

## *Psalm 23*

by David Steinberg

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***N.b. The Guidelines I Have Used in Reconstructing the Pronunciation of First Temple Period Hebrew are found at [http://www.houseofdavid.ca/anc\\_heb\\_6.htm#guidelines](http://www.houseofdavid.ca/anc_heb_6.htm#guidelines)***

***For convenience of students I have generally laid out the poetry as in modern translations.***

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Companion [E-book](#) - [History of the Hebrew Language](#)

Psalm 23

Reconstructed Late First Temple Orthography and Vocalization (EBHP) with  
Sound Files

by David Steinberg

Chapter Verse	Reconstructed Vocalization [EBHP] <sup>1</sup>	Reconstructed Vocalization /EBHP/ <sup>+2</sup>	Reconstructed Text JEH Style Spelling (9 <sup>th</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> c. BCE)	Masoretic Text <sup>3</sup>
23:1b	yeh'wə: ro:'fi: ,lo: ʔɛx'ser	yah'wê rō'fī ,lô ʔih'sar <sup>4</sup>	יהוה רעי לא אחר	יְהוָה רֹעִי לֹא אַחֲרָי
23:2	bene,ʔo:t 'deʔ yerbi:'s'ini: ʔel-,mey menu:'xo:t yeneh_h'i'ini:	baṇa,ʔōt 'daš' yarbi:'šini ʕal-,may maṇu:'hōt yaṇahhi'lini	בנאת דשא ירבצני על מי מנחת ינהלני	בְּנֵי־אֹת דְּשֵׁא יִרְבִּצְנִי עַל־מִי מִנְחֹת יִנְהַלְנִי
23:3	nep'fi yeʔo:'brb yen'hi:nir bemeʔ.ge,ley 's'edk' le,me.ʔān ʔi'mo:	nap'sī yašō'bib yan'hi:nī baṃaʕ_ga,lay 'sadq la,maʕn šī'mō	נפשי ישׁוב ינחני במעגלי צדק למען שמה	נַפְשִׁי יִשׁוּב יִנְחֵנִי בַּמַּעְגָּלִי־צֶדֶק לְמַעַן שְׁמִי
	<a href="#"><u>MP3 sound file</u></a>			
23:4	,gem ki:-ʔɛ'l'lik be,geyʔ s'el'mewt ,lo: ʔi:'reʔ 'reʔʔ ,ki: 'ʔette' ʔimme'di: ʔib't'eke' wemiʔʔen't'eke' 'hime' yenexxi'mu:nir	,gam ki:-'il'lik ba,gay' ʕal'mawt ,lô ʔi'ra' 'raʕ ,ki: 'atta(:) ʕimma'dī šib'taka(:) wamišʕan'taka(:) 'hima(:) yaṇahhi'mūnī	גם כי אלק בגיא צלמות לא אירא רע כי אתה עמדי שבטכ ומשענתך המה ינחמני	גַּם כִּי־אֱלֹךְ בְּגִיא צִלְמוֹת לֹא־אִירָא רָע כִּי־אַתָּה עִמָּדִי שִׁבְטְךָ וּמִשְׁעַנְתְּךָ הֵמָּה יִנְחֵמְנִי
	<a href="#"><u>MP3 sound file</u></a>			

<b>23:5</b>	tɪʁ <sup>1</sup> <u>ruk</u> lɛpɛ'ney ʃul' <u>hɑ:n</u> ,negd s <sup>o</sup> :rɪ'rey  diʃʃentɛ· bɛʃʃɛmn ro:'ʃi:  ko:'si: rɛ'weyɛ·	tɪɕ'ruk lapa'nay ʃul' <u>hɑ:n</u> ,nagd ʃōri'ray  diš' <u>ʃanta</u> (:) baš' <u>ʃamn</u> rō'šî  kō'sî rə'way <u>â</u>	תערכ לפני שלחנ נגד צררי  דשנת בשמן ראשי  כוסי רויה	תעֲרֹךְ לְפָנַי שְׁלַחַן נִגְד צֲרָרִי  דִּשְׁנַת בְּשֶׁמֶן רֹאשִׁי  כּוֹסֵי רוּיָה
<b>23:6</b>	,ɛk 'tʰo:b we'hɛsd yɪrd <u>u</u> 'pu:ni'  kull-ye,mɛy hɛy'yey  we' <u>ʃeb</u> ti: bɛ,bɛyt yeh' <u>wɛ</u> :  lɛ,ʔurk ye'mi:m	,ak 'tôb wa'həsd yird <u>u</u> 'pūnī  kull-ya,may həy'yay  wə' <u>ʃab</u> tī ba,bayt yah' <u>wê</u>  la,ʔurk ya'mīm	אכ טוב וחסד ירדפני  כל ימי חיי  ושבתי בבית יהוה  לארכ יממ	אֶךְ טוֹב וְחֶסֶד יִרְדְּפוּנִי  כָּל-יְמֵי חַיִּי  וּשְׁבַתִּי בְּבֵית-יְהוָה  לְאָרְךְ יָמַיִם
	<a href="#"><u>MP3 sound file</u></a>			

<sup>1</sup> Note, in reconstructed [EBHP] transliterations and sound files -

1. there is no spirantization of the *bgdkpt* consonants -

[http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc\\_heb\\_tegu.htm#bgdpt](http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc_heb_tegu.htm#bgdpt);

2. vowel qualities are outlined here - [http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc\\_heb\\_6.htm#ebhp\\_vow\\_qual](http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc_heb_6.htm#ebhp_vow_qual);

3. I use the most probable form. Where no one form stands out as most probable, I select the one closest to the MT vocalization.

4. when multiple forms are possible, the form used is underlined.

<sup>2</sup> See *Phones and Phonemes* - [http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc\\_heb\\_6.htm#phone\\_phonym](http://www.houseofdauid.ca/anc_heb_6.htm#phone_phonym).

<sup>3</sup> From The Westminster Leningrad Codex <http://www.tanach.us/>.

<sup>4</sup> All PC verbs in this poem indicating present/future tense - see -

- [http://www.adath-shalom.ca/history\\_of\\_hebrew3a.htm#indic\\_jus](http://www.adath-shalom.ca/history_of_hebrew3a.htm#indic_jus) AND

- [http://www.adath-shalom.ca/history\\_of\\_hebrew3a.htm#Prefix\\_Conjugation](http://www.adath-shalom.ca/history_of_hebrew3a.htm#Prefix_Conjugation)