

Psalm 103: 1-2, 11-12, 19-20

There are some unusual orthographic(?) issues in several places. Sign of dialectal variation? Gary Rendsburg discusses 2fs כִּי as Aramaisms and exilic or post-exilic date for Psalm 103.¹ Note also a few interesting text critical issues.

(103:1)

וּלְקִרְבּוֹ = “inward part, midst” under BDB 899a. Root וּלְקִרְבּוֹ = “midst”. Akk *kirbu* (k!?!).

(103:2)

שָׁכַח = “forget” under BDB 1013a. Arm שִׁכַּח “find”.

גָּמַל = “dealing, recompence, benefit” under BDB 168a.²

(103:11)

גִּבַּר = “be strong, mighty” under BDB 149b. Arm גִּבַּר. Arb *jabara* “compel, force”.

(103:12)

פָּשַׁע = “transgression” under BDB 833a. Root פָּשַׁע = “rebel, transgress”.

(103:19)

כּוֹן = Niphal “be set up, established, fixed; be directed aright; prepare, be ready; (passive) be prepared, be arranged, settled, set in order”, Hiphil “establish, set up; fix (so as to be ready), make ready, prepare; direct (one’s face towards); arrange, order”, Polel “set up, establish” under BDB 466b. Arm כּוֹן in derived conjugations, כִּוֵּן = “arrange, be

¹ *Linguistic Evidence for the Northern Origin of Selected Psalms*, SBLMS 43 (Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1990), 83.

² “Cairo reads לִל (singular noun)”.

firm, right". Arb *kāna* (medial *w*) = "exist, occur, be". Akk *kānu* = "be firm, right". Sab כון. Ph כון = "be (often)".

כִּסֵּא = "seat of honor, throne" under BDB 490b. Ph (plural) כרסים. Arm כורסיא. BArm כרסא. Zinj כרסא. Arb *kursiyya* (? hard to read). Akk *kussu* (perhaps Akkadian LW; ideogram *iṣ* GU.ZA).

מַלְכוּת = "royalty, royal power, reign, kingdom (chiefly late)" under BDB 574b. I checked and apparently my dissertation does not discuss this word. Perhaps because there are no examples where material attributed to the Yahwistic source employs terms such as מְלוֹכָה, מַמְלָכָה, or מַמְלְכוּת. Which is interesting.

משל = III "rule, have dominion, reign" under BDB 605b. Ph משל.

(103:20)

מְלַאֲךָ = "messenger" under BDB 521b. Root לאך √ of מלאכה, מלאך. Compare Arb *laʿaka*, *ʿalʿaka* = "send", *malʿaku(n)* = "messenger". Compare Ph מלאך = "messenger". Arm מלאכא as in Heb.

גבור = "strong, mighty" under BDB 150a. Root גבר = "be strong, mighty".

כוח = "strength, power" under BDB 470b. Root כחח.

גְּבִירֵי כֹחַ – Interesting expression. Literally "mighty (ones) of strength" commonly translated "mighty ones" although compare "mighty in strength" (New American Bible).

יהוה³

דברו⁴

לשמע בקול דברו⁵

³ "A few manuscripts, Septuagint add כל before מלאכיו as Psalm 148:2". A little confusing because the ^a is placed at the end of יהוה".

⁴ "4QPsalm^b דבריו". Not surprising.

⁵ "Syriac omits, gloss?"

דבר⁶

⁶ “4QPsalm^b דבריו, Septuagint τ[ν λόγων αὐτοῦ”.