

# PSALM 103 vs 1

KJV-lite™ VERSES

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The Old English word: **bless**... is one of those awkward words... that doesn't have much relevance in our culture. It comes from the word: **blood**... and is used in religious rites to confer prosperity, or to invoke divine care -- **the greater always blesses the inferior**. In Hebrew: baraki... means: **bend the knee**; to **kneel**; it is a sign of respect – something the arrogant cannot seem to do. **Mercy = getting what we do not deserve**.

3000 years ago, David wrote this song about the eternal Father and His love. Pay attention to the literal word order of this first verse... written by someone who was singly seeking to know the heart of the LORD:

David:	baraki	napsi	et Yahweh	wekal	qerabayshem	qadesow
Literal:	kneel	my soul...	to the LORD;	all	inside me	his Name holy

A Psalm of David.

**<sup>1</sup> Kneel O my soul, to the LORD; and all that is in me: His Name is holy.**

**<sup>2</sup> Kneel, O my soul, to the LORD; and forget not all His benefits** / David is inspired to sing about 5 benefits filling his heart; we also can sing about this whole handful of blessings from the LORD:

**<sup>3</sup> Who forgives all your crimes; who heals all your diseases** / Isaiah tells us the Suffering Servant did this: which is why, in our homes or wherever we are, we can take a cup = to remember His blood poured out for us; and bread -- His body broken for us, that we might be healed;

**<sup>4</sup> Who redeems your life from the pit** / He purchases lives from the marketplace of disloyal alliances; from two-faced deceits with close associates; and from strong hearts lifted up in pride;

**who crowns those who love and trust Him, with mercy** / the Lord is compassionate; withholding what we deserve; His mercy is not merited; His sun rises on both the good and the evil;

**<sup>5</sup> Who satisfies your spirit with His goodness** / Christopher Wordsworth said: our spirit may be called the ornament, the glory of our soul: so your youth is renewed like the eagles.

**<sup>6</sup> The LORD does things right, with justice for all the oppressed.**

**<sup>7</sup> He made known His ways to Moses and His acts to the children of Israel** / what are the ways of the Lord? The way of love, joy and peace; the way of reconciling -- bringing together; we always find Him there, **that's the way He is**; unlike grumbling children who saw the miraculous, yet continued to complain... much like all the angry geniuses populating our 21<sup>st</sup> century. Moses understood the ways and dealings of the LORD. Moses could say: that's the way He is!



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**<sup>8</sup> The Lord is full of mercy and grace, slow to anger, and full of mercy** / so He is very different than us.

**<sup>9</sup> He will not always scold, nor will He harbor His anger forever** / He will not always argue; oppose, or reprimand; God makes His conclusion, and keeps walking, He is more creative than how the people treated Moses in the wilderness journey. When He stops talking to you. then slap yourself awake. He is not like us. Jesus reminds those who learn from Him: we are to grow up, and move His direction.

**<sup>10</sup> He has not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our hideous crimes** / though mankind loves to point out the failure of others; which is why we should be thankful in this very imperfect world, knowing we all should be dead. [the Suffering Servant, took our trash](#); can we thank Him?

**<sup>11</sup> For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him** / mentioned 3 times in this song. Prophet Isaiah said, if we're going to fear someone... and we will; well, make sure the Lord is our greatest fear! Dr. Dallas Willard said, we know God is powerful, but if His power is anything like electricity, then we better learn how to approach Him correctly.

**<sup>12</sup> As far as the east is from the west, so far He removed our stepping over the line from us** / many angry people who want to settle scores; who can never let go of being wronged. If the world is not governed by God, then good luck: eat, drink and be merry; you will be dead soon enough; but if the world is governed by the God of mercy, then learn His ways... and get on His side.

**<sup>13</sup> Like a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear Him** / our Father in heaven, He is a real father, unlike those imposters who like to be called: father, which really sounds perverted doesn't it? Especially, since they never fathered a real kid. Strange isn't it? What kind of deceptive society are they making? Can you imagine kids growing up in a place where men who are called fathers; aren't? who do things to children that no father would ever do? I can't.

**<sup>14</sup> For He himself knows our frame; He knows we are but dust** / He was there in the beginning, personally digging in the earth, getting His hands dirty as He fashioned the first Adam.

**<sup>15</sup> As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourishes.**

**<sup>16</sup> When the wind has passed over it, and it is gone; and its place is no longer known** / this prelude to eternity races by swiftly; that we should face death is nothing new; life will continue as it rushes toward its destiny; until the whole world is broken; and staggering numbers will no more be remembered... as if they never really lived.

**<sup>17</sup> But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting -- to those who fear Him, and His rightness to children's children** / said a little differently, God, in His mercy, will continue to do what is right... toward those who fear Him, and to their children who fear Him, too;

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**18 To those who guard His covenant -- who remember His instructions to do them** / there is nothing wrong having no gods or graven idols before Him; nothing wrong with respecting His name; nothing wrong with observing the Sabbath day; nothing wrong with honoring your father and mother to you live long on earth; nothing wrong with: not murdering, not adulterating, not stealing, not falsely accusing, and not coveting what belongs to your neighbor ( because 6 days we can work and buy whatever we want).

Those who guard to protect [what the LORD first promised](#), can rest assured; He is faithful and knows what is going on. Jesus summarized the 2 great commands written on our hearts: **1.** Love God our Father above all others; **2.** Love one another, as He loved us. And what is love? It is the good effort we expend with joy, to enrich the well-being of others, if necessary to the point of laying down our life for another. Love is the authentic seal of those who follow the Lord -- **Matthew 22:36**

**19 The LORD has prepared His throne in the heavens; and His kingdom rules over all** / which includes all His creation... the good parts and its people; and the bad parts and those ugly people... as well as all the little, dysfunctional realms of all His children;

**20 Kneel to the LORD, you angels of Him; who excel in strength, and do His commands, obeying the voice of His word.**

**21 Kneel to the LORD, all His hosts; His servants who do His pleasure.**

**22 Kneel to the LORD, all His works, in all places of His dominion** / this verse includes us: Paul says: We are His work created in Christ Jesus to do His good... like showing Him thanks:

## Kneel to the LORD, O my soul!

David says: start with yourself... get down from your big chair, and bend your knee to the LORD!

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