## Psalm 23

- I. Theme statement
  - A. Yahweh is my shepherd
  - B. I shall not be in need, lack
- II. Trust in orientation
  - A. In pastures of grass He will cause me to rest
  - B. Upon quiet waters He will lead me/cause me to rest
  - C. My soul He will restore
  - D. He causes me to rest in courses of righteousness
  - E. For the sake of His Name
- III. Trust in disorientation
  - A. Even if I walk in the darkest valley
  - B. I will not fear evil/misfortune
  - C. Because You are with me
  - D. Your rod and staff they console/comfort me
- IV. Trust in reorientation
  - A. You arrange before me a table in the presence of the ones oppressing me
  - B. You anoint my head with oil
  - C. My cup is (filled to) complete abundance, saturation

## V. Summary

- A. Surely goodness and cov't faithfulness will pursue me all the days of my life
- B. I will dwell in the house of Yahweh to the length of my days
- vv. 1-4 metaphor of shepherd
- vv. 5-6 metaphor of a gracious host
- vv. 1-3 3<sup>rd</sup> person- "The Lord", "He", "His" vv. 4-6 2<sup>nd</sup> person- "You", "Your"

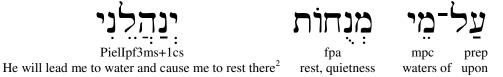
overlap in v. 4- center focus of Psalm

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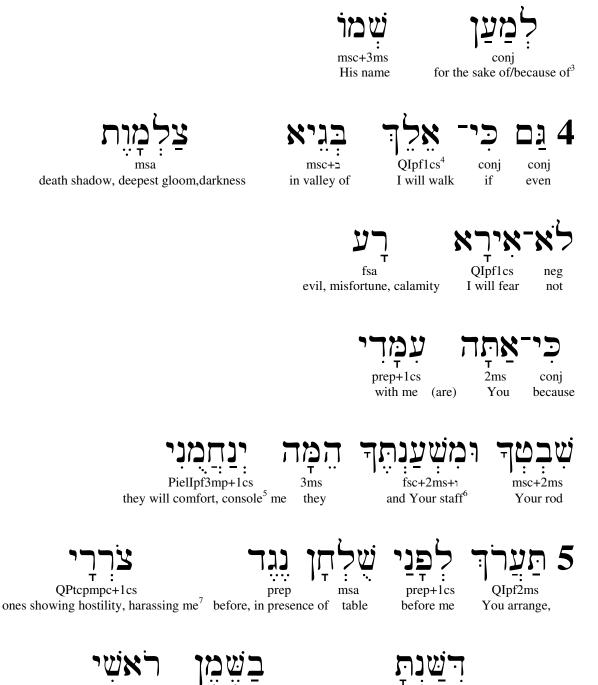








<sup>1</sup> Cf. Jer. 33:12, Ezek 34:15. <sup>2</sup> Cf. Isa 40:11, 49:10



with the oil

msc+1cs my head

You make fat (i.e. anoint, symbol of festivity and joy)

<sup>7</sup> Cf. BDB refs. many in psalms.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Either advantage 'for the sake of' Williams §365 or cause 'because of' Williams §366.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Conditional Williams §174.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Cf. Psa 71:21, 119:76,82.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Two different items, the 'staff' was a club used for discipline or defense from predators. The staff was a hooked stick used for guidance, comfort and to draw the sheep to the shepherd.

fsc+1cs saturation<sup>8</sup>, complet abundance (is) my cup

They will pursue, chase, harass me and covt faithfulness

good, goodness surely (marker of emphasis

mpc+1cs mpc adj my life days of all of

D.N in house of and I will dwell9 Yahweh

> to length of days

 $<sup>^8</sup>$  Cf. Psa 66:12.  $^9$  Poss 'return' שוב but probably 'dwell' ישב in shortened form, cf. Expositors commentary en loc.