# Psalm 121

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

*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

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

by David Steinberg

| Chapter/ Verse | Reconstructed Vocalization [EBHP][1] | Reconstructed Vocalization /EBHP/*[2] | Reconstructed Text JEH Style Spelling (9th - 6th c. BCE) | Masoretic Text[3] |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *121:1b* | ʔɛɬ'ᵗe̯ʔ ʃɣy'nɐy ʔɛl-hɛhhɛr̥'riːm mɪʔˌʔɐyn ye'boːʔ ʃɛz'riːm | ʾiś'śaʾ ᶜay'nay ʾil-hahhar'rīm miˌʾayn ya'boːʾ ᶜiz'rî | אשא עיני אל ההרם מאין יבא עזרי | אֶשָּׂ֣א עֵינַי֮ אֶל־הֶהָרִ֥ים מֵאַ֗יִן יָבֹ֥א עֶזְרִֽי |
| *121:2* | ʃɛz'riː mɪʃˌʔɪmm yeh'we̯ː ʃoːˌᵗe̯ː ʃe'mɐym we'ers̩ʾ | ᶜiz'rî miˌᶜimm yah'wê̯ ᶜō̯ˌśê̯ ša'maym wa'arṣ | עזרי מעם יהוה עשה שמים וארץ | עֶזְרִ֗י מֵעִ֥ם יְהֹוָ֑ה עֹ֝שֵׂ֗ה שָׁמַ֥יִם וָאָֽרֶץ |

| Chapter/ Verse | Reconstructed Vocalization [EBHP][1] MP³ sound file | Reconstructed Vocalization /EBHP/*2 | Reconstructed Text JEH Style Spelling (9th- 6th c. BCE) | Masoretic Text[3] |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 121:3 | ʔel-yɪt'**tin** lem'**moːtˤ** ɾɛg'**lek**eˑ  ʔel-ye'**nuːm** ʃoːmɪ'**re**keˑ | ʾal-tit'**tin**[4] lam'**moː**ṭ rag'la**ka**(ː)  ʾal-ya'**nuːm** šōmị'ra**ka**(ː) | אל יתן למוט רגלכ  אל ינם שמרכ | אַל־יִתֵּ֣ן לַמּ֣וֹט רַגְלֶ֑ךָ  אַל־יָ֝נ֗וּם שֹֽׁמְרֶֽךָ |
| 121:4 | hin̪ˌn̪ẹ ʔoˑ ye'**nuːm** weˌloː yiːʃen  ʃoːˌmɛɾ yɪɬɾaˑʔẹ̄ˑ**l** | hin̪ˌnê lô ya'**nuːm** wạˌlô yîˈšan  šōˌmir yiśra"**eː**l | הנה לא ינם ולא ייׁשנ  ׁשמר יׁשראל | הִנֵּ֣ה לֹֽא־יָ֭נוּם וְלֹ֣א יִישָׁ֑ן  שׁ֝וֹמֵ֗ר יִשְׂרָאֵֽל |
|  | MP³ sound file |  |  |  |
| 121:5 | yeh'**wẹ**ˑ ʃoːmɪ'**re**keˑ  yeh'**wẹ**ˑ sˤɪl'**lek**eˑ  ʔel-ˌyed yemi'**ne**keˑ | yah'**wê** šōmị'ra**ka**(ː)  yah'**wê** ṣil'la**ka**(ː)  ʾal-ˌyad yạmi'na**ka**(ː) | יהוה ׁשמרכ  יהוה צלכ  על יד ימנכ | יְהוָ֥ה שֹׁמְרֶ֑ךָ  יְהוָ֥ה צִלְּךָ֗  עַל־יַ֥ד יְמִינֶֽךָ |
| 121:6 | yoːˌmaːm heʃ'**ʃemʃ** ˌloː yek'**kek**keˑ  weye'**reː**x bel'**ley**leˑ | yoːˌmaːm haš'**šamš** ˌlô yak'**kak**ka(ː)  wạya'**reː**ḥ bạl'**lay**la(ː) | ימם הׁשמׁש לא יככה  וירח בלילה | יוֹמָ֤ם הַשֶּׁ֣מֶשׁ לֹֽא־יַכֶּ֗כָּה  וְיָרֵ֥חַ בַּלָּֽיְלָה |
|  | MP³ sound file |  |  |  |
| 121:7 | yeh'**wẹ**ˑ yɪʃmọ'**rɪ**keˑ yeh'mɪk**kull**-reʃʕ  yɪʃ'**mur** ʔɛt-nep'**ʃɪk**eˑ | yah'**wê** yišmu'ri**ka**(ː) mik**kull**-ra<sup>cc</sup>  yiš'**mur** ʾat-nap'ši**ka**(ː) | יהוה יׁשמרכ מכל רע  יׁשמר את נפׁשכ | יְהוָ֗ה יִשְׁמָרְךָ֥ מִכָּל־רָ֑ע  יִ֝שְׁמֹ֗ר אֶת־נַפְשֶֽׁךָ |
| 121:8 | yeh'**wẹ**ˑ yɪʃ'**mur** sˤɪʔẹ̆'**tek**eˑ weboː'**ʔe**keˑ | yah'**wê** yiš'**mur** ṣị'ta**ka**(ː) wạboː"a**ka**(ː) | יהוה יׁשמר צאתכ ובאכ | יְהוָ֗ה יִשְׁמָר־צֵאתְךָ֥ וּבוֹאֶ֑ךָ |

| Chapter/ Verse | *Reconstructed Vocalization [EBHP]*[1] | *Reconstructed Vocalization /EBHP/*[2] | *Reconstructed Text JEH Style Spelling (9th - 6th c. BCE)* | *Masoretic Text*[3] |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | mɪʃˈʕɪtteˑ weʃʕad-ʃoːˈlaːm | micˈ°ɪtta(ː)waˌ°ad-°ōˈlaːm | מעתה ועד עלם | מֵעַתָּה וְעַד־עוֹלֶם |
| | **MP³ sound file** | | | |

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[1] Note, in reconstructed [EBHP] transliterations and sound files -

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

    http://www.houseofdavid.ca/anc_heb_tequ.htm#bgdpt;

    2. vowel qualities are outlined here - http://www.houseofdavid.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.

[2] See *Phones and Phonemes* - http://www.houseofdavid.ca/anc_heb_6.htm#phone_phonym.

[3] From The Westminster Leningrad Codex http://www.tanach.us/.

**IN EBHP and LBHP THE JUSSIVE (PC$_{jus}$), COHORTATIVE (PC$_{coh}$), IMPERFECT (PC$_{imp}$) AND PRETERITE (PC$_{pret\_sim}$/PC$_{pretWC}$) are, in some forms, distinguished by the placement of syllabic stress when not carrying object suffixes. See -**
- http://www.adath-shalom.ca/history_of_hebrew3a.htm#indic_jus AND
- http://www.adath-shalom.ca/history_of_hebrew3a.htm#Prefix_Conjugation

[4] Although two *PC* here are negated by אל which isw usually reserved for the negation of PC$_{jus}$, the verbs here are clearly PC$_{imp.}$