy face

shine; and we shall be saved. [4] O Lord, the God of hosts! How long wilt Thou continue Thine anger, against the prayer of this servant of Thine? [5] How long wilt Thou feed us with bread of tears; and give us tears to drink by measure? [6] Thou hast made us a mocking stock to our neighbours: and our enemies have derided us.

[7] O Lord, the God of hosts, bring us back; and let Thy face shine and we shall be saved. [8] Thou has brought a vine out of Egypt: Thou hast cast out nations and planted it. [9] Thou didst prepare the way before it; and plant its roots and the land was filled: [10] and its shade obscured mountains: and its branchy shoots, the cedars of God. [11] It extended its branches quite to the sea; and its spreading boughs quite to the river. [12] Why hast Thou broken down its hedge; that all who pass by the way, may pluck it? [13] The boar from the forest hath laid it waste; and a savage beast hath devoured it.

[14] O God of hosts, return we beseech Thee; look down from heaven and see and visit this vine: [15] and repair that which Thy right hand hath planted—even for the son of man, whom Thou madest strong for Thyself. [16] It is burned up with fire and rooted up. At the rebuke of Thy countenance are they to perish? [17] O let Thy hand be on the man of Thy right hand—on the son of man whom Thou hast made strong for Thyself: [18] and let us not depart from Thee. Thou canst quicken us that we may invoke Thy name. [19] O Lord, the God of hosts, bring us back: and let Thy face shine and we shall be saved.

* LXXXI *

For the conclusion. On the wine presses. A Psalm by Asaph

EXULT with joy for God our helper! Shout triumphantly for the God of Jacob! [2] Take a psalm and bring a tympanum—the sweet sounding psaltery with a kithara. [3] Sound the trumpet at the new moon—at the set day of your festival. [4] For it is a statute for Israel—a rite established by the God of Jacob— [5] as a testimony for Joseph; it pointed him out at the time of his coming out of the land of Egypt; he caused him to hear a tongue which he knew not: [6] he removed his back from burdens. His hands served at the basket.

[7] In affliction thou didst call upon Me, and I delivered

thee. I heard thee in the secret of a tempest. I proved thee at the water of strife. [8] Hear O My people and I will speak to thee. O Israel, and I will testify to thee. If thou wilt hearken to Me, [9] with thee there must be no new-fangled god: nor shalt thou worship a strange god, [10] for I am the Lord thy God; Who brought thee up from the land of Egypt. Open thy mouth wide and I will fill it. [11] But My people did not hearken to My voice; nor did Israel attend to Me. [12] Therefore I gave them up to the devices of their own hearts. Let them walk in their own devices. [13] Had My people hearkened to Me—had Israel walked in My ways: [14] I would have effectually humbled their enemies; and laid My hand on those who afflicted them.

[15] The enemies of the Lord should have submitted to Him; and their time would have been forever: [16] and He would have fed them with the finest wheat; and satisfied them with honey from a rock.

* LXXXII *

A Psalm by Asaph

GOD standeth in the assembly of gods and in the midst He judgeth gods.

[2] (J) How long will you judge unjustly; and respect the persons of sinners? [3] Do justice to the fatherless and the afflicted; Justify the lowly and the needy. [4] Rescue the needy and deliver the afflicted out of the sinner's hand. [5] They did not know; nor did they understand. They walked on in darkness. All the foundations of the land shall be shaken. [6] I said you are gods; and all sons of the Most High: [7] but you shall die like men; and fall like one of the chiefs.

[8] (p) Arise, O God, judge the land Thyself: for Thou shalt inherit all the nations.

* LXXXIII *

A psalmic Song by Asaph

O GOD, who can be compared to Thee? Keep not silence nor be still, O God. [2] For lo! Thine enemies are become noisy; and they who hate Thee have raised their heads. [3] Against Thy

people they have taken crafty counsel. And consulted against Thy holies. [4] Come, said they, let us cut them off from being a nation: and let the name of Israel be no more remembered. [5] For with this intent they consulted in concert. Against Thee have entered into conspiracy [6] the hordes of the Idumeans and the Ismaelites, Moab and the Agareniens; [7] Gebal and Ammon and Amalek, and the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre. [8] Assur also is joined with them: they are come to the assistance of the children of Lot.

[9] Do Thou to them as to Madiam and Sisara: as to Jabin at the brook of Kison. [10] They were utterly cut off at Aendor: they became as dung for the ground; [11] make their chiefs like Oreb and Zeb—all their chiefs like Zebee and Salmana. [12] They said, Let us possess ourselves of the altar of God. [13] O my God make them like a whirl—like stubble opposed to wind. [14] As fire blazeth through a forest—as a spark can set mountains on fire: [15] so Thou with Thy tempest wilt pursue them, and trouble them with Thy wrath. [16] Fill their faces with dishonour: that they may seek Thy name, O Lord. [17] Let them be shamed and troubled forever: let them be put to confusion and perish: [18] and let them know that Thy name is the Lord—that Thou alone art the Most High over all the earth.

* LXXXIV *

*For the conclusion. A Psalm for the wine presses.
(For the sons of Kore)*

O LORD of hosts, how lovely are Thine abodes! my soul longeth, it panteth for the courts of the Lord. [2] My heart and my flesh exulted for the living God. [3] For a sparrow hath found for itself a house: and a ring-dove a nest for itself, where to place its young—[Even I, among] these altars of Thine, O Lord of hosts. O my king and my God, [4] happy they who dwell in Thy house; they shall forever praise Thee. [5] Happy the man, whose support is from Thee, O Lord! [6] he hath laid up in his heart steps for this mournful vale, to the place on which he hath fixed; for the lawgiver will indeed give blessings.

[7] They shall go on from strength to strength: the God of Gods will be seen in Sion. [8] O Lord, the God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken to it, O God of Jacob. [9] O God, our shield

behold: look down on the face of Thine anointed one. [10] Because one day in Thy courts is better than a thousand; I had rather be in an abject state in the house of God, than dwell in the tents of sinners. [11] Because the Lord loveth mercy and truth; God will give grace and glory: the Lord will not withhold good things from them who walk in innocence. [12] O Lord of hosts! happy is the man whose trust is in Thee.

* LXXXV *

A Psalm for the conclusion. (For the sons of Kore)

O LORD, Thou hast favoured this land of Thine: Thou hast brought back the captivity of Jacob. [2] Thou hast forgiven Thy people their iniquities: Thou hast covered all their sins. [3] Thou hast caused all Thine anger to cease: Thou hast turned away from Thy fierce wrath. [4] Turn us, O God of our salvation, and turn away Thy wrath from us. [5] Be not angry with us forever. Wilt Thou extend Thy wrath to all generations? [6] O God, Thou wilt turn and quicken us, that Thy people may rejoice for Thee. [7] Shew us, O Lord, Thy loving kindness: And shouldst Thou grant us Thy salvation, I will hear what the Lord God will say by me: for He will speak peace to His people—to His saints: even to them who turn their hearts to Him; [9] moreover His salvation will be near them who fear Him; that glory may dwell in our land.

[10] Mercy and truth have met each other; righteousness and peace have mutually embraced. [11] Truth hath sprung up out of the earth, and righteousness hath looked down from heaven. [12] For the Lord will exercise benignity, and our land shall yield her increase. [13] Righteousness shall go before Him, and He will imprint His footsteps for a path.

* LXXXVI *

A Prayer. By David

INCLINE, O Lord, Thine ear, and hear me: for I am distressed and needy. [2] Preserve my life, for I am holy: save Thy servant, O God, who trusteth in Thee. [3] Be merciful to me, O Lord, for to Thee I will cry all day long. [4] Comfort the soul

of Thy servant; for to Thee, O Lord, I have lifted up my soul: [5] for Thou, Lord, art kind and gentle, and plenteous in mercy to all who invoke Thee. [6] Listen, O Lord, to my prayer, and attend to the voice of my supplication. [7] In the day of my affliction, I cried to Thee, because Thou didst hear me. [8] There is none among gods like Thee, O Lord: nor are any works to be compared to Thine. [9] Let all the nations which Thou hast made, come and worship before Thee, O Lord, and praise Thy name; [10] for Thou art great and doest wonders—Thou art the Only, [11] the Great God.

Conduct me, O Lord, in Thy way; and I will walk in Thy truth. Let my heart be gladdened, that Thy name may be feared. [12] I will praise Thee, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and glorify Thy name forever. [13] For Thy mercy to me hath been great; Thou hast delivered my soul from the deepest mansion of the dead. [14] O God, transgressors rose up against me, and an assembly of violent men sought my life; they indeed did not set Thee before them. [15] But Thou, Lord God, who art merciful and gracious, long suffering and abundant in goodness and truth, [16] look down upon me and pity me; give Thy strength to Thy servant and save the son of Thy handmaid. [17] Vouchsafe to me a token for good, and let them who hate me, see it and be ashamed, because Thou, O Lord, hast helped me and given me comfort.

* LXXXVII *

A Psalmic Song. (For the sons of Kore)

ON the holy mountains are His foundations! [2] The Lord loveth the gates of Sion more than all the dwellings of Jacob. [3] Glorious things have been said of thee, O city of God. [4] Shall I mention Rahab or Babylon to those gaining a knowledge of me? Behold the Philistines and Tyrians, and the tribe of the Ethiopians say, Such and such were born there. [5] Man will say, "Sion is my mother"; and, "In it such a man was born." "The Most High Himself founded it" [6] this will be the account which the Lord will give in the enrollment of peoples and of those chiefs who were born in it. [7] How delighted must all be, whose habitation is in Thee!

* LXXXVIII *

*A Psalmic Ode for the sons of Kore. For the conclusion.
An Antiphony with dancing. (Instruction).
By Aiman the Israelite*

O LORD God of my salvation, before Thee I have cried day and night. [2] Let my prayer come before Thee, incline, O Lord, Thine ear to my supplication; [3] for my soul is full of trouble, and my life draweth near to the mansion of the dead. [4] I was counted with them who are going down to the pit; I became like a man who is past recovery— [5] like one set free among the dead—like the prostrate slain, asleep in the grave, whom Thou hast no more remembered.

[6] Though they were cast off out of Thy hand, they laid me in the lowest pit—in dark places and in the shade of death. [7] On me Thy wrath was pressed hard, and all Thy billows Thou didst bring upon me. [8] Thou hast removed far from me my acquaintance, they accounted me an abomination to them. I was delivered up and did not go abroad; [9] mine eyes were weakened by affliction. To Thee, O Lord, I cried all the day long: to Thee I stretched forth my hands. [10] Wilt Thou work wonders among the dead? Or can physicians raise them up to praise Thee? [11] Can any in the grave declare Thy kindness?—Or Thy faithfulness, in destruction? [12] Can Thy wonders be known in darkness—Or Thy saving mercy, in the land of forgetfulness? [13] As for me, I have cried to Thee, O Lord, and in the morning my prayers shall be before Thee.

[14] O Lord, why rejectest Thou my prayer—why turnest Thou away Thy face from me? [15] I am afflicted and in troubles from my youth: though raised high I have been humbled and distressed. [16] Thy resentments have come upon me; and Thy terrors have quite confounded me: [17] they have encompassed me like water: all the day long they begirt me at once. [18] Thou hast removed a friend far from me, my acquaintance also, because of misery.

* LXXXIX *

On understanding. By Aitham the Israelite

O LORD, I will sing of Thy mercies forever; I will proclaim Thy truth with my mouth to all generations.

[2] Since Thou hast said: Mercy shall be built up forever. My truth shall be established in the heavens. [3] I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn to My servant David, [4] I will establish Thy seed forever; I will build up Thy throne to all generations. [5] O Lord, let the heavens praise Thy wonders and Thy truth in the congregation of the saints.

[6] For who in heaven can be compared to the Lord? Or who among the sons of God, likened to the Lord? [7] God is glorified in the counsel of the holy—great and awful among all around him. [8] O Lord, the God of hosts, who is like Thee?

Thou, Lord, art mighty and Thy truth is around Thee. [9] Thou rulest the raging of the sea, and stillest the rolling billows thereof. [10] Thou hast humbled the proud like one slain—with Thy mighty arm Thou hast scattered Thy foes. [11] Thine are the heavens, and the earth is Thine, Thou hast founded the world and its fullness. [12] Thou hast created the north and the west; let Thabor and Hermon rejoice at Thy name. [13] Thine arm is endowed with power; let Thy hand be strong—Thy right hand exalted. [14] Justice and judgment are the preparation of Thy throne; mercy and truth shall march before Thee. [15] Happy the people who know the joyful sound! They will walk, O Lord, in the light of Thy presence, [16] and rejoice in Thy name all the day long, and be exalted by Thy righteousness.

[17] For Thou art the glory of their strength; and by Thy favour our horn shall be exalted. [18] For Thou art the help of our Lord, even of the Holy One of Israel, [19] our king. At that time Thou didst speak in vision to Thy children and say: I have laid help on one who is Mighty: I have exalted a chosen one of My people; [20] I have found David My servant; I have anointed him with holy oil. [21] My hand will indeed support him. And him Mine arm will strengthen. [22] Over him an enemy shall not gain advantage; nor shall a son of wickedness any more afflict him. [23] For before him I will hew down his enemies: and them who hate him I will put to flight. [24] And My truth and My mercy

shall be with him; and by My name his horn shall be exalted. [25] And I will put his hand on the sea; and his right hand on the rivers: [26] and he will invoke Me saying, Thou art my father; my God and the support of my salvation; [27] and I will set him as a first-born; high above all the kings of the earth. [28] My mercy I will keep for him evermore. And My covenant with him shall be firm. [29] And I will establish his seed forever, and his throne as the days of heaven.

[30] If his children forsake My law, and do not walk in My judgments— [31] If they profane My statutes; and do not keep My commandments: [32] I will visit their transgressions with a rod; and their iniquities with scourges. [33] But from him I will not withdraw My mercy; nor suffer My faithfulness to fail. [34] I will not violate My covenant; nor annul what have passed My lips. [35] Once for all I have sworn by My holiness; that I will not be false to David. [36] His seed shall endure forever, and his throne as the sun before Me; [37] and as the moon forever fixed: and the witness in heaven is faithful.

[38] Hast Thou then cast off and set at naught—hast Thou given up this Thine anointed? [39] Hast Thou made void the covenant with Thy servant: and profaned his sanctuary to the ground? [40] Thou hast broken down all his hedges, and made his strongholds a ruin. [41] All that pass by have plundered him: he is become a subject of reproach to his neighbours. [42] Thou hast raised up the right hand of his foes, thou hast made all his enemies glad. [43] Thou hast turned back the edge of his sword; and hast not assisted him in battle. [44] Thou hast caused his purification to cease: thou hast dashed down his throne to the ground. [45] Thou hast shortened the days of his throne, and poured contempt upon him.

[46] How long, O Lord, wilt Thou turn away? Shall Thy wrath burn like fire forever? [47] Remember what my being is. Hast Thou created all the sons of men in vain? [48] Is there any man who can live and not see death? Can he deliver his soul from the mansion of the dead? [49] O Lord, where are Thy mercies of old; which Thou didst solemnly promise David by Thy truth? [50] Remember, O Lord, the reproach of Thy servants—that of many nations, which I retain in my bosom—that with which Thine enemies, [51] O Lord, have reproached—with which they have reproached the redemption of Thine anointed one. [52] Blessed be the Lord forever. Amen, Amen.

* X C *

A prayer of Moses the man of God

O LORD, Thou hast been a refuge for us, from one generation to another. [2] Before the mountains were brought forth; or the earth or the world was formed: even from everlasting to everlasting Thou existed. [3] Wilt Thou turn man away to despondency; when Thou hast said, Return ye sons of men? [4] Since in Thy sight a thousand years are but as yesterday which is past; or as a watch in the night: [5] shall these trifling years of theirs be as if in the morning, a green herb passed away? [6] Should it in the morning bloom and pass away? In the evening it would have fallen, withered and become dry. [7] Because we have fallen short by Thine anger, and by Thine indignation have been troubled— [8] Thou hast placed our iniquities before Thee: let this age of ours be for the light of Thy countenance. [9] Because all our days have fallen short; and we have failed by Thine indignation; our years have exercised themselves like a spider.

[10] The days of these years of ours are seventy years: and if by reason of strength they be eighty years; still the surplus of them is labour and sorrow. Because gentleness hath come upon us: let us, therefore, [11] whoever knoweth the power of Thine anger, be taught, on the account of the terror of Thy wrath, [12] so to number them. Thus make known Thy right hand; and them whose hearts are instructed in wisdom. [13] Return, O Lord. How long shall it first be? And be pacified with Thy servants. [14] In the morning we were filled with Thy mercy. We indeed rejoiced [15] and were made glad. During all these days of ours may we be gladdened; in lieu of the days wherein Thou hast humbled us; and of the years in which we have seen evils. [16] And look upon these Thy servants and on Thy works: and be Thou the guide of their children. [17] And let the splendour of the Lord our God be over us: and do Thou direct for us the works of our hands.

* X C I *

A Song of praise. By David

HE who dwelleth under the protection of the Most High shall lodge in the shelter of the God of heaven. [2] He will say to the

Lord, Thou art my helper: my God is my refuge, I will trust in Him. [3] Because He will deliver thee from the snare of hunters; and tumultuous accusation— [4] with His breast will overshadow thee: therefore under His wings thou shalt rest secure. His truth will encompass thee with armour. [5] Thou shalt not be afraid of the terror by night; nor of the arrow which flieth by day— [6] of the thing which walketh in darkness; nor of mischance and the demon of noonday.

[7] A thousand may fall at thy side; and ten thousand at thy right hand: but it shall not approach thee. [8] But thou with thine eyes shalt observe, and see the reward of the wicked. [9] Because Thou, O Lord, my hope; hast made the Most High thy refuge; [10] no evils shall come upon thee, nor shall a scourge approach thy dwelling. [11] For He will give His angels a charge concerning thee; to keep thee in all thy ways; [12] with their hands they shall bear thee up; shouldst thou chance to strike thy foot against a stone. [13] Upon an asp and a basilisk thou shalt tread: and trample down a lion and a dragon.

[14] Because he trusted in Me, I will deliver him: I will protect him because he knew My name. [15] He will call on Me, and I will answer him: I am with him in affliction: I will deliver him and honour him. [16] With length of days I will satisfy him; and I will shew him My salvation.

* X C I I *

A Psalmic Ode for the Sabbath day

IT is good to give thanks to the Lord; and with instrumental music sing to Thy name, O Most High— [2] to proclaim Thy loving kindness every morning; and Thy faithfulness every night: [3] with a ten-stringed psaltery; with an ode on the kithara. [4] Because Thou, Lord, with Thy work hast made me glad: therefore in the works of Thy hands I will triumph. [5] How great are Thy works, O Lord! How very deep are Thy designs! [6] A senseless man cannot know; nor can the foolish comprehend them. [7] When the wicked sprang up like grass; all the workers of iniquity had a glimpse that they should be destroyed forever.

[8] As for Thee, Thou, O Lord, art Most High forever. [9] For lo! Thine enemies shall perish: and all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered. [10] But my horn shall be exalted like that of the

oryx; and mine old age invigorated with fresh oil. [11] Mine eye hath looked on among mine enemies: and among the wicked who rise against me, mine ear will hear. [12] The righteous shall bloom like a palm tree; and be multiplied like a cedar on Lebanon. [13] Being planted by the house of the Lord they shall flourish in the courts of our God. [14] In a vigorous old age they shall still multiply; and continue prosperous; [15] that they may declare that the Lord my God is righteous; and that in Him there is no injustice.

* XCIII *

For the day preceding the Sabbath, when the world was stocked with inhabitants. A Song of praise by David

THE Lord hath commenced His reign—hath robed Himself with majesty. The Lord hath robed Himself with power and girded it on. For He hath established the world, which cannot be shaken. [2] From that time Thy throne was prepared: Thou Thyself art from everlasting. [3] The rivers, O Lord, lifted up—the rivers lifted up their voices. [4] By reason of the roaring of many waters; the mountainous billows of the sea are wonderful. The Lord on high is wonderful; [5] Thy testimonies are firmly established. Holiness becometh Thy house, O Lord; to the utmost extent of days.

* XCIV *

A Psalm by David, for the fourth day of the week

THE Lord is a God of vengeance, the God of vengeance hath given solemn warning. [2] Exalt Thyself, O thou judge of the earth; render a retribution to the proud. [3] How long shall sinners, O Lord—how long shall sinners boast? [4] Shall they declaim and utter injustice? Shall all the workers of iniquity speak? [5] They have oppressed Thy people, O Lord: and afflicted Thine inheritance. [6] They have slain the widow and orphan: they have murdered the stranger, [7] and said, The Lord cannot see, nor can the God of Jacob discern.

[8] Consider I beseech you, ye brutish among the people. And

ye fools, at length be wise. [9] Doth not He, Who hath planted the ear, hear? And doth not He who formed the eye, see? [10] Will not He, Who chastiseth nations, reprove?—He Who teacheth man knowledge? [11] The Lord knoweth the thoughts of these men, that they are vain. [12] Happy the man, whom Thou, O Lord wilt instruct; and whom Thou wilt teach out of Thy law; [13] in order to set him at ease from evil days; until a pit be dug for the sinner. [14] For the Lord will not cast off His people; nor will He forsake His inheritance; [15] till justice return to judgment; and all the upright in heart be in her train.

[16] Who will stand up for me against evil doers? Or who will assist me against the workers of iniquity? [17] Had not the Lord indeed come to mine assistance, my soul would soon have sojourned in the mansion of the dead. [18] Did I say, My foot hath slipped? Thy mercy, O Lord, assisted me. [20] O Lord, according to the multitude of the sorrows of my heart; Thy comforts delighted my soul. Shall a throne of iniquity—shall he who framed mischief for law, have fellowship with Thee? [21] Shall they hunt for the soul of the righteous? And shall they condemn innocent blood? [22] The Lord indeed was My refuge: my God was the support of my hope. [23] He will make them retribution for their iniquity and their wickedness: the Lord our God will utterly destroy them.

* XCV *

A Song of praise, by David

O COME, let us sing with joy to the Lord; let us shout triumphantly to God our Saviour: [2] let us approach His presence with a song of praise, and shout with joy to Him in psalms, [3] that the Lord is a great God and a great king over all the Gods; [4] and that the Lord will not cast off His people: that in His hand are the limits of the earth—and the lofty mountains are His: [5] that the sea is His—He made it; and His hands formed the dry land. [6] O come, let us worship and bow down before Him, and let us weep before the Lord, our maker. [7] Because He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the flock of His hand; [8] To-day, since you have heard His voice, let not your hearts be refractory as at the great provocation—as in the day of the temptation in the desert.

[9] Where your father's tried Me—they proved Me, though they had seen My works. [10] Forty years. I was incensed with that generation, and said, They do always err with the heart—and have not known My ways; [11] so in Mine indignation, I solemnly said, They shall not enter into My rest.

* XCVI *

*When the house was built after the captivity.
An Ode by David*

O SING to the Lord a new song—sing to the Lord, all ye of this land. [2] Sing to the Lord and bless His name;—publish daily the good news of His salvation: [3] proclaim His glory among the nations—His wondrous works among all the tribes— [4] That the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all the gods; [5] That all the gods of the nations are demons; But as for the Lord, He made the heavens. [6] Honour and comeliness are before Him, holiness and majesty in His temple. [7] Ascribe to the Lord, ye families of nations—ascribe to the Lord glory and honour— [8] ascribe to the Lord glory to His name. Take sacrifices and come to His courts: [9] worship the Lord in His holy court: Let all the earth be moved at His presence.

[10] Say among the nations, The Lord is King, for He hath renovated this world, which shall no more be shaken; He will judge peoples with righteousness.

[11] Let the heavens rejoice and the earth exult: let the sea be moved and the fullness thereof. [12] Let the plains and all therein be gladdened—and let all the trees of the forest exult [13] before the Lord; for He is coming—for He is coming to judge the earth, He will judge the world with righteousness—and the several tribes with His truth.

* XCVII *

By David, when his land was at peace

THE Lord is king; let the earth rejoice—let the multitude of isles be glad. [2] A cloud and darkness are around Him: justice and judgment are the basis of His throne. [3] Before Him a fire

shall march, and burn up His enemies all around. [4] His lightnings shot a glare through the world: the earth saw and trembled. [5] The mountains melted like wax, at the presence of the Lord—at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth. [6] The heavens declared His saving goodness: and all the peoples saw His glory. [7] Let all the worshippers of graven images, who boast of their idols, be confounded. Worship Him all ye His angels.

[8] Sion heard, and was glad, and the daughters of Judea rejoiced, because of Thy judgments, O Lord. [9] For Thou art the Lord Most High, over all the earth; Thou art far exalted above all the gods.

[10] Hate iniquity, ye who love the Lord: the Lord preserveth the lives of His saints. Out of the hand of sinners He will save them. [11] A light is sprung up for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart. [12] Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous, and give thanks at the mention of His holiness.

* XCVIII *

A Psalm by David

O SING to the Lord, a new song, that the Lord hath done wonderful things. His own right hand and His holy arm hath saved Him. [2] The Lord hath made known His salvation: He hath displayed His forgiving mercy before the nations. [3] He remembered His mercy for Jacob—and His truth to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. [4] Raise a shout of triumph to God, all ye of the earth! Sing and exult and sing in harmonious strains. [5] Sing to the Lord with a kithara—with a kithara and a tuneful psalm. [6] With spiral trumpets and the sounding cornet, raise a shout of triumph for the Lord, before the king. [7] Let the sea roar and the fullness thereof—the world and they who dwell therein. [8] Let the rivers unite in applauses; let the mountains exult with joy; [9] that He is come to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the several tribes with equity.

* XCIX *

A Psalm by David

THE Lord hath commenced His reign: let peoples rage. He is enthroned on the cherubim; let the earth be shaken. [2] The Lord is great in Sion and high over all the tribes. [3] Let them praise Thy great name, for it is awful and holy. [4] As the honour of a king loveth judgment; Thou hast provided rules of rectitude; and executed judgment and justice in Israel. [5] Extol the Lord our God; and bow at His footstool; for He is holy. [6] Moses and Aaron among His priests; and Samuel among them, who invoke His name; called on the Lord, and He hearkened to them. [7] To them He spoke in a pillar of cloud. They kept His testimonies and the statutes which He gave them. [8] O Lord, our God, Thou didst hearken to them—To them Thou wast a God propitious; though executing vengeance on all the people's devices. [9] Extol the Lord our God and worship on His Holy hill: for the Lord our God is holy.

* C *

A Psalm of praise

SHOUT triumphantly for the Lord, all ye of the land. [2] Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before Him with the shout of joy. [3] Know that the Lord is very God: He made us and not we ourselves: we are His people and the sheep of His pasture. [4] O enter His gates with thanksgiving—His courts with songs of praise: give thanks to Him and praise His name: [5] for the Lord is good; His mercy endureth forever—and His truth to all generations.

* CI *

A Psalm by David

I WILL sing of mercy and judgment: to Thee, O Lord, I will tune my lyre. [2] I will conduct myself wisely in a perfect way; O when wilt Thou come to me? I have walked in the integrity of

my heart in the midst of my household. [3] I have not set any wicked thing before mine eyes: them who commit transgressions I detested. [4] A perverse heart hath not cleaved to me. When the wicked withdrew from me; I no more acknowledged him. [5] Him, who privily slandered his neighbour, I expelled. With one of a haughty eye and unsatiable heart I would not eat. [6] Mine eyes have been on the faithful of the land; that they might dwell with me. He who walked in a perfect way, hath been employed in my service. [7] He who practised haughtiness found no abode in my family. He who spoke unjustly was not right in mine eyes. [8] I took the earliest occasion to destroy all the sinners of the land—to root out of the city of the Lord all the workers of iniquity.

* CII *

A Prayer for the afflicted when he is oppressed with grief, and would pour out his supplication before the Lord

HEARKEN, O Lord! to my prayer; and let my cry come to Thee. [2] Turn not away Thy face from me: on the day of my distress incline Thine ear to me: on the day I call on Thee, answer me speedily. [3] For my days have vanished like smoke: and my bones are parched like dry wood. I am cut down like grass: [4] my heart is withered: because I have forgotten to eat my bread. [5] By reason of the voice of my groaning my bones have cleaved to my flesh. [6] I am become like a pelican of the desert: [7] I am like a night-hawk on a ruined building. I have passed sleepless nights; and been like a solitary bird on a house top. [8] All the day mine enemies reproached me: and they who praise me swore against me. [9] Because I have eaten ashes as bread and have mingled my drink with tears, [10] on account of Thine indignation and wrath: (for having lifted me up Thou hast dashed me down). [11] My days have flitted away like a shadow; and I am withered like mown grass. [12] But Thou, O Lord, endurest forever; and the memorial of Thee to all generations. [13] Thou wilt arise and have mercy on Sion: for the time to favour her—the set time is come. [14] Because Thy servants had an affection for the stones thereof; therefore they will commiserate her rubbish. [15] And the nations shall fear Thy name, O Lord; and all the kings of the earth, Thy glory. [16] For the Lord will rebuild Sion and appear in His glory. [17] He hath regarded the prayer of the lowly, and

hath not despised their supplication. [18] Let her be enrolled for the generation to come: and the people to be born will praise the Lord: [19] because He hath looked out from the height of His sanctuary. Out of heaven the Lord looked down on the earth; [20] to hear the groaning of the prisoners; to set free the sons of them who were slain; [21] to proclaim the name of the Lord in Sion; and His praise in Jerusalem. [22] When tribes were assembled together; and kings, to serve the Lord; [23] He addressed him in the way of His strength—*Shew me the fewness of my days; [24] call me not away in the midst of them; Thy years are throughout all generations. [25] Thou Lord, in the beginning didst lay the foundations of the earth; and the heavens are the work of Thy hands. [26] They shall perish; but Thou wilt endure: they shall all wax old like a garment; and like a mantle Thou wilt fold them up and they shall be changed: [27] but as for Thee, thou art the same; and Thy years shall have no end. [28] Let the children of Thy servants pitch their tents and their seed be established forever.*

* CIII *

By David

BLESS the Lord, O my soul; and all within me, His holy name. [2] Bless the Lord, O my soul; and forget not all the praises of Him; [3] Who pardoneth all thine iniquities; Who healeth all thy diseases; [4] Who redeemeth thy life from destruction: Who crowneth thee with mercy and kindness; [5] Who satisfieth thy desire with good things that thy youth may be renewed like an eagle's. [6] It is the Lord, Who exerciseth mercy and judgment for all who were oppressed. [7] He made known His ways to Moses—His pleasure to the children of Israel. [8] He is the Lord gracious and merciful; slow to anger and abundant in kindness; [9] He will not be angry to utter ruin, nor continue His wrath forever. [10] He hath not dealt with us according to our sins; nor retributed to us according to our iniquities. [11] For high as the heaven is from the earth; the Lord hath enlarged His mercy for them who fear Him. [12] Far as the east is distant from the west, He hath removed from us our transgressions. [13] As a father pitieth his children; the Lord hath pitied them who fear Him, [14] because He knew our formation. O remember that we are

dust. [15] As for man, his days are like grass; like a flower of the field, so he may bloom. [16] Because a blast of wind passed over it, it is gone. It shall no more know its place. [17] But the mercy of the Lord is from age to age over them who fear Him: and his saving goodness over children's children, [18] for them who keep His covenant, and remember His commands to do them. [19] The Lord hath established His throne in heaven, and His dominion is exercised over all. [20] Bless the Lord, all ye His angels—ye mighty powers, who execute His word, on hearing the voice of His commands. [21] Bless the Lord, all ye His armies—ye ministers of His, who perform His will. [22] Bless the Lord all ye His works, in every place of His dominion. O my soul, bless thou the Lord.

* CIV *

By David

BLESS the Lord O my soul. O Lord my God, Thou art very great. Thou hast robed Thyself with honour and majesty; [2] clothing Thyself with light as with a mantle; stretching out the heaven as a tent. [3] Thou art He Who covereth His chambers with waters who maketh clouds His chariot—Who walketh on the wings of winds— [4] Who maketh winds His messengers, and flaming fire His ministers— [5] Who founded the earth on its firm basis, that it may not be moved forever. [6] Is the abyss like a garment to be its covering—are waters to stand above the mountains? [7] At Thy rebuke they shall flee—at the peal of Thy thunder they will tremble. [8] They ascend mountains, they go down valleys; to the place which Thou hast founded for them. [9] Thou has set a bound which they shall not pass; nor shall they return to cover the earth.

[10] Thou art He Who sendeth forth springs in valleys. Waters shall flow down between the mountains; [11] and give drink to all the beasts of the field. Wild asses will expect them to quench their thirst. [12] By them the birds of the air will abide: from among the rocks they will utter a sound. [13] Thou art He Who watereth mountains from His chambers. With the fruit of Thy works the earth will be satisfied. [14] Thou art He Who causeth grass to grow for cattle; even verdant grass for the service of man. That he may bring food out of the earth: [15] wine cheereth the

heart of man: that he might exhilarate his countenance with oil; the heart of man is strengthened with bread. [16] The trees of the plain shall be fully satisfied—the cedars of Lebanon, which he hath planted. [17] There the birds will build their nests. The family of the stork account them their own. [18] The lofty mountains are for the hinds: a rock is the refuge of the rabbit. [19] He hath appointed the moon for seasons: the sun knoweth his time for going down. [20] Thou hast stationed darkness and there was night: in it all the beasts of the forest will come forth— [21] Lions roaring for prey, seeking their food from God. [22] When the sun is risen, they will assemble and lay themselves down in their dens; [23] Man will go forth to his labour and continue at it till evening.

[24] How manifold are Thy works, O Lord, with wisdom Thou hast done them all. The earth is filled with Thy creatures; [25] So is the great and spacious sea: in this are moving things innumerable—living creatures small and great. [26] There ships sail: there is that dragon, which Thou hast formed to sport therein. [27] All wait on Thee to give them food in due season. [28] When Thou givest them, they gather; by opening Thy hand all are bountifully supplied. [29] But when Thou deniest, they are troubled. Withdraw their breath, they die and return to their dust: [30] send forth Thy breath and they are created: Thou indeed canst renew the face of the earth. [31] Let the glory of the Lord endure forever; let the Lord rejoice over His works. [32] When He looketh at the earth, He causeth it to tremble; when He toucheth the mountains, they smoke.

[33] I will sing to the Lord as long as I live, I will praise my God while I have a being. [34] Let my meditation be acceptable to Him, and I will rejoice in the Lord. [35] Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and the wicked so as to be no more; O my soul, bless Thou the Lord.

* CV *

An Alleluia, or antiphonal Song of Praise to the Lord

O GIVE thanks to the Lord and invoke His name: proclaim His works among the nations. [2] Sing to Him and sing with instrumental music; relate all His wonderful works. [3] Sing praises to His holy name. Let the heart of them, who seek the

Lord, be glad. [4] Seek the Lord and be confirmed in strength; seek His face continually. [5] Remember His wonders which He hath done; His miracles and the judgments of His mouth. [6] O ye seed of Abraham, His servants—ye children of Jacob, His chosen ones; [7] He is the Lord, our God, in all this land are His judgments. [8] He remembered forever His covenant—a word which He gave in charge for a thousand generations: [9] the covenant which He made with Abraham, and that oath of His to Isaak, [10] which He confirmed to Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant— [11] saying, To thee I will give the land of Chanaan to be the lot of your inheritance. [12] When they were few in number—of little account and sojourners therein; [13] when they passed through from nation to nation—from one kingdom to another people; [14] He suffered no man to injure them—He reprov'd kings for their sake, [15] “touch not Mine anointed ones, and to My prophets do no harm.” [16] When He called for a famine on the land—broke all the stay of bread, [17] He had sent before them a man, Joseph was sold for a servant. [18] They had humbled his feet with fetters, his life was spent in irons; [19] until his word came to pass—till the oracle of the Lord tried him. [20] The king had sent and loosed him—the chief of peoples had set him at liberty— [21] had appointed him lord of his house, and ruler of all his possessions; [22] that he like himself might instruct princes, and teach his senators wisdom: [23] then Israel went down to Egypt, and Jacob sojourn'd in the land of Cham. [24] When He had increased His people to a great degree, and made them stronger than their enemies; [25] and had turned their hearts to hate His people, to deal deceitfully with His servants; [26] He sent forth Moses His servant—Aaron whom he had chosen: [27] to them He committed the words of His signs—of His wonders in the land of Cham. [28] He sent forth darkness and it was dark. When they made His words bitter, [29] He turned their waters into blood, and made a slaughter of their fishes; [30] their land swarmed with frogs, in the inmost chambers of their kings. [31] He spake and the dogfly came, and stinging gnats in all their borders; [32] He made His showers, hail, flaming fire in all their land; [33] He smote their vines and their fig trees, and broke every tree of their border. [34] He spake, and the grasshopper came, and the brouchus locust in swarms innumerable, [35] and devoured every herb in their country, and ate up the fruit of their land. [36] Then He smote every first-born of their land—the first fruits of all their labour; [37] and brought out His people with

silver and gold, and there was not a feeble person among their tribes. [38] Egypt rejoiced at their going out, for the dread of these had fallen on them. [39] He spread out a cloud to shelter them, and a fire to illuminate the night for them. [40] They asked, and flocks of quails came; and he satisfied them with the bread of heaven. [41] He split a rock and waters gushed out, and rivers ran in dry places. [42] Because he remembered His holy promise—that which he made to Abraham His servant; [43] therefore he brought out His people with joy—even His chosen ones with gladness; [44] and gave them the countries of nations, and they inherited the labours of peoples; [45] that they might keep His rules of rectitude, and that they might diligently seek His law.

* C V I *

An Alleluia

O GIVE thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for to everlasting His mercy endureth. [2] Who can express the mighty acts of the Lord? Who can publish all his praises? [3] Happy they, who keep judgment, and who do justice at all times. [4] Remember us, O Lord, affectionately as Thy people, visit us with Thy salvation; [5] that we may see it in the felicity of Thy chosen—that we may be gladdened with the joy of Thy nation—that we may sing praises with Thy heritage. [6] We with our fathers have sinned; we have committed iniquity; we have done wickedly. [7] Our fathers minded not Thy wonders in Egypt, they did not remember the multitude of Thy mercies. Though in coming up they were refractory at the Red sea, [8] yet He saved them for His name's sake, that He might make known His mighty power. [9] He rebuked the Red sea and it was dried up; and He led them through the deep as through a wilderness; [10] and saved them from the hand of those who hated them, and delivered them out of an enemy's hand. [11] The water covered those who afflicted them, not an individual of them was left. [12] Though they believed His words, though they sang His praise; [13] they soon forgot His works, they waited not for His counsel. [14] They indulged a longing desire in the desert, and tried God in a place without water. [15] Though He granted them their request, and sent satiety to their soul; [16] yet they provoked Moses in the camp and Aaron the consecrated of the Lord. [17] The earth opened and swal-

lowed up Dathan, and covered the company of Abeiron; [18] and a fire was kindled in their assembly, and a flame burned up the wicked. [19] Even at Choreb they made a calf, and worshipped the graven image; [20] and exchanged their glory for the image of an ox which eateth grass. [21] They forgot God their saviour, Who had done great things in Egypt— [22] wonderful things in the land of Cham, and terrible things at the Red sea: [23] whereupon He spake of destroying them, had not His chosen Moses stood before Him in the breach, to turn Him from His fierce indignation, that He might not utterly destroy.

[24] When they despised the pleasant land and did not confide in His word: [25] but murmured in their tents; and hearkened not to the voice of the Lord: [26] He lifted up His hand against them; to overthrow them in the desert; [27] and cast back their seed among the nations; and disperse them in the countries. [28] When they consecrated themselves to Belphegor; and ate the sacrifices offered to dead men; [29] and provoked Him with their devices; and the plague was raging among them: [30] Phineas stood up and made atonement; and the plague was stayed: [31] and it was counted to him for righteousness to all generations forever. [32] When they provoked him at the water of strife it went ill with Moses on their account. [33] For they provoked his spirit and he spake unadvisedly with his lips. [34] They did not root out the nations which the Lord had mentioned to him: [35] but mingled with those nations; and learned their works. [36] And served their graven images which became to them a stumbling block. [37] They actually sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons: [38] and shed innocent blood—the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the graven idols of Chanaan. And the land was polluted with blood and [39] defiled by their works: and they went a-whoring with their devices. [40] Therefore the Lord was incensed against His people, and abhorred His inheritance. [41] And He delivered them into the hands of enemies; and they who hated them ruled over them. [42] When their enemies afflicted them; and they were humbled under their hands: [43] many a time did He deliver them. But they provoked Him with their counsel. When they were humbled for their iniquities; [44] the Lord beheld when they were afflicted. When He heard their supplication, [45] He remembered His covenant and according to the multitude of His mercies; [46] He relented and excited compassion for them among all those who had captivated them. [47] Save us, O Lord, our God; and gather us from among

the nations; that we may give thanks to Thy holy name—that we may triumph in Thy praise. [48] Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting: and let all the people say, Amen, Amen.

* CVII *

An Alleluia

O GIVE thanks to the Lord, for He is good: for to everlasting His mercy endureth. [2] Let this be said by them whom the Lord hath redeemed—whom he hath redeemed from an enemy's hand — [3] whom he hath gathered out of the countries; from the east and west and north and south. [4] They had wandered in the desert in a land without water; they found no way to a city of habitation. [5] They were hungry and thirsty. Their soul within them fainted: [6] then they cried to the Lord in their affliction; and He delivered them from their distresses: [7] and conducted them to a straight road; that they might go to a city of habitation.

[8] O let them praise the Lord for His mercies; and for His wonderful dealings with the sons of men: [9] because He hath satisfied the longing soul; and filled the hungry with good things.

[10] As for them who sat in darkness and the shadow of death; bound with affliction and irons; [11] because they rebelled against the oracles of God; and contemned the counsel of the Most High: [12] when their heart was brought low by troubles—when they were weak and there was no helper: [13] then they cried to the Lord in their affliction; and He saved them from their distresses; [14] and brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death; and burst their chains asunder.

[15] O let them praise the Lord for His mercies, and for His wonderful dealings with the sons of men; [16] for He hath dashed to shivers the gates of brass, and broken asunder the bars of iron.

[17] He helped them out of the way of their transgression: for on account of their iniquities they were brought low. [18] Their soul abhorred all manner of food, and they drew near to the gates of death. [19] Then they cried to the Lord in their affliction, and He saved them from their distresses. [20] He sent forth His word and healed them; and delivered them from their destructions.

[21] O let them praise the Lord for His mercies, and for His wonderful dealings with the sons of men; [22] and let them offer Him a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and publish His works with joy.

[23] As for them who go to sea in ships, and traffic on the mighty waters— [24] they see the works of the Lord, and His wonders in the deep. [25] He spake, and up rose a tempestuous wind: and its waves are lifted high; [26] they mount up to the heavens: then down they descend into the depths; with perils, their souls are melted;— [27] they reel and stagger like one drunk, and all their skill is swallowed up. [28] Then they cried to the Lord in their affliction, and He brought them out of their distresses. [29] He rebuked the tempest, and it stopt in a still calm; and its waves were lulled to silence. [30] And they were glad, because they were at rest. And He conducted them to their desired port. [31] O let them praise the Lord for His mercies, and for His wonderful dealings with the sons of men. [32] Let them extol Him in the congregation of the people: and praise Him in the assembly of Elders.

[33] He hath turned rivers into a wilderness: and outlets of water into a thirsty land— [34] a fruitful country into barrenness: for the wickedness of them who dwell therein. [35] He hath turned a desert into pools of water, and a thirsty soil into water springs: [36] and caused the hungry to dwell there. And they have erected abiding cities: [37] and have sown fields and planted vineyards, which have yielded them the fruits of increase. [38] And He hath blessed them and they have multiplied greatly, and their cattle have not decreased. [39] Again they have been diminished, and brought low by oppressions, afflictions, and sorrow. [40] Contempt hath been poured on their princes: and He hath caused them to wander in a trackless desert. [41] Then out of affliction He hath helped the needy, and hath made families like a flock.

[42] Let the righteous see and rejoice, and let all iniquity stop its mouth. [43] Whosoever is wise and will observe these things, he will understand the mercies of the Lord.

* CVIII *

A Psalmic Ode, by David

MY heart is prepared, O God, my heart is prepared; I will sing and play on what is my glory. [2] Awake psaltery and kithara, I myself will awake early. [3] I will give thanks to Thee, O Lord, among peoples—among nations I will resound Thy praise; [4] for Thy mercy is great above the heavens, and Thy truth reacheth

to the clouds. [5] Be thou, O God, exalted above the heavens; and over all the earth Thy glory.

[6] That Thy beloved may be delivered, save with Thy right hand and answer me. [7] God hath spoken in His sanctuary, I shall be exalted, and divide Sikima, and measure out the valley of tents. [8] Galaad is mine and mine is Manasses; and Ephraim is the support of my head: Juda is my king. [9] Moab, the cauldron of my hope. Over Idumea I shall extend my march: to me the Philistines are subjected. [10] Who will conduct me to the strong city—who will guide me to Idumea? [11] Wilt not Thou, O God, Who didst cast us off—Wilt not Thou, O God, go out with our armies? [12] Grant us help because of affliction; safety from man is indeed vain. [13] Through God we can exert power: He can make our enemies contemptible.

* CIX *

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David

O GOD, pass not by my praise in silence: [2] for against me the mouth of a sinner; and the mouth of the deceitful is opened. They have spoken against me with a deceitful tongue.— [3] With words of hatred they encompassed me about; and fought against me without provocation. [4] They traduced me for my love; but I prayed, [5] when they were rendering me evil for good, and hatred for my love. [6] “Set a sinner over him; and let an accuser stand at his right hand. [7] When he is judged let him be condemned; and let his supplication be deemed an offence. [8] Let his days be few; and let another take his office. [9] Let his children be fatherless and his wife a widow. [10] Let his sons be vagabonds and beg: let them be cast out from their dwellings. [11] Let an extortioner seize all that he hath; and strangers make spoil of his labours. [12] Let there be none to help him; nor any to compassionate his orphan children. [13] Let his children be for destruction—In one generation let his name be blotted out. [14] Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered before the Lord; and let not the sin of his mother be blotted out. [15] Let them be continually before the Lord. And let the memory of them be cut off from the earth: [16] because he did not remember to shew mercy; but persecuted a man needy and afflicted: to put to death

one who was brokenhearted. [17] As he loved cursing, let it come on him: as he delighted not in blessing let it be far from him. [18] As he clothed himself with cursing as with a mantle; and it came like water in his bowels; and like oil into his bones: [19] let it be to him as the mantle which covereth him: and as the girdle with which he is continually girded.”

[20] From the Lord is this work of them who traduce me: and of them who speak evil against my soul. [21] Do Thou, O Lord God, deal with me for Thy name's sake: for Thy mercy is good. [22] Deliver me, for I am afflicted and needy; and my heart is troubled within me. [23] Like a declining shadow I have glided away;—I have been shaken off like locusts. [24] My knees are weakened by fasting; and my flesh is changed for want of oil. [25] As for me, I became their scoff; they beheld me—they shook their heads. [26] Help me, O Lord, my God: and save me according to Thy mercy. [27] Let them know that this is Thy hand; and that Thou; O Lord hast done this. [28] Let them curse, Thou indeed wilt bless. Let them who rise up against me be put to shame: but let Thy servant be made glad. [29] Let them who traduce me, be clothed with shame: let them be covered with their shame as with a mantle. [30] With my mouth I will greatly thank the Lord; and praise Him in the midst of many: [31] because He stood at the right of the needy: to save from them who seek my life.

* CX *

A Psalm. By David

THE Lord said to my lord; sit at My right hand; till I make thine enemies thy footstool. [2] Out of Sion the Lord will send thee a rod of power: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies. [3] With thee shall be the government; in the day of thy power—in the splendours of thy holies from the womb: before the morning star I begot thee. [4] The Lord hath sworn and will not change: thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchisedek. [5] The Lord at thy right hand hath crushed kings in the day of His wrath. [6] He will judge among the nations: He will multiply slaughters: He will crush the heads of many on the earth. [7] He will drink of the brook in the way: therefore He will lift up the head.

* CXI *

An Alleluia

I WILL praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; in the counsel of the upright and the congregation. [2] The works of the Lord are great; exquisitely contrived for all His purposes. [3] Thanksgiving and majesty, His work and His righteousness shall endure forever. [4] He hath made a memorial of His wonders: merciful and gracious is the Lord. [5] He hath given food to them that fear Him: He will remember His covenant forever. [6] He hath shewn His people the power of His works; by giving them possession of nations. [7] The works of His hands are truth and judgment: all His commandments are faithful. [8] They are firmly established forever: they are done with truth and uprightness. [9] He hath sent redemption for His people; He hath enjoined His covenant forever: holy and awful is His name. [10] The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; and all who practise it have good understanding. Let the praise of Him endure forever.

* CXII *

An Alleluia

HAPPY the man who feareth the Lord! in His commandments he will greatly delight. [2] His seed shall be mighty in the land: the generation of the upright shall be blessed. [3] Glory and riches are in his house; and his righteousness shall endure forever. [4] To the upright light sprang up in darkness. He is merciful, compassionate and just; [5] a beneficent man who commiserateth and lendeth. He will manage his affairs with judgment; [6] because he is never to be shaken; the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance: [7] at bad news he will not be terrified: [8] his heart is prepared to trust in the Lord. His heart is established, he could not be terrified; even when he beheld his enemies. [9] He hath dispersed, he hath given to the needy; his righteousness shall endure forever. His horn shall be gloriously exalted: [10] the wicked shall see and be enraged. Let him gnash his teeth and pine away; the desire of the wicked shall perish.

* CXIII *

An Alleluia

O PRAISE the Lord, ye His servants! praise the name of the Lord. [2] Let the name of the Lord be blessed; henceforth and forever. [3] From the rising of the sun to its going down; let the name of the Lord be praised. [4] The Lord is high over all the nations: His glory is above the heavens. [5] Who is like the Lord our God who dwelleth on high, [6] and superintendeth the things below Him in heaven and on the earth? [7] Who raiseth the distressed from the ground, and lifteth the needy from a dunghill: [8] to seat him with princes; with the chiefs of his people. [9] Who setteth the barren woman in a family making her a joyful mother of children.

* CXIV *

An Alleluia

AT the departure of Israel from Egypt; of the house of Jacob from a barbarous people; [2] Judea became his sanctuary; Israel his dominion. [3] The sea saw and fled: Jordan was turned back. [4] The mountains skipped like rams: the hills, like lambs of the flock. [5] What ailed thee, sea, that thou fleddest? And thee, Jordan, that thou turnedst back? [6] You, mountains, that you skipped like rams? And you, hills, like lambs of the flock? [7] The earth was moved at the presence of the Lord; at the presence of the God of Jacob: [8] who turned the rocks into pools of water: and into fountains of water, the flinty rock.

* CXV *

NOT unto us, O Lord; not unto us. But to Thy name only give the glory: for Thy mercy and for Thy truth. [2] Perhaps the nations may say, Where is their God? [3] Our God is in heaven and on earth: all that He willed, He hath done.

[4] The idols of the nations are silver and gold; the workmanship of men's hands. [5] They have a mouth but cannot speak:

though they have eyes, they cannot see. [6] Ears they have, but they cannot hear: having nostrils they cannot smell. [7] They have hands but they cannot feel: They have feet, but they cannot walk: nor can they utter a sound with their throat.

[8] Let them who make them be like them; and all who have trusted in them. [9] The house of Israel have trusted in the Lord: He is their helper and protector. [10] The house of Aaron have trusted in the Lord; He is their helper and protector. [11] They who fear the Lord have trusted in Him: He is their helper and protector.

[12] The Lord hath remembered us and blessed us: He hath blessed the house of Israel: He hath blessed the house of Aaron: [13] He hath blessed them, who fear the Lord, both small and great. [14] May the Lord add to you more and more—to you and to your children. [15] May you be blessed by the Lord: who made the heaven and the earth.

[16] To the Lord belongeth the heaven of heavens: and He hath given the earth to the sons of men. [17] The dead cannot praise thee, O Lord; nor any who go down to the mansion of the dead: [18] but we who are alive will bless the Lord; from this time forth and forever.

* CXVI *

An Alleluia

I AM full of love, because the Lord will hear the voice of my supplication. [2] Because to me He inclined His ear: therefore in my days I will invoke Him. [3] The pangs of death encompassed me; the perils of Hades found me: I met with distress and sorrow: [4] thereupon I invoked the name of the Lord; O Lord deliver my soul. [5] The Lord is gracious and righteous; merciful indeed is our God. [6] The Lord preserveth the sincere: I was brought low but He saved me. [7] Return, O my soul, to thy rest: for the Lord hath dealt kindly with thee. [8] Because He hath delivered my soul from death; mine eyes from tears and my feet from falling: [9] I will worship before the Lord in the land of the living. Alleluia!

[11] I believed therefore I spake; for I was brought very low: [12] and in my perturbation I said, Every man is a liar. What shall I render to the Lord; for all that He hath done for me? [13] I will

take the cup of thanksgiving; and invoke the name of the Lord. [14] I will pay my vows to the Lord; in the presence of all His people. [15] At a high rate; in the sight of the Lord; is estimated the death of His saints. [16] O Lord I am Thy servant—I am Thy servant and the son of Thy handmaid. Thou hast burst my bonds asunder: [17] to thee I will offer a sacrifice of praise and call on the name of the Lord. [18] I will pay my vows to the Lord; in the presence of all his people— [19] in the courts of the house of the Lord—in the midst of thee, Jerusalem.

* CXVII *

An Alleluia

O PRAISE the Lord, all ye nations!
Praise Him all ye peoples!

[2] For His kindness is exerted for us,
And the truth of the Lord will endure forever.

* CXVIII *

An Alleluia

O GIVE thanks to the Lord, for He is good: for to everlasting His mercy endureth. [2] O! let the house of Israel say, For He is good. For to everlasting His mercy endureth. [3] O! let the house of Aaron say, For He is good. For to everlasting His mercy endureth. [4] Let all who fear the Lord say, For He is good. For to everlasting His mercy endureth. [5] Because of affliction I called on the Lord, and He heard me for enlargement. [6] Having the Lord for my helper, I will not fear what man can do to me. [7] Having the Lord for my helper, I shall look down on mine enemies. [8] It is better to confide in the Lord than to confide in man; [9] it is better to trust the Lord than put confidence in princes. [10] All the nations compassed me about: but by the name of the Lord I was avenged of them. [11] Compassing me about they beset me, but by the name of the Lord I was avenged of them. [12] They encompassed me as bees do a honeycomb: and blazed furiously like fire among thorns;—but by the name of the Lord I was avenged of them. [13] Being hard-pressed, I was

on the point of falling: but the Lord Himself supported me. [14] The Lord is my strength and my song of praise—He indeed was my salvation.— [15] A sound of joy and deliverance in the tents of the righteous! The right hand of the Lord hath exerted power! [16] The right hand of the Lord hath exalted me; the right hand of the Lord hath exerted power. [17] I shall not die: but live and proclaim the works of the Lord. [18] With correction, the Lord corrected me: but did not deliver me up to death. [19] Open for me the gates of righteousness, and I will go in at them and give thanks to the Lord. [20] This is the gate of the Lord, at it the righteous are to enter. [21] I will praise thee because thou didst hear me, and hast been unto me salvation. [22] The stone which the builders rejected, the same has become the head of the corner. [23] This [salvation] was from the Lord, and it is wonderful in our eyes. [24] This is the day which the Lord made: on it let us rejoice and be glad. [25] O Lord save, I beseech Thee: O Lord, I beseech Thee, prosper. [26] Blessed be he who is coming in the name of the Lord; we have blessed you of the house of the Lord. [27] God is Lord, and He hath shined upon us. Solemnise a festival with thick boughs, even to the horns of the altar. [28] Thou art my God and I will praise Thee; Thou art my God and I will exalt Thee: I will praise Thee, because Thou hast heard me; and hast been unto me salvation. [29] O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for to everlasting His mercy endureth.

* C X I X *

An Alleluia

ALEPH (*)

HAPPY the undefiled in the way! who walk in the law of the Lord. [2] Happy they who search His testimonies, and seek Him with their whole heart: [3] for they are not workers of iniquity—they have walked in His ways. [4] Thou hast enjoined the strict observance of Thy precepts. [5] O that my ways may be directed, that I may keep Thy rules of rectitude. [6] Then I cannot be put to shame, when I have respect to all Thy commandments. [7] I will praise Thee with uprightness of heart, when I have learned

(*) The names of the Hebrew letters in the present text of this psalm signify only the Hebrew system of numbering; *Aleph* referring to section one of the psalm, *Beth* to section two, and so on. They are retained here for ready reference.

Thy righteous judgments. [8] I will keep Thy judgments, O forsake me not utterly.

BETH

[9] By what can a youth make his way prosperous? By keeping Thy words. [10] I have sought Thee with my whole heart; let me not be driven from Thy commandments. [11] I have hid Thine oracles in my heart, that I may not sin against Thee. [12] O Lord, Thou art blessed, teach me Thy rules of rectitude. [13] With my lips I have declared all the judgments of Thy mouth. [14] I have been delighted with the way of Thy testimonies, as for all manner of riches. [15] I will talk continually of Thy commandments, and be attentive to Thy ways. [16] I will meditate on Thy judgments and not forget Thy words.

GIMEL

[17] Make retribution to Thy servant; that I may live and keep Thy words. [18] Open mine eyes, that I may discern the wonderful things of Thy law. [19] I am a sojourner in this land, hide not Thy commandments from me. [20] My soul is engaged in a continual longing for Thy judgments. [21] Thou hast rebuked the haughty; cursed are they who turn aside from Thy commands. [22] Remove from me reproach and contempt, since I have earnestly sought Thy testimonies. [23] For chiefs sat and spoke against me, but Thy servant meditated on Thy statutes; [24] for Thy testimonies are my study, Thy statutes, my counsellors.

DALETH

[25] My soul cleaveth to the ground; keep me alive according to Thy word. [26] I have declared Thy ways and Thou hast heard me; teach me Thy rules of rectitude. [27] Instruct me in the way of Thy statutes, and I will meditate on Thy wonders; [28] my soul drooped with heaviness; strengthen me with Thy words. [29] Remove from me the way of injustice, and graciously favour me with Thy law. [30] I have chosen the way of truth, and have not forgotten Thy judgments; [31] I have cleaved, O Lord, to Thy testimonies; O let me not be put to shame. [32] I ran in the way of Thy commandments, when Thou didst enlarge my heart.

HE

[33] Teach me, O Lord, the way of Thy statutes, and in every occurrence I will seek it. [34] Give me understanding that I may

search Thy law, and keep it with my whole heart. [35] Lead me in the path of Thy commandments; for I have delighted therein. [36] Incline my heart to Thy testimonies and not to covetousness. [37] Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity—keep me alive in Thy way. [38] Confirm thine oracle to Thy servant that Thou mayst be feared. [39] Take away my reproach which I dreaded, because Thy judgments are good. [40] Behold I have longed for Thy precepts; quicken me by Thy saving goodness.

VAU

[41] O Lord, let Thy mercy come upon me—Thy salvation according to Thy word; [42] and to them who reproach me I will make answer, that I have trusted in Thy words. [43] And take not the word of truth entirely from my mouth, for I have trusted in Thy judgments; [44] and I will keep Thy law continually forever and ever. [45] I indeed have walked in a roomy place, because I diligently sought Thy precepts; [46] and I have spoken of Thy testimonies before kings, and was not ashamed: [47] and have meditated on Thy commandments, in which I took great delight; [48] and have held up my hands for Thy precepts which I loved, and meditated on Thy rules of rectitude.

ZAIN

[49] Remember Thy words to Thy servant, for which Thou hast caused me to hope; [50] this hath comforted me in mine affliction, for Thine oracle kept me alive. [51] The haughty transgressed to a great degree, but from Thy law I turned not aside. [52] O Lord, I remembered Thy judgments of old and was comforted. [53] Horror seized me on the account of sinners—of them who utterly forsake Thy law. [54] Thy statutes were the subject of my songs, in the place of my pilgrimage. [55] I remembered Thy name, O Lord, in the night, and have kept Thy law. [56] This was my condition, because I diligently sought Thy statutes.

CHETH

[57] Thou, O Lord, art my portion; I have determined to keep Thy law. [58] With my whole heart I have entreated Thy favour, be gracious to me according to Thy word. [59] I revolved Thy ways in my mind, and turned my feet to Thy testimonies. [60] I prepared myself and was not troubled, to keep Thy commandments. [61] The cords of sinners entangled me; but I did not

forget Thy law. [62] At midnight I arose to give Thee thanks; because of Thy righteous judgments. [63] I am a companion of all them who fear Thee; and of them who keep Thy commandments. [64] O Lord the earth is full of Thy mercy, teach me Thy statutes.

TETH

[65] O Lord, Thou hast dealt kindly with Thy servant; according to Thy word. [66] Teach me kindness and discipline and knowledge; [67] because I have believed Thy commandments. Before I was afflicted, I transgressed; for this cause I have kept Thy word. [68] Thou, O Lord, art good; in Thy goodness teach me Thy statutes. [69] The iniquity of the proud was multiplied against me: but I, with my whole heart, will search Thy precepts. [70] Their heart was curdled like milk: but I meditated on Thy law. [71] It is good for me that Thou hast humbled me: that I might learn Thy rules of rectitude. [72] The law of Thy mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver.

JOD

[73] Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: instruct me that I may learn Thy commandments. [74] They who fear Thee will be glad when they see me; because I have trusted in Thy words. [75] I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are just: and that Thou with truth hast humbled me. [76] O! let Thy mercy be my comfort, according to Thy word to Thy servant. [77] Let Thy tender mercies come to me that I may live; for Thy law is my delight. [78] Let the proud be ashamed, because they have unjustly injured me. [79] But let me meditate on Thy precepts. Let them who fear Thee turn to me—and them who know Thy testimonies. [80] Let my heart be sound in Thy statutes, that I may not be shamed.

KAPH

[81] My soul fainteth for Thy salvation; I trusted in Thy words. [82] Mine eyes failed for Thy promise, saying, When wilt Thou comfort me? [83] Though I became like a leathern bag in frost; I did not forget Thy statutes. [84] How many are the days of Thy servant? When wilt Thou avenge me of my persecutors? [85] Transgressors told me idle tales: but Thy law O Lord, taught me otherwise. [86] All Thy commandments are truth. They perse-

cuted me without cause, do thou assist me. [87] They have almost finished me on the earth; but I did not forsake Thy precepts. [88] According to Thy mercy quicken me: that I may keep the testimonies of Thy mouth.

LAMED

[89] O Lord, Thy word will endure in heaven forever—Thy truth to all generations. [90] Thou hast established the earth and it shall continue. [91] By Thy arrangement day shall continue: for all things are in subjection to Thee. [92] Had not Thy law been my study, I should have perished in my affliction. [93] Let me never forget Thy rules of rectitude: for by them Thou hast kept me alive. [94] I am Thine, O save me: for I have diligently sought Thy statutes. [95] Sinners lay in wait for me to destroy me: I understood Thy testimonies. [96] Of all perfection I saw a limit; Thy command is very broad.

MEM

[97] O! how I have loved Thy law, O Lord! It is my meditation all the day. [98] Thou hast given me a knowledge of Thy law above mine enemies; because it is mine forever. [99] I had more understanding than all my teachers: because Thy testimonies are my study. [100] I understood more than elders: because I diligently sought Thy commandments. [101] From every evil way I restrained my feet; that I might keep Thy words. [102] I have not turned aside from Thy judgments: because Thou didst instruct me. [103] How sweet are Thine oracles to my taste! They are sweeter than honey to my mouth. [104] From Thy precepts I got understanding: Therefore I hated every wicked way.

NUN

[105] Thy law is a lamp to my feet; and a light to my paths. [106] I have sworn and determined to keep Thy righteous judgments. [107] I have been exceedingly afflicted: quicken me, O Lord, according to Thy word. [108] Accept, O Lord, I beseech Thee, the freewill offerings of my mouth: and teach me Thy judgments. [109] My life is continually in Thy hands; and I have not forgotten Thy law. [110] The wicked laid a snare for me: but I erred not from Thy precepts. [111] I have taken Thy testimonies for an everlasting inheritance: for they are the joy of my heart. [112] I inclined my heart to perform Thy statutes; for the sake of an everlasting reward.

SAMEKH

[113] I have hated transgressors and loved Thy law. [114] Thou art my helper and my protector: I have hoped for Thy words. [115] Away from me ye evil doers, for I will diligently seek the commandments of my God. [116] Uphold me according to Thy word and keep me alive; and let me not be shamed for mine expectation. [117] Help me and I shall be saved; and I will meditate continually on Thy statutes. [118] Thou hast set at naught all who apostatize from Thy statutes; because their inward thought is wicked. [119] All the sinners of the land I accounted transgressors; therefore I loved Thy testimonies. [120] Penetrate my flesh with the dread of Thee; for I am terrified at Thy judgments.

AIN

[121] I have done what is right and just; O deliver me not up to mine oppressors. [122] Be surety for Thy servant for good—let not the proud oppress me. [123] Mine eyes have failed looking for Thy salvation, and for the promise of Thy saving goodness. [124] Deal with Thy servant according to Thy mercy, and teach me Thy statutes. [125] I am Thy servant, give me understanding, that I may know Thy testimonies. [126] It is time to act for the Lord; they have made void Thy law. [127] For this cause I loved Thy commandments more than gold or the topaz. [128] For this cause I directed my course to all Thy commandments: I hated every evil way.

PE

[129] Thy testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul sought them diligently. [130] The manifestation of Thy words will enlighten, and make the simple wise. [131] I opened my mouth and panted, because I longed for Thy commandments. [132] Look down upon me, and be gracious to me, as Thou art to them who love Thy name. [133] Order my steps according to Thy word, and let no iniquity have dominion over me. [134] Deliver me from the oppression of men, and I will keep Thy precepts. [135] Let Thy countenance shine on Thy servant; and teach me Thy statutes. [136] Mine eyes poured down streams of water, because I did not keep Thy law.

TSADDI

[137] Thou, O Lord, art righteous; and Thy judgments are right. [138] Thou hast strictly enjoined as Thy testimonies, righteousness and truth. [139] My zeal for Thee hath consumed me; because mine enemies forgot Thy words. [140] Thy word is very pure; and Thy servant hath loved it. [141] Young and despised as I am, I have not forgot Thy precepts. [142] Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and Thy law is truth. [143] When affliction and distress found me, Thy commandments were my study; [144] Thy testimonies are everlasting righteousness; give me understanding and I shall live.

KOPH

[145] I have cried with my whole heart, O Lord, hear me; I will diligently seek Thy statutes. [146] I have cried to Thee, O save me; and I will keep Thy testimonies. [147] I awoke before the dawn of the morning, and cried; on Thy words I placed my hope. [148] Mine eyes were awake before the morning dawn, that I might meditate on Thine oracles. [149] Hear my voice, O Lord, according to Thy mercy—according to Thy judgment keep me alive. [150] They, who persecute me unjustly, drew near; but they were far removed from Thy law. [151] Thou, O Lord, art near, and all Thy ways are truth. [152] I knew of old from Thy testimonies, that Thou hast founded them forever.

RESH

[153] Behold my affliction, and deliver me; for I have not forgotten Thy law. [154] Plead my cause and deliver me; on account of Thy word keep me alive. [155] Salvation is far from sinners, because they did not seek Thy statutes. [156] Thy tender mercies, O Lord, are many; quicken me according to Thy judgment. [157] Many are my persecutors and mine enemies; yet from Thy testimonies I have not declined. [158] I beheld transgressors and was grieved; because they did not keep Thy words. [159] Consider, O Lord, that I have loved Thy commandments: in Thy mercy keep me alive. [160] The beginning of Thy words was truth, and all Thy righteous judgments endure forever.

SHIN

[161] Chiefs persecuted me undeservedly: but my heart stood in awe of Thy words. [162] Let me exult with joy for Thine oracles; as one who findeth great spoils. [163] I have hated and

abominated iniquity: but Thy law I have loved. [164] Seven times a day have I praised Thee, for Thy righteous judgments. [165] Great peace have they who love Thy law: and for them there is no stumbling block. [166] I have waited, O Lord, for Thy salvation; and have loved Thy commandments. [167] My soul hath kept Thy testimonies and hath loved them exceedingly. [168] I have kept Thy commandments and Thy testimonies: for all my ways, O Lord, are before Thee.

TAU

[169] O Lord, let my prayer come before Thee: give me understanding according to Thy word. [170] Let my supplication come before Thee, O Lord. According to Thy word deliver me. [171] Let my lips solemnly utter a hymn; when Thou hast taught me Thy statutes. [172] Let my tongue resound Thine oracles; for all Thy commandments are righteous. [173] Let Thy hand be near to save me: because I have chosen Thy statutes. [174] O Lord, I have longed earnestly for Thy salvation: and Thy law is my study. [175] Let my soul live and praise Thee; and Thy judgments be my support. [176] Like a lost sheep I have gone astray: O seek Thy servant; since I have not forgotten Thy commandments.

* C X X *

A Song of Ascent by Steps ()*

IN my distress I cried to the Lord; and He hearkened to me. [2] O Lord, deliver my soul from false lips, and from a deceitful tongue. [3] What should be given Thee? Or what return made Thee for a deceitful tongue? [4] Arrows of the mighty sharpened with devouring coals. [5] Ah woe is me that my sojourn is so long protracted—That I have dwelt with the tents of Kedar— [6] That my soul hath so long dwelt with them, who hate peace. [7] I was for peace; but when I spoke they attacked me without provocation.

* C X X I *

A Song of Ascents

I HAVE lifted up mine eyes to the mountains, from which my help is to come. [2] My help is from the Lord, who made the

* Thomson notes: The ascent to the Temple was by ten steps. On each of these steps stood a choir with their instruments, who sang their several parts as the High Priest went up to the Temple.

heaven and the earth. [3] O let Him not suffer my feet to stumble: nor let Him, who keepeth me, slumber. [4] Lo! He who keepeth Israel, will neither slumber nor sleep. [5] The Lord will keep thee! The Lord at thy right hand will be thy shelter: [6] the sun by day shall not scorch thee; nor shall the moon hurt thee by night. [7] May the Lord preserve thee from all evil! the Lord will keep thy soul. [8] The Lord will guard thy coming in and going out, henceforth and forever.

* CXXII *

A Song of Ascents

I WAS rejoiced when they said to me, Let us go to the house of the Lord. [2] Our feet have been standing in thy courts, O Jerusalem. [3] Jerusalem is built like a city; with regard to which, the participation of it is for this very purpose: [4] for thither the tribes have come up—the tribes of the Lord, a testimony to Israel; that they may give thanks to the name of the Lord: [5] because there the thrones for judgment are set—thrones for the house of David. [6] Pray, I beseech you, for the peace of Jerusalem; and for prosperity to them who love thee. [7] O let there be peace in thine army and prosperity in thy palaces! [8] For the sake of my brethren and neighbours, I have expressed a wish of peace for thee— [9] For the sake of the house of the Lord our God I have earnestly sought thy good.

* CXXIII *

A Song of Ascents

TO Thee Who dwellest in heaven, I have raised mine eyes. [2] Behold! as the eyes of servants are on the hands of their masters—as the eyes of a maid are on the hands of her mistress, so are our eyes on the Lord our God, till He be gracious to us.

[3] Have mercy on us, O Lord; have mercy on us; for we are exceedingly filled with contempt. [4] Our soul is filled exceedingly—we are the scoff of the prosperous and the contempt of the haughty.

* CXXIV *

A Song of Ascents

HAD not the Lord been on our side (let Israel now say) [2] had not the Lord been on our side, when men rose up against us; [3] they might have swallowed us up alive—when their wrath was kindled against us, [4] the water might have overwhelmed us. Our soul hath passed through a torrent. [5] Hath our soul then passed through impetuous water? [6] Blessed be the Lord, Who hath not given us as a prey to their teeth! [7] Our soul hath escaped as a bird from the fowler's snare. The snare was broken and we have escaped. [8] Our help is in the name of the Lord, Who made the heaven and the earth.

* CXXV *

A Song of Ascents

THEY who trust in the Lord shall be like mount Sion; he who inhabiteth Jerusalem shall never be shaken. [2] Around her are mountains; and the Lord is around His people, from this time forth and forever; [3] for the Lord will not suffer the rod of the wicked to be over the inheritance of the righteous; that the righteous may not stretch forth their hands to iniquities. [4] Do good, O Lord, to the good, and to them who are upright in heart. [5] But them who turn aside into crooked ways, the Lord will drive away with the workers of iniquity. Peace be upon Israel!

* CXXVI *

A Song of Ascents

WHEN the Lord brought back the captivity of Sion; we were like them who are comforted. [2] Then was our mouth filled with joy, and our tongue with exultation—then did they say among the nations, "The Lord hath done great things for them." [3] The Lord hath done great things for us; we are transported with rapturous joy. [4] Bring back, O Lord, our captivity, like torrents in

the south. [5] Let them who sow with tears reap with rapture. [6] They went step by step and wept sowing their seed; but let them come tripping with joy, carrying their sheaves.

* CXXVII *

A Song of Ascents

UNLESS the Lord build the house, the builders have laboured in vain. Unless the Lord guard the city, in vain hath the watchman watched— [2] in vain is your early rising.

Ye who eat the bread of care, rise when you have rested—when He hath given His beloved sleep. [3] Behold sons are an heritage of the Lord—a reward of the fruit of the womb. [4] Like shafts in the hands of a mighty man, so are the sons of them who were shaken off. [5] Happy he who shall satisfy his desire with these! They shall not be put to shame, when they speak to their enemies in the gates.

* CXXVIII *

A Song of Ascents

HAPPY are all they who fear the Lord, who walk continually in His ways. [2] Thou shalt eat the labours of thy hands; thou art happy and it shall be well with thee. [3] Thy wife shall be in the sides of thy house, like a fruitful vine; thy children round thy table, like olive plants. [4] Behold thus shall the man be blessed, who habitually feareth the Lord. [5] May the Lord bless thee for the sake of Sion; and mayst thou see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life! [6] And mayst thou see children's children! Peace be upon Israel.

* CXXIX *

A Song of Ascents

MANY a time have they warred against me from my youth, let Israel now say— [2] Many a time they warred against me from my youth; they did not however prevail over me. [3] Upon my

back the wicked hammered, they prolonged their iniquity: [4] the righteous Lord hath broken the necks of the wicked. [5] Let all who hate Sion be confounded and turned back. [6] Let them be like a blade on the house tops, which withereth before it is pulled up, [7] with which the reaper hath not filled his hand, nor he who gathereth the sheaves, his bosom; [8] so that they who passed by did not say, The blessing of the Lord is upon you. We have blessed you in the name of the Lord.

* CXXX *

A Song of Ascents

OUT of depths to Thee, O Lord, I cried; [2] O Lord, hearken to my voice: let Thine ears be attentive to the sound of my prayer. [3] Shouldst Thou, O Lord, mark iniquities; O Lord, who can subsist? [4] Because there is forgiveness with Thee, for Thy name's sake, [5] I have waited for Thee, O Lord: my soul hath waited for Thy word— [6] my soul hath hoped for the Lord, from the morning watch till night. [7] Let Israel hope in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him plenteous redemption. [8] And He Himself will redeem Israel from all their iniquities.

* CXXXI *

A Song of Ascents

O LORD, my heart is not exalted, nor are mine eyes lofty; Nor have I exercised myself in great things: nor in things too wonderful for me. [2] Had I not been humble, but exalted myself as a weaned child doth against its mother; how Thou wouldst have retributed to my soul! [3] Let Israel hope in the Lord henceforth and forever.

* CXXXII *

A Song of Ascents

O LORD, remember David, and all his meek humility; [2] how he swore to the Lord, and made his vow to the God of Jacob:

[3] I will not enter the lodging of my house, nor go up to my bed of rest; [4] nor give sleep to mine eyes or slumber to mine eyelids; nor rest to my temples; [5] until I find a place for the Lord—a habitation for the God of Jacob.

[6] Behold we had heard of this [ark] at Ephrata; we found it in the fields of the forest. [7] Let us go to his habitations; let us worship at the place where his feet stood. [8] Arise, O Lord, and go up to Thy rest, Thou and the ark of Thy holiness. [9] Let Thy priests be clothed with righteousness, and Thy saints shout for joy.

[10] For the sake of Thy servant David, turn not away the face of Thine anointed. [11] The Lord hath sworn a truth to David, and will not annul it; of the fruit of thy body I will set on thy throne; [12] if thy children keep My covenant, and these My testimonies, which I will teach them, their children also shall sit on thy throne forever. [13] For the Lord hath chosen Sion, and made choice of it for His habitation. [14] This shall be My rest forever. Here I will dwell, for I have chosen it. [15] With blessings I will bless her provision; and satisfy her poor with bread. [16] Her priests I will clothe with salvation; and her saints shall shout for joy. [17] I will cause a horn for David to spring up there; I have prepared a lamp for Mine anointed. [18] His enemies I will clothe with shame; but on him My crown shall flourish.

* CXXXIII *

A Song of Ascents

BEHOLD! what I pray you, so beautiful, or is there any thing so pleasant, as brethren dwelling in unity? [2] This is like precious ointment on the head, which floweth down to the beard—on the beard of Aaron, down to the hem of his robe. [3] It is like the dew of Hermon, which descendeth on the mountains of Sion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing, Life for evermore.

* CXXXIV *

A Song of Ascents

ATTEND! bless the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord, who stand in the house of the Lord—in the courts of the house of our

God. [2] At night, lift up your hands to the holies and bless the Lord. [3] May the Lord out of Sion bless thee:—He who made the heaven and the earth.

* CXXXV *

An Alleluia

PRAISE the name of the Lord—praise the Lord, [2] ye His servants, who wait in the house of the Lord—in the courts of the house of our God. [3] Praise the Lord; for the Lord is good; with instruments of music praise His name; for it is good. [4] For the Lord hath made choice of Jacob for Himself—of Israel for His peculiar treasure. [5] For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all the gods. [6] All that the Lord pleased He hath done in heaven and on earth: in the seas and in all the deeps. [7] When He brought clouds from the end of the earth; He made lightnings for the purpose of rain. He it is Who bringeth winds out of His treasures: [8] Who smote the first-born of Egypt—the first-born both of man and beast. [9] Amidst thee, Egypt, He sent His signs and wonders, on Pharaoh and on all His servants. [10] It was He Who smote many nations; and slew kings of mighty power— [11] Seon king of the Amorites, and Og, the king of Basan, and all the kingdoms of Chanaan; [12] and gave their land for an inheritance—for an inheritance for His people Israel. [13] O Lord, Thy name is forever, and the memorial of Thee to all generations; [14] for the Lord will judge His people, and take comfort in His servants. [15] The idols of the nations are gold and silver—the workmanship of men's hands. [16] They have a mouth, but cannot speak: eyes they have, but they cannot see; [17] they have ears, but they cannot hear; nor is there any breath in their mouth. [18] May they who make them be like them; and all they who have trusted in them. [19] O house of Israel, bless ye the Lord: bless the Lord ye of the house of Aaron. [20] O house of Levi, bless ye the Lord; bless Him, ye who fear the Lord. [21] Blessed be the Lord in Sion—He Who inhabiteth Jerusalem.

* CXXXVI *

An Alleluia

O GIVE thanks to the Lord for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever. [2] O, give thanks to the God of gods, for His mercy endureth forever. [3] Give thanks to the Lord of lords; for His mercy endureth forever. [4] To Him Who alone hath done great wonders; for His mercy endureth forever— [5] to Him Who made the heavens with wisdom: for His mercy endureth forever— [6] to Him Who established the earth on the waters: for His mercy endureth forever— [7] to Him Who alone made the great lights: for His mercy endureth forever— [8] the sun to rule the day: for His mercy endureth forever— [9] the moon and the stars to rule the night; for His mercy endureth forever— [10] to Him Who smote Egypt with their first-born; for His mercy endureth forever— [11] and brought out Israel from among them; for His mercy endureth forever: [12] with a strong hand and an outstretched arm; for His mercy endureth forever— [13] to Him Who divided the Red Sea into parts; for His mercy endureth forever. [14] And led Israel through the midst thereof: for His mercy endureth forever: [15] but shook off Pharaoh and his hosts into the Red Sea; for His mercy endureth forever:— [16] to Him, Who led His people through the desert; for His mercy endureth forever— [17] to Him Who smote great kings; for His mercy endureth forever: [18] and slew kings of mighty power: for His mercy endureth forever.— [19] Seon king of the Amorites; for His mercy endureth forever; [20] And Og the king of Basan; for His mercy endureth forever: [21] and gave their land for an inheritance; for His mercy endureth forever: [22] an inheritance for Israel His servant; for His mercy endureth forever: [23] because in our affliction the Lord remembered us; [24] for His mercy endureth forever; and redeemed us from our enemies; for His mercy endureth forever. [25] He it is Who giveth food to all flesh: for His mercy endureth forever. [26] O give thanks to the God of heaven: for to everlasting His mercy endureth.

* CXXXVII *

For David, a Psalm of Jeremias

BY the rivers of Babylon there we sat down and wept, when we remembered Sion. [2] Upon the willows in the midst of it we hung up our harps; [3] for there they who had captivated us, asked of us the words of a song: and they who had led us away, asked for a hymn, saying, Sing for us some of the odes of Sion. [4] How can we sing the song of the Lord in a strange country? [5] O Jerusalem, if I forget thee, let my right hand be forgotten. [6] Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember thee— if I set not Jerusalem foremost, as the chief object of my joy.

[7] Remember, O Lord, the children of Edom; who in the day of Jerusalem said, Rase! Rase! down to its foundations! [8] O daughter of Babylon the miserable! [9] Happy he who shall render thee thy recompense; for what thou hast done to us! Happy he who shall seize and dash thy infants against stones!

* CXXXVIII *

A Psalm by David, used by Aggaius and Zacharias

I WILL adore Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart. And with instrumental music sing to Thee before angels: because Thou hast heard all the words of my mouth. [2] I will worship before Thy holy temple; and adore Thy name for Thy mercy and Thy truth; because Thou hast magnified above all Thy holy name. [3] On the day when I invoke Thee, O answer me speedily: Thou canst strengthen me in my soul with Thy strength; [4] let all the kings of this land adore Thee, O Lord, because they have heard all the words of Thy mouth. [5] And let them sing in the ways of the Lord: because the glory of the Lord is great. [6] For the Lord is high and looketh down on the things which are low: and from afar He knoweth the things which are high. [7] Though I walk in the midst of trouble, Thou canst keep me alive. Against the rage of enemies Thou hast stretched forth Thy hand: and Thy right hand hath saved me. [8] Thou, O Lord wilt retribute for me. O Lord, Thy mercy endureth forever; overlook not the works of Thy hands.

* CXXXIX *

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David

O LORD, Thou hast proved me and known me. Thou knowest my sitting down and my rising up. [2] Thou from afar understandest my thoughts. [3] Thou hast tracked my path and my line: and hast seen distinctly all my ways— [4] that there is not an evil word on my tongue. [5] Behold Thou, O Lord, knowest all things—the last and the things of earliest date. Thou hast formed me and laid Thy hand on me. [6] This knowledge of Thine is too wonderful for me. It is great beyond my comprehension. [7] Whither can I go from Thy spirit? And from Thy presence whither can I flee? [8] If I ascend up to heaven, Thou art there. If I go down to the mansion of the dead, there Thou art. [9] If I wing my flight towards the morning; or dwell at the extremes of this sea; [10] even there Thy hand will guide me; and Thy right hand will restrain me. [11] When I said, Darkness will surely trample me down: then to my great joy, night was luminous. [12] For darkness cannot darken from Thee; even night can be made light as day: the darkness of that, as the light of this. [13] Because Thou, O Lord, hast possessed my reins—hast supported me from my mother's womb; [14] I will adore Thee, for Thou art awfully wonderful. Thy works are wonderful; as my soul well knoweth. [15] From Thee was not concealed this bone of mine; which Thou in secret didst fashion. [16] When my substance was in the lowest parts of the earth; Thine eyes beheld the unwrought part of me. When on Thy book all shall be enrolled; they will day by day be fashioned. [17] When none among these were yet in being; for me these friends of Thine, O God, were highly prized: their principalities were made very strong. [18] Were I to number them, they would surpass the sand. I have been raised up and am still with Thee. [19] Since Thou, O God, slayest sinners: begone from me ye bloody men. [20] For in answer to their reasoning Thou wilt say, In vain shall they take these cities of thine. [21] Have I not, O Lord, hated them who hate Thee; and been melted for them who are Thine enemies! [22] With perfect hatred I have hated them—I have accounted them mine enemies. [23] Try me, O God, and know my heart: examine me and know my ways; [24] and see if there be in me any trace of iniquity; and lead me in an everlasting way.

* CXL *

For the conclusion. A Psalm by David

DELIVER me, O Lord, from a wicked commoner: from an unjust man of rank, preserve me; [2] who hath contrived mischief in their heart. All the day long they prepared battles: [3] they sharpened their tongue like that of a serpent: the poison of asps was under their lips. [4] Keep me, O Lord, from the hand of a sinner: deliver me from unjust men; who have formed contrivances to supplant my steps. [5] The haughty hid a snare for me—they spread out nets for my feet—close by the way they laid for me a stumbling block. [6] I said to the Lord, Thou art my God. Hear O Lord, the voice of my supplication. [7] O Lord, Lord, the strength of my salvation! Thou hast covered my head in the day of battle. [8] Deliver me not up to the wicked from my desire. Against me they have formed devices: Forsake me not, lest they be exalted. [9] Let them that encompass me—the mischief of their lips will cover them. [10] On them shall fall coals of fire in the land; and Thou wilt overthrow them with miseries; that they may not rise up again. [11] A tattling chief cannot prosper in the land: evils will hunt to destruction a man of violence. [12] I know that the Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted and the right of the needy: [13] moreover, that the righteous will adore Thy name—that the upright shall dwell in Thy presence.

* CXLI *

A Psalm by David

TO Thee, O Lord, I have cried, hearken to me—attend to the sound of my supplication. When I cry to Thee; [2] let my prayer come before Thee as incense—and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice. [3] Set a watch, O Lord, on my mouth; and guard the door of my lips. [4] Let not my heart turn aside to wicked deeds—to form excuses for sins with men who work iniquity: nor let me associate with their chosen bands. [5] Let a righteous man correct me with mercy; and he will work conviction in me: but let not the oil of a sinner (for this shall still be my prayer) anoint my head at their pleasure. [6] Their strong men

were swallowed up near a rock: let them hear my words for they were sweet. [7] As if a lump of earth was broken on the ground; our bones were scattered at the grave's mouth. [8] Since mine eyes are to Thee, O Lord God—in Thee I have placed my confidence; deliver not my soul to destruction. [9] Keep me from the snare they have laid for me: and from the stumbling blocks of the workers of iniquity. [10] The wicked shall fall by their own net, I am in private till I can escape.

* CXLII *

*On understanding. By David when he was in the cave.
A Prayer*

WITH my voice I cried to the Lord—to the Lord I made supplication with my voice. [2] Before Him I pour out my prayer: before Him I will declare my affliction. [3] When my spirit fainted Thou knewest my paths. In the way I was going they hid a snare for me. [4] I looked to the right; and observed that none was there, who knew me. Flight was cut off from me; and is he not earnestly seeking my life? [5] To Thee, O Lord, I cried and said, Thou art my hope—my portion in the land of the living. [6] Attend to my supplication; for I am brought very low: deliver me from my persecutors; for they are stronger than I. [7] Bring my soul out of prison, that I may adore Thy name, O Lord. Let the righteous wait for me, till Thou shalt reward me.

* CXLIII *

A Psalm by David, when his son was pursuing him

O LORD, hearken to my prayer! Listen to my supplication in Thy truth; answer me in Thy saving goodness; [2] and enter not into judgment with Thy servant; for in Thy sight no man living can be justified.

[3] Because the enemy hath earnestly sought my life—hath humbled my life to the ground—hath caused me to sit in dark places, like them who have been long dead; [4] therefore my spirit was overwhelmed with grief; my heart within me was troubled and [5] I remembered the days of old. I meditated on all Thy

works—I mused on the works of Thy hands. [6] I spread forth my hands to Thee; for Thee my soul thirsted like land without water. [7] Hear me speedily, O Lord; my spirit hath failed. Turn not away Thy face from me; nor let me be like them who go down to the pit.

[8] Cause me to hear Thy kindness in the morning; for in Thee I have placed my confidence. O Lord, let me know which way I shall go; for to Thee I have lifted up my soul.

[9] Deliver me, O Lord, from mine enemies; for to Thee I have fled for refuge. [10] Teach me to do Thy will; for Thou art my God. Let Thy good spirit lead me in the right way.

[11] For the sake of Thy name, Thou, O Lord, wilt keep me alive—in Thy saving goodness Thou wilt bring my soul out of trouble, [12] and in Thy mercy cut off mine enemies, and destroy all them that afflict my soul; for I am Thy servant.

* CXLIV *

By David. On Goliath

BLESSED be the Lord my God, Who teacheth my hands to war and my fingers to fight. [2] He is my mercy and my refuge—my support and my deliverer, my protector in whom I trusted, Who subdueth the people under me.

[3] O Lord, what is man that Thou shouldst acknowledge him, or a son of man that Thou shouldst regard him! [4] Man is like vanity, his days glide away like a shadow.

[5] O Lord, bow Thy heaven and come down: touch the mountains and let them smoke. [6] Flash lightnings and Thou wilt scatter them; dart Thy bolts and Thou wilt discomfit them; [7] stretch forth Thy hand from on high; rescue me and deliver me from many waters—out of the hand of the children of strangers, [8] whose mouth hath uttered falsehood, and whose right hand is a right hand of deceit.

[9] O God, to Thee I will sing a new song—to Thee I will play on a ten-stringed psaltery, [10] to Him Who giveth salvation to kings, Who hath redeemed His servant David from the hurtful sword. [11] Rescue me and deliver me out of the hand of the children of strangers, whose mouth hath uttered falsehood, and whose right hand is a right hand of deceit— [12] whose sons are like trees well planted when young; their daughters beautiful,

adorned like shrines; [13] their storehouses full and overflowing; [14] their flocks prolific, abounding in their outwalks; their herds fat. There is no destruction of enclosures—no breaking out—no screaming in their folds. [15] The people who had such things were hailed happy; but happy is the people, whose God is the Lord.

* CXLV *

A Psalm of praise. By David

I WILL extol Thee, O my God, my king: and bless Thy name forever and ever. [2] Day by day I will bless Thee, and praise Thy name forever and ever. [3] The Lord is great and greatly to be praised; and of His greatness there is no end. [4] Let generation after generation praise Thy works, and proclaim Thy mighty power: [5] Let them speak of the transcendent glory of Thy majesty, and relate Thy wonderful works. [6] Let them express the might of Thine awful dealings, and rehearse Thy greatness. [7] Let them make mention of Thine abundant goodness, and exult with joy in Thy saving mercy. [8] The Lord is gracious and merciful: long suffering and abundant in kindness. [9] The Lord is kind to them who wait, and His mercies are over all His works. [10] Let all Thy works, O Lord, praise Thee, and let Thy saints bless Thee; [11] let them speak of the glory of Thy kingdom, and talk of Thy government: [12] to make known Thy government to the sons of men, and the transcendent glory of Thy kingdom. [13] Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Thy dominion, throughout all generations. [14] The Lord is faithful in His words, and bountiful in all His works. [15] The Lord upholdeth all that are falling, and raiseth up all who are broken down. [16] The eyes of all wait upon Thee: and Thou givest them their food in due season; Thou openest Thy hands, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing. [17] The Lord is righteous in all His ways, and bountiful in all His works. [18] The Lord is near to all who invoke Him—to all that call upon Him with truth. [19] He will fulfill the desire of them who fear Him: He will hear their prayer and save them. [20] The Lord keepeth all them who love Him; but all the wicked He will utterly destroy. [21] Let my mouth speak the praise of the Lord: and let all flesh bless His holy name, forever and for evermore.

* CXLVI *

An Alleluia, by Aggaius and Zacharias

PRAISE the Lord, O my soul: while I live I will praise the Lord. [2] I will sing praises to God, while I have a being. [3] Trust not in chiefs, nor in sons of men, in whom there is no safety. [4] His breath goeth out and He shall return to His earth; on that day all His projects shall perish. [5] Happy he whose helper is the God of Jacob: his hope is in the Lord his God; [6] Who made the heaven and the earth, the sea and all the things in them; [7] Who keepeth truth forever, executing judgment for the aggrieved, giving food to the hungry. [8] The Lord looseth them who were bound. The Lord causeth the blind to see clearly. The Lord raiseth up them who were broken down. The Lord loveth the righteous. [9] The Lord preserveth the strangers. He will support the orphan and the widow, and destroy the way of the wicked. [10] The Lord will reign forever—thy God, O Sion, throughout all generations.

* CXLVII *

An Alleluia, by Aggaius and Zacharias

PRAISE the Lord, for good is a song of praise; to our God let praise be sweetly sung. [2] The Lord is rebuilding Jerusalem; and He will gather the dispersions of Israel. [3] He healeth the brokenhearted, and bindeth up their wounds; [4] He numbereth the multitudes of stars, and calleth them all by their names. [5] Great is our Lord and great His power; and infinite in His understanding. [6] The Lord raiseth up the meek; and humbleth sinners to the ground. [7] Sing alternately to the Lord with thanksgiving. In concert with the kithara, sing praises to our God— [8] to Him Who covereth the heaven with clouds—to Him Who provideth rain for the earth—to Him Who causeth grass to grow on mountains, and bladed corn for the use of man; [9] and Who giveth suitable food to cattle, and to the young ravens which call on Him. [10] In the courage of the horse He will not delight, nor is He pleased with the agility of the warrior. [11] The Lord delighteth in them who fear Him, and in all them who trust in His mercy.

An Alleluia, by Aggaius and Zacharias

[12] PRAISE the Lord, O Jerusalem: O Sion, praise Thy God; [13] for He hath strengthened the bars of Thy gates; He hath blessed Thy children within thee. [14] He maketh thy borders peace, and feedeth thee with the finest wheat;— [15] He is sending His oracle to this land: His word shall run with speed. [16] When He giveth snow like wool—when He scattereth the hoar frost like ashes; [17] when He sendeth down like morsels His crystal hail; who can stand before His cold? [18] Let Him but send forth His word and He will melt them—let Him but blow His breath and the waters will flow. [19] He is sending His word to Jacob—His statutes and His judgments to Israel. [20] He hath not dealt thus with any nation, nor hath He laid open to them His judgments.

* CXLVIII *

An Alleluia, by Aggaius and Zacharias

PRAISE the Lord, ye of the heavens: praise Him, ye in the highest. [2] Praise him all ye His angels: praise Him all ye His hosts. Sun and moon! [3] Praise Him: praise Him all ye stars and light. [4] Praise Him ye heavens of heavens: and thou water under the heavens! [5] let them praise the name of the Lord; for He spake and they were produced: He commanded and they were created. [6] He established them forever and ever: He made a decree and it shall not pass away. [7] Praise the Lord ye of the earth! dragons and all deeps! [8] Fire, hail, snow, ice, tempestuous wind, which execute His commands! [9] Mountains, and all hills! fruit trees and all cedars! [10] wild beasts and all cattle! creeping things and winged fowls! Kings of the earth, and all peoples! [11] chiefs and all judges of the earth! youths and virgins! [12] elders with them of younger years! [13] let them praise the name of the Lord; for His name alone is exalted. To Him belongeth thanksgiving, on earth and in heaven. [14] When He shall exalt the horn of His people, let there be a song of praise among all His saints—among the children of Israel—a people who draw near to Him.

* CXLIX *

An Alleluia

SING to the Lord a new song. Praise is His due in the congregation of saints. [2] Let Israel rejoice in His maker—and the children of Sion exult in their king. [3] Let them praise His name in choirs—on the tympanum and psaltery sing praises to Him: [4] for the Lord taketh pleasure in His people; and with salvation He will exalt the meek. [5] Let the saints triumph in glory; and exult with joy on their beds. [6] Let the high praises of God be in their mouth; and in their hands two edged swords; [7] to execute vengeance on the nations—rebukes among peoples. [8] To bind their kings with fetters; and their nobles with chains of iron: [9] to execute on them the judgments written. Such is the honour which all His saints have.

* CL *

An Alleluia

PRAISE God in His holies; praise Him in the firmament of His power. [2] Praise Him for his mighty acts: praise Him according to His abundant majesty: [3] praise Him with the sounding trumpet: [4] praise Him with the psaltery and kithara: praise Him with the timbrel and chorus: praise Him with stringed and wind instruments; [5] praise Him with soft sounding cymbals: [6] praise Him with the cymbals of triumph: let every breath praise the Lord.

* CLI *

N. B. There is in the Septuagint text an additional psalm with this title:—*This Psalm on David, though supernumerary, was written by himself when he fought in single combat with Goliath.* It follows (*cf.* Psalm CXLIV, p. 987):

I was little among my brethren, and the youngest of my father's family. I fed my father's flocks. My hands had made an instru-

ment and my fingers had tuned a psaltery. But who will tell my Lord? My Lord Himself heareth. He sent His messenger and took me from my father's flocks and anointed me with anointing oil. My brothers were comely and great; but the Lord did not delight in them. I went out to meet the Philistine, and he cursed me by his idols. But I drew his own sword and cut off his head, and took away reproach from the children of Israel.

THE PROVERBS OF SOLOMON

* CHAPTER I *

THE Proverbs of David's son Solomon, who reigned over Israel, [2] knowing wisdom and how to teach it— [3] the perception of the words of prudence—the interpretation of sentences—discerning of true justice [4] and directing judgment, that he might teach shrewd wit to the innocent; and to the youth, sensibility and discretion: [5] For, by attending to them a wise man will become wiser; and a man of understanding will possess a rule of government [6] and will comprehend a parable and dark speech, and the sayings of the wise, and enigmas.

[7] The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. And all who practise this have good understanding. And piety towards God is the beginning of discernment: but the wicked despise wisdom and instruction.

[8] My son, hear the instruction of thy father and reject not the maxims of thy mother: [9] for thou wilt receive a graceful crown for thy head; and a chain of gold for thy neck.

[10] My son, let not wicked men lead thee astray. [11] Consent not when they advise thee, saying, Come with us; partake of blood; and let us hide in the earth an innocent man without cause, [12] and swallow him up alive, as the grave, and take away from earth the remembrance of him. [13] Let us seize his precious substance and fill our houses with spoils. [14] Cast in thy lot among us, and let us all have a common purse. Let one scrip serve us. [15] Go not thou in the way with them; but turn thy foot from their paths. [16] For their feet run to do evil, and are swift to shed blood. [17] For nets are not spread for birds unjustly. [18] For they who are accomplices to murder, treasure up evils for themselves. And doleful is the destruction of wicked men. [19] Such are the ways of all who commit iniquitous deeds. For by wickedness they destroy their own soul.

[20] Wisdom* uttereth her song at the gates, and in the streets

* There is a definite relation in these passages to the Gnostic *Sophia* (Wisdom) tradition. See, e.g., Ch. VIII. Cf. also Jacob Boehme's later and profound development of the concept throughout his works.

speakech boldly; [21] and on the tops of walls she maketh proclamation; and at the gates of mighty men taketh a seat, and at the gates of a city with confidence saith:

[22] "While the innocent adhere to justice they shall not be put to shame: but as for fools who delight in mischief, having become wicked, they hated knowledge and are become liable to censures. [23] Behold I will pour forth to you the dictate of my spirit: and teach you this word of mine—seeing I have called [24] and you have not answered: and though I continued my speech, you did not attend, [25] but set at naught my counsels and disregarded my reproofs; [26] therefore I will laugh at your calamity, and mock when your destruction cometh. [27] Yes, when tumult shall suddenly come upon you; and destruction like a whirlwind shall be at hand—even when tribulation and siege approach you; or when destruction is advancing upon you. [28] For when you call upon me I will not listen to you.

The wicked may seek me, but they shall not find me. [29] For they hated wisdom and did not choose the word of the Lord: [30] nor would they attend to my counsels, but contemned my reproofs. [31] Let them eat, therefore, the fruits of their own way, and be filled with their own iniquity. [32] For, because they wronged infants they shall be slain: and a rigorous inquest shall destroy the wicked. [33] But he who hearkeneth to me shall dwell with hope, and rest secure from all evil."

* CHAPTER II *

MY son [Solomon again speaks], if thou wilt hear the counsel which I enjoin and hide it with thee, [2] thine ear will hearken to wisdom; and thou wilt apply thy heart to understanding, and transmit it for instruction to thy son. [3] For if thou wilt call upon wisdom: and utter thy voice for understanding— [4] if thou wilt seek for it as silver; and search for it as for treasures; [5] then thou shalt understand the fear of the Lord; and find the knowledge of God. [6] For the Lord giveth wisdom; and from His presence is knowledge and understanding: [7] and He treasureth up salvation for the upright. [8] He will protect their going, that they may keep the paths of rectitude. And He will guard the way of them who reverence Him. [9] Then thou shalt understand judgment and justice; and direct all thy ways aright. [10] For when wisdom entereth into thine understanding, and knowledge appeareth

pleasant to thy soul, [11] good counsel will keep thee and holy prudence will guard thee: [12] that she may deliver thee from an evil way and from a man who speaketh perversely.

[13] Alas for them who leave straight paths to walk in the ways of darkness; [14] who are delighted with evils and have joy in evil perversion; [15] whose ways are crooked, and whose paths turn aside to lead thee far from the straight road [16] and estrange thee from a just determination.

[17] My son, let not evil counsel, who hath forsaken the discipline of youth and hath forgotten the divine covenant, take hold of thee. [18] For she hath placed her house near death; and her wheels with the earth born near the mansion of the dead. [19] None who walk by her direction can ever return; nor ever recover the right paths. [20] For they are not taken hold of by years of life. If they indeed had walked in good ways: they would have found the paths of justice smooth. [21] For the upright shall inhabit the land, and the holy shall be left in it; [22] the ways of the wicked shall be destroyed from the land, and the transgressors shall be driven out of it.

* CHAPTER III *

MY son, forget not my rules; but let thy heart keep my commandments. [2] For they will add to thee length of days and years of life and peace.

[3] Let not acts of kindness and faithfulness forsake thee: but bind them about thy neck and thou shalt find favour. [4] Be provident in regard to things good in the sight of the Lord and of men. [5] Trust in God with thy whole heart; and be not elated for thine own wisdom. [6] Shew it in all thy ways, that it may make thy paths straight. [7] Be not wise in thine own conceit; but fear God and depart from all evil: [8] then shall thy body have health and thy bones a cure. [9] Honour the Lord with some of thy righteous labours: and set apart for him some of thy fruits of righteousness: [10] that thy barns may be plenteously filled with corn; and that thy vats may overflow with wine.

[11] My son, slight not the correction of the Lord, nor faint when reproved by Him: [12] for whom the Lord loveth He reproveth: and chastiseth every son whom He receiveth.

[13] Happy the man who hath found wisdom, and the mortal who hath seen prudence: [14] for it is better to traffic for her,