

# Psalm 089 - Messianic Psalm: The Davidic Covenant

## Psalm 89

[Maschil of Ethan the Ezrahite.]

### God's Covenant with David

1 I will sing of the graciousness of the LORD forever; To all generations I will make Your faithfulness known with my mouth.

1 I will sing of the lovingkindness of the LORD forever; To all generations I will make known Your faithfulness with my mouth.

1 I will sing forever about the gracious love of the LORD; from generation to generation I will declare your faithfulness with my mouth.

1 I will sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations.

2 For I have said, "Graciousness will be built up forever; In the heavens You will establish Your faithfulness."

2 For I have said, "Lovingkindness will be built up forever; In the heavens You will establish Your faithfulness."

2 I will declare that your gracious love was established forever; in the heavens itself, you have established your faithfulness.

2 For I have said, Mercy shall be built up for ever: thy faithfulness shalt thou establish in the very heavens.

3 "I have made a covenant with My chosen; I have sworn to My servant David,

3 "I have made a covenant with My chosen; I have sworn to David My servant,

3 I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have made a promise to David, my servant.

3 I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant,

4 I will establish your descendants forever And build up your throne to all generations."

Selah

4 I will establish your seed forever And build up your throne to all generations." Selah.

4 "I will establish your dynasty forever, and I will lift up one who will build your throne from generation to generation."

4 Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations. *Selah.*

- God states that He has made an eternal covenant with David, including the establishment of an eternal Dynasty and the Throne (v29,34-37; Cf. 2 Sam 7; 1 Chr 17; Ps 2; 72; 89; Is 11)

5 The heavens will praise Your wonders, LORD; Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the holy ones.

5 The heavens will praise Your wonders, O LORD; Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the holy ones.

5 Even the heavens praise your awesome deeds, LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.

5 And the heavens shall praise thy wonders, O LORD: thy faithfulness also in the congregation of the saints.

6 For who in the skies is comparable to the LORD? Who among the sons of the mighty is like the LORD,

6 For who in the skies is comparable to the LORD? Who among the sons of the mighty is like the LORD,

6 For who in the skies compares to the LORD? Who is like the LORD among the divine beings?

6 For who in the heaven can be compared unto the LORD? who among the sons of the mighty can be likened unto the LORD?

7 A God greatly feared in the council of the holy ones, And awesome above all those who are around Him?

7 A God greatly feared in the council of the holy ones, And awesome above all those who are around Him?

7 God is feared in the council of the holy ones, revered by all those around him.

7 God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him.

8 LORD God of armies, who is like You, mighty LORD? Your faithfulness also surrounds You.

8 O LORD God of hosts, who is like You, O mighty LORD? Your faithfulness also surrounds You.

8 LORD God of the Heavenly Armies, who is as mighty as you, LORD? Your faithfulness surrounds you.

8 O LORD God of hosts, who is a strong LORD like unto thee? or to thy faithfulness round about thee?

9 You rule the surging of the sea; When its waves rise, You calm them.  
9 You rule the swelling of the sea; When its waves rise, You still them.  
9 You rule over the majestic sea; when its waves surge, you calm them.  
9 Thou rulest the raging of the sea: when the waves thereof arise, thou stillest them.

10 You Yourself crushed Rahab like one who is slain; You scattered Your enemies with Your mighty arm.  
10 You Yourself crushed Rahab like one who is slain; You scattered Your enemies with Your mighty arm.  
10 You crushed the proud one to death; with your powerful arm you scattered your enemies.  
10 Thou hast broken Rahab in pieces, as one that is slain; thou hast scattered thine enemies with thy strong arm.

11 The heavens are Yours, the earth also is Yours; The world and all it contains, You have established them.  
11 The heavens are Yours, the earth also is Yours; The world and all it contains, You have founded them.  
11 Heaven and the earth belong to you, the world and everything it contains— you established them.  
11 The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine: as for the world and the fulness thereof, thou hast founded them.

12 The north and the south, You have created them; Tabor and Hermon shout for joy at Your name.  
12 The north and the south, You have created them; Tabor and Hermon shout for joy at Your name.  
12 The north and south—you created them; Tabor and Hermon joyously praise your name.  
12 The north and the south thou hast created them: Tabor and Hermon shall rejoice in thy name.

13 You have a strong arm; Your hand is mighty, Your right hand is exalted.  
13 You have a strong arm; Your hand is mighty, Your right hand is exalted.  
13 Your arm is strong; your hand is mighty; indeed, your right hand is victorious.  
13 Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand.

14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before You.

14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Lovingkindness and truth go before You.

14 Righteousness and justice make up the foundation of your throne; gracious love and truth meet before you.

14 Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face.

15 Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! LORD, they walk in the light of Your face.

15 How blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! O LORD, they walk in the light of Your countenance.

15 How happy are the people who can worship joyfully! LORD, they walk in the light of your presence.

15 Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance.

16 In Your name they rejoice all the day, And by Your righteousness they are exalted.

16 In Your name they rejoice all the day, And by Your righteousness they are exalted.

16 In your name they rejoice all day long; they exult in your justice.

16 In thy name shall they rejoice all the day: and in thy righteousness shall they be exalted.

17 For You are the glory of their strength, And by Your favor our horn is exalted.

17 For You are the glory of their strength, And by Your favor our horn is exalted.

17 For you are their strength's grandeur; by your favor you exalted our power.

17 For thou art the glory of their strength: and in thy favour our horn shall be exalted.

18 For our shield belongs to the LORD, And our king to the Holy One of Israel.

18 For our shield belongs to the LORD, And our king to the Holy One of Israel.

18 Indeed, our shield belongs to the LORD, and our king to the Holy One of Israel.

18 For the LORD is our defence; and the Holy One of Israel is our king.

### **God's Describes His Anointed**

19 Once You spoke in vision to Your godly ones, And said, "I have given help to one who is mighty; I have exalted one chosen from the people.

19 Once You spoke in vision to Your godly ones, And said, "I have given help to one who is mighty; I have exalted one chosen from the people.

19 You spoke to your faithful ones through a vision: "I will set a helper over a warrior. I will raise up a chosen one from the people.

19 Then thou spakest in vision to thy holy one, and saidst, I have laid help upon one that is mighty; I have exalted one chosen out of the people.

20 "I have found My servant David; With My holy oil I have anointed him,

20 "I have found David My servant; With My holy oil I have anointed him,

20 I have found my servant David; I have anointed him with my sacred oil,

20 I have found David my servant; with my holy oil have I anointed him:

21 With whom My hand will be established; My arm also will strengthen him.

21 With whom My hand will be established; My arm also will strengthen him.

21 with whom my power will be firmly established; for my arm will strengthen him.

21 With whom my hand shall be established: mine arm also shall strengthen him.

22 "The enemy will not deceive him, Nor will the son of wickedness afflict him.

22 "The enemy will not deceive him, Nor the son of wickedness afflict him.

22 No enemy will deceive him; no wicked person will afflict him.

22 The enemy shall not exact upon him; nor the son of wickedness afflict him.

23 "But I will crush his adversaries before him, And strike those who hate him.

23 "But I shall crush his adversaries before him, And strike those who hate him.

23 I will crush his enemies before him and strike those who hate him.

23 And I will beat down his foes before his face, and plague them that hate him.

24 "**My** faithfulness and **My** favor will be with him, And in **My** name his horn will be exalted.

24 "My faithfulness and My lovingkindness will be with him, And in My name his horn will be exalted.

24 My faithfulness and gracious love will be with him, and in my name his power will be exalted.

24 But my faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted.

- "My" [3x] - the pronoun has changed to "My" because it is God speaking

— All the references in this psalm, regardless of the pronoun used, refer to the faithfulness of God

25 "I will also place his hand on the sea, And his right hand on the rivers.

25 "I shall also set his hand on the sea And his right hand on the rivers.

25 I will place his hand over the sea, and his right hand over the rivers.

25 I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers.

26 "He will call to Me, 'You are my Father, My God, and the rock of my salvation.'

26 "He will cry to Me, 'You are my Father, My God, and the rock of my salvation.'

26 He will announce to me 'You are my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

26 He shall cry unto me, Thou art my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.

27 "I will also make him My firstborn, The highest of the kings of the earth.

27 "I also shall make him *My* firstborn, The highest of the kings of the earth.

27 "Indeed, I myself made him the firstborn, the highest of the kings of the earth.

27 Also I will make him my firstborn, higher than the kings of the earth.

- He was the Firstborn in Bethlehem; firstborn in the Resurrection, first begotten of the dead... King of Kings...!

28 "I will maintain My favor for him forever, And My covenant shall be confirmed to him.

28 "My lovingkindness I will keep for him forever, And My covenant shall be confirmed to him.

28 I will show my gracious love toward him forever, since my covenant is securely established with him.

28 My mercy will I keep for him for evermore, and my covenant shall stand fast with him.

29 "So I will establish his descendants forever, And his throne as the days of heaven.

29 "So I will establish his descendants forever And his throne as the days of heaven.

29 I will establish his dynasty forever, and his throne as long as heaven endures.

29 His seed also will I make to endure for ever, and his throne as the days of heaven.

- Eternal Dynasty and Throne

**30** "If his sons abandon My Law And do not walk in My judgments,

**30** "If his sons forsake My law And do not walk in My judgments,

30 "But if his sons abandon my laws and do not follow my ordinances,

30 If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments;

31 If they violate My statutes And do not keep My commandments,

31 If they violate My statutes And do not keep My commandments,

31 if they profane my statutes; and do not keep my commands,

31 If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments;

32 Then I will punish their wrongdoing with the rod, And their guilt with afflictions.  
32 Then I will punish their transgression with the rod And their iniquity with stripes.  
32 then I will punish their disobedience with a rod and their iniquity with lashes.  
32 Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes.

33 "But I will not withhold My favor from him, Nor deal falsely in My faithfulness.  
33 "But I will not break off My lovingkindness from him, Nor deal falsely in My faithfulness.  
33 But I will not cut off my gracious love from him, and I will not stop being faithful.  
33 Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer  
my faithfulness to fail.

34 "I will not violate My covenant, Nor will I alter the utterance of My lips.  
34 "My covenant I will not violate, Nor will I alter the utterance of My lips.  
34 I will not dishonor my covenant, because I will not change what I have spoken.  
34 My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.  
- The Covenant is not dependent upon David or upon his descendants, but upon God's  
character. Since God does not lie, the covenant is sure to stand. For this very reason, the  
eternity of the Davidic Dynasty and Throne are assured (Cf. Is 9:7).

35 "Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David.  
35 "Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David.  
35 I have sworn by my holiness once for all: I will not lie to David.  
35 Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David.

36 "His descendants shall endure forever, And his throne as the sun before Me.  
36 "His descendants shall endure forever And his throne as the sun before Me.  
36 His dynasty will last forever and his throne will be like the sun before me.  
36 His seed shall endure for ever, and his throne as the sun before me.  
- At this very moment there is One sitting at the right hand of God who is coming to earth  
to sit on that throne of David. He is the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of David.

37 "It shall be established forever like the moon, And a witness in the sky is faithful." Selah  
37 "It shall be established forever like the moon, And the witness in the sky is faithful."  
Selah.  
37 It will be established forever like the moon, a faithful witness in the sky."  
37 It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven. Selah.

- David will have a Son who will sit on the throne of this universe. That fact is as established as the moon is established in the heavens, and it looks like the moon is going to be there for a long time.

### **A Commitment to Persevere**

**38** But You have rejected and refused, You have been full of wrath against Your anointed.

**38** But You have cast off and rejected, You have been full of wrath against Your anointed.

38 But you have spurned, rejected, and became angry with your anointed one.

38 But thou hast cast off and abhorred, thou hast been wroth with thine anointed.

- Verses 39-45 describe the invasion of Shishak, which occurred in Rehoboam's reign (1 Chr 12)

— Young Jehoiachin had been taken captive to Babylon; his uncle Zedekiah replaced him (2 Kings 24)

— Jeremiah had announced a blood curse on Jehoiachin (also called Jeconiah, or Coniah)

39 You have repudiated the covenant of Your servant; You have profaned his crown in the dust.

39 You have spurned the covenant of Your servant; You have profaned his crown in the dust.

39 You have dishonored the covenant with your servant; you have defiled his crown on the ground.

39 Thou hast made void the covenant of thy servant: thou hast profaned his crown by casting it to the ground.

40 You have broken down all his walls; You have brought his strongholds to ruin.

40 You have broken down all his walls; You have brought his strongholds to ruin.

40 You have broken through all his walls; you have laid his fortresses in ruin.

40 Thou hast broken down all his hedges; thou hast brought his strong holds to ruin.

41 All who pass along the way plunder him; He has become a disgrace to his neighbors.

41 All who pass along the way plunder him; He has become a reproach to his neighbors.

41 All who pass by on their way plunder him; he has become a reproach to his neighbors.

41 All that pass by the way spoil him: he is a reproach to his neighbours.

42 You have exalted the right hand of his adversaries; You have made all his enemies rejoice.

42 You have exalted the right hand of his adversaries; You have made all his enemies rejoice.

42 You have exalted the right hand of his adversaries; you have caused all of his enemies to rejoice.

42 Thou hast set up the right hand of his adversaries; thou hast made all his enemies to rejoice.

43 You also turn back the edge of his sword, And have not made him stand in battle.

43 You also turn back the edge of his sword And have not made him stand in battle.

43 Moreover, you have turned back the edge of his sword and did not support him in battle.

43 Thou hast also turned the edge of his sword, and hast not made him to stand in the battle.

44 You have put an end to his splendor And cast his throne to the ground.

44 You have made his splendor to cease And cast his throne to the ground.

44 You have caused his splendor to cease and cast down his throne to the ground.

44 Thou hast made his glory to cease, and cast his throne down to the ground.

45 You have shortened the days of his youth; You have covered him with shame. *Selah*

45 You have shortened the days of his youth; You have covered him with shame. *Selah*.

45 You have caused the days of his youth to be cut short; you have covered him with shame.

45 The days of his youth hast thou shortened: thou hast covered him with shame. *Selah*.

**46** How long, LORD? Will You hide Yourself forever? Will Your wrath burn like fire?

**46** How long, O LORD? Will You hide Yourself forever? Will Your wrath burn like fire?

46 How long, LORD, will you hide yourself? Forever? Will your anger continuously burn like fire?

46 How long, LORD? wilt thou hide thyself for ever? shall thy wrath burn like fire?

47 Remember what my lifespan is; For what futility You have created all the sons of mankind!

47 Remember what my span of life is; For what vanity You have created all the sons of men!

47 Remember how short my lifetime is! How powerless have you created all human beings!

47 Remember how short my time is: wherefore hast thou made all men in vain?

48 What man can live and not see death? Can he save his soul from the power of Sheol?

*Selah*

48 What man can live and not see death? Can he deliver his soul from the power of Sheol?  
*Selah.*

48 What valiant man can live and not see death? Who can deliver himself from the power of Sheol.

48 What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? *Selah.*

**49** Where are Your former acts of favor, Lord, Which You swore to David in Your faithfulness?

**49** Where are Your former lovingkindnesses, O Lord, Which You swore to David in Your faithfulness?

49 Where is your gracious love of old, Lord, that in your faithfulness you promised to David?

49 Lord, where are thy former lovingkindnesses, which thou swarest unto David in thy truth?

50 Remember, Lord, the taunt against Your servants; How I carry in my heart the taunts of all the many peoples,

50 Remember, O Lord, the reproach of Your servants; How I bear in my bosom *the reproach of* all the many peoples,

50 Remember, Lord, the reproach of your servant! I carry inside me all the insults of many people,

50 Remember, Lord, the reproach of thy servants; how I do bear in my bosom the reproach of all the mighty people;

51 With which Your enemies have taunted, LORD, With which they have taunted the footsteps of Your anointed.

51 With which Your enemies have reproached, O LORD, With which they have reproached the footsteps of Your anointed.

51 when your enemies reproached you, LORD, when they reproached the footsteps of your anointed.

51 Wherewith thine enemies have reproached, O LORD; wherewith they have reproached the footsteps of thine anointed.

**52** Blessed be the LORD forever! Amen and Amen.

**52** Blessed be the LORD forever! Amen and Amen.

**52** Blessed is the LORD forever! Amen and amen!

**52** Blessed be the LORD for evermore. Amen, and Amen.

- Verse 52 is not part of the psalm: it forms the conclusion of Book III (Cf. Ps 41:13, 72:18-19)