

## PSALM 5

To the Chief Musician (1 word – לְמַנְצֵחַ)

For the Flutes (2 words – אֶל - הַנְּחִילוֹת)

A Psalm of David (2 words – מְזֻמֹּר לְדָוִד)

v. 1 – My speech, (You) use the ear, (2 words – אֲמַרִי הַאֲזִינָה)

O Yahweh, (1 word – יְהוָה)

(You) consider my groaning. (2 words – בִּינָה הִגִּינִי)

Synthetic Parallelism with Chiasm – noun, imperative, Yahweh, imperative, noun

Poetic device – Pivot

Four of five words contain a ה – he, an “h”. Three words ends with it, two words begin with it.

All five words contain a י – yod, a “y”; six overall.

There are four occurrences of יִ – hireq yod, an “ee”.

All five words have an “a”; eight overall.

v. 2 – (You) pay attention to the voice of my cry for help, (3 words – הַקְשִׁיבָה לְקוֹל שְׁוֹעִי)

my King and my God, (2 words – מַלְכִי וַאלֹהֵי)

for to You I am praying. (3 words – בִּי - אֵלֶיךָ אֶתְפַּלֵּל)

Synthetic Parallelism – last line of verse 1 and the first line of verse 2

Notice how Yahweh is in the middle of verse one as a pivot, and My King and My God is in the middle of verse 2, yet no pivot.

Six of the eight words have an “a”; eight overall.

Five of the eight words contain a lamed – ל an “L”; seven overall.

There are four occurrences of hireq yod – יִ an “ee”.

Three of the last four words have an “e”.

v. 3 – O Yahweh, (1 word – יְהוָה)

(in the) morning You are hearing my voice, (3 words – בַּבֹּקֶר תִּשְׁמַע קוֹלִי)

(in the) morning I am putting in order toward You (3 words – בַּבֹּקֶר אֶעֱרָךְ - לְךָ)

and I am waiting expectantly. (1 word – וְאֶצְפָּה)

Synthetic Parallelism with Chiasm – You . . . my, I . . . You

v. 4 – For (1 word – כִּי)

not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness are You, (5 words – לֹא אֵל - חַפֵּץ רָשָׁע אֶתָּה)

evil is not sojourning with You. (3 words – לֹא יִגְרָךְ רָע)

The two main clauses both begin with לֹא – “low”, means “no/not.”

v. 5 – Those who are boastful are not standing in front of Your eyes,

(5 words – לֹא - יִתְיַצְּבוּ הוֹלְלִים לְנֶגֶד עֵינֶיךָ)

You hated all the doers of iniquity. (4 words – שִׂנְאֵת כָּל - פְּעֻלֵי אָוֶן)

The first clause begins with לֹא – “low”, means “no/not.”

Five words contain a lamed – ל an “L”; six overall.

Seven of the nine words have an “e”; ten overall.

v. 6 – You are destroying those who are speaking a lie, (3 words – תִּאֲבֵד דְּבָרֵי כֶזֶב)  
 a man of bloods and deceit Yahweh is abhorring. (5 words – אִישׁ - דָּמִים וּמְרָמָה יִתְעַב יְהוָה)  
 Synthetic Parallelism with Chiasm  
 Six of eight words contain an “a”.  
 Five of the eight words contain a י – yod, a “y”.

v. 7 – But I, by the abundance of Your covenant love, I am entering Your house,  
 (וְאֲנִי בָרַב חֶסֶדְךָ אֲבוֹא בֵיתְךָ – 5 words)

I am bowing down toward Your holy temple by the fear of You.  
 (אֲשַׁתְחֹוֶה אֶל - הַיְכָל - קִדְשְׁךָ בִּירְאָתְךָ – 5 words)  
 Synthetic Parallelism with Chiasm  
 Four words end with ק – “kah”, “You/Your.”

v. 8 – O Yahweh, (1 word – יְהוָה)  
 (You) lead me in Your righteousness (2 words – נַחֲנִי בְצִדְקָתְךָ)  
 because of my enemies (2 words – לְמַעַן שׂוֹרְרָי)  
 (You) make straight before me Your way. (3 words – (הוֹשֵׁר) [הַיֹּשֵׁר] לְפָנַי דְּרָכְךָ – (הוֹשֵׁר) [הַיֹּשֵׁר] לְפָנַי דְּרָכְךָ)  
 Synthetic Parallelism  
 Poetic device – Pivot  
 The word in parentheses is called Kethib – what is written  
 The word in brackets is called Qere – what is spoken

v. 9 – For (1 word – כִּי)  
 there is not in his mouth a reliable thing, (3 words – אֵין בְּפִיהוּ נִכּוֹנָה)  
 their inward part (contains) destructions, (2 words – קִרְבָּם הוֹת)  
 a being open grave (is) their throat, (3 words – קֶבֶר - פְּתוּחַ גְּרוֹנָם)  
 (with) their tongue they are flattering. (2 words – לְשׁוֹנָם יַחְלִיקוֹן)  
 All four lines are generally parallel.  
 The first and last lines have a verb and are more on the surface.  
 The middle two line assume a verb and are deeper within the person.  
 The first word in lines two קרב and three קבר are very similar.

v. 10 – (You) declare them guilty, O God, (2 words – הַאֲשִׁימָם אֱלֹהִים)  
 let them fall from their counsels, (2 words – יִפְּלוּ מִמַּעֲצוֹתֵיהֶם)  
 in the multitude of their transgressions, (You) cast them out,  
 (בָּרַב פְּשָׁעֵיהֶם הִדִּיחֵמוּ – 3 words)  
 for they have rebelled against You. (3 words – כִּי - מָרוּ בָךְ)  
 The first three lines are generally parallel. Each one has an imperative. The third line is chiasm.  
 Six of the ten words have they/them/their.  
 Their are eight מ/ם – mem, an “m”.

v. 11 – **And let all who are seeking refuge in You rejoice,** (4 words – וַיִּשְׂמְחוּ כָּל - הַזֹּסֵי בָךְ)  
**forever let them shout with joy,** (2 words – לְעוֹלָם יִרְנְנוּ)  
**and (You) cover over them,** (2 words – וַתִּסְתֵּר עָלֵימוֹ)  
**and let the lovers of Your name exult in You.** (4 words – וַיִּעְלְצוּ בָךְ אֲהַבֵי שִׁמְךָ)

The first two lines, and the last two lines, are generally parallel.

All four verbs are difficult to translate. I have them here as four commands.

Translations vary – NKJ takes them as commands except for the third line as causal.

- ESV, NAS, NIV, NRSV all take the first three as commands and the 4<sup>th</sup> as a purpose clause

Three of the verbs begin with a וַ – waw, “w”, translated as “and”, which leads us to consider them as commands, following the syntax of verse 10.

Likewise, the second verb in both v. 10 and v. 11 is influenced by the surrounding verbs.

The second verb stands out because it does not have a וַ – waw, “w”.

The third verb stands out because it is 2<sup>nd</sup> person – You.

There are three different verbs for joy – rejoice, shout for joy, exult.

v. 12 – **For** (1 word – כִּי)

**You, You are blessing (the) righteous,** (3 words – אַתָּה תְּבַרֵךְ צְדִיק)

**O Yahweh,** (1 word – יְהוָה)

**like the shield, (with) favor You are surrounding him.** (3 words – כַּצִּנִּיחַ רְצוֹן תִּעֲטֹרֶנּוּ)

“For” – three words – “Yahweh” – three words

Synthetic Parallelism with Chiasm

#### Broader Structure:

Title

vv. 1-3 – David Calls on Yahweh to Hear His Prayers

vv. 4-6 – Yahweh Opposes the Wicked

v. 7 – David, By Grace, Comes Before Yahweh (central point)

vv. 8-10 – David Calls on Yahweh to Keep Him and Cast Out the Wicked

vv. 11-12 – Call For Joy Due to Yahweh’s Blessings and Protections

Title

A – Prayer For Justice – vv. 1-3

B – Affirmation of God’s Hatred of Evil – vv. 4-6

C – Hope in Fellowship With God – v. 7

A<sub>1</sub> – Prayer for God’s Leading in Righteousness – v. 8

B<sub>1</sub> – Affirmation of Evil – v. 9

C<sub>1</sub> – Hope in the Righteousness of God – vv. 10-12

Yahweh / LORD – 5x

Elohim / God – 2x

El / God – 1x

King – 1x

You – 29x

Total: 38x

1<sup>st</sup> Person (I, me, my) – 15x