

Psalm 51

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

2 בָּבוֹא אֵלָיו נָתַן הַנְּבִיא כַּאֲשֶׁר-בָּא אֶל-בֵּת-שֶׁבַע:
 Prop.N. prep QP3ms rel.+כ msa+ה Prop.N. prep+3ms QInfabs²
 Bathsheba unto he entered just as the prophet Nathan unto him when he entered
 b' a' b a

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

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

4 (הַרְבֵּה) [הַרְבַּ] כַּבְּסֵנִי מֵעֲוֹנֵי
 msc+1cs+מ Piellpv2ms+1cs HiphIpv2ms HiphInfabs
 from my evil wash me greatly increase
 b a

וּמַחֲטָאתִי טַהַרְנֵנִי:
 PielIpv2ms+1cs msc+1cs+מ+ו
 purify me and from my sin
 a' b'

5 כִּי-פְשָׁעֵי אֲנִי אֲדַע וְחַטָּאתִי 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
 b' a' b a

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

² Temporal.

³ Cf. Psa 9:6; 51:11.

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

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

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

8 הֵן-אֱמֶת חַפְצָת בַּשְּׁחוֹת
 fsa interj. QPf2ms fpa+ב+ה
 truth/faithfulness Behold in the inner parts You desire

וּבִסְתָם תוֹדִיעֵנִי חֲכָמָה
 QPassPtcpmsa+ב+ו fsa HiphIpf2ms+1cs
 and in closed up part wisdom You teach me

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

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

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 תִּשְׁמַעַנִי תִשְׂשׂוֹן וְשִׂמְחָה
 HiphIpf2ms+1cs msa fsa+1
 You will cause me to/let me hear rejoicing, exultation and joy
 a b

תִּגְלֶנָּה עֲצָמוֹת דְּכִיתָ
 QIpf3fp fpc PielPf2ms
 they will rejoice bones of You crushed
 b' c

11 הַסֵּתֶר פְּנִיךָ מִחַטָּאֵי וְכֹל- עֲוֹנֹתַי מִחָה:
 HiphIpf2ms mpc+2ms mpc+1cs+2 adj+1 mpc+1cs+2 QIpf2ms
 Your face hide from my sins and all of my evils wipe out

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

וְרוּחַ נֹכַח חֲדָשׁ בְּקִרְבִּי:
 fsa+1 NiphPtcpsa PielIpf2ms msa+1cs+2
 and spirit steadfast⁷ renew, repair In my inward part

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

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

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

⁶ ל marks indirect object, Williams §269.

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

15 אֶלְמִדָּה פִּשְׁעִים דְּרַכֵּיךָ וְחַטָּאִים אֵלֶיךָ יָשׁוּבוּ׃
 PiellPf1cs mpa mpc+2ms mpa+1 prep+2ms QIpf3mp
 I will teach transgressors Your ways and sinners unto You they will return

16 הַצִּילֵנִי מִדַּמַּיִם אֱלֹהִים אֱלֹהֵי תְּשׁוּעָתִי
 HiphIpf2ms+1cs mpa+2 mpa mpc fsc+1cs
 deliver me from guilt of bloodshed O God God of my salvation, deliverance

תִּרְנֶנָּה לְשׁוֹנֵי צְדָקָתְךָ׃
 PiellPf3fs msc+1cs fsc+2ms
 she will give a ringing cry of joy, declare aloud my tongue Your righteousness

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

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

וְאֶתְנָה עֹלָה לֹא תִרְצֶה׃
 QIpf1cs+1 fsa neg Qipf2ms
 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 וְנִדְרָה לֹא אֱלֹהִים תִּבְזֶה׃
 msa NiphPtcpmsa+1 mpa neg Qipf2ms
 heart being broken and being crushed¹⁰ O God You will despise, regard with contempt⁹ not

⁸ Cf. Williams §185, 187.

⁹ Cf. Psa 73:20

¹⁰ Cf. v. 10

20 הַיְשִׁיבָהּ בְּרִצּוֹנֶךָ אֶת־צִיּוֹן
 HiphIpv2ms msc+2ms+ב Prop. N. DDO
 do good, deal well with in Your goodwill, favor¹¹ Zion
 תְּבַנֶּה חוֹמוֹת יְרוּשָׁלַם׃
 QIpf2ms fpc Prop.N. Jerusalem
 You will build walls of Jerusalem

21 אַז תִּחְפֹּץ זְבַח־יְצֵדֶק עוֹלָה וְכִלְיִל
 conj. QIpf2ms mpc msa fsa msa+ו
 then¹² You will take pleasure sacrifices of righteousness whole burnt offering and perfect

אַז יַעֲלוּ עַל־מִזְבֵּחַךְ פָּרִים׃
 conj. QIpf3mp prep msc+2ms mpa
 then¹⁵ they will go up upon Your altar young bulls

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

¹² Logical sequence, not temporal.