

## Psalm 104

### Translation with Prosodic Annotations

The translation offered below is designed to enhance appreciation of the poetry and prosody of the underlying Hebrew text. The notations provided relate to the operation of the general rule and the length rule (for an introduction to the system of “twos and threes” and the length rule, see “Regularities in Ancient Hebrew Verse: An Overview” at [www.ancienthebrewpoetry.typepad.com](http://www.ancienthebrewpoetry.typepad.com)). Minimal use of capitalization and the lack of punctuation are intentional. Capitalization serves to mark the onset of a strophe or stanza as defined in the general rule.

#### Symbols

<u>—</u>		A strophe made up of three lines
☞		1:(1:1) in structure; the strophe
☞		☞ concludes a strophe; ☞ a stanza; ☞ a section
2:(2:2)		A line consisting of three versets, each of which contains two stress units, the last two of which form a pair
22/48/120 10/4/2		A poetic composition made up of 22 lines, 48 versets, and 120 stress units, with a total of 10 strophes, 4 stanzas, and 2 sections

## Psalm 104

1	☞	Bless Yahweh, my soul Yahweh my God	you are magnificent	3:(2:2)
2	☞	you are clothed with splendor and majesty	wrapped in light like a robe	<u>3:3</u>
3	☞	Who stretched out the heavens like a curtain	who built his high halls on the waters	3:3
4	☞	who turns clouds into his chariot	who travels on wind’s wings	3:2
	☞	who makes winds his messengers	his ministers flashing fire	<u>3:3</u>
5	☞	Who fixed the earth on its foundations	it shall not be moved now or ever	3:(2:2)
6	☞	with the deep as with a garment you covered it	waters stood against mountains	<u>3:3</u>
7	☞	At your shout they fled	at your thunderous voice they rushed away	2:3
8	☞	they went up hills	ran down valleys	2:2
	☞	to that place	you fixed for them	<u>2:2</u>
9	☞	a boundary you set	they shall not cross it	2:2
	☞	they shall not return	to cover the earth	<u>2:2</u>
12/26/64				5/2/1

10	☞	Who lets springs loose in torrents	they wind through hills	3:3
11	☞	they give drink to wild beasts	wild asses quench their thirst	3:3
12	☞	birds of the sky dwell beside them	from thickets they let forth song	<u>3:(2:2)</u>
13	☞	Who waters the hills from his high halls		
		from the downpour of your heavens	you satiate the earth	3:(2:2)
14	☞	who makes grass grow for livestock	grain for man to cultivate	<u>3:3</u>
15	☞	that bread be gotten from the earth	wine that gladdens the heart of man	3:(2:2)
	☞	that face shine from oil	and bread the heart of man sustain	<u>3:3</u>
16	☞	Yahweh's trees are satisfied	the cedars of Lebanon he planted	3:(2:2)
17	☞	it is there birds make a nest	the stork whose home is the firs	3:3
18	☞	high mountains are for wild goats	crag a conies' refuge	<u>3:3</u>
10/24/64				4/2/1
19	☞	Who made the moon to mark the seasons	the sun that knows where to reenter	3:3
20	☞	you bring darkness it is night	in it stir all the beasts of the forest	(2:2):3
21	☞	the lions roar for prey	seeking their food from God	<u>3:3</u>
22	☞	The sun shines, they go home	in their lairs they lie down	3:3
23	☞	man goes out to his work	to his labor until evening	3:2
24	☞	how many your works, Yahweh you made all with wisdom	earth is full of your creation	<u>3:(3:3)</u>
25	☞	There is the vast sea	broad of arm	3:2
	☞	there stir beyond number	living things small and great	3:3
26	☞	there go the ships Leviathan whom you fashioned	to sport with him	<u>3:(2:2)</u>
9/21/56				3/1
27	☞	All look to you	to provide their food in season	3:3
28	☞	you give to them, they gather	open your hand, they are satisfied	<u>3:3</u>
29	☞	remove their breath, they faint	to dust they return	3:2
30	☞	let loose your breath, they are created	you renew the face of the earth	<u>3:3</u>
31	☞	May the magnificence of Yahweh endure forever	may Yahweh rejoice in his works	3:3
32	☞	who looks at the earth and it shudders	touches mountains and they smoke	<u>3:3</u>
33	☞	I will sing to Yahweh so long as I live	make melody to my God while I have being	3:3
34	☞	may my speech procure him satisfaction	and I rejoice in Yahweh	3:3
35	☞	may sinners vanish from earth the wicked be no more	bless Yahweh, my soul	<u>(3:3):3</u>
9/19/56				4/2/1
18/40/112				7/3/2/1

$$12/26/64 + 10/24/64 + 18/40/112 = 40/90/240$$

$$16/7/3/2/1$$