

Psalm 51

1 לְמַנְצִיחַ מְזִמּוֹר לְדָוִד:
 Prop.N. msa PielPtcpsa+ל
 to/of David melody, song to the director¹

2 בָּבוֹא אֵלָיו נָתַן הַנְּבִיא כַּאֲשֶׁר-בָּא אֶל-בֵּת-שֶׁבַע:
 Prop. N. prep QPpf3ms rel.+כ msa+ה Prop.N. prep+3ms QInfabs²
 Bathsheba unto he entered just as the prophet Nathan unto him when he entered

3 חַנּוּנִי אֱלֹהִים כַּחֲסִדְךָ
 msc+2ms+כ mpa QIpv2ms+1cs
 according to Your cov't faithfulness God show me grace, favor

כָּרַב רַחֲמֶיךָ מַחֶה פְּשָׁעַי
 mpc+1cs QIpv2ms mpc+2ms adv+כ
 my transgression, guilt wipe out³ Your compassion according to the greatness of

4 (הַרְבֵּה) [הַרְבֵּה] כְּבִסְנִי מֵעֲוֹנִי
 msc+1cs+מ PielIpv2ms+1cs HiphIpv2ms HiphInfabs
 from my evil wash me greatly increase

וּמַחֲטָאתִי טַהַרְנִי:
 PielIpv2ms+1cs msc+1cs+מ+ו
 purify me and from my sin

5 כִּי-פְשָׁעַי אֲנִי אָדַע וַחֲטָאתִי נִגְדִי תָמִיד:
 adv prep+1cs msc+1cs+ו QIpf1cs 1cs mpc+1cs conj
 continually before me (is) and my sin I know I my transgressions because

¹ Poss. taken from a 'director's collection' cf. לְדָוִד.

² Temporal.

³ Cf. Psa 9:6; 51:11.

6 לָךְ לְבַדְּךָ חָטֵאתִי וְהָרַע בְּעֵינֶיךָ עָשִׂיתִי
 QPf1cs mpc+2ms+ב msc+ה+ו QPf1cs msc+2ms+ל prep+2ms⁴
 I did in Your eyes and the evil I sinned You alone against You

לְמַעַן תִּצְדַּק בְּדַבְרֶךָ תִּזְכֶּה בְּשִׁפְטֶיךָ:
 mpc+2ms+ב QIpf2ms mpc+2ms+ב QIpf2ms conj.
 in Your judgments You will be pure in Your words You will be just in order that, because⁵

7 הֵן-בְּעוֹן חוֹלַלְתִּי וּבַחַטָּא יַחַמְתַּנִּי אִמִּי:
 fsa+1cs PielPf3fs+1cs msa+ב+ו PolalPf1cs msa+ב interj.
 my mother she conceived me and in sin I was brought forth in iniquity Behold

8 הֵן-אֱמֶת חַפְצָת בְּטָחוֹת
 fsa QPf2ms fsa interj.
 in the inner parts You desire truth/faithfulness Behold

וּבְסַתְּם חִכְמָה תוֹדִיעֵנִי:
 HiphIpf2ms+1cs fsa QPassPtcpsmsa+ב+ו
 You teach me wisdom and in closed up part

9 תַּחַטְּאֵנִי בְּאִזּוֹב וְאֶטְהַר
 QIpf1cs+ו msa+ב PielIpf2ms+1cs
 and I will be clean with hyssop purify me

תְּכַבֵּסֵנִי וּמִשְׁלֵג אֶלְבִּין:
 HiphIpf1cs msa+מ+ו PielIpf2ms+1cs
 I will grow/show white and than snow wash me

⁴ ל of disadvantage Williams §271.

⁵ Either causal (so Williams §366) ‘I did evil in Your eyes because Your words are just...’ or result expressed ironically as intended purpose (so BDB) ‘I did evil in order that/with the result that You are just in your words’.

10 תִּשְׁמִיעַנִי וְשִׂמְחָה שְׂשׂוֹן
 HiphIpf2ms+1cs msa fsa+1
 You will cause me to/let me hear rejoicing, exultation and joy

תִּגְלֶנָּה עֲצָמוֹת דְּכִיתָ:
 QIpf3fp fpc PielPf2ms
 they will rejoice bones of You crushed

11 הַסֵּתֶר פְּנִיךָ מִחַטָּאִי וְכֹל- עֲוֹנֹתַי מִחָה:
 HiphIpf2ms mpc+2ms mpc+1cs+7 adj+1 mpc+1cs
 Your face hide from my sins and all of my evils wipe out

12 לֵב טָהוֹר בְּרָא- לִי אֱלֹהִים
 msa adj QIpf2ms mpa 1cs+ל⁶
 heart clean/pure create God (for) me

וְרוּחַ נָכוֹן חֲדַשׁ בְּקִרְבִּי:
 fsa+1 NiphPtcpsa PielIpf2ms msa+1cs+7
 and spirit steadfast⁷ renew, repair In my inward part

13 אֵל- תִּשְׁלֵיכֵנִי מִלְּפָנֶיךָ
 neg HiphIpf(juss)2ms+1cs prep+2ms+7
 not You will send me from before You

וְרוּחַ קִדְשְׁךָ אֵל- תִּקַּח מִמֶּנִּי:
 fsa+1 adjmsc+2ms neg QIpf(juss)2ms prep+1cs
 and Spirit Your Holy not You will take from me

14 הַשִּׁיבָה לִי שְׂשׂוֹן יִשְׁעֶךָ וְרוּחַ נְדִיבָה תִּסְמְכֵנִי:
 HiphIpf2ms prep+1cs msc msc adjfsa fsa+1 msc+2ms QIpf2ms+1cs
 cause to return to me joy of Your salvation and spirit willing uphold, support me

15 אֶלְמֹדָה פִּשְׁעִים דְּרַכֶּיךָ וְחַטָּאִים אֵלֶיךָ יָשׁוּבוּ:
 PielIpf1cs mpa mpc+2ms mpa+1 QIpf3mp prep+2ms
 I will teach transgressors Your ways and sinners they will return unto You

⁶ ל marks indirect object, Williams §269.

⁷ Established, firm, steadfast, directed aright, cf. Psa 119:5, 57:8.

16 הַצִּילֵנִי מִדַּמַּיִם אֱלֹהִים אֱלֹהֵי תְּשׁוּעָתִי
 HiphIpv2ms+1cs mpa mpa+נ fsc+1cs mpc
 deliver me from guilt of bloodshed O God God of my salvation, deliverance

תִּרְנֶן לְשׁוֹנִי צְדָקָתְךָ:
 PielIpf3fs msc+1cs fsc+2ms
 she will give a ringing cry of joy, declare aloud my tongue Your righteousness

17 אֲדַנִּי שְׂפָתַי תִּפְתַּח וּפִי יִגִּיד תְּהַלְתֶּךָ:
 fdc+1cs msa QIpf3fs msc+1cs+ו fsc+2ms HiphIpf3ms
 my lips Lord she will open and my mouth will declare Your praise

18 כִּי לֹא-תִחַפֵּץ זֶבַח
 neg conj. msa Qipf2ms
 not for sacrifice You delight

וְאֵתְנָה עֹלָה לֹא תִרְצֶה:
 QIpf1cs+ו fsa Qipf2ms neg
 and that I may give⁸ whole burnt offering You will be pleased not

19 זִבְחֵי אֱלֹהִים רוּחַ נִשְׁבְּרָה
 mpc mpa fsa NiphPtcpfsa
 sacrifices of God spirit Being broken

לֵב-נִשְׁבֵּר וְנִדְכָּה אֱלֹהִים לֹא תִבְזֶה:
 msa mpc NiphPtcpmsa+ו mpa neg QIpf2ms
 heart being broken and being crushed¹⁰ O God not You will despise, regard with contempt⁹

20 הֵיטִיבָה בְּרַצוֹנְךָ אֶת-צִיּוֹן
 HiphIpv2ms msc+2ms+נ Prop. N. DDO
 do good, deal well with in Your goodwill, favor¹¹ Zion

תִּבְנֶה חוֹמוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם:
 QIpf2ms fpc Prop.N.
 You will build walls of Jerusalem

⁸ Cf. Williams §185, 187.

⁹ Cf. Psa 73:20

¹⁰ Cf. v. 10

¹¹ Cf. Psa 5:13; 30:6,8; 89:18; 106:4; 69:14, etc.

וְכִלִּיל עֹלָה צֶדֶק זְבַחֵי- תִּחְפֹּץ אַז 21
msa+ו fsa msa mpc QIpf2ms conj
 and perfect whole burnt offering righteousness sacrifices of You will take pleasure then¹²

מִזְבֵּחַךְ פְּרִים: עַל- יַעֲלוּ אַז
mpa msc+2ms prep QIpf3mp conj.
 young bulls Your altar upon they will go up then¹⁵

¹² Logical sequence, not temporal.