Open English Translation
of the Bible

Psalm 151

Introduction

Psalm 151 is a short additional song presented in David's voice. He remembers being the youngest of his brothers, caring for his father's sheep, and making music. Although his brothers were impressive in appearance, God chose him. The song ends by recalling his victory over Galyat (Goliath), the Pelishti (Philistine) who had challenged him.
The song brings together events also found in 1 Samuel 16–17. Its emphasis is on God's choice of an overlooked shepherd and the rescue accomplished through him. The title identifies it as a song beyond the usual collection of one hundred and fifty.
Psalm 151 is recognised as Deuterocanonical Scripture by the Greek Orthodox and Russian Orthodox Churches.

Main components of this song

David's humble work and music *1:1-3*
God chooses David *1:4-5*
David defeats the Pelishti *1:6-7*

The DC editions are placed side by side by chapter only. Their verse numbering and textual contents differ; corresponding lines are not established equivalents.

Lighter type marks additions. Underscores join parts of a single source word.
Struck words are untranslated. The ◘ sign marks a verse with no text.
Open English Translation · Translation draft v0.48.94 · https://OET.Bible
Copyright © 2010-2026 https://Freely-Given.org. CC BY-SA 4.0. https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/

Readers' Version

This Psalm is a genuine one of David, though extra,[1] composed when he fought in single combat with Galyat.

God chooses David and gives him victory

151:1 I was small among my brothers,
and the youngest in my father's family.
I tended my father's sheep.
2 My hands made a musical instrument,
and my fingers tuned a lyre.
3 Who'll tell my master?
The master himself hears.
4 He sent his messenger and took me from my father's sheep,
and he anointed me with his anointing oil.
5 My brothers were handsome and tall;
but the master didn't take pleasure in them.
6 I went out to meet the Pelishti,
and he cursed me by his idols.
7 But I drew his own sword and beheaded him,
and removed the disgrace from the Israeli people (Israel).

PS2 · OET-RV v0.4.0

Literal Version

151:1 this/he/she/it the/this/who psalm separately_
_written toward Dawid, and outside of_the number, when
⟦ἐμονομάχησε⟧ the/this/who Goliad. small to_be
in/on/among the/this/who brother I/we, and new
in/on/among the/this/who house of_the father I/we,
⟦ἐποίμαινον⟧ the/this/who sheep of_the father I/we.
2 the/this/who/which hand I/we to_do/make an_
_instrument, and the/this/who ⟦δάκτυλοί⟧ I/we ⟦ἥρμοσαν⟧
a_psaltery. **3** and one/which? to_report the/this/who lord
I/we? he/she/it/self lord, he/she/it/self ⟦εἰσακούει⟧.
4 he/she/it/self to_send_out/away the/this/who angel
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there, and to_take_up
I/we out_from the/this/who sheep of_the father I/we, and
to_anoint I/we in/on/among the/this/who olive_oil
the/this/who ⟦χρίσεως⟧
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there. **5** the/this/who
brother I/we good and great, and no to_delight in/on/among
he/she/it/self lord. **6** to_go_out toward ⟦συνάντησιν⟧
the/this/who foreigner, and ⟦ἐπικατηράσατό⟧ I/we
in/on/among the/this/who ⟦εἰδώλοις⟧
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there; **7** I/we but/and to_
_draw the/this/who from_with
he/she/it/self/my/your/him-self/there sword, to_behead
he/she/it/self, and ⟦ἦρα⟧ disgrace out_from son Israa^{y}l.

PS2 · OET-LV v0.2.0 (DC set)

Text preprocessed by script v1.1.0, then PDF produced by SILE v0.15.12-0938a45-flake
https://Freely-Given.org/OBD/OET/byDoc/PS2.htm#Top

1 **RV 1:0 · Note** or, supernumerary