Psalm Hymns & Devotionals

for Psalms 126 - 150 with scripture and links to recordings

Ken Bible

PsalmHymns.com

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(NASB)

 When the Lord brought back the captives of Zion, We were like those who dream.
 Then our mouth was filled with laughter And our tongue with joyful shouting; Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."
 The Lord has done great things for us; We are joyful.

4 Restore our fortunes, Lord,

As the streams in the South.

5 Those who sow in tears shall harvest with joyful shouting.

6 One who goes here and there weeping, carrying his bag of seed,

Shall indeed come again with a shout of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

Remember! When difficulties come, remember what He has done for you. For as you do, you are remembering who He is. He is unchanging perfection. He is still the same as when He pursued you in your lostness, drew you from your darkness to Himself, forgave you, and began remaking you to be just like His glorious Son, Jesus. He is still that magnificent Savior. He is still that same Deliverer who graciously provided for you in that financial need, that illness. that relationship. The very same. Trust Him. He may answer suddenly, in a flash flood of power and love. He may answer slowly, gradually, in a long and gentle rain. Or like a farmer, you may have to wait for the harvest, patiently working, patiently waiting. But know that He will deliver you beautifully, completely, in His perfect way and His perfect time. That's what He does. That's who He is.



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Alexander R. Reinagle (1799-1877); arr. by Ken Bible ST. PETER C.M.

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(NASB)

 Unless the Lord builds a house, They who build it labor in vain; Unless the Lord guards a city, The watchman stays awake in vain.
 It is futile for you to rise up early, To stay up late, To eat the bread of painful labor; This is how He gives to His beloved sleep.

3 Behold, children are a gift of the Lord,
The fruit of the womb is a reward.
4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior,
So are the children of one's youth.
5 Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them;
They will not be ashamed
When they speak with their enemies in the gate.

Almighty God, we come to You out of struggle. We work and worry, we sweat and strain to provide a life for ourselves and for our families. We use all our energies to build a wall that secures us from every threat and every need.

But Father, You are All-in-all. All power, all control, are in Your hands. Outside of You, all our efforts are futile and ultimately pointless

You call us, You invite us, You urge us to simply trust You. You provide work. You provide rest. You provide for all the rhythms of life. In Yourself You joyfully bless us with Your peace, Your balance, and Your fruitfulness.

All the security we can ever have, all the security we will ever need is in You, the Giver of all that is good.



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(NASB)

Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord,
 Who walks in His ways.
 When you eat the fruit of the labor of your hands,
 You will be happy and it will go well for you.
 Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
 Within your house,
 Your children like olive plants
 Around your table.
 Behold, for so shall a man
 Who fears the Lord be blessed.

5 The Lord bless you from Zion,And may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.6 Indeed, may you see your children's children.Peace be upon Israel!

O generous Creator, gracious Father, as we trust You as simply as children, Your bountiful goodness spills into every area of our lives.

Daily work, daily bread, daily provision in so many varied forms – we take so much for granted!

As You created this world,

You blessed it with fruitfulness (Genesis 1:28). That timeless blessing still showers us with Your abundance.

Crowning each blessing and each simple joy is the gift of human love – love received and shared with family, friends, and the host of familiar, smiling faces that enrich our daily world.

Through them, with them, among them, we experience Your loving presence and have the privilege of sharing You with others.

Father, open my eyes and my heart to the gifts and opportunities of love You have lavished on me today.



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(NASB)

1 "Many times they have attacked me from my youth up," Let Israel say,

2 "Many times they have attacked me from my youth up;

Yet they have not prevailed against me.

3 The plowers plowed upon my back;

They lengthened their furrows."

4 The Lord is righteous;

He has cut up the ropes of the wicked.

5 May all who hate Zion
Be put to shame and turned backward;
6 May they be like grass upon the housetops,
Which withers before it grows up;
7 With which the harvester does not fill his hand,
Or the binder of sheaves his arms;
8 Nor do those who pass by say,
"The blessing of the Lord be upon you;
We bless you in the name of the Lord."

The psalmists often pray for God's fierce judgment on their enemies.
But Jesus taught us to love our enemies and pray for them (Matthew 5:43-48), to do good to them and bless them (Luke 6:27-28).
Scripture urges us to overcome evil with good (Romans 12:21, NASB).

How do we reconcile these two attitudes toward our enemies? Remember that we are on common ground with the psalmists

when it comes to Satan.

He is evil personified.

He is constantly,

completely,

unalterably

opposed to God and

His people.

He has made himself our enemy in every sense of the word.

Eternal fire has been prepared for him, and his end is certain (Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10).

But for us, God has promised:

No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it. (1 Corinthians 10:13, NASB) He never abandons us to our weakness. If we will simply trust Him, He always proves Himself to be our strong, faithful, unfailing Savior. We just have to ask!

Psalm 129 Alt. Tune: O Breath of Life (DET AR ETT FAST ORD)



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Traditional Folk Tune and Ken Bible PSALM 129 9.8.9.8.

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(NASB)

Out of the depths I have cried to You, Lord.
 Lord, hear my voice!
 Let Your ears be attentive
 To the sound of my pleadings.
 If You, Lord, were to keep account of guilty deeds,
 Lord, who could stand?
 But there is forgiveness with You,
 So that You may be revered.

5 I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
And I wait for His word.
6 My soul waits in hope for the Lord
More than the watchmen for the morning;
Yes, more than the watchmen for the morning.
7 Israel, wait for the Lord;
For with the Lord there is mercy,
And with Him is abundant redemption.
8 And He will redeem Israel
From all his guilty deeds.

Father, I come to You in deep need, completely dependent on Your mercy.
You have shown such amazing love to me, yet my response to Your love is so cold and selfish.
My obedience is so inconsistent.
As I come to You now, I feel so unworthy.
If You gave me what I deserve, I would be doomed.

But Your compassion never fails. Your mercies are new every morning. Every time I come to You, You forgive me fully, freely, and forever.

So Father, I come to You again. I look up and wait and hope. I trust in

> the love that never tires of forgiving, and the grace that helps me grow more and more like Jesus.

> > Hymn recording: Psalm 130: "From These Depths, O Lord"



(NASB)

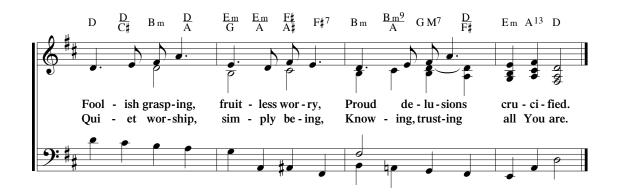
 Lord, my heart is not proud, nor my eyes arrogant; Nor do I involve myself in great matters, Or in things too difficult for me.
 I have certainly soothed and quieted my soul; Like a weaned child resting against his mother, My soul within me is like a weaned child.
 Israel, wait for the Lord From this time on and forever.

Father, You are All-in-all. I am need. You are self-contained, self-sufficient, always overflowing, always freely giving. I am inherently, totally dependent. You created me for constant, complete dependence on You. You designed me for constant, complete relationship with You. You destined me for constant, complete fullness in You. So, my Father, seeing You for all You are and myself for all I am not, I set aside my self-importance, my futile struggles, my frantic grasping, my fruitless ambition. I welcome humility. I embrace contentment. I breathe the simplicity of childlike trust. I come to You like a weaned infant not scrambling to satisfy my own desires, but quietly resting in You.



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(NASB)

Remember, Lord, in David's behalf,
 All his affliction;
 How he swore to the Lord
 And vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob,
 "I certainly will not enter my house,
 Nor lie on my bed;
 I will not give sleep to my eyes
 Or slumber to my eyelids,
 Until I find a place for the Lord,
 A dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob."

6 Behold, we heard about it in Ephrathah,
We found it in the field of Jaar.
7 Let's go into His dwelling place;
Let's worship at His footstool.
8 Arise, Lord, to Your resting place,
You and the ark of Your strength.
9 May Your priests be clothed with righteousness,
And may Your godly ones sing for joy.

10 For the sake of Your servant David,
Do not turn away the face of Your anointed.
11 The Lord has sworn to David
A truth from which He will not turn back:
"I will set upon your throne one from the fruit of your body.
12 If your sons will keep My covenant
And My testimony which I will teach them,
Their sons also will sit upon your throne forever."

13 For the Lord has chosen Zion;
He has desired it as His dwelling place.
14 "This is My resting place forever;
Here I will dwell, for I have desired it.
15 I will abundantly bless her food;
I will satisfy her needy with bread.
16 I will also clothe her priests with salvation,
And her godly ones will sing aloud for joy.
17 I will make the horn of David spring forth there;
I have prepared a lamp for My anointed.
18 I will clothe his enemies with shame,

But upon himself his crown will gleam."

Father God, You promised Your presence with us eternal. personal, tangible, face-to-face. Jesus Christ is Your presence, now and forever. The temple was an expression of Your presence, made of stone and wood, temporary and perishable. Jesus Christ is Your new, living, eternal Temple, a house not made with hands. You promised a Kingdom and a King, One that would rule everywhere and forever, a King of all Kings and Lord of all Lords. Jesus Christ is our eternal King, and in Him, Your glorious, eternal, peaceable Kingdom has come to earth. We join with all Your children of every age and every nation in welcoming Him. We welcome You, Jesus Christ, our Sovereign King!



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(NASB)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
 For brothers to live together in unity!
 It is like the precious oil on the head,
 Running down upon the beard,
 As on Aaron's beard,
 The oil which ran down upon the edge of his robes.
 It is like the dew of Hermon
 Coming down upon the mountains of Zion;
 For the Lord commanded the blessing there—life forever.

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brothers to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head. (Psalm 133:1-2a, NASB)

There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:4-6, NASB)

Jesus Christ pours out His own Spirit on each and all who trust Him. As we walk in Him, we all share the same Spirit. We are all growing to share Jesus' faith in the Father, His love for people, His unfailing joy, and His single-minded desire to glorify the Father.

His Spirit is like the oil of biblical times. It brings God's anointing for service. It flows down from the Father and then flows out to those around us, blessing us all with the health of His boundless life, the beauty of His love, the fragrance of His presence, and the glow of His glory.



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(NASB)

 Behold, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, Who serve by night in the house of the Lord!
 Lift up your hands to the sanctuary And bless the Lord.
 May the Lord bless you from Zion, He who made heaven and earth.

Father, Creator, Timeless I AM, Shepherd, Savior, Almighty God, how can we respond to all You've done for us and all You do for us? How can we respond to all You **are** to us?

We stand here before You, eager to worship You, eager to serve You with all that we have and all that we are.

We go joyfully, wrapped in Your blessing, filled with Your Spirit, enabled for all that You call us to do.



CCLI Song #7131762. For CCLI information call 1-800-234-2446.

(NASB)

135 Praise the Lord!
Praise the name of the Lord;
Praise Him, you servants of the Lord,
2 You who stand in the house of the Lord,
In the courtyards of the house of our God!
3 Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good;
Sing praises to His name, for it is lovely.
4 For the Lord has chosen Jacob for Himself,
Israel as His own possession.

5 For I know that the Lord is great
And that our Lord is above all gods.
6 Whatever the Lord pleases, He does,
In heaven and on earth, in the seas and in all the ocean depths.
7 He causes the mist to ascend from the ends of the earth,
He makes lightning for the rain;
He brings forth the wind from His treasuries.

8 He struck the firstborn of Egypt, Both human firstborn and animal. 9 He sent signs and wonders into your midst, Egypt, Upon Pharaoh and all his servants. 10 He struck many nations And brought death to mighty kings, 11 Sihon, king of the Amorites, Og, king of Bashan, And all the kingdoms of Canaan; 12 And He gave their land as an inheritance, An inheritance to His people Israel. 13 Your name, Lord, is everlasting, The mention of You, Lord, is throughout all generations. 14 For the Lord will judge His people And will have compassion on His servants. 15 The idols of the nations are nothing but silver and gold, The work of human hands. 16 They have mouths, but they do not speak; They have eyes, but they do not see; 17 They have ears, but they do not hear, Nor is there any breath at all in their mouths. 18 Those who make them will become like them,

Yes, everyone who trusts in them.

19 House of Israel, bless the Lord;House of Aaron, bless the Lord;20 House of Levi, bless the Lord;You who revere the Lord, bless the Lord.21 Blessed be the Lord from Zion,Who dwells in Jerusalem.Praise the Lord!

Almighty God, our Father, what a joy it is to praise You!

Creator of everything around us, You have immersed us in Your greatness and Your goodness. All the world sings of You!

Even in this sea of evil of our own making, You do not abandon us. You deliver Your people --You always have. You are freeing us right now from everything that binds us.

You, Lord – You are real. You are living, breathing, seeing, listening, feeling, working, and forever blessing. Every other "god," Every other good outside of You is an empty delusion. You alone are great. You alone are God.

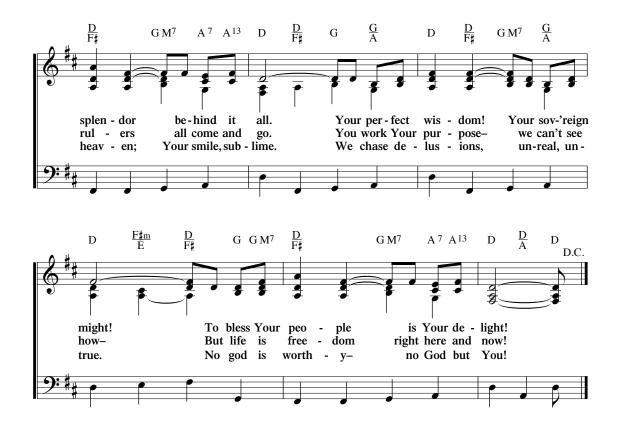
We praise You! We celebrate all that You are!



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: African-American Spiritual and Ken Bible

FEEL THE SPIRIT 2 9.9.9.9.w.Ref.

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(NASB)

136 Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, For His faithfulness is everlasting. 2 Give thanks to the God of gods, For His faithfulness is everlasting. 3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords, For His faithfulness is everlasting. 4 To Him who alone does great wonders, For His faithfulness is everlasting; 5 To Him who made the heavens with skill, For His faithfulness is everlasting; 6 To Him who spread out the earth above the waters, For His faithfulness is everlasting; 7 To Him who made the great lights, For His faithfulness is everlasting: 8 The sun to rule by day. For His faithfulness is everlasting, 9 The moon and stars to rule by night, For His faithfulness is everlasting.

10 To Him who struck the Egyptians, that is, their firstborn, For His faithfulness is everlasting, 11 And brought Israel out from their midst, For His faithfulness is everlasting, 12 With a strong hand and an outstretched arm, For His faithfulness is everlasting. 13 To Him who divided the Red Sea in parts, For His faithfulness is everlasting, 14 And allowed Israel to pass through the midst of it, For His faithfulness is everlasting; 15 But He overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea, For His faithfulness is everlasting. 16 To Him who led His people through the wilderness, For His faithfulness is everlasting; 17 To Him who struck great kings, For His faithfulness is everlasting, 18 And brought death to mighty kings, For His faithfulness is everlasting: 19 Sihon, king of the Amorites, For His faithfulness is everlasting, 20 And Og, king of Bashan,

For His faithfulness is everlasting, 21 And gave their land as an inheritance, For His faithfulness is everlasting, 22 An inheritance to His servant Israel, For His faithfulness is everlasting.

23 Who remembered us in our lowliness,
For His faithfulness is everlasting,
24 And has rescued us from our enemies,
For His faithfulness is everlasting;
25 Who gives food to all flesh,
For His faithfulness is everlasting.
26 Give thanks to the God of heaven,
For His faithfulness is everlasting.

His Love Endures Forever

Psalm 136 begins:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods, His love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever. to him who alone does great wonders, His Love endures forever. (vv.1-4, NIV)

The psalm recounts God's mighty deeds on behalf of His people. After each line His people respond, *His love endures forever*.

The next time you lead a group of fellow worshipers, take this psalm as a pattern. Invite each one, as many as want to, to pray a short prayer of thanksgiving to God. Suggest they thank Him for a recent blessing or answer to prayer; perhaps for His daily goodness, or for some special deliverance in their lives. The word of thanks can be for themselves, or for their family, or their church, or their nation. It can recall a blessing from the past or in the present or one that by faith they know is coming in the future.

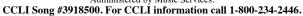
Then after each individual prayer, lead everyone to pray in unison,

Thank You, Lord God! Your love endures forever!

Our God is a mighty God whose blessings span all of time and beyond. Thank Him together!

Hymn recording: Psalm 136: "Give Thanks to God"





(NASB)

By the rivers of Babylon,
 There we sat down and wept,
 When we remembered Zion.
 Upon the willows in the midst of it
 We hung our harps.
 For there our captors demanded of us songs,
 And our tormentors, jubilation, saying,
 "Sing for us one of the songs of Zion!"

4 How can we sing the Lord's song
In a foreign land?
5 If I forget you, Jerusalem,
May my right hand forget its skill.
6 May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth
If I do not remember you,
If I do not exalt Jerusalem
Above my chief joy.

7 Remember, Lord, against the sons of Edom
The day of Jerusalem,
Those who said, "Lay it bare, lay it bare
To its foundation!"
8 Daughter of Babylon, you devastated one,
Blessed will be one who repays you
With the retribution with which you have repaid us.
9 Blessed will be one who seizes and dashes your children
Against the rock.

Exiles, strangers in a hostile land. Home seems so very far away from this place, both in distance and in character.

How can we sing of our beautiful homeland here, in this unfriendly place, surrounded by mockers?

But deep within us a longing burns, and with it, an undying joy at what will be...

and what is, even now. For God is our joy, our heaven, our home. Our longing is for Him. Our hearts yearn for Him.

And He is with us, always here, always now. He is our living promise of what soon will be fully and forever!

How can we help but sing even here?



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(NASB)

I will give You thanks with all my heart;
 I will sing Your praises before the gods.
 I will bow down toward Your holy temple
 And give thanks to Your name for Your mercy and Your truth;
 For You have made Your word great according to all Your name.
 On the day I called, You answered me;
 You made me bold with strength in my soul.

4 All the kings of the earth will give thanks to You, Lord,
When they have heard the words of Your mouth.
5 And they will sing of the ways of the Lord,
For great is the glory of the Lord.
6 For the Lord is exalted,
Yet He looks after the lowly,
But He knows the haughty from afar.

7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me;
You will reach out with Your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
And Your right hand will save me.
8 The Lord will accomplish what concerns me;
Your faithfulness, Lord, is everlasting;
Do not abandon the works of Your hands.

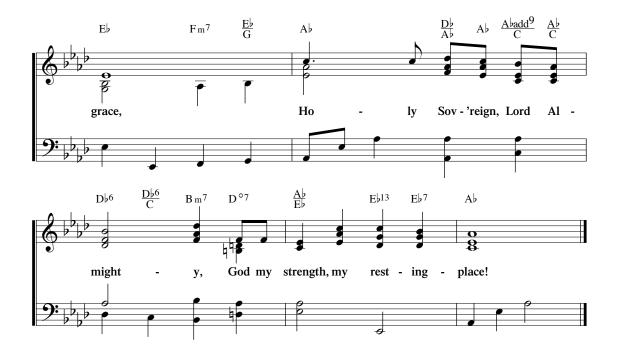
Father, Creator. Shepherd, Savior, all I am reaches up to all You are. And soon, all the rulers, all the "powers" of our human society, will reach up to You as well. They will treasure Your precious words of wisdom. They will sing of all Your works and ways. They will bow awe-struck at Your great glory. You are perfect, almighty God in my little life as well. You make me sufficient for all my needs and all my situations -You, Lord! As I trust You, You will complete everything You have begun in me and through me.

We constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith. We pray this that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in Him. (2 Thessalonians 1:11-12, NIV)

Praise to You! All I am in You! All the world in You!



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(NASB)

 Lord, You have searched me and known me.
 You know when I sit down and when I get up; You understand my thought from far away.
 You scrutinize my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways.
 Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, Lord, You know it all.
 You have encircled me behind and in front, And placed Your hand upon me.
 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is too high, I cannot comprehend it.

7 Where can I go from Your Spirit?
Or where can I flee from Your presence?
8 If I ascend to heaven, You are there;
If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there.
9 If I take up the wings of the dawn,
If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea,
10 Even there Your hand will lead me,
And Your right hand will take hold of me.
11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me,
And the light around me will be night,"
12 Even darkness is not dark to You,
And the night is as bright as the day.
Darkness and light are alike to You.

13 For You created my innermost parts;
You wove me in my mother's womb.
14 I will give thanks to You, because I am awesomely and wonderfully made;
Wonderful are Your works,
And my soul knows it very well.
15 My frame was not hidden from You
When I was made in secret,
And skillfully formed in the depths of the earth;
16 Your eyes have seen my formless substance;
And in Your book were written
All the days that were ordained for me,
When as yet there was not one of them.

17 How precious also are Your thoughts for me, God!

How vast is the sum of them! 18 Were I to count them, they would outnumber the sand. When I awake, I am still with You.

19 If only You would put the wicked to death, God;
Leave me, you men of bloodshed.
20 For they speak against You wickedly,
And Your enemies take Your name in vain.
21 Do I not hate those who hate You, Lord?
And do I not loathe those who rise up against You?
22 I hate them with the utmost hatred;
They have become my enemies.

23 Search me, God, and know my heart;Put me to the test and know my anxious thoughts;24 And see if there is any hurtful way in me,And lead me in the everlasting way.

You know me, Father. You know me constantly and completely. Whatever I am doing, however I am distracting myself, beyond my shallow self-understanding, fuzzy motives and all, You know me. Your knowing surrounds me and encircles me. penetrating to the very core of who I am and why I do what I do. At the very root of my thoughts, before I speak, before I act, You know. You understand. Your hand is always on me. You are with me every moment, in that intimate knowing. Wherever I am, whatever my situation, whatever stress is pressing in on me, You are with me. I cannot hide from You anything about myself. It is futile to try. You were the One weaving me together in my mother's womb, before even she knew I was there. So.

since I cannot run, and since I cannot hide, search me. Try me. Know me completely. If there is anything that doesn't please Your all-wise, all-loving heart, do what only You can do, and enable me to do what only I can do. Make me right, through and through. I know You want to, and I know You can. Now I want it, too. Creator,

recreate me in the beautiful image of Your holy, loving Son, Jesus Christ. Make me just like Him!

Thank you, Dr. Richard Neiderhiser Psalm 139 Unison = 88 C G <u>G</u> D C E <u>F</u> A $\frac{F\,M^7}{A}$ <u>F</u> A G F $F M^7$ G sus G C 0 9 1. Ev - 'ry mo - ment, in ti - mate know - ing--2. Com - ing, go - ing, Lord, in Your pres - ence, 3. In Your wis - dom, in Your self - giv - ing, 4. Search me, know me, teach me, my Sav - ior; θ 0 $\frac{E\,m}{G}$ C E F FM⁷ $D m^9$ $D\,\mathrm{m}^7$ FM7 G sus G Am -₿ 2 ρ breath - ing ing God. You are liv and with in, can't Run ning hid - ing hide from You. and me great Your love all Ι be gun. In am was -Cleanse all the think - ing that leads me to fear, F A $\frac{\mathrm{F}\,\mathrm{M}^7}{\mathrm{A}}$ $\frac{C}{G}$ F A <u>G</u> D C E С $G \ {\rm sus}$ G G F FM7 Ð 7 All think - ing, speak - ing, do ing my and -Self - ish flim - sy mo - tives, ex cus es, -Fa - ther, Dream - er, 0 what won - der! а lov - ing Spir - it, In Your and ho ly, F A $\frac{C}{G}$ C E G^{7} $D m^7$ $D m^7$ С Œ ₿ Ful ly dis cern - ing be fore they be gin. --Ly ing is fu tile; You know what is true. Now as Ι trust You, my God, we are one! Joy ful, my Fa ther, know You are here! to 6

WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) and Ken Bible

BRAHMS ROMANZE 9.10.9.10.

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(NASB)

Rescue me, Lord, from evil people;
 Protect me from violent men
 Who devise evil things in their hearts;
 They continually stir up wars.
 They sharpen their tongues like a snake;
 The venom of a viper is under their lips. Selah

4 Keep me, Lord, from the hands of the wicked;Protect me from violent menWho intend to trip up my feet.5 The proud have hidden a trap for me, and snares;They have spread a net at the wayside;They have set snares for me. Selah

6 I said to the Lord, "You are my God;Listen, Lord, to the sound of my pleadings.7 God the Lord, the strength of my salvation,You have covered my head on the day of battle.8 Do not grant, Lord, the desires of the wicked;Do not bring about his evil planning, so that they are not exalted. Selah

9 "As for the head of those who surround me, May the harm of their lips cover them.
10 May burning coals fall upon them; May they be cast into the fire, Into bottomless pits from which they cannot rise.
11 May a slanderer not endure on the earth; May evil hunt a violent person violently."

12 I know that the Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted, And justice for the poor.

13 Certainly the righteous will give thanks to Your name; The upright will dwell in Your presence.

In this world, evil seems omnipotent and omnipresent. When it approaches us personally, it tries to either sneak in unnoticed or to puff itself up as all-powerful and inevitable.

But in truth, evil is nothing it pretends to be. In His sovereign wisdom, God has allowed it to linger for a time to serve His good purpose and to glorify Himself. In His perfect time, He will expose it, not only for the lies it tells, but for the lie that it **is**. Evil is the absence of God from our thinking, our doing, and our desiring. God will banish evil completely and forever. from all creation, by the fullness of His presence, by revealing all that He is. Evil can thrive only in the darkness; God is light. Evil exists only through lies. God is truth. Since evil is the absence of God, It will disappear in the fullness of His glory. Only those who acknowledge Him and accept Him will remain.

And in them, the eternal light of God's greatness and goodness and presence will fill all reality. Evil will have no place, for God will be All-in-all.

In the meantime, God delivers us from all evil as we allow Him to be All-in-all in us.

> Father, You will give evil its hour, but You are the destination of all history.



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(NASB)

1 Lord, I call upon You; hurry to me!
Listen to my voice when I call to You!
2 May my prayer be counted as incense before You; The raising of my hands as the evening offering.
3 Set a guard, Lord, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.
4 Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, To practice deeds of wickedness
With people who do wrong; And may I not taste their delicacies.

5 May the righteous strike me with mercy and discipline me;
It is oil for the head;
My head shall not refuse it,
For my prayer is still against their evil deeds.
6 Their judges are thrown down by the sides of the rock,
And they hear my words, for they are pleasant.
7 As when one plows and breaks open the earth,

Our bones have been scattered at the mouth of Sheol.

8 For my eyes are toward You, God, the Lord;In You I take refuge; do not leave me defenseless.9 Keep me from the jaws of the trap which they have set for me,And from the snares of those who do wrong.10 May the wicked fall into their own nets,While I pass by safely.

Almighty God, my Father, I stand in Your holy presence. I lift my hands, offering myself as a living sacrifice. My simple prayer rises as sweet-smelling incense before You. O my God, evil is all around me, pressing in, threatening destruction. Guard me. Guard my heart. Guard my mouth. Guard my relationships. Protect me from evil's discouragements and distractions. Keep me strong in faith, strong in You. As trouble comes, I take refuge in You. I am safe in You. No matter today brings, Lord, keep my eyes on You.



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(NASB)

1 I cry out with my voice to the Lord;
With my voice I implore the Lord for compassion.
2 I pour out my complaint before Him;
I declare my trouble before Him.
3 When my spirit felt weak within me,
You knew my path.
In the way where I walk
They have hidden a trap for me.
4 Look to the right and see;
For there is no one who regards me favorably;
There is no escape for me;
No one cares for my soul.

5 I cried out to You, Lord;
I said, "You are my refuge,
My portion in the land of the living.
6 Give Your attention to my cry,
For I have been brought very low;
Rescue me from my persecutors,
For they are too strong for me.
7 Bring my soul out of prison,
So that I may give thanks to Your name;
The righteous will surround me,
For You will look after me."

Desperate, alone, overwhelmed – how many of God's saints have walked that dark road!

Jesus Himself walked that road. He could have prayed Psalm 142 in Gethsemane. Perhaps He did.

As with Christ, when no one understands, the Father understands. When no one seems to care, God Himself shares our pain.

And faith

Faith

keeps holding on.

endures. God's life endures. God's love

endures.

Then when the brief period of suffering is over, God's people celebrate together

His triumph and His unfailing goodness.





WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: African-American Spiritual and Ken Bible MUMBLIN' WORD 2 6.6.6.6.w.Ref.

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(NASB)

1 Hear my prayer, Lord,
Listen to my pleadings!
Answer me in Your faithfulness, in Your righteousness!
2 And do not enter into judgment with Your servant,
For no person living is righteous in Your sight.
3 For the enemy has persecuted my soul;
He has crushed my life to the ground;
He has made me dwell in dark places, like those who have long been dead.
4 Therefore my spirit feels weak within me;
My heart is appalled within me.

5 I remember the days of old;
I meditate on all Your accomplishments;
I reflect on the work of Your hands.
6 I spread out my hands to You;
My soul longs for You, like a weary land. Selah

7 Answer me quickly, Lord, my spirit fails;
Do not hide Your face from me,
Or I will be the same as those who go down to the pit.
8 Let me hear Your faithfulness in the morning,
For I trust in You;
Teach me the way in which I should walk;
For to You I lift up my soul.
9 Save me, Lord, from my enemies;
I take refuge in You.

10 Teach me to do Your will,
For You are my God;
Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground.
11 For the sake of Your name, Lord, revive me.
In Your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble.
12 And in Your faithfulness, destroy my enemies,
And eliminate all those who attack my soul,
For I am Your servant.

Father, I need You! Pursued, pressured, crushed, overwhelmed, stumbling around in the darkness, I need You! Though I can't feel You or see You now, I remember. I remember times past when I desperately needed You, and You came. O Father, I need You now! I take refuge in You. I hide myself in You. Teach me. Teach me how to please You. Teach me to do Your will. You know what is best. Teach me to trust You in every situation, no matter what comes.

You are goodness. You are unfailing love. You are absolute dependability. You always do what is right. Always.

Father, I need You!



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Ken Bible, inspired by a Traditional Folk Tune

LADY MAISRY 2 C.M.

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(NASB)

1 Blessed be the Lord, my rock,
Who trains my hands for war,
And my fingers for battle;
2 My faithfulness and my fortress,
My stronghold and my savior,
My shield and He in whom I take refuge,
Who subdues my people under me.
3 Lord, what is man, that You look after him?
Or a son of man, that You think of him?
4 Man is like the breath;
His days are like a passing shadow.

5 Bend down Your heavens, Lord, and come down;
Touch the mountains, that they may smoke.
6 Flash forth lightning and scatter them;
Send out Your arrows and confuse them.
7 Reach out with Your hand from on high;
Rescue me and save me from great waters,
From the hand of foreigners
8 Whose mouths speak deceit,
And whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

9 God, I will sing a new song to You;
On a harp of ten strings I will sing praises to You,
10 Who gives salvation to kings,
Who rescues His servant David from the evil sword.
11 Rescue me and save me from the hand of foreigners,
Whose mouth speaks deceit
And whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood.

12 When our sons in their youth are like growing plants,
And our daughters like corner pillars fashioned for a palace,
13 Our granaries are full, providing every kind of produce,
And our flocks deliver thousands and ten thousands in our fields;
14 May our cattle be bred
Without mishap and without loss,
May there be no outcry in our streets!
15 Blessed are the people who are so situated;
Blessed are the people whose God is the Lord!

In You, Almighty God,

we are a people at war.

We are at war with evil.

Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 6:10-12, NASB)

Almighty God, You are

our rock, our strength, our fortress, our deliverer. You Yourself have created, chosen, and redeemed us, and *The gates of hell will not prevail against us* (Matthew 16:18, para.). We are a people at war.

But in You, the Prince of Peace, we are also a people at peace. We are at rest in Your deep and complete well-being.

Soon evil will be vanquished and destroyed forever. Then Your peace will permeate every heart, every life, and every fiber of creation.

Praise to You! Praise to You, Almighty God and Prince of Peace!



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(NASB)

1 I will exalt You, my God, the King, And I will bless Your name forever and ever. 2 Every day I will bless You, And I will praise Your name forever and ever. 3 Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable. 4 One generation will praise Your works to another, And will declare Your mighty acts. 5 On the glorious splendor of Your majesty And on Your wonderful works, I will meditate. 6 People will speak of the power of Your awesome acts, And I will tell of Your greatness. 7 They will burst forth in speaking of Your abundant goodness, And will shout joyfully of Your righteousness. 8 The Lord is gracious and compassionate; Slow to anger and great in mercy. 9 The Lord is good to all, And His mercies are over all His works. 10 All Your works will give thanks to You, Lord, And Your godly ones will bless You. 11 They will speak of the glory of Your kingdom, And talk of Your might, 12 To make known to the sons of mankind Your mighty acts, And the glory of the majesty of Your kingdom. 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And Your dominion endures throughout all generations.

The Lord is faithful in His words,

And holy in all His works.

14 The Lord supports all who fall,

And raises up all who are bowed down.

15 The eyes of all look to You,

And You give them their food in due time.

16 You open Your hand

And satisfy the desire of every living thing.

17 The Lord is righteous in all His ways,

And kind in all His works.

18 The Lord is near to all who call on Him,

To all who call on Him in truth.

19 He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him;

He will also hear their cry for help and save them.

20 The Lord watches over all who love Him,

But He will destroy all the wicked.

21 My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,

And all flesh will bless His holy name forever and ever.

O Almighty God, Great and Good,

Glory of all glory and Splendor of all splendor,

Creator, Father, Source and Goal of all life, all longing, all being and doing, Light of all Truth and Wisdom and Justice, Absolute Faithfulness and Unending, unfailing Love how can we respond to all You are and all You do? We worship You, we love You, we lift You up, we glorify You with every act

every thought, every word, and every breath.



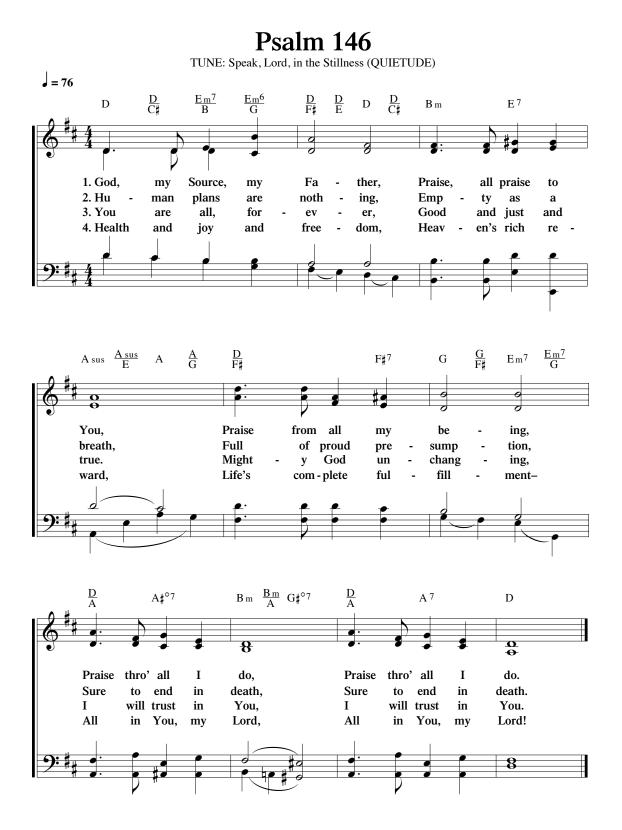
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(NASB)

1 Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, my soul! 2 I will praise the Lord while I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. 3 Do not trust in noblemen, In mortal man, in whom there is no salvation. 4 His spirit departs, he returns to the earth; On that very day his plans perish. 5 Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, Whose hope is in the Lord his God, 6 Who made heaven and earth, The sea and everything that is in them; Who keeps faith forever; 7 Who executes justice for the oppressed; Who gives food to the hungry. The Lord frees the prisoners.

8 The Lord opens the eyes of those who are blind; The Lord raises up those who are bowed down; The Lord loves the righteous.
9 The Lord watches over strangers; He supports the fatherless and the widow, But He thwarts the way of the wicked.
10 The Lord will reign forever, Your God, Zion, to all generations. Praise the Lord!

We crave human praise. We consistently choose comfort and pleasure. We scramble for financial security. All are mirages. All are shallow and passing. All are absolutely certain to disappoint. God, Creator, Shepherd, Father, You are joy. You are freedom. You are health. You are life's complete fulfillment and love's richest reward. l seek You. I trust You. I love You, my Lord, my life, my heaven, my God!



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Harold Green (1871-1930); arr. by Ken Bible QUIETUDE 6.5.6.5.

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(NASB)

Praise the Lord!
 For it is good to sing praises to our God;
 For it is pleasant and praise is beautiful.
 The Lord builds up Jerusalem;
 He gathers the outcasts of Israel.
 He heals the brokenhearted
 And binds up their wounds.
 He counts the number of the stars;
 He gives names to all of them.
 Great is our Lord and abundant in strength;
 His understanding is infinite.
 The Lord supports the afflicted;
 He brings the wicked down to the ground.

7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;
Sing praises to our God on the lyre;
8 It is He who covers the heavens with clouds,
Who provides rain for the earth,
Who makes grass sprout on the mountains.
9 It is He who gives an animal its food,
And feeds young ravens that cry.
10 He does not delight in the strength of the horse;
He does not take pleasure in the legs of a man.
11 The Lord favors those who fear Him,
Those who wait for His faithfulness.

12 Praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Praise your God, Zion!
13 For He has strengthened the bars of your gates;
He has blessed your sons among you.
14 He makes peace in your borders;
He satisfies you with the finest of the wheat.
15 He sends His command to the earth;
His word runs very swiftly.
16 He showers snow like wool;
He scatters the frost like ashes.
17 He hurls His ice as fragments;
Who can stand before His cold?
18 He sends His word and makes them melt;
He makes His wind blow, and the waters flow.

19 He declares His words to Jacob,His statutes and His judgments to Israel.20 He has not dealt this way with any other nation;And as for His judgments, they have not known them.Praise the Lord!

O Father, what a joy it is to praise You! How delightful! How beautiful! How appropriate!

You call us. You draw us. You build us up. You restore and renew us. By Your Spirit, You bless us with all that You are.

You forgive us. You heal us. You bind us together with You and in You.

You richly, faithfully provide for all our needs. Even our pains and problems You transform into unexpected blessings.

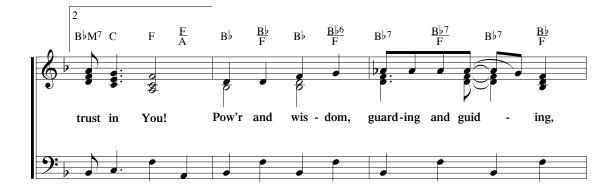
You delight in us. You speak Your mighty Word over us and into us. You enlighten us, shape us, embrace us, fill us. Praise to You, our God!

Psalm 147 TUNE: Glory Hallelujah to the Newborn King (alt.)

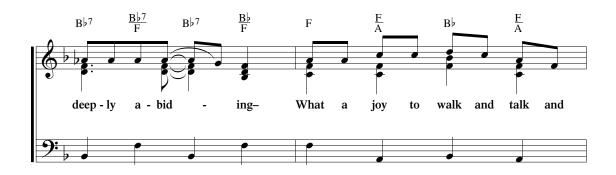


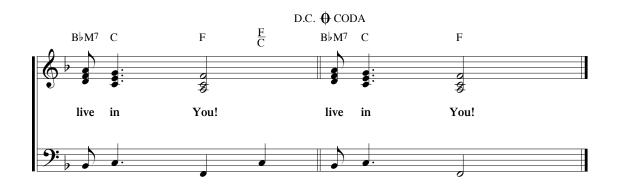
WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: African-American Spiritual and Ken Bible GLORY HALLELUJAH 11.10.10.11. w. Bridge

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(NASB)

Praise the Lord!
 Praise the Lord from the heavens;
 Praise Him in the heights!
 Praise Him, all His angels;
 Praise Him, all His heavenly armies!
 Praise Him, sun and moon;
 Praise Him, all stars of light!
 Praise Him, highest heavens,
 And the waters that are above the heavens!
 They are to praise the name of the Lord,
 For He commanded and they were created.
 He has also established them forever and ever;
 He has made a decree, and it will not pass away.

7 Praise the Lord from the earth,
Sea monsters, and all the ocean depths;
8 Fire and hail, snow and clouds;
Stormy wind, fulfilling His word;
9 Mountains and all hills;
Fruit trees and all cedars;
10 Animals and all cattle;
Crawling things and winged fowl;
11 Kings of the earth and all peoples;
Rulers and all judges of the earth;
12 Both young men and virgins;
Old men and children.

13 They are to praise the name of the Lord,For His name alone is exalted;His majesty is above earth and heaven.14 And He has lifted up a horn for His people,Praise for all His godly ones,For the sons of Israel, a people near to Him.Praise the Lord!

When we praise God, we become part of something greater, higher, deeper, richer. We join our heart and voice with all reality to praise and thank the One who gave us existence, life, purpose, and nobility. All that is highest in all creation praises Him – angels, sun, moon and stars, and worlds beyond worlds. All that is earthly praises Him, all creatures great and small, water, wind, and fire, mountains and hills, plains and valleys, trees and all plant life, and a universe of microscopic wonders. What is more, with all these we stand on tip-toe, eagerly awaiting the full revelation of Jesus Christ. For when He is revealed for all He is. we and all creation will be freed from the corruption brought on us by sin and death,

freed forever into all the glory and purity of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:18-23).

With all creation, all reality, lift your heart and voice to praise the God who gives us being. And with them cry out in prayer together: "COME, LORD JESUS!"

Hymn recording: Psalm 148 (RISING SUN)

Hymn recording: Psalm 148 (AZMON)

TUNE: House of the Rising Sun



MUSIC: Traditional Folk Tune and Ken Bible

C.M.

Alt. Tunes: CORONATION, MAITLAND, ST. ANNE, AMAZING GRACE, AZMON

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TUNE: O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing (AZMON)



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Carl G. Glaser AZMON C.M.

Alt. Tunes: CORONATION, MAITLAND, ST. ANNE, AMAZING GRACE, RISING SUN

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(NASB)

Praise the Lord!
 Sing a new song to the Lord,
 And His praise in the congregation of the godly ones.
 Israel shall be joyful in his Maker;
 The sons of Zion shall rejoice in their King.
 They shall praise His name with dancing;
 They shall sing praises to Him with tambourine and lyre.
 For the Lord takes pleasure in His people;
 He will glorify the lowly with salvation.

5 The godly ones shall be jubilant in glory;
They shall sing for joy on their beds.
6 The high praises of God shall be in their mouths,
And a two-edged sword in their hands,
7 To execute vengeance on the nations,
And punishment on the peoples,
8 To bind their kings with chains,
And their dignitaries with shackles of iron,
9 To execute against them the judgment written.
This is an honor for all His godly ones.
Praise the Lord!

with Ephesians 6:10-18

O Almighty Father, we are Your people! You take pleasure in us, and we are glad in You. We find joy in all You are, and our praise spills over into all we are. Spirit, mind, and body rejoice in You and dance in You. We lift You up with songs and lives of praise! In this evil world, we are Your holy temple, Your living Body. And yes, we are Your army. We go in Your name, armed with

Your Spirit and Your Word. We are protected by Your truth, Your righteousness, and Your salvation.

We are an army of love. We are Your people, loving Lord! We are Messiah's people, the people of the Living God!





(NASB)

Praise the Lord!
 Praise God in His sanctuary;
 Praise Him in His mighty expanse.
 Praise Him for His mighty deeds;
 Praise Him according to His excellent greatness.

3 Praise Him with trumpet sound;
Praise Him with harp and lyre.
4 Praise Him with tambourine and dancing;
Praise Him with stringed instruments and flute.
5 Praise Him with loud cymbals;
Praise Him with resounding cymbals.
6 Everything that has breath shall praise the Lord.
Praise the Lord!

Lord our God, how can we possibly respond to You for all You are almighty, all-wise, all-loving, holy, unsearchably great and eternally, thoroughly good? How could we ever thank You for all You have done creating us, redeeming us, forgiving us, cleansing us, adopting us as Your own children, providing for us in absolutely every way, filling us with Yourself, and giving us an eternal future with You? We cannot. Our response to You will

always be inadequate. But with everything we are and everything we have, with every breath and together with all You have created, we can praise You, full-heart and full-voice, forever and ever.

Praise to You, PRAISE to You, PRAISE TO YOU, OUR GOD!



WORDS: Ken Bible MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesange, 1623; arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams LASST UNS ERFREUEN L.M. w. refrain lines

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