

# Scriptures on Singing

*I did an electronic search of the words **Sing - Sang - Song - Sung**, and these are the pertinent passages I found.*

*Referring to Strong's Concordance with many of them, I discovered these words, in Hebrew, covered a full range of definitions - singing, proclaiming; pleading; responding; crying out loudly.*

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## *HOW TO PRAISE GOD - as taught in the Book of Psalms*

Psalms 66:1-2:

“Make a **joyful noise** unto God, all ye lands:  
**Sing forth** the honor of his name;  
make his praise glorious.”

We are told to make a "joyful noise" seven times in the Old Testament: **Psalms 66:1; Psalms 81:1; Psalms 95: 1,2; Psalms 98:4,6; Psalms 100:1**. The root Hebrew word is 'hariu', and literally means 'to *mar*' (especially by breaking); figuratively 'to *split*' the ears (with sound), i.e. '*shout*' (for alarm or joy). In the King James Version it is also translated as 'blow an alarm', 'cry' (alarm, aloud, out), 'destroy', 'make a joyful noise', 'smart', 'shout' (for joy), 'sound an alarm', 'triumph'.

When the Children of Israel shouted to bring down the walls of Jericho, this is the Hebrew word used to describe the sound they made. In Job chapter 38 when the morning stars 'shouted' for joy, this is the word used to describe their shout. When Zechariah commanded "Shout, O daughter of Zion", this was the word used to describe her shout.

Psalms 98:4:

“Make a **joyful noise** unto the LORD...  
make a **loud noise**, and **rejoice**, and sing praise.”

Psalms 7:17:

“I will praise the LORD according to his righteousness;  
and will sing praise to the name of the LORD most high.”

Psalms 9:11:

“Sing praises to the LORD, which dwelleth in Zion:  
declare among the people his doings.”

Psalms 13:6:

“I will sing unto the LORD,  
because he hath dwelt bountifully with me.”

Psalms 18:49:

“Therefore will I **give thanks** unto thee, O LORD ...  
and sing praises unto thy name.”

Psalms 21:13:

“...so will we sing and **praise thy power.**”

Psalms 33:2-3:

“Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery  
and an instrument of ten strings. Sing unto him a new song;  
play skillfully and with a **loud noise.**”

Psalms 47:5-7:

“God is gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.  
Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises unto our King, sing praises.  
For God is the King of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding.”

Psalms 57:7-10:

My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed:  
I will sing and give praise. Awake up, my glory;  
awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early.  
I will praise thee, O LORD, among the people:  
I will sing unto thee among the nations.  
For thy mercy is great unto the heavens,  
and thy truth unto the clouds.”

Psalms 59:16-17:

“But I will sing of thy power;  
yea, I will **sing aloud** of thy mercy in the morning:  
for thou hast been my defense and refuge  
in the day of my trouble.  
Unto thee, O my strength, will I sing:  
for God is my defense,  
and the God of my mercy.”

Psalms 61:8:

“So will I sing praise unto thy name forever,  
that I may daily perform my vows [covenants]”  
(note added by myself)

Psalms 66:2:

“**Sing forth** the honor of his name...”

Psalms 67:4:

“O let the nations be glad and **sing for joy:**  
for thou shalt judge the people righteously...”

Psalms 106:12:

“Then believed they his words:  
they sang his praise.”

Psalms 108:1:

"O God, my heart is fixed;  
I will sing and give praise..."

Psalms 135:3:  
"Praise the LORD; for the LORD is good:  
sing praises unto his name; for it is pleasant."

Psalms 146:2:  
"While I live will I praise the LORD:  
I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being."

Psalms 147:7:  
"...sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving..."

Psalms 150:  
PRAISE ye the LORD.  
Praise God in his sanctuary:  
Praise him in the firmament of his power.  
Praise him for his mighty acts:  
Praise him according to his excellent greatness.  
Praise him with the sound of the trumpet:  
Praise him with the psaltery and harp.  
Praise him with the timbrel and dance:  
Praise him with stringed instruments and organs.  
Praise him upon the loud cymbals:  
Praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.  
Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD.  
Praise ye the LORD.

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**Exodus 15:1-2 (1-9):** Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.

**Exodus 15:21:** And Miriam answered them, Sing ye to the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.

**Numbers 21:17-20:** Then Israel sang this song, Spring up, O well; sing\* ye unto it: The princes digged the well, the nobles of the people digged it, by the direction of the lawgiver, with their staves. And from the wilderness they went to Mattanah: And from Mattanah to Nahaliel: and from Nahaliel to Bamoth: And from Bamoth in the valley, that is in the country of Moab, to the top of Pisgah, which looketh toward Jeshimon. (\*NOTE: The second use of the work 'sing' in this passage means to 'respond' or 'testify'.)

**Deuteronomy 31:14-22:** And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, thy days approach that thou must die: call Joshua, and present yourselves in the tabernacle of the congregation, that I may give him

a charge. And Moses and Joshua went, and presented themselves in the tabernacle of the congregation. And the LORD appeared in the tabernacle in a pillar of a cloud: and the pillar of the cloud stood over the door of the tabernacle. And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers; and this people will rise up, and go a whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go to be among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them. Then my anger shall be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide my face from them, and they shall be devoured, and many evils and troubles shall befall them; so that they will say in that day, Are not these evils come upon us, because our God is not among us? And I will surely hide my face in that day for all the evils which they shall have wrought, in that they are turned unto other gods. Now therefore write ye this song for you, and teach it the children of Israel: put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for me against the children of Israel. For when I shall have brought them into the land which I swore unto their fathers, that floweth with milk and honey; and they shall have eaten and filled themselves, and waxen fat; then will they turn unto other gods, and serve them, and provoke me, and break my covenant. And it shall come to pass, when many evils and troubles are befallen them, that this song shall testify against them as a witness; for it shall not be forgotten out of the mouths of their seed: for I know their imagination which they go about, even now, before I have brought them into the land which I swore. Moses therefore wrote this song the same day, and taught it the children of Israel.

**Deuteronomy 31:24-30:** And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished, That Moses commanded the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, saying, Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee. For I know thy rebellion, and thy stiff neck: behold, while I am yet alive with you this day, ye have been rebellious against the LORD; and how much more after my death? Gather unto me all the elders of your tribes, and your officers, that I may speak these words in their ears, and call heaven and earth to record against them. For I know that after my death ye will utterly corrupt yourselves, and turn aside from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in the latter days; because ye will do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger through the work of your hands. And Moses spake in the ears of all the congregation of Israel the words of this song, until they were ended.

**Deuteronomy 32:44-46 (1-44):** And Moses came and spake all the words of this song in the ears of the people, he, and Hoshea the son of Nun. And Moses made an end of speaking all these words to all Israel: And he said unto them, Set your hearts unto all the words which I testify among you this day, which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this law.

**Judges 5:1-2 (1-30):** Then sang Deborah and Barak the son of Abinoam on that day, saying, Praise ye the LORD for the avenging of Israel, when the people willingly offered themselves. Hear, O ye kings; give ear, O ye princes; I, even I, will sing unto the LORD; I will sing praise to the LORD God of Israel.

**1 Samuel 21:11:** And the servants of Achish said unto him, Is not this David the king of the land? did they not sing one to another of him in dances, saying, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands? ('Sing' in this passage means 'reply'; 'respond'; 'testify'.)

**1 Samuel 29:5:** Is not this David, of whom they sang one to another in dances, saying, Saul slew his thousands, and David his ten thousands? ('Sing' in this passage means 'reply'; 'respond'; 'testify'.)

**2 Samuel 22:1:** And David spake unto the LORD the words of this song in the day that the LORD had delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul: (entire chapter is a song.)

**2 Samuel 22:50:** Therefore I will give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and I will sing praises unto thy name.

**1 Chronicles 6:31:** And these are they whom David set over the service of song in the house of the LORD, after that the ark had rest.

**1 Chronicles 16:7-11, 23, 33 (7-33):** Then on that day David delivered first this psalm to thank the LORD into the hand of Asaph and his brethren.

Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name,  
make known his deeds among the people.

Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.

Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD....

Sing unto the LORD, all the earth; shew forth from day to day his salvation....

Then shall the trees of the wood sing out at the presence of the LORD,  
because he cometh to judge the earth.

**1 Chronicles 25:6:** All these were under the hands of their father for song in the house of the LORD, with cymbals, psalteries, and harps, for the service of the house of God, according to the king's order to Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman.

**2 Chronicles 20:20-22:** And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever. And when they began to sing\* and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten. (\* 'ringing cry'; 'entreaty'; 'supplication'; 'praise')

**2 Chronicles 29:26-30:** And the Levites stood with the instruments of David, and the priests with the trumpets. And Hezekiah commanded to offer the burnt offering upon the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the song of the LORD began also with the trumpets, and with the instruments ordained by David king of Israel. And all the congregation worshipped, and the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded: and all this continued until the burnt offering was finished. And when they had made an end of offering, the king and all that were present with him bowed themselves, and worshipped. Moreover Hezekiah the king and the princes commanded the Levites to sing praise unto the LORD with the words of David, and of Asaph the seer. And they sang praises with gladness, and they bowed their heads and worshipped.

**Ezra 3:10-11:** And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the LORD, after the ordinance of David king of Israel. And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the LORD; because he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.

**Nehemiah 12:42-43:** And Maaseiah, and Shemaiah, and Eleazar, and Uzzi, and Jehohanan, and Malchijah, and Elam, and Ezer. And the singers sang loud, with Jezrahiah their overseer. Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for God had made them rejoice with great joy: the wives also and the children rejoiced: so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off.

**Job 29:13:** The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me: and I caused the widow's heart to sing\* for joy. (\* 'cry out')

**Proverbs 29:6:** In the transgression of an evil man there is a snare: but the righteous doth sing\* and rejoice. (\* 'cry out')

**Isaiah 5:1 (1-5):** Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill... (is actually the telling of a parable; also quoted in 2 Nephi 15.)

**Isaiah 12:1-6:** And in that day thou shalt say, O LORD, I will praise thee:  
though thou wast angry with me,  
thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me.  
Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid:  
for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song;  
he also is become my salvation.  
Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

And in that day shall ye say, Praise the LORD,  
call upon his name,  
declare his doings among the people,  
make mention that his name is exalted.  
Sing unto the LORD; for he hath done excellent things:  
this is known in all the earth.  
Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion:  
for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.

**Isaiah 24:14-16:** They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing\* for the majesty of the LORD, they shall cry aloud from the sea. Wherefore glorify ye the LORD in the fires, even the name of the LORD God of Israel in the isles of the sea. From the uttermost part of the earth have we heard songs, even glory to the righteous... ('cry out'; 'proclaim')

**Isaiah 26:1:** In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah...

**Isaiah 30:29-30:** Ye shall have a song, as in the night when a holy solemnity is kept; and gladness of heart, as when one goeth with a pipe to come into the mountain of the LORD, to the mighty One of Israel. And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard...

**Isaiah 38:20:** The LORD was ready to save me: therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the LORD.

**Isaiah 42:10-12:** Sing unto the LORD a new song,  
and his praise from the end of the earth,  
ye that go down to the sea,  
and all that is therein; the isles, and the inhabitants thereof.

Let the wilderness and the cities thereof lift up their voice,  
the villages that Kedar doth inhabit:  
let the inhabitants of the rock sing,  
let them shout from the top of the mountains.  
Let them give glory unto the LORD,  
and declare his praise in the islands.

**Isaiah 44:23:** Sing, O ye heavens; for the LORD hath done it:  
shout, ye lower parts of the earth:  
break forth into singing, ye mountains, O forest,  
and every tree therein:  
for the LORD hath redeemed Jacob,  
and glorified himself in Israel.

**Isaiah 49:13:** Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth;  
and break forth into singing, O mountains:  
for the LORD hath comforted his people,  
and will have mercy upon his afflicted.

**Isaiah 52:8-9:** Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice;  
with the voice together shall they sing:  
for they shall see eye to eye,  
when the LORD shall bring again Zion.  
Break forth into joy, sing together,  
ye waste places of Jerusalem:  
for the LORD hath comforted his people,  
he hath redeemed Jerusalem.

**Isaiah 54:1:** Sing\*, O barren, thou that didst not bear;  
break forth into singing\*\*,  
and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child:  
for more are the children of the desolate  
than the children of the married wife, saith the LORD.

(\* 'cry out' ... \*\* 'plead'; entreat')

**Isaiah 65:14:** Behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart, but ye shall cry for sorrow of heart, and shall howl for vexation of spirit. (In Hebrew the same verb is used that is translated both 'sing' and 'cry' in this passage.)

**Jeremiah 20:13:** Sing unto the LORD, praise ye the LORD: for he hath delivered the soul of the poor from the hand of evildoers.

**Jeremiah 31:7** For thus saith the LORD; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel.

**Jeremiah 31:12-13:** Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the LORD, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all. Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning

into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.

**Zephaniah 3:14:** Sing\*, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. (\* 'cry out')

**Zechariah 2:10:** Sing\* and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the LORD. (\* 'cry out')

**Matthew 26:30:** And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

**Mark 14:26:** And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

**Acts 16:25:** And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

**Romans 15:9:** And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name.

**1 Corinthians 14:15:** What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

**Hebrews 2:12:** Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee.

**James 5:13:** Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

**Revelation 15:3:** And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.

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**1 Nephi 21:13:** Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; for the feet of those who are in the east shall be established; and break forth into singing, O mountains; for they shall be smitten no more; for the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted.

**2 Nephi 22:1-6 (A quoting of Isaiah 12):**

AND in that day thou shalt say: O Lord, I will praise thee;  
though thou wast angry with me thine anger is turned away,  
and thou comfortedst me.

Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and not be afraid;  
for the Lord JEHOVAH is my strength and my song;  
he also has become my salvation.

Therefore, with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

And in that day shall ye say: Praise the Lord,  
call upon his name, declare his doings among the people,  
make mention that his name is exalted.

Sing unto the Lord; for he hath done excellent things;  
this is known in all the earth.

Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion;  
for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.



**Mosiah 12:22-23 (quoting Isaiah):** Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing; for they shall see eye to eye when the Lord shall bring again Zion; Break forth into joy; sing together ye waste places of Jerusalem; for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem;

**Mosiah 18:30:** And now it came to pass that all this was done in Mormon, yea, by the waters of Mormon, in the forest that was near the waters of Mormon; yea, the place of Mormon, the waters of Mormon, the forest of Mormon, how beautiful are they to the eyes of them who there came to the knowledge of their Redeemer; yea, and how blessed are they, for they shall sing to his praise forever.

**Alma 5:9:** And again I ask, were the bands of death broken, and the chains of hell which encircled them about, were they loosed? I say unto you, Yea, they were loosed, and their souls did expand, and they did sing redeeming love. And I say unto you that they are saved.

**Alma 5:26:** And now behold, I say unto you, my brethren, if ye have experienced a change of heart, and if ye have felt to sing the song of redeeming love, I would ask, can ye feel so now?

**Alma 26:8:** Blessed be the name of our God; let us sing to his praise, yea, let us give thanks to his holy name, for he doth work righteousness forever.

**Alma 26:13:** Behold, how many thousands of our brethren has he loosed from the pains of hell; and they are brought to sing redeeming love, and this because of the power of his word which is in us, therefore have we not great reason to rejoice?

**3 Nephi 16:18-10 (quoting Isaiah):** Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing, for they shall see eye to eye when the Lord shall bring again Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem; for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem.

**3 Nephi 20:32-34 (quoting Isaiah):** Then shall their watchmen lift up their voice, and with the voice together shall they sing; for they shall see eye to eye. Then will the Father gather them together again, and give unto them Jerusalem for the land of their inheritance. Then shall they break forth into joy—Sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem; for the Father hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem.

**3 Nephi 22:1 (quoting Isaiah):** And then shall that which is written come to pass: Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child; for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord.

**Moroni 6:9:** And their meetings were conducted by the church after the manner of the workings of the Spirit, and by the power of the Holy Ghost; for as the power of the Holy Ghost led them whether to preach, or to exhort, or to pray, or to supplicate, or to sing, even so it was done.

**D&C 25:12:** For my soul delighteth in the song of the heart; yea, the song of the righteous is a prayer unto me, and it shall be answered with a blessing upon their heads.