

25:1 Of David

- א **To you**, Yahweh,
I lift up my life, 2 my God
- ב **In You** I trust,
don't let me be ashamed,
don't let my enemies gloat over me
- ג ג **Furthermore**, everyone who eagerly waits for You will not be ashamed,
those who deal treacherously without cause will be ashamed
- ד ד **Make me know Your ways**, Yahweh,
teach me Your paths
- ה ה **Make me walk** in Your truth,
ו **and teach me**,
ז for
You are the God of my salvation,
I wait eagerly for you all day long
- ח ח **Remember** your acts of compassion and your covenant faithfulness,
for they are from eternity
- ט ט **As for the sins of** my youth and my transgressions,
don't remember them,
according to Your covenant faithfulness—
please remember me
because of Your goodness, Yahweh
- י י **Yahweh is good** and upright,
therefore He directs sinners in the way
- יא י **He lets** the afflicted **walk** in justice,
and He teaches the afflicted His way
- יב כ **All** the paths of Yahweh are covenant faithfulness and truth
for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies
- יג ל **For the sake of** Your reputation,¹⁹ Yahweh,
You will forgive my iniquity,
for it is great
- יד מ **Who** is this, the man who fears Yahweh?
He will direct him in the way he should choose
- יט נ **His life** will abide with what is good,
and his descendents will inherit land
- כו ו **Yahweh's secret counsel** is for those who fear Him,
and His covenant for those who make them known
- כז ז **My eyes** continually look to Yahweh,
for He²⁰ will bring forth my feet from a net²¹
- כח ס **Turn** to me
and be gracious to me,
for I am alone and afflicted
- כט ז **My mind's distresses** are increased,
bring me forth from my difficult circumstances

¹⁹Lit. *name*. "Name" often implies *reputation*.

²⁰This appears to be an emphatic **He**.

²¹i.e., *trap*.

- 18 ר **See**²² my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins!
- 19 ר **See** my enemies,
for
they are many,
and those with violent hatred hate me
- 20 ש **Guard** my life
and deliver me,
don't let me be ashamed,
for I seek refuge in You
- 21 ת **Integrity** and uprightness will guard me,
for I eagerly wait for You
- 22 God, redeem Israel
from all his distress

²²For some reason this acrostic is missing the letter ק, and has two ר instead.

34:1³² Of David,
 when he changed his disposition before Abimelek,
 and Abimelek³³ drove him out
 and he left.

2 כ I **will bless** Yahweh at every opportunity,
 His praise will continually be in my mouth.

3 ב My being **will brag about Yahweh**,
 afflicted people will hear it
 and rejoice.

4 ג **Extol** Yahweh with me,
 and let's praise His name together!

5 ד I **inquired** of Yahweh,
 and He answered me
 and He delivered me from all my fears.

6 ה **They looked** to Him,
 and they shined,
 ו **and** their was no shame **on their faces**.

7 ז **This** afflicted person called,
 and Yahweh heard,
 and He rescued him from all his enemies.

8 ח Yahweh's angel **encamps** around those who fear Him,
 and he rescues them.

9 ט **Taste** and see that Yahweh is good,
 fortunate is whoever³⁴ seeks refuge in Him.

10 י Hey holy people, **fear** Yahweh,
 for those who fear Him lack nothing.

11 יא **Lions** might be in want and go hungry,
 but those who seek Yahweh do not lack any good thing.

12 יב **Come**, children, listen to me,
 I will teach you* the fear of Yahweh.

13 יג **Who** are those who
 take delight in life,
 who love seeing good things in their days?³⁵

14 יד **Restrain** your tongue from evil
 and your lips from speaking treachery,

³²Psalm 34 is an alphabetic acrostic. Each verse except for the last one begins with a new letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The flow of acrostic Psalms often seems disjointed to us, but it will help if you think of these as related bullet points. **Underline/boldface** has been used to indicate the Hebrew word represented by the Hebrew acrostic.

³³Lit. "he".

³⁴Lit. "man" (Heb. אָדָם).

³⁵13Alternate translation:

If you want
 a long life
 and to see good things happen in your days,

- 15 ו **turn aside** from evil
and practice good,
seek wellbeing
and pursue it.
- 16 ו **The eyes of** Yahweh are on righteous people,
and His ears are toward their cry for help.
- 17 פ **The face of** Yahweh is against the doers of evil,
to cut off their legacy³⁶ from the earth.
- 18 צ **They cried out**, and Yahweh heard,
and He delivered them from all their fears.
- 19 ק Yahweh is **close** to the broken-hearted,
and He delivers those with a humble attitude.
- 20 ר Righteous people encounter **many** troubles,
but Yahweh delivers them³⁷ from all of them.
- 21 ש **He protects** all their bones,
not one of them is smashed.
- 22 ת The wickedness of the evil **will finally kill them**,
and those who hate righteous people will be ashamed.
- 23 Yahweh redeems the life of those who serve Him,
and no one who takes refuge in Him will be ashamed.
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³⁶Lit. "memory".

³⁷Singular in Hebrew, but with a generic sense.

37:1³⁸ Of David

- κ **Don't** become infuriated with wicked people,
don't become jealous of the doers of injustice,
2 for
they will quickly wither like grass,
and they will droop like green hay.
- 3 כ **Trust** in Yahweh,
and do what is right.
Dwell in the land,
and shepherd faithfulness,
4 and take exquisite delight in Yahweh,
and He will give you what your mind requests.
- 5 ל **Commit**³⁹ your way to Yahweh,
and trust in Him,
and He will act,
6 and he will bring forth
your righteousness like light
and your justice like high noon.
- 7 ט **Be silent** before Yahweh,
and wait longingly for Him,
don't become infuriated
at the one who prospers in his way,
at the man who does wickedness.
- 8 נ **Refrain** from anger,
and abandon rage,
surely don't become infuriated with the wicked,
9 for
wicked people will be cut off,
but those who hope in Yahweh will inherit the earth.
- 10 י **And** in just a little while
the wicked won't exist,
and you will be on the lookout for his place,
and he won't exist,
11 but the humble⁴⁰ will inherit the earth,
and they will take exquisite delight in abundant prosperity.

³⁸Psalm 37 is an alphabetic acrostic. Unfortunately the alphabet divisions do not line up evenly with verse divisions. The flow of acrostic Psalms often seems disjointed to us, but it will help if you think of these as related bullet points.

Boldface/underline indicates English words which represent the Hebrew acrostic words.

³⁹Lit. "roll".

⁴⁰Or "afflicted" or "poor".

- 12 τ Wicked people **plot** against the righteous,
and they gnash their teeth at them,
13 but the Lord laughs at them,
for He sees that their day is coming.
- 14 n Wicked people draw a **sword**,
and they draw their bow,
to kill⁴¹ the afflicted and the poor,
to ruthlessly slay those whose way is upright.
- 15 Their sword will enter their own heart,
and their bows will shatter themselves.
- 16 υ **Better** is the little of the righteous
than the wealth of many wicked people,
17 for
the descendents of the wicked will be crushed,
but Yahweh sustains the righteous.
- 18 † Yahweh **intimately knows** the days of those with integrity,
and their inheritance will be forever—
19 they will not be ashamed in an evil time,
and they will be provided for in days of famine.
- 20 Ϸ **For**
wicked people will perish,
and the enemies of Yahweh will be consumed like a precious pasture,
they will be consumed in smoke.
- 21 ♣ The wicked **borrow** and do not repay,
but the righteous is gracious and gives,
22 for
those blessed by Him⁴² will inherit the earth,
and those cursed by Him will be cut off.
- 23 n The steps of people are established **by Yahweh**,
and He takes delight in their way,
24 though they may fall,
they won't be hurled down,
for Yahweh holds⁴³ their hands.

⁴¹Lit. "cause to fall".

⁴²i.e., by God.

⁴³Lit. "supports, upholds".

25 י I have been **young**,
 and I am now old,
 but I have not seen the righteous abandoned,
 nor have I seen their descendents begging for bread.
 26 All day long
 they are gracious
 and lend,
 and their descendents are a blessing.

27 o **Turn aside** from evil,
 and do what is good,
 and dwell forever,
 28 for
 Yahweh loves justice,
 and He will not abandon His godly ones.

ו **Evildoers** will be destroyed,
 and the descendents of wicked people will be cut off.
 29 Righteous people will inherit the earth,
 and they will dwell on it forever.

30 פ **The mouth** of the righteous utters wisdom,
 and their tongues speak justice.
 31 The teaching of their God is in their minds,
 their steps will not slip.

32 צ Wicked people **spy** on righteous people
 and seek to kill them.
 33 Yahweh will not abandon righteous people into the hand of the wicked,⁴⁴
 nor will He condemn them as guilty when He judges.

34 ק **Eagerly look** to Yahweh
 and keep His way,
 and He will exalt you to inherit the earth—
 you will see it when he cuts off wicked people.

35 ר **I have seen** ruthless wicked people,
 and they make themselves naked like a tree growing in its natural soil,
 36 then they went away
 and no longer existed,
 and I looked for them
 but they could not be found.

37 ש **Hold onto** integrity,
 and look at what is upright,
 for
 there will be a future for the man of wellbeing
 38 but the wicked will be destroyed together,
 the future of the wicked will be cut off.

⁴⁴Lit. "Yahweh will not abandon him into his hand".

39 ת The **deliverance** of righteous people comes from Yahweh,
He is a refuge during a time of distress,
and Yahweh will help them,
40 and He will indeed deliver them from wicked people,
for they⁴⁵ seek refuge in Him.

⁴⁵l.e., righteous people.

111:1 You* praise Yah!

- א **I will thank** Yahweh with all [my] mind
ב **In the assembly** of the upright and [in the] congregation
2 ג Yahweh's deeds are **great**
ד **They are sought** by all who take delight in them
3 ה His work is **splendor** and majesty
ו **And His righteousness** endures forever
4 ז He made **a memorial** for His miracles
ח **Gracious** and compassionate is Yahweh
5 ט He gives **food** to those who fear Him
י **He will remember** His covenant forever
6 יא He has told the **strength** of His deeds to His people
יב **To give** them the inheritance of nations
7 יג **The deeds** of His hand are truth and justice
יד **Faithful** are all His instructions
8 יו **They are unshakeable** forever and ever
יז **They are made** in truth and uprightness
9 יח He sent a **ransom** for His people
יט **He commanded** His covenant forever
כ **Holy** and awesome is His name
10 כא The fear of Yahweh is **the beginning** of wisdom
כב All who do them have good **insight**
כג **His praise** endures forever

112:1 You* praise Yah!

- א **Fortunate are** those¹²⁰ who fear Yahweh
ב They take great delight **in His commandments**
2 ג Their descendents will be **mighty** on earth
ד The **generation** of the upright will bless you
3 ה **Wealth** and riches are in their houses
ו **And their righteousness** endures forever
4 ז Light **rises** in darkness for the upright
ח He is **gracious**, compassionate, and righteous
5 ט Those who lend and give are **good**
י Their issues will **be supported** in judgment¹²¹
6 יא **For** they will never be shaken
לב The righteous will **be remembered** forever¹²²
7 מ They won't be afraid of an evil **report**
נ Their mind **is established**, trusting in Yahweh
8 ס Their mind **is sustained**, they will not fear
ע **Until** they [get to] look upon their enemies¹²³
9 פ **They have scattered**, [yes,] they have given to the poor
צ **Their righteousness** endures forever
ק **Their horn**¹²⁴ will be exalted in honor
10 ר **Wicked people** will see and be exasperated
ש They will gnash **their teeth** and melt away
ת **What** the wicked **want** will be destroyed

¹²⁰Hebrew often uses singulars to represent generic categories for which English uses plurals. Thus "the man" or "he" or "his" is translated "those", "they", "their" (i.e., as plurals).

¹²¹Or "with justice".

¹²²Lit. "eternal memorial".

¹²³i.e., they will get to see their enemies defeated.

¹²⁴Symbolic of *power*.

145:1 A praise by David

- א **I will exalt** You, my God, O king,
and I ought bless Your name forever and ever.
- ב **On every** day I will bless You,
and I will praise your name forever and ever.
- ג **Great** is Yahweh, and very praised,
and His greatness is unsearchable.
- ד **Generation** to generation will laud Your works,
and they will talk about Your strength.
- ה **Majesty**, glory, splendor are Yours,
so I should¹⁶⁷ actively reflect on Your marvelous deeds.
- ו **And** they will talk about Your awe inspiring **fierceness**,
and I will tell the story about Your greatness.
- ז They will bubble forth **mentioning** the greatness of Your goodness
and they will shout about Your righteousness.
- ח Yahweh is **gracious** and compassionate,
Slow to anger with great covenant faithfulness.
- ט Yahweh is **good** to everyone,
and His compassion is upon all His works.¹⁶⁸
- י All Your works will **praise** You, Yahweh,
and your godly ones will bless You.
- יא They will talk about the **glory** of Your kingdom,
and they will speak about Your strength,
- יב to **make known** His strength to the children of humanity,
as well as the honor of the glory of His kingdom.
- יג Your **kingdom** is a kingdom for all eternity,
and Your reign is during every generation.¹⁶⁹
- יד **Faithful** is God with all His words,
and He practices covenant faithfulness with all His deeds.¹⁷⁰

¹⁶⁶Psalm 145 is an alphabetic acrostic, with each verse beginning with the next letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The root words of the acrostic words are indicated by **boldface-underline**. They do not necessarily begin an English verse, for English word order is much different than Hebrew.

¹⁶⁷Another possible rendering of this cohortative is "let me actively reflect".

¹⁶⁸Or "everyone He has made".

¹⁶⁹Lit. "in every generation and generation".

¹⁷⁰The italicized portion reflects what a Dead Sea Scroll has for the missing letter י (N), except for the repeated additional refrain.

- 14 וּ Yahweh **sustains** all who have fallen down,
and He raises up all who are bent down in distress.¹⁷¹
- 15 ע The **eyes** of everyone look to You in hope,
and You give them their food at the appropriate time,
- 16 פ **opening**^פ Your hand
and satisfying all living things with goodwill.
- 17 צ Yahweh is **righteous** in all His ways,
and kind in all His deeds.
- 18 ק Yahweh is **near** to all who call upon Him,
to all who call upon Him in truth.
- 19 ר He acts with **goodwill** toward those who fear Him,
and He will hear their cry for help and rescue them.
- 20 ש Yahweh **guards** all who love Him,
and He will destroy everyone who is wicked.
- 21 ת My mouth will speak the **praise** of Yahweh,
and all flesh should bless His holy name forever and ever.

¹⁷¹The MT version of Ps 145 is missing the letter נ (N), which leads to the conclusion that a verse disappeared because of a scribal copying error. The Dead Sea Scroll has the “missing” verse which goes between verses 13 and 14:

Faithful is God with all His words,
and He practices covenant faithfulness with all His deeds.
Blessed be Yahweh, and blessed be His name forever and ever.

The final phrase, “Blessed be Yahweh, and blessed be His name forever and ever”, shows up as a refrain after every verse in the DSS.