

SCOTTISH METRICAL PSALTER

Psalm 1

8,6,8,6

¹That man hath perfect blessedness,
 who walketh not astray
In counsel of ungodly men,
 nor stands in sinners' way,

Nor sitteth in the scorner's chair:
 ²But placeth his delight
Upon God's law, and meditates
 on his law day and night.

³He shall be like a tree that grows
 near planted by a river,
Which in his season yields his fruit,
 and his leaf fadeth never:

And all he doth shall prosper well.
 ⁴The wicked are not so;
But like they are unto the chaff,
 which wind drives to and fro.

⁵In judgment therefore shall not stand
 such as ungodly are;
Nor in th' assembly of the just
 shall wicked men appear.

⁶For why? the way of godly men
 unto the Lord is known:
Whereas the way of wicked men
 shall quite be overthrown.

Psalm 2

8,6,8,6

¹Why rage the heathen? and vain things
why do the people mind?

²Kings of the earth do set themselves,
and princes are combined,

To plot against the Lord, and his
Anointed, saying thus,

³Let us asunder break their bands,
and cast their cords from us.

⁴He that in heaven sits shall laugh;
the Lord shall scorn them all.

⁵Then shall he speak to them in wrath,
in rage he vex them shall.

⁶Yet, notwithstanding, I have him
to be my King appointed;
And over Zion, my holy hill,
I have him King anointed.

⁷The sure decree I will declare:
The Lord hath said to me,
Thou art mine only Son; this day
I have begotten thee.

⁸Ask of me, and for heritage
the heathen I'll make thine;
And, for possession, I to thee
will give earth's utmost line.

⁹Thou shalt, as with a weighty rod
of iron, break them all;
And, as a potter's sherd, thou shalt
them dash in pieces small.

¹⁰Now therefore, kings, be wise; be taught,
ye judges of the earth:

¹¹Serve God in fear, and see that ye
join trembling with your mirth.

¹²Kiss ye the Son, lest in his ire
ye perish from the way,
If once his wrath begin to burn:
blessed all that on him stay.

Psalm 3

A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.

8,6,8,6

¹O Lord, how are my foes increased?
against me many rise.

²Many say of my soul, For him
in God no succour lies.

³Yet thou my shield and glory art,
th' uplifter of mine head.

⁴I cried, and, from his holy hill,
the Lord me answer made.

⁵I laid me down and slept; I waked;
for God sustained me.

⁶I will not fear though thousands ten
set round against me be.

⁷Arise, O Lord; save me, my God;
for thou my foes hast stroke
All on the cheek-bone, and the teeth
of wicked men hast broke.

⁸Salvation doth appertain
unto the Lord alone:
Thy blessing, Lord, for evermore
thy people is upon.

Psalm 4

To the chief Musician on Neginoth, A Psalm of David.

8,6,8,6

¹Give ear unto me when I call,
God of my righteousness:
Have mercy, hear my pray'r; thou hast
enlarged me in distress.

²O ye the sons of men! how long
will ye love vanities?

How long my glory turn to shame,
and will ye follow lies?

³But know, that for himself the Lord
the godly man doth choose:
The Lord, when I on him do call,
to hear will not refuse.

⁴Fear, and sin not; talk with your heart
on bed, and silent be.

⁵Offrings present of righteousness,
and in the Lord trust ye.

⁶O who will show us any good?
is that which many say:
But of thy countenance the light,
Lord, lift on us alway.

⁷Upon my heart, bestowed by thee,
more gladness I have found
Than they, ev'n then, when corn and wine
did most with them abound.

⁸I will both lay me down in peace,
and quiet sleep will take;
Because thou only me to dwell
in safety, Lord, dost make.

Psalm 5

To the chief Musician, upon Nehiloth, A Psalm of David.

8,6,8,6

¹Give ear unto my words, O Lord,
my meditation weigh.

²Hear my loud cry, my King, my God;
for I to thee will pray.

³Lord, thou shalt early hear my voice:
I early will direct
My pray'r to thee; and, looking up,
an answer will expect.

⁴For thou art not a God that doth
in wickedness delight;
Neither shall evil dwell with thee,
⁵Nor fools stand in thy sight.

All that ill-doers are thou hat'st;
⁶Cutt'st off that liars be:
The bloody and deceitful man
abhorred is by thee.

⁷But I into thy house will come
in thine abundant grace;
And I will worship in thy fear
toward thy holy place.

⁸Because of those mine enemies,
Lord, in thy righteousness
Do thou me lead; do thou thy way
make straight before my face.

⁹For in their mouth there is no truth,
their inward part is ill;
Their throat's an open sepulchre,
their tongue doth flatter still.

¹⁰O God, destroy them; let them be
by their own counsel quelled:
Them for their many sins cast out,
for they 'gainst thee rebelled.

¹¹But let all joy that trust in thee,
and still make shouting noise;
For them thou sav'st; let all that love
thy name in thee rejoice.

¹²For, Lord, unto the righteous man
thou wilt thy blessing yield:
With favour thou wilt compass him
about, as with a shield.