

For David.

Adonai is my light and my rescue.
Whom should I fear?
Adonai is my life's stronghold.
Of whom should I be afraid?
When evildoers draw near me to eat my flesh --
my foes and my enemies are they --
they trip and they fall.
Though a camp is marshaled against me,
my heart shall not fear.
Though battle is roused against me,
nonetheless do I trust.
One thing do I ask of Adonai,
it is this that I seek --
that I dwell in the house of Adonai
all the days of my life,
to behold Adonai's sweetness
and to gaze on God's palace.
For God hides me in God's shelter
on the day of evil.
God conceals me in the recess of God's tent,
on a rock God raises me up.
And now my head rises
over my enemies around me:
Let me offer in God's tent
sacrifices with joyous shouts.
Let me sing and hymn to Adonai.
Hear, O Eternal, my voice when I call,
and grant me grace and answer me.
Of You, my heart said:
"Seek My face."
Your face, Adonai, I do seek.
Do not hide Your face from me,
do not turn Your servant away in wrath.
You are my help.
Abandon me not, nor forsake me,
O God of my rescue.
Though my father and mother forsook me,
Adonai would gather me in.
Teach me, O Eternal, Your way,
and lead me on a level path
because of my adversaries.
Do not put me in the maw of my foes.
For false witnesses rose against me,
outrageous deponents.
If I but trust to see God's goodness,
in the land of the living--
Hope for Adonai!
Let your heart be firm and bold,
and hope for the Eternal.