Psalm 1-3

New King James Version (NKJV)

Psalm 1

The Way of the Righteous and the End of the Ungodly

¹ Blessed *is* the man

Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,

Nor stands in the path of sinners,

Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

² But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD,

And in His law he meditates day and night.

³ He shall be like a tree

Planted by the rivers of water,

That brings forth its fruit in its season,

Whose leaf also shall not wither;

And whatever he does shall prosper.

But are like the chaff which the wind drives away.

⁵ Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

Psalm 2

The Messiah's Triumph and Kingdom

¹ Why do the nations rage,

And the people plot a vain thing?

² The kings of the earth set themselves,

And the rulers take counsel together,

Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,

³ "Let us break Their bonds in pieces

And cast away Their cords from us."

The Lord shall hold them in derision.

⁵ Then He shall speak to them in His wrath,

And distress them in His deep displeasure:

⁶ "Yet I have set My King

On My holy hill of Zion."

⁴ The ungodly *are* not so,

⁶ For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.

⁴ He who sits in the heavens shall laugh;

⁷ "I will declare the decree:

The LORD has said to Me.

'You are My Son,

Today I have begotten You.

⁸ Ask of Me, and I will give You

The nations for Your inheritance,

And the ends of the earth for Your possession.

⁹ You shall break^[a] them with a rod of iron;

You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel."

¹⁰ Now therefore, be wise, O kings;

Be instructed, you judges of the earth.

¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear,

And rejoice with trembling.

12 Kiss the Son, [b] lest He[c] be angry,

And you perish *in* the way,

When His wrath is kindled but a little.

Blessed *are* all those who put their trust in Him.

Psalm 3

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

¹ LORD, how they have increased who trouble me!

Many are they who rise up against me.

² Many *are* they who say of me,

"There is no help for him in God." Selah

³ But You, O LORD, are a shield for me,

My glory and the One who lifts up my head.

⁴ I cried to the LORD with my voice,

And He heard me from His holy hill. Selah

⁵ I lay down and slept;

I awoke, for the LORD sustained me.

⁶ I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people

Who have set themselves against me all around.

⁷ Arise, O LORD;

Save me, O my God!

For You have struck all my enemies on the cheekbone;

You have broken the teeth of the ungodly.

⁸ Salvation *belongs* to the LORD.

Your blessing is upon Your people. Selah

Acts 17:1-15

New King James Version (NKJV)

Acts 17

Preaching Christ at Thessalonica

¹ Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ² Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and *saying*, "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ." ⁴ And some of them were persuaded; and a great multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas.

Assault on Jason's House

⁵ But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, ^[a] took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. ⁶ But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too. ⁷ Jason has harbored them, and these are all acting contrary to the decrees of Caesar, saying there is another king—Jesus." ⁸ And they troubled the crowd and the rulers of the city when they heard these things. ⁹ So when they had taken security from Jason and the rest, they let them go.

Ministering at Berea

¹⁰ Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. ¹¹ These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily *to find out* whether these things were so. ¹² Therefore many of them believed, and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as men. ¹³ But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was preached by Paul at Berea, they came there also and stirred up the crowds. ¹⁴ Then immediately the brethren sent Paul away, to go to the sea; but both Silas and Timothy remained there. ¹⁵ So those who conducted Paul brought him to Athens; and receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him with all speed, they departed.