

Psalm 23

לְדָוִד מְזִמּוֹר 1
of David song, melody

רֹעִי יְהוָה
my shepherd Yahweh
b a A

אֶחְסֵר לֹא
I will lack, be in need not
d c A'

יְרַבֵּי צִנִּי דְּשָׂא 2 בְּנֵאוֹת
He will cause me to rest¹ grass pastures of
c b a B

יְנַהֵלֵנִי מְנוּחֹת עַל-מֵי
He will lead me to water and cause me to rest there² rest, quietness waters of upon
c' b' a' B'

יָשׁוּב 3 נַפְשִׁי
He will bring back, restore my soul
b a C

צְדָק בְּמַעַגְלִי- יְנַחֵנִי
righteousness in track, rut of- fig. course of life He causes me to rest
d c b' C'

שְׁמוֹ לְמַעַן
His name for the sake of/because of³
f e C''

¹ Cf. Jer. 33:12, Ezek 34:15.

² Cf. Isa 40:11, 49:10

³ Either advantage 'for the sake of' Williams §365 or cause 'because of' Williams §366.

צִלְמוֹת
death shadow, deepest gloom, darkness
c

בְּגֵיאַ אֵלַי
in valley of I will walk
b a

כִּי- 4 גַם D
if even

רַע
evil, misfortune, calamity
c'

אִירָא
I will fear
a'

לֹא- D'
not

עִמָּדִי
with me
e

אַתָּה (are) You
d

כִּי- E
because

יִנְחַמְנִי
they will comfort, console⁴ me
e'

הֵמָּה
they

וּמִשְׁעֵנֹתָי
and Your staff⁵
d'

שִׁבְטְךָ E'
Your rod
d''

צֹרְרֵי
ones showing hostility, harassing me⁶
e

נֶגְדִי
before, in presence of
d

שֻׁלְחָן
table
c

לִפְנֵי
before me
b

5 תַּעֲרֹךְ F'
You arrange,
a

רֹאשִׁי
my head
c'

בְּשֶׁמֶן
with the oil
f

הַשֵּׁנֶת F'
You make fat (i.e. anoint, symbol of festivity and joy)
a'

רוּיָה
saturation⁷, complete abundance
g

כּוֹסִי F''
(is) my cup
c''

⁴ Cf. Psa 71:21, 119:76,82.

⁵ Two different items, the 'staff' was a club used for discipline or defense from predators. The staff was a hooked stick used for guidance, comfort and to draw the sheep to the shepherd.

⁶ Cf. BDB refs. many in psalms.

⁷ Cf. Psa 66:12.

יִרְדְּפוּנִי
They will pursue, chase, harass me
c

וְחֶסֶד
and covt faithfulness
b

טוֹב 6 אֵךְ G
good, goodness surely (marker of emphasis)

חַיִּי יָמַי כָּל- H
my life days of all of

יְהוָה בְּבֵית- וְשָׁבְתִי G'
Yahweh in house of and I will dwell⁸

יָמִים לְאָרְךָ H'
days to length of

⁸ Poss 'return' שׁוּב but probably 'dwell' יֵשֵׁב in shortened form, cf. Expositors commentary en loc.