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Observations on Tenses in Psalms

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See Tenses or Aspects in Biblical Hebrew

Table B

Present Tense Indicated by the use of the <u>SC</u> of a <u>Stative</u> or <u>Quasistative</u> Verb and the <u>PC_{imp}</u> of an <u>Action Verb</u> in the Same Verse

(confirmed by context)

Chapter & Verse of Hebrew Text	NRSV Unless Otherwise Noted	Masoretic Text¹
2:1	Why do the nations conspire, and the peoples plot in vain?	לָמָה רָגְשׁוּ גֹויִם וּלְאֻמִּים יֶהְגּוּ־רִיק
2:2	The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and his anointed, saying,	יִתְיַצְּבוּ מַלְכֵי־אֶּרֶץ וְרֹוֹזְנִים נֹוֹסְדוּ־יָחַד עַל־יְהוָה וְעַל־מְשִׁיחֹו
3:6	I lie down and sleep; I wake again, for the LORD sustains me.	הֱקִיצֹותִי כִּי יְהוָה יִסְמְכֵנִי אֲנִי שָׁכַבְתִּי וָאִישָׁנָה
6:7	I am weary with my moaning; every night I flood my bed with tears; I drench my couch with my weeping.	עַרְשִׂי אַמְסֶה יָגַעְתִּי בְּאַנְחָתִי אַשְׂחֶה בְכָל־לַיְלָה מְטָּתִי בְּדִמְעָתִי
6:10	The LORD hears my supplication; the LORD accepts my prayer. (my trans.)	שָׁמֵע יְהוָה תְּחָבָּתִי יְהוָה תְּפִלֶּתִי יִקְּח

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Chapter & Verse of Hebrew Text	NRSV Unless Otherwise Noted	Masoretic Text¹
7:15	See how they conceive evil, and are pregnant with mischief, and bring forth lies.	הָבָּה יְחַבֶּל־אָנָן וְהָרָה עָמָל וְיָלַד שָׁקּר
11:5	The LORD tests the righteous and the wicked, and his soul hates the lover of violence.	יְהוָה צַדִּיק יִבְחָן וְרָשֶׁע וְאֹהֵב חָמֶס שָׂנְאָה נַפְּשׁוֹ
16:9	Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.	ָלָכֵן שָׂמַח לָבִּי וַיָּגֶל כְּבוֹדִי אַף־בְּשָׂרִי יִשְׁכֹּן לָבֶטַח
23:5	You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.	תַּצְרֹךְּ לְפָנֵי שֻׁלְחָן נֶגֶד צֹרְרָי דִּשַּׁנְתָּ בַּשֶּׁמֶן רֹאשִׁי כּוֹסִי רְוָיָה
26:4	I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites	לא־יָשַׁבְתִּי עִם־מְתֵי־שָׁוְא וְעִם נַעֲלָמִים לֹא אָבוֹא
26:5	I hate the company of evildoers, and do not sit with the wicked. (my trans.)	נֵאתִי קְהַל מָרַעִים וְעָם־רְשָׁעִים לֹא אֵשֵׁב
26:12	My foot stands on level ground; in the great congregation I bless the LORD. (my trans.)	רַגְלִי עַמְדָה בְמִישׁוֹר בְּמַקְהֵלִים אֲבָרֵךְ יְהוָה
33:21	Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.	פָּי־בֹו יִשְׂמֵח לָבֵּנוּ כִּי בְשֵׁם קָדְשׁוֹ בָטָחָנוּ
35:11	Malicious witnesses rise up; they ask me about things I do not know.	יְקוּמוּן עֵדֵי חָמָס אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יָדַעְתִּי יִשְׁאָלוּנִי
37:20	But the wicked perish, and the enemies of the LORD are like the glory of the pastures; they vanish like smoke they vanish away.	בֶּעָשָׁן כָּלוּ כִּי רְשָׁעִים יֹאבֵדוּ וְאֹיְבֵי יְהנָה כִּיקַר כָּרִים כָּלוּ
37:23	Our steps are made firm by the LORD, when he delights in our way	מֵיְהוָה מִצְצַדֵי־גֶבֶר כֹּונָנוּ וְדַרְכֹּוֹ יֶחְפָּץ

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Chapter & Verse of Hebrew Text	NRSV Unless Otherwise Noted	Masoretic Text ¹
38:12	My friends and companions stand aloof from my affliction, and my neighbors stand far off.	אֹהָבַי וְרַעַי מִנֶּגֶד נִגְעִי יַעֲמֹדוּ וּקְרוֹבַי מֵרָחֹק עָמָדוּ
39:10	I am silent; I do not open my mouth, for it is you who have done it.	נֶאֶלַמְתִּי לֹא אֶפְתַּח־פִּי כִּי אַתָּה עֶשִׂיתָ
49:11	When we look at the wise, they die; fool and dolt perish together and leave their wealth to others	וְעָזְבוּ לַאֲחֵרִים כִּי יִרְאָה חֲכָמִים יָמוּתוּ יַחַד כְּסִיל וָבַעַר יֹאבֵדוּ חֵילָם
49:13	Mortals cannot abide in their pomp; they are like the animals that perish	וְאָדָם בִּיקָר בַּל־יָלִין נִמְשַׁל כַּבְּהָמוֹת נִדְמוּ
49:21	Mortals cannot abide in their pomp; they are like the animals that perish.	אָדָם בִּיקָר וְלֹא יָבִין נִמְשַׁל כַּבְּהֵמֹות נִדְמוּ
50:3	Our God comes and does not keep silence, before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him	נִשְׂצְרָה מְאֹד יָבֹא אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאַל־יָחֲרַשׁ אֵשׁ־לְפָנָיו תֹּאכֵל וּסְבִיבָיו
50:19	"You give your mouth free rein for evil, and your tongue frames deceit.	פִּיךּ שֶׁלַחְתָּ בָרֶעָה וּלְשׁוּנְךּ תַּצְמִיד מִרְמָה
56:2	Be gracious to me, O God, for people trample on me; all day long foes oppress me	חָבֵּנִי אֱלֹהִים כִּי־שְׁאָפַנִי אֱבֹושׁ כָּל־הַיּום לֹחֵם יִלְחָצֵנִי
56:5	In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I am not afraid; what can flesh do to me?	בָּאלֹהִים אָהַלֵּל דְּבָרוֹ בַּאלֹהִים בָּטַחְתִּי לֹא אִירָא מַה־יַּעֲשֶׂה בָשָׂר לִי
56:7	They stir up strife, they lurk, they watch my steps. As they hoped to have my life,	יגורו ו [יצפינו כ] (יצפונו ק) המה עקבי ישמרו כאשר קוו נפשי
56:12	in God I trust; I am not afraid. What can a mere mortal do to me?	בַּאלֹהִים בָּטַחְתִּי לֹא אִירָא מַה־יַּצְשֶׂה אָדָם לִי
59:4	Even now they lie in wait for my life; the mighty stir up	כִּי הָנֵּה אָרְבוּ לְנַפְשִׁי יָגוּרוּ עָלֵי עַזִים לֹא־פִּשְׁעִי וְלֹא־חַטָּאתִי

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Chapter & Verse of	NRSV Unless Otherwise Noted	Masoretic Text¹
Hebrew Text		
	strife against me. For no transgression or sin of mine, O LORD	יָהוָה
62:5	Their only plan is to bring down a person of prominence. They take pleasure in falsehood; they bless with their mouths, but inwardly they curse. Selah	אַדְּ מִשְּׂאֵתוֹ יָעֲצוּ לְהַדִּיחַ יִרְצוּ כָזָב בְּפִיו יְבָרֵכוּ וּבְקּרְבָּם יְקַלְלוּ־סֶלָה
63:2	O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.	אֱלֹהִים אֵלִי אַתָּה אֲשַׁחַרֶּךְּ צָּמְאָה לְךּ נַפְשִׁי כָּמַה לְךּ בְשָׂרִי בְּאֶרֶץ־צִיָּה וְעָיֵף בְּלִי־מָיִם
63:7	when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night	אָם־זְכַרְתִּיךּ עַל־יָצוּעָי בְּאַשְׁמֻרוֹת אֶהְגֶּה־בָּךְ
63:9	My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.	דָּבְקָה נַפְשִׁי אַחֲרֶיךּ בִּי תָּמְכָה יְמִינֶךּ
65:4	When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.	דְּבָרֵי עֲוֹנֹת גָּבְרוּ מֶנִּי פְּשָׁעֵינוּ אַתָּה תְכַפְּרֵם
65:10	You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.	פָּקַדְתָּ הָאָרֶץ וַתְּשֹׁקְקֶהָ רַבַּת תַּעְשְׁרָנָּה פֶּלֶג אֱלֹהִים מָלֵא מָיִם תָּכִין דְּגָנָם כִּי־כֵן תִּכִינֶהָ
65:12	You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.	עִטַּרְתָּ שְׁנַת טוֹבָתָךְ וּמַעְגָּלֶידִּ יִרְעֲפוּן דָּשֶׁן
74:1	O God, why do you cast us off forever? Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your pasture?	לָמָה אֱלֹהִים זָנַחְתָּ לָנָצַח יֶעְשַׁן אַפְּךָּ בְּצֹאן מַרְעִיתָךְּ
77:3	In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted.	בְּיֹום צָרָתִי אֲדֹנָי דָּרָשְׁתִּי יָדִי לַיְלֶה נִגְּרָה וְלֹא תָפוּג מֵאֲנָה הִנָּחֵם נַפְשִׁי
88:14	But I, O LORD, cry out to you; in the morning my	וַאָנִי אַלֶּיד יְהוָה שָׁוַּעְתִּי וּבַבֹּקֵר תְּפִלֶּתִי תְקַדְּמֶב

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	prayer comes before you.	
90:5	You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning	זְרַמְתָּם שֵׁנָה יִהְיוּ בַּבֹּקֶר כֶּחָצִיר יַחָלף
90:6	in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.	שַֿבַקר יָצִיץ וְחָלָף לָעֶרֶב יְמוֹלֵל וְיָבֵשׁ
90:7	For we are consumed by your anger; by your wrath we are overwhelmed.	פִי־כָלִינוּ רָאַפֶּּה וּבַחֲמָתְהּ נִבְהָלְנוּ
119:47	I find my delight in your commandments, because I love them.	וָאֶשְׁתַּצְשַׁע בְּמִצְוֹתָיךְ אֲשֶׁר אָהָרָתִּי
119:69	The arrogant smear me with lies, but with my whole heart I keep your precepts.	טָפְלוּ עָלַי שֶׁקֶר זַדִּים אֲנִי בְּכָל־לֵב אֱצֹר פִּקוּדֶיה
119:95	The wicked lie in wait to destroy me, but I consider your decrees.	לָי קִוּוּ רְשָׁעִים לְאַבְּדֵנִי עֵדֹתֶיךּ אֶתְבּוֹנָן
119:104	Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.	מָפָּקוּדֶיךּ אֶתְבּוֹנָן עַל־כֵּן שָׂנֵאתִי כָּל־אֹרַח שָׁקֶר
127:1	Unless the LORD builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the LORD guards the city, the guard keeps watch in vain.	אָם־יְהוָה לֹא־יִבְנֶה בַּיִת שָׁוְא עָמְלוּ בֹונָיו בּוֹ אָם־יְהוָה לֹא־יִשְׁמֶר־עִיר שָׁוְא שָׁקַד שׁוֹמֵר
138:6	For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.	כִּי־רָם יְהוָה וְשָׁפָּל יִרְאֶה וְגָבֹהַ מִּמֶּרְחָק יְיֵדָע
140:3	who plan evil things in their minds and stir up wars continually.	אֲשֶׁר חָשְׁבוּ רָעות בְּלֵב כָּל־יום יָגוּרוּ מִלְחָמות
143:5	I remember the days of old, I think about all your deeds, I meditate on the works of your hands.	זָבַרְתִּי יָמִים מִפֶּׁדֶם הָגִיתִי בְּכָל־פְּעֲלֶדּ בְּמַעֲשֵׂה יָדֵידּ אֲשׂוֹחֵח:

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146:4	When their breath departs , they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish .	:תֵצֵא רְוּחוֹ יָשֶׁב לְאַדְמָתֶוֹ בַּיִּוֹם הַהוּא אָבְדָוּ עֶשְׁתּנֹתֵיו:

¹ From The Westminster Leningrad Codex.