

NRS **Psalm 18:1** <To the leader. A Psalm of David the servant of the LORD, who addressed the words of this song to the LORD on the day when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. He said:>

I love you, O LORD, my strength.

² The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. ³ I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, so I shall be saved from my enemies.

⁴ The cords of death encompassed me; the torrents of perdition assailed me; ⁵ the cords of Sheol entangled me; the snares of death confronted me.

⁶ In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.

⁷ Then the earth reeled and rocked; the foundations also of the mountains trembled and quaked, because he was angry. ⁸ Smoke went up from his nostrils, and devouring fire from his mouth; glowing coals flamed forth from him. ⁹ He bowed the heavens, and came down; thick darkness was under his feet. ¹⁰ He rode on a cherub, and flew; he came swiftly upon the wings of the wind. ¹¹ He made darkness his covering around him, his canopy thick clouds dark with water. ¹² Out of the brightness before him there broke through his clouds hailstones and coals of fire. ¹³ The LORD also thundered in the heavens, and the Most High uttered his voice.

¹⁴ And he sent out his arrows, and scattered them; he flashed forth lightnings, and routed them. ¹⁵ Then the channels of the sea were seen, and the foundations of the world were laid bare at your rebuke, O LORD, at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.

¹⁶ He reached down from on high, he took me; he drew me out of mighty waters. ¹⁷ He delivered me from my strong enemy, and from those who hated me; for they were too mighty for me. ¹⁸ They confronted me in the day of my calamity; but the LORD was my support.

¹⁹ He brought me out into a broad place; he delivered me, because he delighted in me.

²⁰ The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hands he recompensed me.

²¹ For I have kept the ways of the LORD, and have not wickedly departed from my God.

²² For all his ordinances were before me, and his statutes I did not put away from me.

²³ I was blameless before him, and I kept myself from guilt.

²⁴ Therefore the LORD has recompensed me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in his sight.

²⁵ With the loyal you show yourself loyal; with the blameless you show yourself blameless; ²⁶ with the pure you show yourself pure; and with the crooked you show yourself perverse.

²⁷ For you deliver a humble people, but the haughty eyes you bring down.

²⁸ It is you who light my lamp; the LORD, my God, lights up my darkness.

²⁹ By you I can crush a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall.

³⁰ This God-- his way is perfect; the promise of the LORD proves true; he is a shield for all who take refuge in him.

³¹ For who is God except the LORD? And who is a rock besides our God?-

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³² the God who girded me with strength, and made my way safe.

³³ He made my feet like the feet of a deer, and set me secure on the heights. ³⁴ He trains my hands for war, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. ³⁵ You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your right hand has supported me; your help has made me great.

³⁶ You gave me a wide place for my steps under me, and my feet did not slip. ³⁷ I pursued my enemies and overtook them; and did not turn back until they were consumed.

³⁸ I struck them down, so that they were not able to rise; they fell under my feet. ³⁹ For you girded me with strength for the battle; you made my assailants sink under me.

⁴⁰ You made my enemies turn their backs to me, and those who hated me I destroyed. ⁴¹ They cried for help, but there was no one to save them; they cried to the LORD, but he did not answer them.

⁴² I beat them fine, like dust before the wind; I cast them out like the mire of the streets. ⁴³ You delivered me from strife with the peoples; you made me head of the nations; people whom I had not known served me.

⁴⁴ As soon as they heard of me they obeyed me; foreigners came cringing to me. ⁴⁵ Foreigners lost heart, and came trembling out of their strongholds.

⁴⁶ The LORD lives! Blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation, ⁴⁷ the God who gave me vengeance and subdued peoples under me; ⁴⁸ who delivered me from my enemies; indeed, you exalted me above my adversaries; you delivered me from the violent.

⁴⁹ For this I will extol you, O LORD, among the nations, and sing praises to your name.

⁵⁰ Great triumphs he gives to his king, and shows steadfast love to his anointed, to David and his descendants forever.

Psalm 34:1 <Of David, when he feigned madness before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away.>

I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

² My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

³ O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

⁴ I sought the LORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

⁵ Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

⁶ This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD, and was saved from every trouble.

⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

⁸ O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

⁹ O fear the LORD, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.

¹⁰ The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

¹¹ Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

¹² Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good?

¹³ Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.

¹⁴ Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

¹⁵ The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry.

¹⁶ The face of the LORD is against evildoers, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

¹⁷ When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears, and rescues them from all their troubles.

¹⁸ The LORD is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.

¹⁹ Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD rescues them from them all.

²⁰ He keeps all their bones; not one of them will be broken.

²¹ Evil brings death to the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

²² The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

NRS **Psalm 116:1**

I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

² Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

³ The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

⁴ Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, save my life!"

⁵ Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

⁶ The LORD protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.

⁷ Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you. ⁸ For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

⁹ I walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

¹⁰ I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted";

¹¹ I said in my consternation, "Everyone is a liar."

¹² What shall I return to the LORD for all his bounty to me?

¹³ I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD,

¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones.

¹⁶ O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds.

¹⁷ I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice 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 your midst, O Jerusalem.

Praise the LORD!