

# CONTENTS

<i>A Bouquet of Thanks</i>	xiv
<i>Abbreviations and Notes</i>	xvi
<i>A Note on Transliteration</i>	xix
<i>Hebrew Transliteration Guide (Lambdin Method)</i>	xx
<i>Prologue</i>	xxi
1. The What	xxi
2. The Why	xxii
3. The How	xxiv
<b>I. First Things First</b>	1
A. Two Poems: First Impressions	1
1. Poem or Inset Hymn	1
2. Narrative Poem	3
3. Metaphors and Reality	4
3.1. Metaphor of Light	4
3.2. Tasting ‘Sweet’	7
3.3. Rhythm of Human Life	9
B. Status Quaestionis: Contributions and Lacunae	11
1. Status Quaestiones of Eccl 11:4-12:8	11
1.1. Parallel Literature Approach	12
1.2. Figurative-Literal Approach	15
1.3. Historical Approach	16
1.4. Ethical Approach	16
2. Status Quaestiones of Paṭṭiṇattār’s <i>Uṭalkūrruvannam</i>	17
3. Contributions and Lacunae	17
3.1. Narrative Analysis	17
3.2. Comparative Literature	19
C. Human Life-Stages and Life Transition	20
D. Conclusion	22

<b>II. Analysis of Ecclesiastes 11:4-12:8</b>	25
A. Poet: Name and Historical Context	25
B. Poem: Text and Translation	27
C. Delimitation and Structure	30
D. Setting	34
E. Style	37
1. Parallelism	38
1.1. Synonymous Parallelism	38
1.2. Semantic Parallelism	40
1.3. Staircase Parallelism	42
1.4. Chiastic Parallelism	42
2. Word-Play	43
2.1. Word-Pairs	43
2.2. Assonance	44
2.3. Alliteration	45
2.4. Onomatopoeia	45
2.5. Ellipsis	45
2.6. Merismus	46
2.7. Hendiadys	46
2.8. Double Entendre	46
2.9. Metonymy	46
2.10. Hyperbole	47
2.11. Synecdoche	47
2.12. Allusion	47
2.13. Enjambment	48
2.14. Parataxis	48
2.15. Envoy	48
3. Word-Picture	49
3.1. Metaphor	49
3.2. Allegory	50
3.3. Simile	52
F. Characterisation	52
1. Self	54
1.1. The Ontological Self	54
1.2. The Functional Self	56
2. Transcendental Other	57
2.1. God who Makes All	58
2.2. God who Judges	58
2.3. God: Giver of Life-Breath	60
2.4. God-Creator, Object of Remembering	60
3. Social Other	62
4. Environmental Other	63

G.	Themes and Motifs	67
1.	‘Vanity’	67
2.	‘All’	69
3.	‘To Rejoice’	70
4.	‘To Remember’	71
5.	Complementing Contradictions	73
H.	Conclusion	75
<b>III.</b>	<b>Analysis of Paṭṭinattār’s Uṭalkūrruvaṇṇam</b>	<b>77</b>
A.	Poet: Name and Historical Context	77
B.	Poem: Text and Translation	80
C.	Delimitation and Structure	85
D.	Setting	87
1.	Summary Statements	91
2.	Pause	92
3.	Ellipsis	92
4.	Order and Frequency	92
E.	Style	93
1.	Linguistic Characteristics	101
2.	Metrical Factors	101
3.	Imagery	102
4.	Word-Pictures	103
5.	Direct Addresses	105
6.	Word-Plays	107
7.	Itakkaratakkal	108
F.	Characterisation	108
1.	Self	109
2.	The Transcendental Other	113
3.	The Social Other	114
4.	The Environmental Other	115
G.	Themes and Motifs	116
1.	Body	116
2.	Women	117
3.	Dance	119
4.	Related Opposites	119
5.	Dependence	120
H.	Conclusion	120
<b>IV.</b>	<b>Poems and Poets in Dialogue</b>	<b>121</b>
A.	Poets and Poems with One Another	121
1.	Similarities	121
1.1.	Contextual	121

1.1.1.	A Wake-up Call	121
1.1.2.	Names Not Theirs	122
1.1.3.	Delighted, Not Depressed	122
1.1.4.	Individual in the Crowd	123
1.1.5.	'No' to Organized Religion	124
1.2.	Communicative	124
1.2.1.	Genre of the Text	124
1.2.2.	Imaginary Audience	125
1.2.3.	Style	125
1.2.4.	Images	125
1.3.	Conceptual	126
1.3.1.	Human Person in Four Stages	126
1.3.2.	God, the Author of Life	127
1.3.3.	Impermanence of Reality	127
1.3.4.	Miseries of Old Age and Death	128
1.3.5.	Life After Life	129
1.3.6.	Ethics of Joy	129
1.3.7.	Accountability of Humans	130
1.3.8.	Meaningless Meanings	130
1.3.9.	Invitation to Remember God	131
1.3.10.	Socio-Cultural Elements in the Poems	131
2.	Dissimilarities	131
2.1.	Ethical vs. Philosophical	131
2.2.	Monologue vs. Soliloquy	131
2.3.	Addressing Down vs. Crying Up	132
2.4.	Spirit vs. Matter	132
2.5.	Individual vs. Communitarian	132
3.	Duet or Duel	132
B.	Poets and We: Perspectives and Queries	133
1.	Is God a Cultural Memory?	133
2.	The God-Talk in the Poems	135
2.1.	Two Gods: 'Creator God,' 'Created God'	135
2.2.	God whom We Can't Pray To	136
3.	Human Person: Who? Why?	137
3.1.	Imago and Similitudo Dei	138
3.2.	Human Personhood	139
3.3.	Persons in Process	140
3.4.	Persons as Suffering	140
3.5.	Cry for the Transcendent	140
3.6.	Human Person: Meaning-Making	141
3.7.	Human Person: Joyful	141
3.8.	Human Person: Born to Die	142

4. Life Before and After	142
5. Harmony of Life-Stages: Unity of the Opposites	144
C. Conclusion	147
<b>V. The Hermeneutical Arc</b>	149
A. Eccl 11:4-12:8 in Context	149
1. Evaluating the Structure	149
2. In the Context of the Book	150
3. In the Context of Wisdom Literature	153
4. In the Context of the Hebrew Bible	156
B. Uṭalkûrruvaṇṇam in Context	158
1. Evaluating the Structure	158
2. In the Context of the Paṭṭiṇattār Corpus	159
3. In the Context of Selected Śaivite Poems	161
C. Conclusion	166
<b>VI. Divine-Human Symphony</b>	167
1. Sow Your Seed	169
2. Rejoice	169
3. Remember	170
4. Fulfill Your Dreams and Desires	170
5. Begin with the End	170
6. Do not Worry	170
7. Remove Pain from Your Body	171
8. Work, Relax, Relate	171
9. Let Go	171
10. Power and Purpose	172
11. God, the Final Word	173
12. Light that Enlightens	173
<i>Epilogue</i>	175
<i>Literature</i>	177