

## PSALM 6

To the Chief Musician (1 word – לְמַנְצֵחַ)

With Stringed Instruments (1 word – בְּנִינֹת)

Upon the Eight-Stringed Harp (2 words – עַל - הַשְּׁמִינִית)

A Psalm of David (2 words – מִזְמוֹר לְדָוִד)

v. 1 – O Yahweh, (1 word – יְהוָה)

(You) do not in Your anger reprove me, (3 words – אַל - בְּאַפְּךָ תוֹכִיחֵנִי)

and (You) do not in Your hot displeasure chasten me. (3 words – וְאַל - בְּחַמְתְּךָ תִּסְרְנֵנִי)

Synonymous Parallelism

Both lines are very similar; the first word is the same in both lines; the second and third words in both lines begin and end with the same letters – ב י ת ך ב

v. 2 – (You) have mercy on me, O Yahweh, for I (am) feeble, (5 words – חַנּוּנֵי יְהוָה כִּי אֲמַלְל אֲנִי)

(You) heal me, O Yahweh, for my bones are terrified. (5 words – רַפְּאֵנִי יְהוָה כִּי נִבְהַלּוּ עַצְמֵי)

Synthetic Parallelism

Both lines are very similar; the first word in both lines end in נִי, “nee”; the second and third words in both lines are the same; both lines end with two words after “for”.

Five of ten words end in יֵ. – hireq yod, “ee”.

v. 3 – And my soul is terrified exceedingly, (3 words – וַנִּפְשִׁי נִבְהַלָּה מְאֹד)

But You, O Yahweh, how long? (4 words – (וְאַתָּה) [וְאַתָּה] יְהוָה עַד - מָתַי)

The first line joins with the last line in v. 2; both have the same verb.

The word in parentheses is called Kethib – what is written.

The word in brackets is called Qere – what is spoken. There is no difference in meaning.

v. 4 – (You) return, (1 word – שׁוּבָה)

O Yahweh, (1 word – יְהוָה)

(You) deliver my soul, (2 words – חַלְצָה נַפְשִׁי)

(You) save me (1 word – הוֹשִׁיעֵנִי)

because of Your covenant love. (2 words – לְמַעַן חֶסֶדְךָ)

The first three words end in הָ – qamets he, “ahh”.

The next two words end in יֵ – hireq yod, “ee”; three overall.

v. 5 – For (1 word – כִּי)

there is not in death remembrance of You, (3 words – אֵין בְּמֹת זְכָרְךָ)

in Sheol who is giving praise to You? (4 words – בְּשְׂאוֹל מִי יוֹדֶה - לְךָ)

Synthetic Parallelism with Chiasm

v. 6 – I grew weary with my groaning, (2 words – יִגְעַתִּי בְּאַנְחָתִי)  
 I was flooding through all of the night my bed, (4 words – אֲשַׁחָה בְּכֹל לַיְלָה מִטָּתִּי)  
 with my tears, my couch I was drenching. (3 words – בְּדַמְעָתִי עֲרָשִׁי אֲמַסָּה)  
 The second and third lines are Synthetic Parallelism with Chiasm  
 Five words end in ם – hireq yod, “ee”.

v. 7 – My eye wasted away from vexation, (3 words – עָשָׂשָׁה מִבְּעַס עֵינַי)  
 it grew weak because of all of those who are hostile toward me.  
 (3 words – עָתְקָה בְּכֹל - צוֹרְרֵי)  
 Synthetic Parallelism  
 The first word in each line begins with ע – ayin and ends with הָ – qamets he, “ahh”.  
 The first word in each line begins with ע – ayin; the last word in each line ends with ם – yod, “y”.  
 The first four words contain an ע – ayin.

v. 8 – (You [p.]) depart from me all of you (p.) who are working iniquity,  
 (5 words – סוּרוּ מִמֶּנִּי כָּל - פְּעֻלֵי אָוֶן)  
 for Yahweh has heard the voice of my weeping. (5 words – כִּי - שָׁמַע יְהוָה קוֹל בְּכֵי)

v. 9 – Yahweh has heard my supplication, (3 words – שָׁמַע יְהוָה תְּחִנָּתִי)  
 Yahweh, my prayer, is receiving. (3 words – יְהוָה תִּפְלְתִי יִקַּח)  
 Synthetic Parallelism, including 2<sup>nd</sup> line of v. 8, with Chiasm  
 יְהוָה – Yahweh is repeated in both lines, plus v. 8; it is in the emphatic position in line two.  
 The first word in line one and the last word in line two are verbs – both have three letters.  
 The last word in line one and the second word in line two are nouns – both have five letters and  
 end with the same letters – ם ת

v. 10 – May they be ashamed and may they be dismayed exceedingly, (3 words – יִבְשׁוּ וְיִבְהָלוּ מְאֹד)  
 all my enemies, (2 words – כָּל - אֹיְבָי)  
 may they turn back, may they be ashamed suddenly. (3 words – יִשְׁבוּ יִבְשׁוּ רָגַע)  
 The first and last lines are Synthetic Parallelism. Each one has a verb, a verb, and an adverb.  
 The first and last verbs are identical. The third and fourth verbs (the first two words in the third  
 line) have the same consonants; the middle two consonants are reversed.  
 Poetic device – pivot. The subject stands out in the middle line.  
 All four verbs (the first two words in the first and last lines) begin with ם – yod, a “y”, six overall,  
 and end in ף – shureq, a “u”. Five of the eight words contain a ב – bet, “b/v” and an “o” sound.  
 All four verbs could be taken as imperatives/requests (jussives) or statements.  
 Typically when no word precedes the imperfect verb in the sentence/clause, then they should be  
 understood as imperatives. NKJ has all of them as imperatives. ESV, NAS, NIV, NRSV take  
 the verbs as statements in the future.

#### Broader Structure:

##### Title

vv. 1-5 – David Petitions Yahweh

vv. 6-7 – David’s Tears

vv. 8-9 – David Addresses His Enemies

v. 10 – David’s Confident Requests

Yahweh – 8x

You/Your – 13x, all in vv. 1-5

1<sup>st</sup> Person – 23x