

Songs and poems
(From the book in the Holy Bible
called *Psalms*)

15

*Only people that live in a good way can visit
God's ceremony house*

This is one of David's songs for God.

¹ God, who do you let visit your ceremony house
to show you respect?

Who do you let live there on your special
hill?

² I know the sort of people that God lets in his
ceremony house.

You can visit God's ceremony house, if you
are like this.

You always live in a good way,
and always do the right thing,
and only say true things.

³ You don't tell lies about people,
and you don't do bad things to people,
and you don't say bad things about
people to shame them.

⁴ You never respect really bad people,
but you respect people that properly
respect God.

You always keep your promises.
Maybe it will be hard,

maybe it will hurt you to keep those promises,
but you still keep them.

⁵ And whenever somebody needs help,
you let them borrow your money.
And later on, when they pay you back that money,
you only take that same money that they borrowed from you,
you don't make them pay you any more money on top of that.

And another thing. If somebody says to you,
"I want you to go to court and tell lies about good people.
I will pay you money to tell those lies."
You always say, "No, I can't tell lies about people."

All of those things that I just talked about in this song,
everybody that lives that way will always be really strong for God.

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God looks after me properly

This is one of David's songs for God.

¹ God looks after me properly,
he gives me everything that I need.
You know about people that properly look after sheep all the time, called shepherds.
Well, God looks after me like that.
He is a good shepherd for me.

² God gives me a good place to rest,

just like a shepherd finds a good place for his
sheep to rest,
a place where there is green grass for them
to eat

and clean water for them to drink.*
3 When I get tired, God makes me feel good and
strong again.
He leads me on the right track,
so that people will know that he is good.

4 You know, God is with me when I have trouble
too.

Sometimes I have a lot of trouble,
and I feel like I am walking in a really dark
valley, and something might kill me,
but even then, God is with me.
I will not be frightened at that time.

I know that God is stopping my enemies
from hurting me,
just like a shepherd uses his stick and stops
wild dogs from hurting his sheep.
When I remember that he does that,
I feel safe.

5 God does good things for me even when people
are giving me trouble,
and he makes my enemies watch him do
those good things.

It is like I am a visitor at his house,
and he cooks a big dinner for me,
and I sit down and eat it.
And he makes my enemies watch me eat it.
It is like he fills my cup with good drink,

* 23:2 Revelation 7:17

right to the top.
And it is like he shows everyone that I am his
friend,
by putting olive oil on my head.

⁶ I am sure that God will always love me,
he will be good to me all of my life.
And I will always be in God's house,
and I will respect him properly for ever.

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Find out for yourself that God is really good

This is one of David's songs for God. It's from the time when David pretended he was crazy in front of big boss Abimelek, so Abimelek sent David away.

- ¹ I will always say, "God is good."
Yes, I will keep on saying good things about God.
- ² I will tell people, "God has all the power."
I want everybody that has a hard life to hear that and be happy.
- ³ Come here everybody. I want us all to say, "God is great."
Let's come together and say, "God is really powerful."
- ⁴ You see, I prayed to God, and he listened to me.
He took away everything that frightened me.
- ⁵ People that trust God are really happy.
They will never feel shame.

6 I had a lot of trouble, but I prayed to God, and
he listened to me.

He saved me from all my troubles.

7 Some people know that God is powerful,
so they have strong respect for him.

God sends his special angel spirit to be with those
people,
and that angel keeps those people safe from
trouble.

8 Find out for yourself that God is really good.*
Look at all the things he does.

Whenever you get trouble, ask God to look after
you.

He will do that, and he will make you really
happy.

9 You are God's special people.

You know that he is powerful, so you have
to really respect him.

If you really respect God,

he will give you everything that you need.

10 Sometimes even strong young lions can't find
food and they go hungry,

but people that trust God, they have all the
good things that they need.

11 Come here everyone, and listen to me.

I will teach you to respect God properly.

12 Do you want to live well?*

Do you want a long and happy life?

13 If that's what you want,

* 34:8 1 Peter 2:3 * 34:12 1 Peter 3:10-12

- don't say bad things about other people,
and don't lie to them.
- 14 Turn away from doing bad things, and do good things.
Don't fight with people or make trouble.
Try very hard to live happily with other people.
- 15 God looks after people that live the right way.
And if they ask him for help, he listens to them.
- 16 But God punishes people that do bad things.
After they die, God doesn't want anybody in the world to remember those bad people.
So God will make everybody forget them.
- 17 But some people live the right way,
and whenever they ask God for help, he listens to them.
He saves them from all their troubles.
- 18 Some people are really sad and feel hurt inside.
God stays really close to those people.
And some people think nothing good will happen to them.
God helps those people too.
- 19 If somebody lives the right way,
that person might still have a lot of troubles.
But God will save that person from all those troubles.
- 20 God will keep that person safe,*
and nobody will break any of that person's bones.

* 34:20 John 19:36

- 21 But people that do bad things,
they will get trouble and die.
And if somebody hates people that live the right
way,
God will punish that person.
- 22 But if people work hard for God,
he will keep them safe.
And if people trust God and if they ask him to
look after them,
God will not punish them.

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If people trust God, he makes them happy

This song is for the music leader, and it is one of David's songs for God.

- 1-2 I had really bad trouble.
It's like I was in a deep hole that people die
in.
It's like I was stuck in a bad place,
like my legs were stuck in sticky mud.
But I trusted God,
and I waited for him to help me.
I cried out to him,
and he listened to me.
God helped me.
He saved me from that trouble.
It's like he lifted me out of that mud,
and put my feet on good hard ground.
God kept me safe.
It's like he gave me a safe path to walk on.
- 3 Then God gave me a new song to sing to him.
That song says that God is great.

Lots of people will hear about everything that
God did,
and they will know that he has all the power.
Then they will only trust him.

⁴ If people trust God properly,
God makes those people happy.
Whenever they have trouble, they trust God to
help them.
They don't go to people that think they are
great, or people that tell lies.

⁵ God, my God, you have done lots of powerful
things for us.
And you have lots and lots of good plans for
us.
Nobody is like you.
You do so many great things that I can't say
them all.
If I try to say them all,
I'll talk for ever and never stop talking.

⁶ Some people kill animals to pay you for the bad
things they did.
And they give you animals and food as gifts.
But that does not really make you happy.
You don't need people to burn animals for
you.
You don't need people to give you gifts.
You taught me all of this.*

⁷ So I said to you, "Here I am. I came."

* **40:6** Hebrews 10:5-7

Your book tells me the things that I should do.

⁸ God, it makes me really happy to do everything that you want.

I always think about your laws and obey them.

⁹ Whenever your people come together to respect you,

I tell them, "God helps his people."

I always talk like that, I don't keep my mouth shut.

You know that's true, God.

¹⁰ I know that you always do what is right.

I don't keep it a secret inside of me.

I tell everyone, "We can trust God. He saves us."

I don't hide the true story from your people.

I tell them, "God always loves us. We can always trust him."

¹¹ Whenever I have troubles, God,

you feel sorry for me, and you are good to me.

You always love me, and I can always trust you.

You keep me safe.

¹² And I have lots of troubles now.

It feels like there are troubles all around me, lots of troubles, so I can't count them all.

It's like all the bad things I did are here with me, and I don't know the right thing to do.

I did lots of bad things,

more bad things than the number of hairs on my head,

so now I feel weak inside.

13 God, please save me from all this trouble.

God, please come quickly, and help me.

14 Some people want to kill me.

God, please make them feel shame and make them confused.

Those people are happy whenever I get hurt.

God, please make them run away and be sad.

15 Those people make fun of me, and they laugh at me.

God, please make them shamed, so that they feel really sad.

16 But there are some people that always come to you God.

Please make those people really happy.

They say, "God, thank you for saving us."

And I pray that they always say, "God is great."

17 But what about me?

I have lots of trouble and I need help,
so I want God to think about me.

God, you are the one that helps me and saves me.

God, my God, please come and help me now
and don't wait.

46

God will help us

This is one of the songs of the Korah mob. It's for the leader of music at God's ceremony house.

1 God is strong, and he is always ready to help us
when we get trouble.

- He is like a safe place for us to hide.
Whenever we get trouble,
he is the one that can help us.
- ² So we will never get frightened.
Even if there is a big earthquake,
and the mountains start to break up and fall
into the sea,
even then we will not be frightened.
- ³ Even if the waves in the sea get really big and
loud,
and if the mountains shake,
even then we will not be frightened.
- ⁴ There is a river in God's city,
and it makes the people there happy.
That place is God's home.
He is the greatest one of all.
- ⁵ God lives in that city.
Nothing can ever knock it down.
God will stop anybody from hurting the people
in that city.
He will look after them all the time,
right from the start of every day.
- ⁶ You see, God is powerful,
and he frightens the nations that don't
follow him.
So they go wild and don't think properly,
and they get weak and useless.
It's like God just yells at those people and they
finish up,
like ice that melts in the hot sun.
- ⁷ God is the boss of everything,

and he is with us and helps us.
He is the God of us Israel people,
and he will stop anyone from hurting us.

⁸ Come and look at what God does.
He does things on the earth that will shock
you.

⁹ He stops wars all over the world.
It's like he breaks all the things that people
use to fight with,
like their spears and bows,
and it's like he burns all the shields with fire.
¹⁰ God says, "Stop, you mob. Keep still, and think,
and you will know that I am the only one
that really is God.

The people in every nation will respect me.
People all over the world will respect me."

¹¹ God is the boss of everything,
and he is with us and helps us.
He is the God of us Israel people,
and he will stop anyone from hurting us.

121

God is the one that helps us

This song is for people to sing as they walk up to
God's house to show him respect.

¹ I look up at all the hills,
and I ask myself, "Who is the one that helps
me?"

² Then I say, "God is the one that helps me.
He is the one that made the earth and the
sky."

- ³ He will always look after you so that you don't get trouble.
He is watching you all the time, to keep you safe.
He never goes to sleep.
- ⁴ That's right. He always watches the Israel people,
and he never sleeps.
- ⁵ God is the one that looks after you properly.
When the sun is really hot,
you know how good it is to rest under a shady tree.
Well, when life gets tough for you,
God will be close to you and help you,
like he is a shady tree for you.
- ⁶⁻⁷ Yes, God will always look after you,
in the day time and in the night time.
He will always keep you safe.
He will stop anything from hurting you.
Not even the hot sun or the moon will hurt you.
He will not let anything finish you.
- ⁸ Whenever you go anywhere,
God will go with you all the way,
and he will keep you safe.
He will do that now,
and he will keep doing that all the time, for ever.

Plain English Version
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