

Selected Psalms to Be Recited in the Presence of the Deceased

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The following Psalms are customarily recited when in the presence of the deceased. One can also recite additional Psalms.

3) Psalm 23

Hebrew and Transliteration:

Mizmor l'dövid, adonöy ro-i lo	מִזְמוֹר לְדָוִד, יְיָ רֹעִי לֹא
ech-sör. Bin'os deshe yarbi-tzayni,	אֶחָסֵר: בְּנֵאֹת דְּשֵׁא יִרְבִּיצְנִי,
al may m'nuchos y'naha-layni.	עַל מֵי מְנוּחֹת יִנְהַלְנִי:
Nafshi y'sho-vayv, yan-chayni	נַפְשִׁי יִשׁוּבָב, יִנְחֵנִי בְּמַעְגְּלֵי
v'ma-g'lay tzedek l'ma-an sh'mo.	צֶדֶק לְמַעַן שְׁמוֹ:
Gam ki ay-laych b'gay tzal-mö-ves	גַּם כִּי אֵלֶיךָ בָּגִיא צַלְמוֹת
lo irö rö, ki atöh i-mödi,	לֹא אֵירָא רָע, כִּי אַתָּה עִמָּדִי,
shiv-t'chö umish-antechö hay-möh	שִׁבְטֶךָ וּמִשְׁעֲנֶנְתֶּךָ הֵמָּה
y'na-chamuni. Ta-aroch l'föna	יִנְחֵמְנִי: תַּעֲרֹךְ לְפָנַי
shul-chön neged tzo-r'röy, dishan-tö	שֶׁלְחַן נֶגֶד צְרֹרֵי, דִּשְׁנַת
va-shemen roshi, kosi r'vö-yöh. Ach	בְּשֶׁמֶן רֹאשִׁי, כּוֹסֵי רוּיָה: אַף
tov vö-chesed yir-d'funi köl y'may	טוֹב וְחֶסֶד יִרְדְּפוּנִי כָּל יְמֵי
cha-yöy, v'shavti b'vays adonöy	חַיִּי, וְשִׁבְתִּי בְּבַיִת יְיָ
l'orech yömim.	לְאַרְךָ יָמִים:

Translation:

A Psalm by David. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall lack nothing.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul; He directs me in the paths of righteousness for the sake of His Name.

Even if I walk in the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me;

Your rod and Your staff — they will comfort me.

You will prepare a table before my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; my cup is full.

Only goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the House of the Lord for many long years.

3) Psalm 90, Verse 17

Hebrew and Transliteration:

Vihi no-am ado-nöy elo-haynu	וַיְהִי נֵעַם אֲדֹנָי אֱלֹהֵינוּ
ölaynu, uma-asay yö-daynu	עָלֵינוּ, וּמַעֲשֵׂה יְדֵינוּ
ko-n'nöh ölaynu, uma-asay	כּוֹנֵנָה עָלֵינוּ. וּמַעֲשֵׂה
yödaynu ko-n'nayhu.	יְדֵינוּ כּוֹנֵנָהוּ:

Translation:

May the pleasantness of the Lord our G-d be upon us; establish for us the work of our hands; establish the work of our hands.

3) Psalm 91

Hebrew and Transliteration:

Yo-shayv b'sayser el-yon,
 b'tzayl sha-dai yis-lonön. Omar
 la-donöy mach-si um'tzudösi, elohai
 ev-tach bo. Ki hu ya-tzil'chö mi-pach
 yökush, mi-dever havos. B'ev-röso
 yösech löch v'sachas k'nöföv tech-seh,
 tzinöh v'sochayröh amito. Lo sirö
 mi-pachad löy-löh, may-chaytz yö-uf
 yo-möm. Midever bö-ofel ya-haloch,
 mi-ketev yöshud tzö-höröy-im. Yipol
 mi-tzid'chö elef ur'vövö mimi-nechö,
 aylechö lo yigösh. Rak b'ay-nechö
 sabit, v'shilumas r'shö-im tir-eh. Ki
 atöh adonöy mach-si, el-yon sam-tö
 m'o-nechö. Lo s'uneh ay-lechö rö-öh,
 v'negah lo yik-rav b'ö-hö-lechö. Ki
 mal-öchöv y'tzaveh löch, lish-mör'chö
 b'chöl d'rö-chechö. Al kapa-yim
 yisö-un'chö, pen ti-gof bö-even
 rag-lechö. Al sha-chal vö-fesen
 tid-roch, tir-mos k'fir v'sanin. Ki vi
 chöshak va-afaltay-hu, asag-vayhu ki
 yöda sh'mi. Yikrö-ayni v'e-enayhu,
 imo ö-nochi v'tzörö, achal'tzayhu
 va-achab'dayhu. Orech yömim
 asbi-ayhu, v'ar-ayhu bi-shu-ösi.

יֵשֵׁב בְּסִטְרָא עֲלִיּוֹן,
 בְּצֵל שְׁדַי יִתְלוֹנֵן: אָמַר
 לִי מַחְסֵי וּמְצוּדָתִי, אֱלֹהֵי
 אֲבֹטְחָ בּוֹ: כִּי הוּא יִצִּילֵךְ מִפַּח
 יָקוּשׁ, מִדְּבַר הַיּוֹת: בְּאַבְרָתּוֹ
 יִסֶּךְ לְךָ וְתַחַת כְּנָפָיו
 תִּחְסֶה, צְנָה וְסִחְרָה אָמַתּוֹ: לֹא תִירָא
 מִפַּחַד לִילָהּ, מִחֶץ יַעוֹף
 יוֹמָם: מִדְּבַר בְּאִפְלֵ יְהוָה,
 מִקְטָב יִשׁוּד צְהָרִים: יִפֹּל
 מִצְדָּךְ אֶלְךָ וּרְבָכָה מִימִינֶךָ,
 אֵלֶיךָ לֹא יִגָּשׁ: רַק בְּעֵינֶיךָ
 תִּבְיֵט, וְשָׁלַמְתָּ רַשְׁעִים תִּרְאֶה: כִּי
 אַתָּה יְיָ מַחְסֵי, עֲלִיּוֹן שְׁמֹתָ
 מְעוֹנֶךָ: לֹא תֵאָנֶה אֵלֶיךָ רָעָה,
 וְנִגַּע לֹא יִקְרַב בְּאַהֲלֶךָ: כִּי
 מְלֹאכְיוֹ יִצְוֶה לְךָ, לְשִׁמְרֶךָ
 בְּכָל דְרָכֶיךָ: עַל כַּפָּיִם
 יִשְׁאוּנֶךָ, פֶּן תִּגּוֹף בְּאַבְן
 רִגְלֶךָ: עַל שַׁחַל וּפְתָן
 תִּדְרֹךְ, תִּרְמַס כְּפִיר וְתַנִּין: כִּי בִי
 חָשַׁק וְאַפְלִטָהּ, אֲשַׁגְּבֶהּ כִּי
 יָדַע שְׁמִי: יִקְרָאֵנִי וְאַעֲנֶהּ,
 עִמּוֹ אָנֹכִי בְצָרָהּ, אֲחַלְצֶהּ
 וְאֲכַבְּדֶהּ: אַרְךָ יָמִים
 אֲשַׁבֵּיעֶהּ, וְאַרְאֶהּ בִּישׁוּעָתִי:

Translation:

You Who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, Who abides in the shadow of the Omnipotent,
 I say [to you] of the Lord Who is my refuge and my stronghold, my G-d in Whom I trust,
 that He will save you from the ensnaring trap, from the destructive pestilence.
 He will cover you with His pinions and you will find refuge under His wings; His

truth is a shield and an armor.

You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,
the pestilence that prowls in the darkness, nor the destruction that ravages at
noon.

A thousand may fall at your [left] side, and ten thousand at your right, but it
shall not reach you.

You need only look with your eyes, and you will see the retribution of the
wicked.

Because you [have said,] "The Lord is my shelter," and you have made the
Most High your haven,

no evil will befall you, no plague will come near your tent.

For He will instruct His angels in your behalf, to guard you in all your ways.

They will carry you in their hands, lest you hurt your foot on a rock.

You will tread upon the lion and the viper; you will trample upon the young lion
and the serpent.

Because he desires Me, I will deliver him; I will fortify him for he knows My
Name.

When he calls on Me, I will answer him; I am with him in distress, I will deliver
him and honor him.

I will satisfy him with long life, and show him My deliverance.