

1 Apocryphal Psalms

A *Apocryphal psalms included in copies of the biblical psalter*

4QPsalms^f (4Q88 [4QP^sf])

Col. VII (*Hymn to Zion* = 11Q5 XXII, 1-3) 14 [Blank I rem]ember you, [Zion] for blessing;

15 I have loved you [with all my powers.]

[May your memory be blessed for ever!]

16 Great is your ho[pe, O Zion;]

17 [peace will come and the prosp]ect [of your salvation.]

Col. VIII (*Hymn to Zion* = 11Q5 XXII, 8-15) 1 [Your hope does not die, O Zion]

2 [nor is your wait forgotten.]

3 [Who] is it [that died being just]

4 [or who] is the one who has been saved [in his iniquity?]

[Man is examined] according to his path

5 each one is rewar[d]ed according to his de[re]eds.

6 All round you, O Zion, your enemies are quelled

7 and all those who hate you are scattered.

8 It is pleasant to hear your praise, O Zion,

throughout the whole world.

9 Many times I remember you

10 [and I bless you] Zion;

with all my powers I love you.

11 You shall receive everlasting justice

12 and accept the blessings of the glorious ones!

13 Accept a vision spoken in your regard

14 a prophets' dream requested for you!

May you be glorified and magnified, O Zion!

15 [Praise the Mos]t H[igh, your Saviour!]

16 [May my soul be happy in your glory!]

Col. IX (*Eschatological hymn*) 1-3 ...[...]

4 [...] many [...]

5 and may they praise the name of YHWH.

Because he comes to judge all things,

6 to obliterate evil-doers from the earth;

7 [the sons] of wickedness will find no [rest].

8 The heavens [will give] their dew,

9 and there will be no corrupt dealing in their frontiers.

- 10 The earth [will give] fruit in its season,
 11 its crops will not fail.
 12 The fruit-trees [...] of their vineyards,
 13 and their springs will not deceive.
 14 The poor will eat
 and those who fear YHWH will be replete.

Col. x (*Hymn to Judah*) 4 [...] ...

- 5 [...] meanwhile the heavens and earth will exult together.
 6 May all the stars of dusk, then, rejoice.
 7 Be happy, Judah, be happy!
 8 Be happy and burst with joy!
 9 Observe your feasts, fulfil your vows
 10 because within you there is no Belial.
 11 Lift up your hand, strengthen your right hand!
 See, your enemies perish
 12 and all who work evil will be scattered.
 13 And you, YHWH, for ever!
 14 Your glory shall be for ever and ever!

11QPsalms^a (11Q5 [11QPs^a])

Col. XVIII (*Psalm 154*) [With powerful voice give glory to God,
 in the assembly of the Many proclaim his Glory;
 among the throng of the just give glory to his Name
 and with the faithful sing his greatness.]

- 1 [Unite] your souls with the good ones and with the perfect ones
 to glorify the Most High.
 2 Join together to make his salvation known
 and do not hesitate to proclaim his power
 3 and his glory to all ordinary people.
 For, wisdom has been granted
 so that YHWH's glory can be proclaimed
 4 and so that his many deeds can be recounted
 has she been taught to man:
 so that his power can be proclaimed to ordinary people
 5 so that his might can be explained to those lacking judgment:
 those found to be far from his gates,
 6 removed *Blank* from his entrances.
 For the Most High is the Lord

7 *Blank*

8 *Blank*

- 9 of Jacob
and his glory beyond all his deeds.
The man who gives glory to the Most High
- 10 is accepted like one who brings an offering
like one who offers goats and bullocks.
- 11 like one who makes the altar greasy with many holocausts,
like the sweet fragrance of the just man's hand.
- 12 Her voice is heard in the gates of just men
and in the assembly of devout men, her song;
- 13 they speak about it when they eat to bursting,
when they drink, all meeting together;
- 14 their meditation is on the Law of the Most High,
their words, to proclaim his power.
- 15 How distant from the wicked is his word
from all the arrogant his knowledge!
- 16 See, YHWH's eyes
have pity on good people;
he increases his compassion on those who give him glory;
- 17 he frees their soul at the instant of danger.
Bless YHWH
who ransoms the humble from the foreigner's hand
- 18 [and frees the perfect from the wicked man's hand;
who raises a horn from Jacob]
and judges [the peoples from Israel,
who pitches his tent in Zion
and remains for ever in Jerusalem.]

Col. XIX (Entreaty for deliverance = 11QPs^b frags. a + b)

- 1 For not even a maggot could give you thanks,
or a worm tell of your goodness.
- 2 The living, the living *Blank* can praise you,
even the ones who stumble extol you.
You teach them, revealing to them
- 3 your goodness and justice,
for in your hand is the soul of every living being;
- 4 you give all flesh its breath.
Deal with us, O YHWH, according to your kindness,
- 5 according to your abundant compassion
and the great number of your just acts.
- 6 YHWH has heard the outcry of those loving his Name
and has not denied them his goodness.
- 7 Blessed be YHWH who performs just deeds

- 8 and crowns his devout with goodness and compassion.
 Cry out, my soul, to extol /your/ Name
 to announce your good deeds with shouts,
 9 to proclaim your loyalty;
 your praise is mysterious.
 10 For my sins I was on the point of dying
 and my iniquities sold me to Sheol.
 11 But you, YHWH, saved me
 according to your abundant compassion
 and the great number of your just acts.
 12 I too have loved your Name
 and I have looked for sanctuary in your shade.
 The memory of your power strengthens my heart
 13 I relax in your goodness.
 Pardon my sins, YHWH,
 14 and cleanse me from my iniquity.
 Bestow on me a faithful and knowing spirit;
 may I not be disgraced in the calamity.
 15 May Satan not rule over me
 or an unclean spirit;
 may neither pain nor evil purpose
 16 take possession of my bones.
 Because you, YHWH, are my praise
 and in you I hope all day.
 17 May my brothers be happy with me
 and my father's house,
 whom you baffled by your favour
 18 ... [...]
 in you shall I be happy for ever.

Col. XXI (*Hymn to wisdom = Ben Sira 51: 13-19*) 11 Aleph Although still young,

- before going astray
 I searched for her.
 Beth Beautiful she came to me
 12 when at last I found her.
 Chimel As falls the flower when grapes are ripening
 making the heart happy,
 13 Daleth directly walked my foot
 for since my youth I have known her.
 He Hardly my ear I bent
 14 and found great allure.
 Waw Wet-nurse was she for me

on my mistress I conferred my honour.
 15 *Zain* Zealous for good,
 I decided to enjoy myself
 ceaselessly.

Heth Charred was my soul for her
 16 I did not give in.

Teth Torrid my desire for her
 and on her heights I was not serene.

17 *Yodh* Yes, 'my hand' opened [her doors]
 and I inspected her nakedness.

Kaph Cleansed then 'my hand' [...]

Col. XXII (Hymn to Zion = 4QPs 11^f VII-VIII) 1 (Aleph) Blank Ah, I remember you,
 Zion, for blessing;

2 *Beth* Beloved to me with all my powers.
 May your memory be blessed for ever!

Ghimel Great is your hope, O Zion;
 3 peace will come and the longing for your salvation.

Daleth Dwell shall generation after generation in you,
 generations of the devout shall be your splendour;

4 *He* Hungering for the day of your salvation
Waw With the greatness of your glory shall they rejoice,

5 *Zain* Zuckle shall they at your splendid breasts,
 they shall scamper about your marvellous squares.

Heth Chervish will you the goodness of your prophets
 6 you will revel in the deeds of your devout ones.

Teth Then purge ferocity from within you,
 7 may lying and sin be eradicated from you.

Yodh Your sons will rejoice within you
 and your loved ones will be united with you.

8 *Kaph* Keenly they have waited for your salvation;
 how your perfect ones have observed mourning for you!

Lamed Lo, your hope does not die, Zion,
 9 nor is your longing forgotten.

Mem Might anyone have died through being just?
 Might anyone have been saved in his sin?

10 *Nun* Nent his path is a man examined
 each one rewarded according to his deeds.

Samek Suppressed, O Zion, are your enemies around you
 and all those who hate you are scattered.

Ain A lovely scent, O Zion, is your praise
 12 which rises in all the world.

Peh Past counting the times I remember you for a blessing,
with all my heart I bless you.

13 *Sade* Secure eternal justice
and receive the blessings of the glorious ones!

14 *Qoph* Quire the vision spoken in your regard
the prophets' dreams requested for you!

Resh Rank glorified and magnified, O Zion!

15 Praise the Most High, your Saviour!

Tau Thrill may my soul in your glory! *Blank*

Col. XXIV (Psalm 155) 3 YHWH, I call to you, listen to me;

4 I extend my hands to your holy dwelling;

bend your ear and grant my plea,

5 and my entreaty, do not reject it;

Beth? build up my heart and do not erode it

or forsake it in the presence of wicked men.

6 *Ghime!* Grant that the judge of truth

turn away from me

the recompenses of evil.

7 O YHWH, do not judge me by my sin

because no-one living is just in your presence.

8 *He* Have me instructed, YHWH, in your law,

and teach me your precepts

9 *Waw* whereby many hear your deeds

and the peoples honour your glory.

10 *Zain* Zrecognize me and do not forget me

or lead me into difficulties.

11 *Heth* H From me childhood sin remove

and may my offences not be remembered against me.

12 *Teth* Turn me pure, YHWH, from the evil taint

may it stop coming back to me;

13 *Yodh* y dry up its roots in me

may its leaves not become green again over me.

Kaph Klory are you, YHWH,

14 therefore my plea is achieved in your presence.

Lamed L To whom may I shout and he would grant it to me?

15 The sons of men: what can their strength do?

Mem My trust is in you, YHWH.

16 I called «YHWH» and he heard me

[and healed] my broken heart.

17 *Nun* Now I slumbered and slept;

I dreamt and, well: [woke up!]

Samek? [Sustained me, YHWH, you have
and I called to you], YHWH, [my deliverer.]

¹⁸ *Ain?* [And now I rejoice in his shame;
I trusted in you and have not been disillusioned.
Peh Pay for Israel, your devoted ones, O YHWH,
and the house of Jacob, your chosen ones.]

Col. xxvi (Hymn to the Creator) 9 Great and Holy are you, YHWH,
the Holiest of Holy Ones, from generation to generation.
In front of him walks glory

¹⁰ and behind him boom copious waters.

Goodness and truth surround his face,
¹¹ truth, uprightness and justice are the base of his throne.
He separated light from darkness

established the dawn with the knowledge of his heart.

¹² Then all his angels saw him and sang
for he showed them what they had not known.

¹³ He covered the mountains with produce
perfect nourishment for all the living.

¹⁴ Blessed be he who made the earth with his strength
establishing the world with his wisdom.

With his knowledge he spread out the heavens
¹⁵ and brought out [the wind] from his storehouses:
[with (the) lightning flashes] he unleashed [the rain]
and made the clouds from the end [of the earth] go up.

Col. xxvii (Compositions of David) > 2 Sam 23:7 1 and the haft of his spear
and he cast them in the fire
leaving no trace of them.

² *Blank* And David, son of Jesse, was wise, a luminary like the light of the sun,
learned, ³ *Blank* knowledgeable, and perfect in all his paths before God and
men. And to him ⁴ *Blank* YHWH gave a wise and enlightened spirit. And he
wrote psalms: ⁵ three thousand six hundred; and songs to be sung before the
altar over the perpetual ⁶ offering of every day, for all the days of the year:
three hundred ⁷ and sixty-four; and for the sabbath offerings: fifty-two songs;
and for the offering for the beginning ⁸ of the month, and for all the days of the
festivals, and for the day of atonement: thirty songs. ⁹ And all the songs which
he composed were four hundred and forty-six. And songs ¹⁰ to be sung over
the possessed: four. The total was four thousand and fifty. ¹¹ He composed
them all through the spirit of prophecy which had been given to him from
before the Most High. *Blank*

Col. xxviii (*Psalm 151*) 3 Halleluia of David, son of Jesse.

I was smaller than my brothers
and younger than my father's sons;

4 he put me as shepherd of his flock
and master of his kid goats.

My hands made a flute.

my fingers a lyre,

5 and I gave glory to YHWH.

I said to myself:

the mountains do not witness in his favour,

6 nor do the hills proclaim on his behalf,

nor the trees his words

or the sheep his deeds.

7 Who, then, is going to announce

and who will speak

and who will narrate the deeds of the Lord?

God saw everything

8 he heard everything

and listened.

He sent his prophet to anoint me

9 Samuel, to make me great.

My brothers went out to meet him

well built,

very presentable.

They were quite tall,

10 they had attractive hair,

but YHWH God did not choose them,

instead he sent to fetch me from following the flock

11 and anointed me with holy oil

and set me as leader of his people

/and chief of/ the sons of his covenant.

12 Blank

13 Beginning of David's exploit,

after God's prophet had anointed him.

Meanwhile I saw a Philistine

14 threatening from [...]

I [...]

11QPsalms^b (11Q6 [11QPs^b])

Frag. a (= 11Q5 XIX, 1-9) 1 [poor] and weak am I,
for [...]

- 2 [For] not even a grub can give you thanks
[or a maggot narrate your goodness.]
- 3 [The live person,] the live person can praise you.
[They shall extol you those who stumble.]
- 4 [You teach them, revealing to them]
your goodness and your justice,
[for in your hand is the spirit of every] living thing;
- 5 you give all flesh its food.
[Deal with us, O YHWH, in accordance with your kindness
in accordance with your abundant comp]assion
- 6 and your numerous just deeds.
[YHWH has heard the cry of those loving his Name]
- 7 [he has not removed] from them his goodness.
Bles[sed be YHWH who performs just deeds]
- 8 [and crowns his devoted ones] with goodness and compassion.
[May my soul shout to extol your Name,]
- 9 [to proclaim] with cheers your acts of goodness
to ann[ounce your constancy;]

Frag. b (= 11Q5 XIX, 12-15) 1 [and in your shade] I have looked for shelter.

- The memory of [your power strengthens my heart,]
[I rest in your acts of goodness.]
- 2 Forgive my sins, YHWH,
[and cleanse me from my iniquity.]
- 3 Adorn me [with a spirit of loyalty and knowledge;]
may I not be disgraced in the calami[ty.]

B *Independent collections of apocryphal psalms*

4QNon-Canonical Psalms A (4Q380)

Frag. 1 col. I 1 [...] 2 [...] Jerusalem is 3 [the city chosen by YH]WH for ever and
ever 4 [...] holy ones 5 [Because the Na]me of YHWH is invoked over her, 6 [and
his glory] is seen over Jerusalem 7 [and] Zion. Who will utter the Name of
8 YHWH? And who shall proclaim all [his] praise? 9 YHWH [remem]bered him
in his favour and visited him 10 in order to make him see the good 11 [of his
chosen] ones in order to che[er him in the joy of his people.]

Frag. 1 col. II 1 He made a man for you [...] 2 Because he is the one [whose
wo]rds they keep [...] 3 which is for all the children of Israel [...] 4 May your
hand rescue you, for God's power [...] 5 doing good and hating the wicked.
Until [when...] 6 will you take pleasure in doing evil? Unless the wicked person

expires [...] 7 *Blank* 8 Hymn of Obadiah. God [...] 9 the truth in it and his kindness [...]

Frag. 2 1 [...] ... [...] 2 [...] mountains and hills [...] 3 [...] those who rely on them shall shudder [...] 4 [...] and they shall shout to] YHWH in their distress. From their difficulties ... 5 [...] and he will free them. For] with the devout YHWH is compassionate. [...] 6 [...] to the man [...] 7 [...] ... [...]

Frag. 4 1 Hymn of [...] 2 You shall repel the [...] 3 He will make [...] wise 4 and ... [...]

4QNon-Canonical Psalms B (4Q381)

Frag. 1 1 [...] I proclaimed.

And I reflected on his wonders
which for me shall be (the) teaching of justice.

2 [...] my mouth;

and to the simple, and they shall understand,
and to those without heart, and they shall know YHWH.

How power[ful...]

3 wonders!

He, in his day, made the heavens and the earth.

With a word from his mouth [...]

4 and torrents;

they shall channel their streams (?),

pools and every whirlwind,

and ... [...]

5 the night, the stars and the constellations;

and he caused [...] to shine (?) [...]

6 tree and every fru[it of the vi]ne

and all the produce of the field.

And according to his words ... [...]

7 to [his wi]fe.

And by his spirit he established them

to control all of them in the earth,

and with all [...]

8 month by month, feast by feast, day by day,

to eat its fruit ... [...]

9 [...]

and the birds and all that is theirs

to eat the best of everything.

And also [...]

- 10 [...] in them
and all his armies and his an[gels...]
- 11 [...] in order to serve man
and help him and [...]

Frag. 15 1 [...] you shall change my heart and [...]

- 2 [...] Turn your face to me
and have pity on me,
give your strength to your servant
and save the son of your maidservant.
- 3 Show me [a sign for good,
so that those who hate me see it and are bewildered,
because you,] my God, did help me
and I made my case to you, my God.
- 4 [...] You control the de]pths of the sea
and you calm its waves;
- 5 you [crushed Rahab like a corpse,
with your powerful arm you scattered your enemies.
The world and] what fills it, you established
- 6 You have a [powerful] arm;
[strong is your hand;
upraised is your right.
Who in the heavens is like you] my God?
And who among the sons of gods?
- 7 And in the whole [company of the holy ones?...]
For you] are the glory of its grandeur,
and I, your anointed, have understood.

Frag. 24 4 Hymn of the man of God.

- YHWH God [...]
- 5 He has redeemed Judah from all hardships,
and of Ephraim [...]
- 6 generation.
The mighty shall praise you and say:
'Arise, my God [...]...[...]
- 7 Your Name is my salvation;
my rock, my fortress and my deliverer [is YHWH...]
- 8 On the day of [my hardship] I will call to YHWH
and my God will answer me;
my help [...] those who hate me.
And [...] will say: 9 because [...] to the people, and I [...] (may) my sh]out be-
fore him reach his ears.

- Frag. 31* 1 [...] in the net which they hide [...] ... [...] I will sing to you, YHWH,
 [...] 2 [...] I will praise your wonders [...] before you. [...] You will rescue me
 and extricate me from the teeth of death. And you [...] (to) the heights of all
 [...] 3 [...] of all his path [...] in a holy place. [...] *Blank*
 4 [Prayer of ...] King of Judah:
 Listen, [my] God [...] ... my strength
 [...] I will narrate before those who fear you
 [...] ... with me [...]
 5 [... Your th]oughts,
 who can understand them?
 For my enemies are before you.
 You have humiliated them and the ones who detest my life
 you have overturned them before your eyes,
 I shall live, for, [...]
 6 [... You will not] hide (the) sin from those who have knowledge.
 You will destroy them.
 God of my salvation, the days of my service are counted.
 What can I do?
 Here I am, weak,
 7 [... You will deliver] to the sword those waiting for me;
 on the day of wrath, those who say ...
 They have plaited a crown for my head.
 I shall know the fruits of their glory,
 8 and their ornaments [...]
 a question on my lips [...]
 from the book of life [...]
 those who bully me will stop
 my enemies will die,
 and not [...]
 9 [...]...song of thanksgiving
 [...] with you [...] *Blank*
- Frag. 33* 1 [...] and for her there will be no offspring [...] ... [...] 2 And you will
 establish for my times and ... [... Above the heavens, rise, YHWH, and ... [...]
 3 and we will revel in your might, because [your wisdom] is unfathomable [...]
 ... your reproach will be 4 eternal [...] for me and for your glory. For my faults
 are too many for me and [...] ... But you, my God, will send your spirit and
 [have pity] 5 on the son of your maidservant, and compassion on the servant
 who approaches you. And [...] I will sing and rejoice in you in the presence of
 those who fear you, for [you will judge] 6 your servants in your justice accord-
 ing to your compassion [...] to set free ... [...] (to) you. *Selah. Blank 7 Blank*
 8 Prayer of Manasseh, king of Judah, when the King of Assyria put him in

prison. [...]

 My God [...] near,

 my salvation is in front of your eyes;

 [...]

 9 I await the salvation of your presence.

 I yield to you for my sins,

 for you have incr[eased your compassion],

 whereas I have added to my fault,

 and so [have separated myself] from everlasting joy.

 10 You have not looked at the goodness of my soul,

 for [...]

Frag. 45 1 And I shall understand and teach whoever does not understand. Him [...] and I shall fear you and purify myself 2 from all the abominations that I am aware of. And I shall humble my soul in your presence [...] They increased sin, plotted against me 3 to confine me. But I trusted in you [...] 4 Do not pronounce sentence against me, my God [...] 5 Those conniving against me open a deceitful tongue [...] 6 for me. The deeds of [...] 7 ... [...]

Frag. 46 1 [...] against me [...] 2 Your abundant favours [...] ... [...] a horn is given to me [...] 3 with you. And I ... [...] idols. Your laws, your splendour and your beauty [...] 4 will spread out like clouds over the face [of the earth ...] and our sandy places, and they will be scattered in great numbers, until [...] 5 Man will not be prevail, nor will [...] arise [...] you test everyone. The chosen (ones), like the offerings, you will purify in your presence. Those who are hated 6 you will reject like uncleanness. A storm wind [...] their deeds. But those who fear you will be before you forever. Their horns are horns of 7 steel with which they gore many. They will gore [...] You will make their hooves of bronze, and sinners 8 will be trampled like dirt on the face of the earth. [...] They will be hurled from before [...] And your spirit [...] 9 [...] and a searing fire [...] ... [...]

Frag. 69 1 [...] (to) them because [...] When he saw that the peoples of the earth behaved abominably 2 [...] all the earth went from impure defilement to impure defilement. And wonderfully, from the beginning, 3 [...] conferred with his heart to destroy them from upon it and to create on it a people for himself 4 [...] And through his spirit he gave you prophets to teach you and show you 5 [...] /he came down from heaven and spoke to you to teach you and keep you away from the deeds of the inhabitants of/ he gave you laws, instructions and commandments of the covenant which he established through the hand of [Moses ...] 6 [...] to reside on the earth. Then it will be purified and [...] 7 [...] to consider among yourselves if you will be for him, or if [...] 8 [...] and break

the covenant which he established with you, and act like foreigners and [...] 9 [...] against wickedness and alter his words from his mouth. [...] 10 [...] ...
[...]

Frgs. 76-77 1 [...] for me. Animals and birds, be gathered [...] 2 [...] with the
sons of man, following the inclination of the thou[ghts of their heart ...] 3 [...] will be destruction [...] 4 [...] fire and annihilation. And [...] not 5 [...] the
people of its belongings. [...] 6 [...] ... [...] *Blank* 7 [...] congregation of the
Holy of Holies, lot of the King of Kings [...] 8 [...] my word. You will pay
attention to the wisdom which issues from my mouth, and will understand [...] 9
9 [...] and the honest judge and the reliable witness. Do you perhaps have the
strength to answer him? [...] 10 [...] to proclaim. Who among you will reply
and dispute with him? [...] 11 [...] because those who judge you are many and
those who bear witness against you are countless. But is [...] 12 [...] YHWH will
sit in judgement with you to judge in truth and without injustice [...] 13 [...] his
spirits, to render you judgments of truth. Is there knowledge, for you to
learn it? [...] 14 [...] Lord of Lords, hero, wonderful. There is no-one like him.
He has chosen you [...] 15 [...] from among] many [peoples] and from among
great nations so that you will be a people for him, to rule over everyone [...] 16
16 [...] heaven and earth, and to be at the summit of all the nations of the earth,
and to [...]