The Tsunami Blessing: Inside and Out, Part 50

You have been handpicked by God to live His dream in the earth moment by moment. Being "compassed with God's favor as a shield" is similar to hosting the brilliance of a spotlight that gloriously illuminates you from the crown of your head to the soles of your feet. Because it's all-directional, you stay completely covered by His wrap-around presence: from the East; West; North; South; above; beneath; inside and outside.

The anointing of Holy Spirit floods you with God Himself. He guides you into Kairos time down to the nanosecond. Then you can witness your due season becoming your now season which is your new season. Old things have really passed away. The destiny God has designed awaits you! It's your "invincible necessity" as 1828 Webster's dictionary proclaims. Make your calling and election sure, so God is empowered to spread out in you and through you.

Irreplaceable: Handpicked by God to be King

1 Samuel 16:1-14 Living Bible (TLB)

16 Finally the Lord said to Samuel, "You have mourned long enough for Saul, for I have rejected him as king of Israel. Now take a vial of olive oil and go to Bethlehem and find a man named Jesse, for I have selected one of his sons to be the new king."

²But Samuel asked, "How can I do that? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me."

"Take a heifer with you," the Lord replied, "and say that you have come to make a sacrifice to the Lord. ³Then call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you which of his sons to anoint."

⁴So Samuel did as the Lord had told him to. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the city came trembling to meet him.

"What is wrong?" they asked. "Why have you come?"

⁵But he replied, "All is well. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord. Purify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice."

And he performed the purification rite on Jesse and his sons, and invited them too. 'When they arrived, Samuel took one look at Eliab and thought, "Surely this is the man the Lord has chosen!"

⁷But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by a man's face or height, for this is not the one. I don't make decisions the way you do! Men judge by outward appearance, but I look at a man's thoughts and intentions."

Then Jesse told his son Abinadab to step forward and walk in front of Samuel. But the Lord said, "This is not the right man either."

Next Jesse summoned Shammah, but the Lord said, "No, this is not the one." In the same way all seven of his sons presented themselves to Samuel and were rejected.

10-11 "The Lord has not chosen any of them," Samuel told Jesse. "Are these all there are?"

"Well, there is the youngest," Jesse replied. "But he's out in the fields watching the sheep."

"Send for him at once," Samuel said, "for we will not sit down to eat until he arrives."

¹²So Jesse sent for him. He was a fine looking boy, ruddy-faced, and with pleasant eyes. And the Lord said, "This is the one; anoint him."

¹³So as David stood there among his brothers, Samuel took the olive oil he had brought and poured it upon David's head; and the Spirit of Jehovah came upon him and gave him great power from that day onward. Then Samuel returned to Ramah.

¹⁴But the Spirit of the Lord had left Saul, and instead, the Lord had sent a tormenting spirit that filled him with depression and fear.

Psalm 2 The Passion Translation (TPT) The Coronation of the King

Act I - The Nations Speak

2 How dare the nations plan a rebellion. Their foolish plots are futile![a]

²Look at how the power brokers of the world rise up to hold their summit as the rulers scheme and confer together against Yahweh and his Anointed King, saying:

³"Let's come together and break away from the Creator. Once and for all let's cast off these controlling chains of God and his Christ!"[b]

Act II - God Speaks

⁴God-Enthroned[©] merely laughs at them; the Sovereign One mocks their madness! ⁵Then with the fierceness of his fiery anger he settles the issue[©] and terrifies them to death[©] with these words: ⁶"I myself have poured out my King on Zion,[©] my holy mountain.[©]

Act III - The Son Speaks

The state of the eternal purpose of God.

For he has decreed over me, 'You are my favored Son.

And as your Father I have crowned you as my King Eternal.

Today I became your Father.

Ask men to give you the nations and I will do it, and they shall become your legacy.

Your domain will stretch to the ends of the earth.

And you will shepherd them with unlimited authority, crushing their rebellion as an iron rod smashes jars of clay!'"

Act IV - The Holy Spirit Speaks

¹⁰Listen to me, all you rebel-kings and all you upstart judges of the earth. Learn your lesson¹¹ while there's still time. ¹¹Serve and worship the awe-inspiring God. Recognize his greatness and bow before him, trembling with reverence in his presence.¹² Fall facedown before him and kiss the Son¹¹ before his anger is roused against you. Remember that his wrath can be quickly kindled! But many blessings are waiting for all who turn aside to hide themselves in him!Footnotes:

- a. Psalm 2:1 Or "Why are they devising emptiness?"
- b. Psalm 2:3 The word found here for "Christ" is the Hebrew word for "Messiah" or "Anointed One."
- c. Psalm 2:4 The Aramaic is *Maryah*, the Aramaic form of YHWH or Lord Jehovah.
- d. Psalm 2:5 Or "In good time he drives them away."
- e. Psalm 2:5 Or "snorts with anger." The Hebrew word 'aph (fiery anger) is a homonym that also means "nose."
- f. Psalm 2:6 The word Zion is found 157 times in the Bible and 38 times in the Psalms.
- g. Psalm 2:6 For the believer today, Zion is not only a place but also a realm where Christ is enthroned. Jesus was "poured out" as a consecrated offering.
- h. Psalm 2:8 Or in the Masoretic text, "Ask wealth of me."
- i. Psalm 2:9 As translated from the Septuagint.
- j. Psalm 2:10 Or "Do what is wise."
- k. Psalm 2:11 Or "Rejoice with trembling." The Hebrew word for "rejoice" means "to spin around with excited emotions" or "to twirl"
- l. Psalm 2:12 Or "be ruled by the Son." The Hebrew word for "kiss" is nashaq and can also mean "to be ruled by" or "be in subjection to" (the Son). Yet another possible translation of this difficult verse is "be armed with purity."

Irresistible: Hand-picked by God to be Conqueror

1 Samuel 17 Living Bible (TLB)

17 The Philistines now mustered their army for battle and camped between Socoh in Judah and Azekah in Ephes-dammim. ²Saul countered with a buildup of forces at Elah Valley. ³So the Philistines and Israelis faced each other on opposite hills, with the valley between them.

⁴⁷Then Goliath, a Philistine champion from Gath, came out of the Philistine ranks to face the forces of Israel. He was a giant of a man, measuring over nine feet tall! He wore a bronze helmet, a two-hundred-pound coat of mail, bronze leggings, and carried a bronze javelin several inches thick, tipped with a twenty-five-pound iron spearhead, and his armor bearer walked ahead of him with a huge shield.

⁸He stood and shouted across to the Israelis, "Do you need a whole army to settle this? I will represent the Philistines, and you choose someone to represent you, and we will settle this in single combat! ⁹If your man is able to kill me, then we will be your slaves. But if I kill him, then you must be our slaves! ¹⁰I defy the armies of Israel! Send me a man who will fight with me!"

¹¹When Saul^[a] and the Israeli army heard this, they were dismayed and frightened. ¹²David (the son of aging Jesse, a member of the tribe of Judah who lived in Bethlehem) had seven older brothers. ¹³The three oldest—Eliab,

Abinadab, and Shammah—had already volunteered for Saul's army to fight the Philistines. ¹⁴⁻¹⁵ David was the youngest son and was on Saul's staff on a part-time basis. He went back and forth to Bethlehem to help his father with the sheep. ¹⁶ For forty days, twice a day, morning and evening the Philistine giant strutted before the armies of Israel.

¹⁷One day Jesse said to David, "Take this bushel of roasted grain and these ten loaves of bread to your brothers. ¹⁸Give this cheese to their captain and see how the boys are getting along; and bring us back a letter^[5] from them!"

¹⁹(Saul and the Israeli army were camped at the valley of Elah.)

²⁰So David left the sheep with another shepherd and took off early the next morning with the gifts. He arrived at the outskirts of the camp just as the Israeli army was leaving for the battlefield with shouts and battle cries. ²¹Soon the Israeli and Philistine forces stood facing each other, army against army. ²²David left his luggage with a baggage officer and hurried out to the ranks to find his brothers. ²³As he was talking with them, he saw Goliath the giant step out from the Philistine troops and shout his challenge to the army of Israel. ²⁴As soon as they saw him the Israeli army began to run away in fright.

²⁵"Have you seen the giant?" the soldiers were asking. "He has insulted the entire army of Israel. And have you heard about the huge reward the king has offered to anyone who kills him? And the king will give him one of his daughters for a wife, and his whole family will be exempted from paying taxes!"

²⁶ David talked to some others standing there to verify the report. "What will a man get for killing this Philistine and ending his insults to Israel?" he asked them. "Who is this heathen Philistine, anyway, that he is allowed to defy the armies of the living God?" ²⁷ And he received the same reply as before.

²⁸ But when David's oldest brother, Eliab, heard David talking like that, he was angry. "What are you doing around here, anyway?" he demanded. "What about the sheep you're supposed to be taking care of? I know what a cocky brat you are; you just want to see the battle!"

²⁹ "What have I done now?" David replied. "I was only asking a question!"

³⁰ And he walked over to some others and asked them the same thing and received the same answer. ³¹ When it was finally realized what David meant, someone told King Saul, and the king sent for him.

³² "Don't worry about a thing," David told him. "I'll take care of this Philistine!"

³³ "Don't be ridiculous!" Saul replied. "How can a kid like you fight with a man like him? You are only a boy, and he has been in the army *since* he was a boy!"

³⁴But David persisted. "When I am taking care of my father's sheep," he said, "and a lion or a bear comes and grabs a lamb from the flock, ³⁵I go after it with a club and take the lamb from its mouth. If it turns on me, I catch it by the jaw and club it to death. ³⁶I have done this to both lions and bears, and I'll do it to this heathen Philistine too, for he has defied the armies of the living God! ³⁷The Lord who saved me from the claws and teeth of the lion and the bear will save me from this Philistine!"

Saul finally consented, "All right, go ahead," he said, "and may the Lord be with you!"

³⁸⁻³⁹Then Saul gave David his own armor—a bronze helmet and a coat of mail. David put it on, strapped the sword over it, and took a step or two to see what it was like, for he had never worn such things before. "I can hardly move!" he exclaimed, and took them off again. ⁴⁰Then he picked up five smooth stones from a stream and put them in his shepherd's bag and, armed only with his shepherd's staff and sling, started across to Goliath. ⁴¹⁻⁴²Goliath walked out toward David with his shield-bearer ahead of him, sneering in contempt at this nice little red-cheeked boy!

⁴³ "Am I a dog," he roared at David, "that you come at me with a stick?" And he cursed David by the names of his gods. ⁴⁴ "Come over here and I'll give your flesh to the birds and wild animals," Goliath yelled.

⁴⁵David shouted in reply, "You come to me with a sword and a spear, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of the armies of heaven and of Israel—the very God whom you have defied. ⁴⁶Today the Lord will conquer you, and I will kill you and cut off your head; and then I will give the dead bodies of *your* men to the birds and wild animals, and the whole world will know

that there is a God in Israel! ⁴⁷ And Israel will learn that the Lord does not depend on weapons to fulfill his plans—he works without regard to human means! He will give you to us!"

⁴⁸⁻⁴⁹ As Goliath approached, David ran out to meet him and, reaching into his shepherd's bag, took out a stone, hurled it from his sling, and hit the Philistine in the forehead. The stone sank in, and the man fell on his face to the ground. ⁵⁰⁻⁵¹ So David conquered the Philistine giant with a sling and a stone. Since he had no sword, he ran over and pulled Goliath's from its sheath and killed him with it, and then cut off his head. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they turned and ran.

⁵²Then the Israelis gave a great shout of triumph and rushed after the Philistines, chasing them as far as Gath and the gates of Ekron. The bodies of the dead and wounded Philistines were strewn all along the road to Shaaraim. ⁵³Then the Israeli army returned and plundered the deserted Philistine camp.

⁵⁴(Later David took Goliath's head to Jerusalem, but stored his armor in his tent.)

⁵⁵ As Saul was watching David go out to fight Goliath, he asked Abner, the general of his army, "Abner, what sort of family does this young fellow come from?" [3]

"I really don't know," Abner said.

56 "Well, find out!" the king told him.

⁵⁷After David had killed Goliath, Abner brought him to Saul with the Philistine's head still in his hand.

58 "Tell me about your father, my boy," Saul said.

And David replied, "His name is Jesse and we live in Bethlehem."

Footnotes:

- a. <u>1 Samuel 17:11</u> When Saul. Probably King Saul was especially worried, for he was tallest of the Israelites and was obviously the best match!
- b. 1 Samuel 17:18 bring us back a letter, literally, "take their pledge."
- c. <u>1 Samuel 17:55</u> what sort of family does this young fellow come from? literally, "Whose son is this?" Since David was, if successful, scheduled to marry Saul's daughter, Saul wanted to

know more about his family! The other explanation of this confusing passage is that Saul's mental condition caused forgetfulness, so that he didn't recognize David.

2 Samuel 5:17-24 Living Bible (TLB)

¹⁷When the Philistines heard that David had been crowned king of Israel, they tried to capture him; but David was told that they were coming and went into the stronghold. ¹⁸The Philistines arrived and spread out across the valley of Rephaim.

¹⁹Then David asked the Lord, "Shall I go out and fight against them? Will you defeat them for me?"

And the Lord replied, "Yes, go ahead, for I will give them to you."

²⁰ So David went out and fought with them at Baal-perazim and defeated them. "The Lord did it!" he exclaimed. "He burst through my enemies like a raging flood." So he named the place "Bursting." ²¹ At that time David and his troops confiscated many idols that had been abandoned by the Philistines. ²² But the Philistines returned and again spread out across the valley of Rephaim.

²³When David asked the Lord what to do, he replied, "Don't make a frontal attack. Go behind them and come out by the balsam trees. ²⁴When you hear a sound like marching feet in the tops of the balsam trees, attack! For it will signify that the Lord has prepared the way for you and will destroy them."

Psalm 9 The Passion Translation (TPT)

Triumphant Thanks

9 For the Pure and Shining One

To the tune of "The Secrets of the Son," by King David

¹Lord, I will worship you with extended hands
as my whole heart explodes with praise!

I will tell everyone everywhere about your wonderful works
and how your marvelous miracles exceed expectations!

²I will jump for joy and shout in triumph
as I sing your song and make music for the Most High God.

³For when you appear, I worship

while all of my enemies run in retreat.

They stumble and perish before your presence.

⁴For you have stood up for my cause

and vindicated me when I needed you the most.

From your righteous throne you have given me justice.

⁵With a blast of your rebuke nations are destroyed.

You obliterated their names forever and ever.

⁶The Lord thundered and our enemies have been cut off, vanished in everlasting ruins.

All their cities have been destroyed— even the memory of them has been erased.

⁷But the Lord of eternity, our mighty God, lives and reigns forever! He sits enthroned as King ready to render his verdicts and judge all with righteousness.

⁸He will issue his decrees of judgment, deciding what is right for the entire world, dispensing justice to all.

*All who are oppressed may come to you as a shelter in the time of trouble, a perfect hiding place.

¹⁰ May everyone who knows your mercy keep putting their trust in you, for they can count on you for help no matter what. O Lord, you will never, no never, neglect those who come to you.

¹¹Listen, everyone! Sing out your praises to the God who lives and rules within Zion!

Tell the world about all the miracles he has done!

¹²He tracks down killers and avenges bloodshed, but he will never forget the ones forgotten by others, hearing every one of their cries for justice.

¹³So now, O Lord, don't forget me.

Have mercy on me.

Take note of how I've been humiliated at the hands of those who hate me.

Bring me back again from the brink, from the very gates of death.

¹⁴Save me! Bring me to the spiritual gates of Zion^[b]

so I can bring you the shout of praise you deserve.

¹⁵ For the godless nations get trapped

in the very snares they set for others.

The hidden trap they set for the weak

has snapped shut upon themselves—guilty!

¹⁶The Lord is famous for this: his justice will punish the wicked.

While they are digging a pit for others,

they are actually setting the terms for their own judgment.

They will fall into their own pit.

Consider the truth of this and pause in his presence

¹⁷Don't forget this: all the wicked will one day

fall into the darkness of death's domain and remain there, including the nations that forget God and reject his ways.

¹⁸He will not ignore forever all the needs of the poor,

for those in need shall not always be crushed.

Their hopes shall be fulfilled, for God sees it all!

19 Lord, won't you now arise to judge and

punish the nations who defy you?

Aren't you fed up with their rebellion?

²⁰ Make them tremble in fear before your presence.

Place a lawgiver over them.

Make them know that they are only puny, frail humans who must give account to you!

Pause in his presence

Footnotes:

- a. Psalm 9:1 As translated by Augustine, an early church father. The Hebrew is "to the death of the Son."
- b. Psalm 9:14 Or "Daughter Gates of Zion."
- c. Psalm 9:16 The Hebrew word higayon means "to consider the truth of the matter."

Irrevocable: Hand-picked to Ignite Everlasting Covenant

2 Samuel 23:1-5 Living Bible (TLB)

23 These are the last words of David:

"David, the son of Jesse, speaks.

David, the man to whom God gave such wonderful success;

David, the anointed of the God of Jacob;

David, sweet psalmist of Israel:

²The Spirit of the Lord spoke by me,

And his word was on my tongue.

³The Rock of Israel said to me:

'One shall come who rules righteously,

Who rules in the fear of God.

⁴He shall be as the light of the morning;

A cloudless sunrise

When the tender grass

Springs forth upon the earth;

As sunshine after rain.'

⁵And it is my family

He has chosen!

Yes, God has made

An everlasting covenant with me;

His agreement is eternal, final, sealed.

He will constantly look after

My safety and success.[a]

Footnotes:

a. <u>2 Samuel 23:5</u> He will constantly look after my safety and success, literally, "He will cause my salvation and my desire to sprout."

Psalm 110 The Passion Translation (TPT)

Messiah, King, and Priest[a]

110 King David's psalm

¹Yahweh said to my Lord, the Messiah:

"Sit with me as enthroned ruler while I subdue your every enemy. They will bow low before you as I make them a footstool for your feet." ²Messiah, I know God himself will establish your kingdom as you reign in Zion-glory. For he says to you, "Rule in the midst of your enemies!" ³Your people will be your love offerings, In the day of your mighty power you will be exalted, and in the brightness of your holy ones you will shine as an army arising from the womb of the dawn, anointed with the dew of your youth! 4Yahweh has taken a solemn oath and will never back away from it, saying, "You are a priest for eternity, my King of righteousness!" ⁵The Lord stands in full authority to shatter to pieces the kings who stand against you on the day he displays his terrible wrath. ⁶He will judge every rebellious nation, filling their battlefield with corpses, and will shatter the strongholds of ruling powers. ⁷Yet he himself will drink from his inheritance as from a flowing brook; refreshed by love he will stand victorious!

Footnotes:

- a. Psalm 110:1 This psalm is applied to Christ in the New Testament, where it is quoted more often than any other Old Testament passage.
- b. Psalm 110:1 Or "at my right hand." The right hand is the position of authority and honor.
- c. Psalm 110:1 A footstool symbolizes what is subdued. It is taken from the root word "to subdue."
- d. Psalm 110:3 Or "like dew, your youth will come to you."
- e. Psalm 110:4 The Hebrew text includes the word *Melchizedek*, the name of a Canaanite king and priest over the Jebusite kingdom that later became Jerusalem. The name Melchizedek means "my king of righteousness."
- f. Psalm 110:5 The Hebrew word used here for "Lord" is Adonai or Adonay. It is the plural form of Adhon. Jesus is called Lord of lords, and we are the lords that he is Lord over. We are seated at his right hand (Benjamin) to rule with him.

Psalm 138 The Passion Translation (TPT)

The Divine Presence

138 By King David

¹I thank you, Lord, and with all the passion of my heart I worship you in the presence of angels!¹¹¹ Heaven's mighty ones will hear my voice as I sing my loving praise to you.²¹I bow down before your divine presence and bring you my deepest worship as I experience your tender love and your living truth. For the promises of your word and the fame of your name have been magnified above all else!

³At the very moment I called out to you, you answered me! You strengthened me deep within my soul and breathed fresh courage into me.

One day all the kings of the earth will rise to give you thanks when they hear the living words that I have heard you speak.

They too will sing of your wonderful ways, for your ineffable glory is great!
For though you are lofty and exalted, you stoop to embrace the lowly.

Yet you keep your distance from those filled with pride.

⁷By your mighty power I can walk through any devastation and you will keep me alive, reviving me.

Your power set me free from the hatred of my enemies.

*You keep every promise you've ever made to me!
Since your love for me is constant and endless,
I ask you, Lord, to finish every good thing that you've begun in me!

Footnotes:

a. Psalm 138:1 Or "gods." The Hebrew *elohim* is literally "mighty ones" and can refer to either angels or the gods of the heathen.

Irreversible: Honor & Humility before God to face Enemy

- 1 Samuel 26 Living Bible (TLB)
- **26** Now the men from Ziph came back to Saul at Gibeah to tell him that David had returned to the wilderness and was hiding on Hachilah Hill. ²So Saul took his elite corps of three thousand troops and went to hunt him down. ³⁻⁴Saul camped along the road at the edge of the wilderness where David was hiding, but David knew of Saul's arrival and sent out spies to watch his movements.
- ⁵⁻⁷David slipped over to Saul's camp one night to look around. King Saul and General Abner were sleeping inside a ring formed by the slumbering soldiers.
- "Any volunteers to go down there with me?" David asked Ahimelech (the Hittite) and Abishai (Joab's brother and the son of Zeruiah).
- "I'll go with you," Abishai replied. So David and Abishai went to Saul's camp and found him asleep, with his spear in the ground beside his head.
- "God has put your enemy within your power this time for sure," Abishai whispered to David. "Let me go and put that spear through him. I'll pin him to the earth with it—I'll not need to strike a second time!"
- "No," David said. "Don't kill him, for who can remain innocent after attacking the Lord's chosen king? "Surely God will strike him down some day, or he will die in battle or of old age. "But God forbid that I should kill the man he has chosen to be king! But I'll tell you what—we'll take his spear and his jug of water and then get out of here!"
- ¹²So David took the spear and jug of water, and they got away without anyone seeing them or even waking up, because the Lord had put them sound asleep. ¹³They climbed the mountain slope opposite the camp until they were at a safe distance.
- ¹⁴Then David shouted down to Abner and Saul, "Wake up, Abner!"
- "Who is it?" Abner demanded.
- ¹⁵"Well, Abner, you're a great fellow, aren't you?" David taunted. "Where in all Israel is there anyone as wonderful? So why haven't you guarded your

master the king when someone came to kill him? ¹⁶This isn't good at all! I swear by the Lord that you ought to die for your carelessness. Where is the king's spear and the jug of water that was beside his head? Look and see!"

¹⁷⁻¹⁸ Saul recognized David's voice and said, "Is that you, my son David?"

And David replied, "Yes, sir, it is. Why are you chasing me? What have I done? What is my crime? ¹⁹ If the Lord has stirred you up against me, then let him accept my peace offering. But if this is simply the scheme of a man, then may he be cursed by God. For you have driven me out of my home so that I can't be with the Lord's people, and you have sent me away to worship heathen gods. ²⁰ Must I die on foreign soil, far from the presence of Jehovah? Why should the king of Israel come out to hunt my life like a partridge on the mountains?"

²¹Then Saul confessed, "I have done wrong. Come back home, my son, and I'll no longer try to harm you; for you saved my life today. I have been a fool, and very, very wrong."

²²"Here is your spear, sir," David replied. "Let one of your young men come over and get it. ²³The Lord gives his own reward for doing good and for being loyal, and I refused to kill you even when the Lord placed you in my power. ²⁴Now may the Lord save my life, even as I have saved yours today. May he rescue me from all my troubles."

²⁵And Saul said to David, "Blessings on you, my son David. You shall do heroic deeds and be a great conqueror."

Then David went away and Saul returned home.

Psalm 7 The Passion Translation (TPT)

Song for the Slandered Soul

7 A passionate song to the Lord

To the tune of "Breaking the Curse of Cush, the Benjamite," by King David 'Yahweh my God, I turn aside to hide my soul in you.

Save me from all those who pursue and persecute me.

²There is none to deliver me but you!

Don't let my foes fall upon me like fierce lions with teeth bared.

Can't you see how they want to rip me to shreds?

³Lord, my God, if I were doing evil things, that would be different,

for then I would be guilty, deserving all of this.

If I have wronged someone at peace with me,

if I have betrayed a friend, repaying evil for good,

or if I have unjustly harmed my enemy,

⁵Then it would be right for you

to let my enemy pursue and overtake me.

In fact, let them grind me into the ground.

Let them take my life from me and drag my dignity in the dust!

Pause in his presence

⁶Now, Lord, let your anger arise against the anger of my enemies.

Awaken your fury and stand up for me!

Decree that justice be done against my foes.

⁷Gather all the people around you.

Return to your place on high to preside over them and once more occupy the throne of judgment.

⁸You are the Exalted One who judges the people,

so vindicate me publicly and restore my honor and integrity.

Before all the people declare me innocent.

Once and for all, end the evil tactics of the wicked!

Reward and prosper the cause of the righteous,

for you are the righteous God, the soul searcher,

who looks deep into every heart

to examine the thoughts and motives.

¹⁰ God, your wrap-around presence

is my protection and my defense.

You bring victory to all who reach out for you.

¹¹Righteousness is revealed every time you judge.

Because of the strength of your forgiveness,[1]

your anger does not break out every day,

even though you are a righteous judge.

12-13 Yet if the wicked do not repent,

you will not relent with your wrath,

slaying them with your shining sword.

You are the conqueror with an arsenal of lethal weapons

that you've prepared for them. You have bent and strung your bow, making your judgment-arrows shafts of burning fire. ^{14–15} Look how the wicked conceive their evil schemes. They go into labor with their lies and give birth to trouble. They dig a pit for others to fall into, not knowing that they will be the very ones who will fall into their own pit of failure. ¹⁶ For you, God, will see to it that every pit-digger who works to trap and harm others will be trapped and harmed by his own treachery. ¹⁷But I will give all my thanks to you, Lord, for you make everything right in the end. I will sing my highest praise to the God of the Highest Place!

Psalm 124 The Passion Translation (TPT)

Victory

124 A song of the stairway, by King David

1What if God had not been on our side? Let all Israel admit this!

²⁻³ What if God had not been there for us?

Our enemies, in their violent anger, would have swallowed us up alive!

4-5 The nations, with their flood of rage, would have swept us away and we would have drowned,

perished beneath their torrent of terror!

We can praise God over and over that he never left us! God wouldn't allow the terror of our enemies to defeat us.

We are free from the hunter's trap;

their snare is broken and we have escaped!

For the same God who made everything, our Creator and our mighty maker, he himself is our helper and defender!

Irreproachable: Cannot Rewrite God's Eternal Covenant

2 Samuel 11-12 Living Bible (TLB)

11 In the spring of the following year, at the time when wars begin, David sent Joab and the Israeli army to destroy the Ammonites. They began by laying siege to the city of Rabbah. But David stayed in Jerusalem.

²One night he couldn't get to sleep^[3] and went for a stroll on the roof of the palace. As he looked out over the city, he noticed a woman of unusual beauty taking her evening bath. ³He sent to find out who she was and was told that she was Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah. ⁴Then David sent for her and when she came he slept with her. (She had just completed the purification rites after menstruation.) Then she returned home. ⁵When she found that he had gotten her pregnant she sent a message to inform him.

⁶So David dispatched a memo to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." ⁷When he arrived, David asked him how Joab and the army were getting along and how the war was prospering. ⁸Then he told him to go home and relax, and he sent a present to him at his home. ⁹But Uriah didn't go there. He stayed that night at the gateway of the palace with the other servants of the king.

"When David heard what Uriah had done, he summoned him and asked him, "What's the matter with you? Why didn't you go home to your wife last night after being away for so long?"

"Uriah replied, "The Ark and the armies and the general and his officers are camping out in open fields, and should I go home to wine and dine and sleep with my wife? I swear that I will never be guilty of acting like that."

¹² "Well, stay here tonight," David told him, "and tomorrow you may return to the army."

So Uriah stayed around the palace. ¹³ David invited him to dinner and got him drunk; but even so he didn't go home that night, but again he slept at the entry to the palace.

¹⁴Finally the next morning David wrote a letter to Joab and gave it to Uriah to deliver. ¹⁵The letter instructed Joab to put Uriah at the front of the hottest

part of the battle—and then pull back and leave him there to die! ¹⁶So Joab assigned Uriah to a spot close to the besieged city where he knew that the enemies' best men were fighting; ¹⁷and Uriah was killed along with several other Israeli soldiers.

¹⁸ When Joab sent a report to David of how the battle was going, ¹⁹⁻²¹ he told his messenger, "If the king is angry and asks, 'Why did the troops go so close to the city? Didn't they know there would be shooting from the walls? Wasn't Abimelech killed at Thebez by a woman who threw down a millstone on him?'—then tell him, 'Uriah was killed too.'"

²²So the messenger arrived at Jerusalem and gave the report to David.

²³ "The enemy came out against us," he said, "and as we chased them back to the city gates, ²⁴ the men on the wall attacked us; and some of our men were killed, and Uriah the Hittite is dead too."

²⁵"Well, tell Joab not to be discouraged," David said. "The sword kills one as well as another!¹⁰ Fight harder next time, and conquer the city; tell him he is doing well."

²⁶When Bathsheba heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him; ²⁷then, when the period of mourning was over, David sent for her and brought her to the palace and she became one of his wives; and she gave birth to his son. But the Lord was very displeased with what David had done.

12 1-2 So the Lord sent the prophet Nathan to tell David this story:

"There were two men in a certain city, one very rich, owning many flocks of sheep and herds of goats; ³ and the other very poor, owning nothing but a little lamb he had managed to buy. It was his children's pet, and he fed it from his own plate and let it drink from his own cup; he cuddled it in his arms like a baby daughter. ⁴Recently a guest arrived at the home of the rich man. But instead of killing a lamb from his own flocks for food for the traveler, he took the poor man's lamb and roasted it and served it."

⁵David was furious. "I swear by the living God," he vowed, "any man who would do a thing like that should be put to death; ⁶he shall repay four lambs to the poor man for the one he stole and for having no pity."

Then Nathan said to David, "You are that rich man! The Lord God of Israel says, 'I made you king of Israel and saved you from the power of Saul. I gave you his palace and his wives and the kingdoms of Israel and Judah; and if that had not been enough, I would have given you much, much more. Why, then, have you despised the laws of God and done this horrible deed? For you have murdered Uriah and stolen his wife. Therefore murder shall be a constant threat in your family from this time on because you have insulted me by taking Uriah's wife. I vow that because of what you have done, I will cause your own household to rebel against you. I will give your wives to another man, and he will go to bed with them in public view. You did it secretly, but I will do this to you openly, in the sight of all Israel."

¹³"I have sinned against the Lord," David confessed to Nathan.

Then Nathan replied, "Yes, but the Lord has forgiven you, and you won't die for this sin. ¹⁴But you have given great opportunity to the enemies of the Lord to despise and blaspheme him, so your child shall die."

¹⁵Then Nathan returned to his home. And the Lord made Bathsheba's baby deathly sick. ¹⁶David begged him to spare the child and went without food, and lay all night before the Lord on the bare earth. ¹⁷The leaders of the nation pleaded with him to get up and eat with them, but he refused. ¹⁸Then, on the seventh day, the baby died. David's aides were afraid to tell him.

"He was so broken up about the baby being sick," they said, "what will he do to himself when we tell him the child is dead?"

¹⁹ But when David saw them whispering, he realized what had happened.

"Is the baby dead?" he asked.

"Yes," they replied, "he is." ²⁰Then David got up off the ground, washed himself, brushed his hair, changed his clothes, and went into the Tabernacle and worshiped the Lord. Then he returned to the palace and ate. ²¹His aides were amazed.

"We don't understand you," they told him. "While the baby was still living, you wept and refused to eat; but now that the baby is dead, you have stopped your mourning and are eating again."

²²David replied, "I fasted and wept while the child was alive, for I said, 'Perhaps the Lord will be gracious to me and let the child live.' ²³But why should I fast when he is dead? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me."

²⁴Then David comforted Bathsheba; and when he slept with her, she conceived and gave birth to a son and named him Solomon. And the Lord loved the baby, ²⁵ and sent congratulations^[4] and blessings through Nathan the prophet. David nicknamed the baby Jedidiah (meaning, "Beloved of Jehovah") because of the Lord's interest.* ²⁶⁻²⁷ Meanwhile Joab and the Israeli army were successfully ending their siege of Rabbah the capital of Ammon. Joab sent messengers to tell David, "Rabbah and its beautiful harbor are ours!^[6] ²⁸ Now bring the rest of the army and finish the job, so that you will get the credit for the victory instead of me."

²⁹⁻³⁰ So David led his army to Rabbah and captured it. Tremendous amounts of loot were carried back to Jerusalem, and David took the king of Rabbah's crown—a \$50,000 treasure made from solid gold set with gems—and placed it on his own head. ³¹ He made slaves of the people of the city and made them labor with saws, picks, and axes and work in the brick kilns; ¹⁰ that is the way he treated all of the cities of the Ammonites. Then David and the army returned to Jerusalem.

Psalm 51 The Passion Translation (TPT) Pardon and Purity **51** For the Pure and Shining One. A prayer of confession when the prophet

Nathan exposed King David's adultery with Bathsheba^[a]

David's Confession

I know your abundant love is enough to wash away my guilt. Because your compassion is so great, take away this shameful guilt of sin. Forgive the full extent of my rebellious ways, and erase this deep stain on my conscience. For I'm so ashamed.

I feel such pain and anguish within me.

I can't get away from the sting of my sin against you, Lord! Everything I did, I did right in front of you, for you saw it all. Against you, and you above all, have I sinned. Everything you say to me is infallibly true and your judgment conquers me.

5 Lord, I have been a sinner from birth, from the moment my mother conceived me.

6 I know that you delight to set your truth deep in my spirit. [5] So come into the hidden places of my heart and teach me wisdom.

David's Cleansing

⁷Purify my conscience! Make this leper clean again!^[0]
Wash me in your love until I am pure in heart.^[0]
⁸Satisfy me in your sweetness, and my song of joy will return.
The places within me you have crushed
will rejoice in your healing touch.^[1]
⁹Hide my sins from your face;^[0]
erase all my guilt by your saving grace.
¹⁰Create a new, clean heart within me.^[1]
Fill me with pure thoughts and holy desires, ready to please you.^[1]
¹¹May you never reject me!
May you never take from me your sacred Spirit!

David's Consecration

12 Let my passion for life be restored,
tasting joy in every breakthrough you bring to me.
Hold me close to you with a willing spirit
that obeys whatever you say.
13 Then I can show to other guilty ones
how loving and merciful you are.
They will find their way back home to you,
knowing that you will forgive them.
14 O God, my saving God,
deliver me fully from every sin,

even the sin that brought bloodguilt.[8] Then my heart will once again be thrilled to sing the passionate songs of joy and deliverance! ¹⁵Lord God, unlock my heart, unlock my lips, and I will overcome with my joyous praise! ¹⁶ For the source of your pleasure is not in my performance or the sacrifices I might offer to you. ¹⁷The fountain of your pleasure is found in the sacrifice of my shattered heart before you. You will not despise my tenderness as I humbly bow down at your feet. ¹⁸ Because you favor Zion, do what is good for her. Be the protecting wall around Jerusalem. ¹⁹ And when we are fully restored, you will rejoice and take delight in every offering of our lives as we bring our sacrifices of righteousness before you in love!

Footnotes:

- a. Psalm 51:1 This psalm is based on the incident that is recorded in 2 Sam. 12–13. This is a psalm of confession that has been sung for ages. Imagine composing a song about your failure and making it public for all time. David was not so much concerned about what the people thought but what God thought. He wanted to be clean before God.
- b. Psalm 51:1 Or "Wash me." David uses the Hebrew word kabas, which is used for washing clothes, not bathing. David is asking for his royal robes to be cleansed from the stains of his actions and publicly restored.
- c. Psalm 51:6 The Hebrew word *bat-ţūhôt*, although difficult to translate, can mean "something that is covered over, hidden, or concealed." You could paraphrase this as "You desire light in my darkness" or "You want truth to expose my secrets."
- d. Psalm 51:7 The Hebrew text contains the word *hyssop*. This was a bushy plant used for sprinkling blood on a healed leper to ceremonially cleanse him for the worship of God. See Lev. 14:3-7 and Num. 19.
- e. Psalm 51:7 Or "Wash me with the snow from above so I can be whitened."
- f. Psalm 51:8 In this beautiful verse, the "broken places" are literally "broken bones." Our bones speak allegorically of our inner being, our emotional strength.
- g. Psalm 51:9 David was not just ashamed of what others would think but that he had been seen by God. True remorse has no thought about reputation but righteousness.
- h. Psalm 51:10 The word used for "create" takes us back to Gen. 1, and it means to create from nothing. David knew he had no goodness without God placing it within him. David wanted a new creation heart, not just the old one changed.
- i. Psalm 51:10 Or "renew a reliable spirit in my inner being."
- j. Psalm 51:12 The Hebrew word for "joy" comes from two Hebrew roots: one means "bright" and the other means "lily [whiteness]." David wanted to taste a joy that was bright, pure, and as beautiful as a lily.
- k. Psalm 51:14 Or simply "blood." David could be asking God to spare his life from death (lit. "blood"; that is, deliverance from death because of his sin).
- I. Psalm 51:19 Or "Then they will offer up bulls on your altar."

Irrefutable: Hand-picked to usher in Jesus Christ

- 1 Chronicles 22 Living Bible (TLB)
- **22** Then David said, "Right here at Ornan's threshing floor is the place where I'll build the Temple of the Lord and construct the altar for Israel's burnt offering!"
- ²David now drafted all the resident aliens in Israel to prepare blocks of squared stone for the Temple. ³They also manufactured iron into the great quantity of nails needed for the doors in the gates and for the clamps; and they smelted so much bronze that it was too much to weigh. ⁴The men of Tyre and Sidon brought great rafts of cedar logs to David.

⁵"Solomon my son is young and tender," David said, "and the Temple of the Lord must be a marvelous structure, famous and glorious throughout the world; so I will begin the preparations for it now."

So David collected the construction materials before his death. ⁶He now commanded his son Solomon to build a Temple for the Lord God of Israel.

⁷"I wanted to build it myself," David told him, ⁸"but the Lord said not to do it. 'You have killed too many men in great wars,' he told me. 'You have reddened the ground before me with blood: so you are not to build my Temple. ⁹But I will give you a son,' he told me, 'who will be a man of peace, for I will give him peace with his enemies in the surrounding lands. His name shall be Solomon (meaning "Peaceful"), and I will give peace and quietness to Israel during his reign. ¹⁰He shall build my Temple, and he shall be as my own son and I will be his father; and I will cause his sons and his descendants to reign over every generation of Israel.'

¹¹"So now, my son, may the Lord be with you and prosper you as you do what he told you to do and build the Temple of the Lord. ¹² And may the Lord give you the good judgment to follow all his laws when he makes you king of Israel. ¹³ For if you carefully obey the rules and regulations that he gave to Israel through Moses, you will prosper. Be strong and courageous, fearless and enthusiastic!

¹⁴"By hard work I have collected several billion dollars worth of gold bullion, millions in silver, ^[a] and so much iron and bronze that I haven't even weighed it; I have also gathered timber and stone for the walls. This is at least a beginning, something with which to start. ¹⁵ And you have many skilled stonemasons and carpenters and craftsmen of every kind. ¹⁶ They are expert gold and silver smiths and bronze and iron workers. So get to work, and may the Lord be with you!"

¹⁷Then David ordered all the leaders of Israel to assist his son in this project.

¹⁸ "The Lord your God is with you," he declared. "He has given you peace with the surrounding nations, for I have conquered them in the name of the Lord and for his people. ¹⁹ Now try with every fiber of your being to obey the Lord your God, and you will soon be bringing the Ark and the other holy articles of worship into the Temple of the Lord!"

Psalm 16 The Passion Translation (TPT)

The Golden Secret

16 A precious song, engraved in gold, by King David^[a]

¹Keep me safe, O mighty God.

I run for dear life to you, my safe place.

²So I said to the Lord God,

"You are my Maker, my Mediator, and my Master.

Any good thing you find in me has come from you."[15]

³ And he said to me, "My holy lovers are wonderful, my majestic ones, my glorious ones, fulfilling all my desires."

⁴Yet there are those who yield to their weakness, ^[6] and they will have troubles and sorrows unending.

I never gather with such ones, [d] nor give them honor in any way.

⁵Lord, I have chosen you alone as my inheritance.

You are my prize, my pleasure, and my portion.

I leave my destiny and its timing in your hands.[9]

⁶Your pleasant path leads me to pleasant places.

I'm overwhelmed by the privileges that come with following you, for you have given me the best! ⁷The way you counsel and correct me makes me praise you more, for your whispers in the night give me wisdom, showing me what to do next.

Because you are close to me and always available, my confidence will never be shaken, for I experience your wrap-around presence every moment.

⁹My heart and soul explode with joy—full of glory!

Even my body will rest confident and secure.

¹⁰ For you will not abandon me to the realm of death, nor will you allow your Holy One to experience corruption. ¹¹For you bring me a continual revelation of resurrection life, the path to the bliss that brings me face-to-face with you.[9]

Footnotes:

- a. Psalm 16:1 The Hebrew word used in the inscription is michtam. There are many variations of translation for this word. Here are the major ones: golden, graven, a permanent writing, precious, hidden, or jewel. The Septuagint renders this "a sculptured writing of gold"; other translations call it a "golden poem." Perhaps the most accepted translation of michtam is "engraved in gold." This speaks of the divine nature engraved into our hearts by the Word. A new humanity is now stamped with God-life, engraved in his golden glory.
- b. Psalm 16:2 The Aramaic text states, "My goodness is found in your presence."
 c. Psalm 16:4 As translated from the Septuagint.
- d. Psalm 16:4 As translated from the Septuagint.
- e. Psalm 16:5 Implied in the text. The Aramaic reads "You are restoring my inheritance to me."
- Psalm 16:10 Or "the pit." This is likely a metaphor for Sheol.
- Psalm 16:11 There is no Hebrew word for "presence." When the Psalmist wanted to speak of God's presence, he used the Hebrew word for "face."

Psalm 24 The Passion Translation (TPT)

The Glorious King

24 David's poetic praise to God ¹God claims the world as his.

Everything and everyone belongs to him!

²He's the one who pushed back oceans to let the dry ground appear, planting firm foundations for the earth.

³Who, then, ascends into the presence of the Lord?[b]

And who has the privilege of entering into God's Holy Place?

⁴Those who are clean—whose works and ways are pure,

whose hearts are true and sealed by the truth,

those who never deceive, whose words are sure.

⁵They will receive the Lord's blessing

and righteousness given by the Savior-God.

⁶They will stand before God,

for they seek the pleasure of God's face, [6] the God of Jacob.

Pause in his presence

⁷So wake up, you living gateways!

Lift up your heads, you ageless doors of destiny!

Welcome the King of Glory,

for he is about to come through you.

*You ask, "Who is this Glory-King?"

The Lord, armed and ready for battle,

the Mighty One, invincible in every way!

°So wake up, you living gateways, and rejoice![4]

Fling wide, you ageless doors of destiny!

Here he comes; the King of Glory is ready to come in.

10 You ask, "Who is this King of Glory?"

He is the Lord of Victory, armed and ready for battle,

the Mighty One, the invincible commander of heaven's hosts!

Yes, he is the King of Glory!

Pause in his presence

Footnotes:

- a. Psalm 24:1 The Septuagint adds "for the Sabbath."
- b. Psalm 24:3 Or "hill of the Lord."
- c. Psalm 24:6 The Hebrew is plural ("faces").
- d. Psalm 24:9 The Hebrew text says, "Lift up your heads," which is a figure of speech for rejoicing. We are the living gateways who rejoice as the Lord draws near to us from his temple.