

# **The Word** **of Life**

**Scripture Readings  
from the  
Holy Bible**

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## The Holy Scriptures

The Law of the LORD is perfect,  
reviving the soul.  
The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,  
making wise the simple.  
The precepts of the LORD are right,  
giving joy to the heart.  
The commands of the LORD are radiant,  
giving light to the eyes.

### **Psalm 19:7-8**

... you have known the Holy Scriptures,  
which are able to make you wise for salvation  
through faith in Christ Jesus.

All Scripture is God-breathed  
and is useful for teaching, rebuking,  
correcting and training in righteousness,  
so that the servant of God may be  
thoroughly equipped for every good work.

### **2 Timothy 3:15-17**

For the Word of God is living and active.  
Sharper than any double-edged sword,  
it penetrates even to dividing  
soul and spirit, joints and marrow;  
it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

### **Hebrews 4:12**

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**In the Beginning**  
**Genesis 1:1, 26-28; 2:7, 18, 24**

In the beginning  
God created the heavens and the earth.

... Then God said,  
“Let us make man in our image,  
in our likeness ...”

So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

God blessed them and said,  
“Be fruitful and increase in number ...”

The LORD God formed the man  
from the dust of the ground and  
breathed into his nostrils the breath of life,  
and the man became a living being.

... The LORD God said,  
“It is not good for the man to be alone.  
I will make a helper suitable for him.”

... For this reason  
a man will leave his father and mother  
and be united to his wife,  
and they will become one flesh.



# The Ten Commandments

**Exodus 20:1-17**

**I**

You shall have no other gods before me

**II**

You shall not make for yourself an idol

**III**

You shall not misuse the name  
of the LORD your God

**IV**

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy

**V**

Honor your father and your mother

**VI**

You shall not murder

**VII**

You shall not commit adultery

**VIII**

You shall not steal

**IX**

You shall not give false testimony

**X**

You shall not covet

# Be Holy, Because I Am Holy

**Deuteronomy 6:4-5**  
**Leviticus 19:18, 11:44**

Hear, O Israel:  
the LORD our God,  
the LORD is one.  
Love the LORD your God  
with all your heart  
and with all your soul  
and with all your strength.

Love your neighbor  
as yourself.

I am the LORD your God;  
consecrate yourselves and be holy,  
because I am holy.

# **The Alien, Fatherless, Widow**

## **Deuteronomy 24:17-22**

Do not deprive the alien or the fatherless of justice, or take the cloak of the widow as a pledge. Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and I redeemed you from there. That is why I command you to do this.

When you are harvesting in your field and you overlook a sheaf, do not go back to get it. Leave it for the alien, the fatherless and the widow, so that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. When you beat the olives from your trees, do not go over the branches a second time. Leave what remains for the alien, the fatherless and the widow. When you harvest the grapes in your vineyard, do not go over the vines again. Leave what remains for the alien, the fatherless and the widow. Remember that you were slaves in Egypt. That is why I command you to do this.

# The Everlasting Arms

Deuteronomy 33:27

The eternal  
God is  
your refuge,  
and underneath  
are the  
everlasting  
arms.

# **This Book of the Law**

**Joshua 1:8-9**

Do not let this Book of the Law  
depart from your mouth;  
meditate on it day and night,  
so that you may be careful  
to do everything written in it.

Then you will be  
prosperous and successful.

Have I not commanded you?  
Be strong and courageous.

Do not be terrified;  
do not be discouraged,  
for the LORD your God  
will be with you  
wherever you go.

# We Will Serve the Lord

Joshua 24:15

Choose for  
yourselves this day  
whom you  
will serve.

But as for me  
and my household,  
we will serve  
the LORD.

**If My People**  
**2 Chronicles 7:14**

If my people,  
who are called  
by my name,  
will humble themselves  
and pray and seek my face  
and turn from their  
wicked ways,  
then will I hear  
from heaven  
and will forgive their sin  
and will heal their land.

# My Redeemer Lives

Job 14:14, 19:23-27

If a person dies,  
will they live again?  
All the days of my hard service,  
I will wait for my renewal to come.

Oh, that my words were recorded,  
that they were written on a scroll,  
that they were inscribed  
with an iron tool on lead,  
or engraved in rock forever!

I know that my Redeemer lives,  
and that in the end  
he will stand upon the earth.  
And after my skin has been destroyed,  
yet in my flesh I will see God;  
I myself will see him  
with my own eyes – I, and not another.  
How my heart yearns within me!



# **The LORD is My Rock**

## **Psalm 16:8,11, 18:2**

I have set the LORD  
always before me.  
Because he is at my right hand,  
I will not be shaken.  
You have made known to me  
the path of life;  
you will fill me with joy  
in your presence,  
with eternal pleasures  
at your right hand.

The LORD is my rock,  
my fortress and my deliverer;  
my God is my rock,  
in whom I take refuge.  
He is my shield  
and the horn of my salvation,  
my stronghold.

# The LORD is My Shepherd

## Psalm 23:1-6

The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down  
in green pastures,  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul;  
he leadeth me in paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through  
the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil, for thou art with me;  
thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me  
in the presence of mine enemies;  
thou anointest my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall  
follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house  
of the LORD forever.

# Whom Shall I Fear?

Psalm 27:1

The LORD is  
my light  
and my salvation –  
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is  
the stronghold  
of my life –  
of whom shall I  
be afraid?

# **Strength & Shield**

**Psalm 28:7**

The LORD is  
my strength  
and my shield;  
my heart  
trusts in him,  
and I am  
helped.

# **Rejoicing in the Morning**

## **Psalm 30:1-5, 11-12**

I will exalt you, O LORD,  
for you lifted me out of the depths.  
O LORD my God, I called to you for help,  
and you healed me.  
O LORD, you brought me  
up from the grave;  
you spared me from going  
down into the pit.  
Sing to the LORD, you saints of his;  
praise his holy name.  
For his anger lasts only a moment,  
but his favor lasts a lifetime;  
weeping may remain for a night,  
but rejoicing comes in the morning.  
You turned my wailing into dancing;  
you removed my sackcloth  
and clothed me with joy,  
that my heart may sing to you  
and not be silent.  
O LORD my God,  
I will give you thanks forever.

## **Into Your Hands**

**Psalm 31:1, 5, 9-10, 14-15**

In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.

**Into your hands I commit my spirit;**  
redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth

Be merciful to me, O LORD,  
for I am in distress;

my eyes grow weak with sorrow,  
my soul and my body with grief.

My life is consumed by anguish  
and my years by groaning;

my strength fails

because of my affliction  
and my bones grow weak.

But I trust in you, O LORD;

I say, "You are my God.

**My times are in your hands."**

**He Delivered Me**  
**Psalm 34:1-4, 6-8, 17-18**

I will extol the LORD at all times;  
his praise will always be on my lips.  
My soul will boast in the LORD;  
let the afflicted hear and rejoice.  
Glorify the LORD with me;  
let us exalt his name together.  
I sought the LORD, and he answered me;  
he delivered me from all my fears.  
This poor man called,  
and the LORD heard him;  
he saved him out of all his troubles.  
The angel of the LORD encamps  
around those who fear him,  
and he delivers them.  
Taste and see that the LORD is good;  
blessed is the one  
who takes refuge in him.  
The righteous cry out,  
and the LORD hears them;  
he delivers them from all their troubles.  
The LORD is close to the brokenhearted,  
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

# **Our Refuge and Strength**

**Psalm 46:1-3, 6-7, 10**

God is our refuge and strength,  
an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear,  
though the earth give way  
and the mountains fall  
into the heart of the sea,  
though its waters roar and foam  
and the mountains quake  
with their surging.

Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall,  
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.  
The LORD Almighty is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

“Be still, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth.”



# **Have Mercy On Me**

**Psalm 51:1-4, 9-10, 12**

Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.

**Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me.  
Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight.

Hide your face from my sins  
and blot out all my iniquity.

Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and grant me a willing spirit, sustain me.

# Hear My Cry, O God

Psalm 61:1-2, 62:1-2, 63:1

Hear my cry, O God;

listen to my prayer.

From the ends of the earth I call to you,  
I call as my heart grows faint;  
lead me to the Rock that is higher than I.

My soul finds rest in God alone;

my salvation comes from him.

He alone is my Rock and my salvation;

he is my fortress,

I will never be shaken.

O God, you are my God,

earnestly I seek you;

my soul thirsts for you,

my body longs for you,

in a dry and weary land

where there is no water.

# My Rock of Refuge

**Psalm 71:1-3, 5-6, 9, 17, 20-21**

In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.

Rescue me and deliver me in your  
righteousness; turn your ear to me and save me.  
Be my rock of refuge, to which I can always go;  
give the command to save me,  
for you are my rock and my fortress.

For you have been my hope,  
O Sovereign LORD,  
my confidence since my youth.

From birth I have relied on you;  
you brought me forth from my mother's womb.

Do not cast me away when I am old;  
do not forsake me when my strength is gone.  
Since my youth, O God, you have taught me,  
and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.

Though you have made me see troubles,  
many and bitter, you will restore my life again;  
from the depths of the earth  
you will again bring me up.  
You will increase my honor  
and comfort me once again.

# My Portion Forever

Psalm 73:24-26

You guide me  
with your counsel,  
and afterward you will  
take me into glory.

Whom have I in  
heaven but you?  
And earth has nothing  
I desire besides you.

My flesh and my  
heart may fail,  
but God is the  
strength of my heart  
and my portion forever.

# Our Dwelling Place

**Psalm 90:1-4, 10, 12, 17**

LORD, you have been our dwelling place  
throughout all generations.

Before the mountains were born,  
or you brought forth the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust, saying,  
“Return to dust, O mortals.”

For a thousand years in your sight  
are like a day that has just gone by,  
or like a watch in the night.

The length of our days is seventy years,  
or eighty, if we have the strength;  
yet their span is but trouble and sorrow,  
for they quickly pass, and we fly away.

Teach us to number our days aright,  
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

May the favor of the LORD  
our God rest upon us;  
establish the work of our hands for us —  
yes, establish the work of our hands.

# Shadow of the Almighty

## Psalm 91:1-2, 4, 9-12

Whoever dwells in  
the shelter of the Most High  
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the LORD,  
“He is my refuge and my fortress,  
my God, in whom I trust.”

He will cover you with his feathers,  
and under his wings you will find refuge;  
his faithfulness will be  
your shield and rampart.

If you make the Most High your dwelling –  
even the LORD, who is my refuge –  
then no harm will befall you,  
no disaster will come near your tent.

For he will command his angels  
concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways;  
they will lift you up in their hands,  
so that you will not strike your foot  
against a stone.

# With Thanksgiving

Psalm 100:1-5

Shout for joy to the LORD,  
all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness;  
come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us,  
and we are his;  
we are his people,  
the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him & praise his name.

For the LORD is good  
and his love endures forever;  
his faithfulness continues  
through all generations.

# **Praise the Lord, O My Soul**

## **Psalm 103:1, 8-14, 22**

Praise the LORD, O my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.

He will not always accuse,  
nor will he harbor his anger forever;  
he does not treat us as our sins deserve,  
or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him;  
as far as the east is from the west, so far  
has he removed our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion on his children, so  
the LORD has compassion on  
those who fear him,  
for he knows how we are formed,  
he remembers that we are dust.

Praise the LORD, all his works  
everywhere in his dominion.

Praise the LORD, O my soul.



# From the Rising of the Sun

## Psalm 113:1-9

Praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD, you his servants;  
praise the name of the LORD.

Let the name of the LORD be praised,  
both now and forevermore.

From the rising of the sun  
to the place where it sets,  
the name of the LORD is to be praised.  
The LORD is exalted over all the nations,  
his glory above the heavens.

Who is like the LORD our God,  
the One who sits enthroned on high,  
who stoops down to look  
on the heavens and the earth?

He raises the poor from the dust  
and lifts the needy from the ash heap.

He seats them with princes,  
with the princes of his people.  
He settles the childless woman in her home  
as a happy mother of children.

Praise the LORD.

# He Saved Me

Psalm 116:3-9, 12, 17

The cords of death entangled me,  
the anguish of the grave came upon me;  
I was overcome by trouble and sorrow.  
Then I called on the name of the LORD:

“O LORD, save me!”

The LORD is gracious and righteous;  
our God is full of compassion.

The LORD protects the simplehearted;  
when I was in great need, he saved me.

Be at rest once more, O my soul,  
for the LORD has been good to you.

For you, O LORD, have delivered  
my soul from death, my eyes from tears,  
that I may walk before the LORD  
in the land of the living.

How can I repay the LORD  
for all his goodness to me?

I will sacrifice a thank offering to you  
and call on the name of the LORD.

## **A Light for My Path**

**Psalm 119:11, 18, 71, 89, 105, 130**

I have hidden your word in my heart  
that I might not sin against you.

Open my eyes that I may see  
wonderful things in your law.

It was good for me to be afflicted  
so that I might learn your statutes.

Your word, O Lord, is eternal;  
it stands firm in the heavens.

Your word is a lamp to my feet  
and a light for my path.

The unfolding of your words gives light;  
it gives understanding to the simple.

# **I Lift Up My Eyes**

## **Psalm 121:1-8**

I lift up my eyes to the hills –  
where does my help come from?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
the Maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip –  
he who watches over you will not slumber;  
indeed, he who watches over Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord watches over you –  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;  
the sun will not harm you by day,  
nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all harm –  
he will watch over your life;  
the Lord will watch over your coming and going  
both now and forevermore.

# All the Days Ordained for Me

Psalm 139:1, 7-8, 13-16

O Lord, you have searched me  
and you know me.

Where can I go from your Spirit?

Where can I flee from your presence?

If I go up to the heavens, you are there;  
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

For you created my inmost being;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am  
fearfully and wonderfully made;  
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you  
when I was made in the secret place.  
When I was woven together in the depths of  
the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body.

All the days ordained for me  
were written in your book  
before one of them came to be.

## The LORD Reigns Forever

### Psalm 146:1-10

Praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD, O my soul,  
I will praise the LORD all my life;  
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes,  
in mortal human beings, who cannot save.  
When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;  
on that very day their plans come to nothing.

Blessed are those whose help is  
the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God,  
the Maker of heaven and earth,  
the sea, and everything in them –  
the LORD, who remains faithful forever.

He upholds the cause of the oppressed  
and gives food to the hungry.  
The LORD sets the prisoners free,  
the LORD gives sight to the blind,  
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down,  
the LORD loves the righteous.

The LORD watches over the alien  
and sustains the fatherless and the widow.

The LORD reigns forever,  
your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the LORD.

## **Trust in the LORD**

**Proverbs 3:5-9, 34, 9:10**

Trust in the LORD with all your heart,  
and lean not on your own understanding;

in all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will make your paths straight.

Do not be wise in your own eyes;  
fear the LORD and shun evil.

This will bring health to your body  
and nourishment to your bones.

Honor the LORD with your wealth,  
with the first fruits of all your crops.

The LORD mocks proud mockers,  
but gives grace to the humble.

The fear of the LORD  
is the beginning of wisdom,  
and knowledge of the Holy One  
is understanding.

# A Time for Everything

## Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 11

There is a time for everything, and  
a season for every activity under heaven:  
a time to be born and a time to die,  
a time to plant and a time to uproot,  
a time to kill and a time to heal,  
a time to tear down and a time to build,  
a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
a time to mourn and a time to dance,  
a time to scatter and a time to gather,  
a time to embrace and a time to refrain,  
a time to search and a time to give up,  
a time to keep and a time to throw away,  
a time to tear and a time to mend,  
a time to be silent and a time to speak,  
a time to love and a time to hate,  
a time for war and a time for peace.

God has also set eternity in our hearts ...



## Seek the LORD

**Isaiah 26:3-4, 40:8, 55:6-7, 9-11**

You will keep in perfect peace  
those whose minds are steadfast,  
because they trust in you.

Trust in the LORD forever,  
for the LORD, the LORD, is the Rock eternal.

The grass withers and the flowers fall,  
but the **Word of our God** endures forever.

Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call on him while he is near.

Let the wicked forsake their ways  
and the unrighteous their thoughts.

Let them turn to the LORD,  
and he will have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

As the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways,  
and my thoughts than your thoughts...  
...so is my Word that goes out from my mouth:  
it will not return to me empty,  
but will accomplish what I desire  
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

# Wait Upon the LORD

Isaiah 40:28-31, 41:10

Do you not know? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He will not grow tired or weary, and  
his understanding no one can fathom.

He gives strength to the weary,  
and increases the power of the weak.

Even youths grow tired and weary,  
and young men stumble and fall;  
but those who wait upon the LORD  
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles,  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint.

So do not fear, for I am with you;  
do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

I will strengthen you and help you;  
I will uphold you  
with my righteous right hand.

**Fear Not!**  
**Isaiah 43:1–5**

But now, this is what the LORD says –  
Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have summoned you by name;  
you are mine.

When you pass through the waters,  
I will be with you,  
and when you pass through the rivers,  
they will not sweep over you.  
When you walk through the fire,  
you will not be burned;  
the flames will not set you ablaze.

For I am the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.  
You are precious and honored  
in my sight, and I love you.  
Do not be afraid, for I am with you.

## Even To Your Old Age

Isaiah 46:3-4

I have upheld you  
since your conception,  
and have carried you  
since your birth.

Even to your old age  
and gray hairs,  
I am he, I am he  
who will sustain you.

I have made you  
and I will carry you;  
I will sustain you  
and I will rescue you.

## A Son is Given

Isaiah 7:14, 9:6, 40:5

The virgin will be with child  
and will give birth to a son,  
and will call him Immanuel,  
which means, “God With Us.”

For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be  
on his shoulders.

And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

The glory of the LORD will be revealed,  
and all mankind together will see it.  
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

# A Man of Sorrows

## Isaiah 53:3-6

He was despised and rejected by men,  
a man of sorrows, familiar with suffering.  
Like one from whom men hide their faces,  
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Surely he took up our infirmities  
and carried our sorrows,  
yet we considered him stricken by God,  
smitten by him, and afflicted.

But he was pierced for our transgressions,  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
the punishment that brought us peace  
was upon him,  
and by his wounds we are healed.

We all, like sheep, have gone astray,  
each of us has turned to his own way;  
and the LORD has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.

# **I Formed You in the Womb**

**Jeremiah 1:5, 29:11-14**

The word of the LORD came to me, saying,  
“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
before you were born I set you apart;  
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

“For I know the plans I have for you,”  
declares the LORD,

“plans to prosper you and not to harm you,  
plans to give you hope and a future.

Then you will call upon me  
and come and pray to me,  
and I will listen to you.

You will seek me and find me  
when you seek me with all your heart.

I will be found by you,” declares the LORD,  
“and will bring you back from captivity.

I will gather you from all the nations and places  
where I have banished you,”

declares the LORD,

“and will bring you back to the place  
from which I carried you into exile.”

## To Do Justice

Amos 5:24, Micah 6:8

But let justice roll on  
like a river,  
and righteousness  
like a never-failing stream!

He has showed you,  
O man, what is good.  
And what does the Lord  
require of you?  
To do justice  
and to love mercy  
and to walk humbly  
with your God.



# **The Birth of Jesus**

## **Luke 2:4-12**

So Joseph also went up from Nazareth in Galilee to Bethlehem, to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

# **The Word Became Flesh**

**John 1:1-3, 14, 18**

In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.  
He was with God in the beginning.  
Through him all things were made;  
without him nothing was made  
that has been made.

The Word became flesh  
and lived for a while among us.

We have seen his glory,  
the glory of the One and Only,  
who came from the Father,  
full of grace and truth.

No one has ever seen God,  
but God the One and Only,  
who is at the Father's side,  
has made him known.

# The Beatitudes

Matthew 5:3-12

Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst  
for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,  
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted  
because of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people insult you,  
persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil  
against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad,  
because great is your reward in heaven.

# **The Seven “I Ams” of Jesus**

**John 6:35, 8:12, 10:9, 10:14, 11:25, 14:6, 15:1**

## **I am the bread of life.**

Whoever comes to me will never go hungry,  
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

## **I am the light of the world.**

Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,  
but will have the light of life.

## **I am the gate.**

Whoever enters through me will be saved.  
They will come in and go out, and find pasture.

## **I am the good shepherd.**

I know my sheep and my sheep know me,  
and I lay down my life for the sheep.

## **I am the resurrection and the life.**

Whoever believes in me will live,  
even though they die,  
and whoever lives and believes in me  
will never die.

## **I am the way and the truth and the life.**

No one comes to the Father except through me.

## **I am the true vine,**

and my Father is the gardener.  
Remain in me, and I will remain in you.

# **Rest for the Weary**

**Matthew 11:28-30**

At that time Jesus said,  
“Come to me,  
all you who are  
weary and burdened,  
and I will give you rest.  
Take my yoke upon you  
and learn from me,  
for I am gentle and  
humble in heart,  
and you will find rest  
for your souls.  
For my yoke is easy  
and my burden is light.”

## The Friend of Sinners

Luke 5:31-32, 7:34, 19:10

Jesus answered them,  
“It is not the healthy who  
need a doctor, but the sick.

For I have not come  
to call the righteous,  
but sinners to repentance.”

“The Son of Man came eating  
and drinking, and they say,  
‘Here is a friend of tax  
collectors and sinners.’”

“For the Son of Man came  
to seek and to save  
what was lost.”

# The Kingdom of God

**Mark 1:15, Matt. 6:31, 33, 18:3**

Jesus proclaimed,  
“The time has come.  
The kingdom of God is near.  
Repent and believe the good news!”

“So do not worry, saying,  
‘What shall we eat?’ or  
‘What shall we wear?’  
But seek first his kingdom  
and his righteousness,  
and all these things will be  
given to you as well.”

“I tell you the truth,  
unless you change and  
become like little children,  
you will never enter  
the kingdom of heaven.”

# You Must Be Born Again

John 3:3, 5, 7

Jesus declared,  
“I tell you the truth,  
no one can see  
the kingdom of God  
unless they are born again.”

“Very truly I tell you,  
no one can enter  
the kingdom of God  
unless they are born  
of water and the Spirit.  
You should not be  
surprised at my saying,  
‘You must be born again.’”



# **Parables of the Lost**

## **Luke 15:3-20**

“Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ I tell you that in the same way, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine persons who do not need to repent.

“Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

“There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

“Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to feed pigs.

“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘I will set out and go back to my father and say to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.’ So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.”

# The Golden Rule

Matthew 7:12

“So in everything,  
do to others  
what you  
would have  
them do to you,  
for this sums up  
the Law  
and the  
Prophets.”

# The Great Commandment

Matt. 22:34-40, Mark 12:28-34

Jesus answered,  
“The most important  
commandment is this:  
‘Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart  
and with all your soul  
and with all your mind  
and with all your strength.’

The second is this:  
‘Love your neighbor  
as yourself.’  
There is no commandment  
greater than these.”

# Miracles of Jesus

## Gospel of Mark

That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. The whole town gathered at the door, and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. **Mark 1:32-34**

A man with leprosy came to Jesus and begged him on his knees, “If you are willing, you can make me clean.” Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured. **Mark 1:40-42**

Jesus said to them, “But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins ...” He said to the paralytic, “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” He got up, took his mat and walked out. **Mark 2:10-12**

Jesus put his fingers into the deaf man’s ears and touched the man’s tongue. At this, the man’s ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly. People were overwhelmed with amazement. They said, “He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.” **Mark 7:33-37**

Jesus put his hand on the blind man's eyes. Then his eyes were opened, his sight was restored and he saw everything plainly. **Mark 8:25**

Jesus got up and rebuked the wind and the waves, and it was completely calm. The disciples asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!" **Mark 4:39-41**

Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible." Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" Jesus rebuked the evil spirit. The spirit shrieked and came out. **Mark 9:23-26**

Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Jesus to help her. So he bent over and rebuked the fever, and it left her. She got up at once. **Mark 1:30-31**

"Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher any more?" Ignoring what they said, Jesus told the girl's father, "Don't be afraid; just believe." He took the child by the hand and said to her, "*Talitha koum!*" ("Girl, I say to you, get up!"). Immediately the girl stood up and walked around. At this, they were astonished. **Mark 5:35-42**

# **The Rich Fool**

**Luke 12:15-21**

Jesus said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’”

“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.”

# The Least of These

## Matthew 25:31-46

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory, and separate the people, some on his right and some on his left.

Then the King will say to those on his right, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”

Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?”

The King will reply, “I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me.”



# **Teaching on Prayer**

## **Luke 11:5-10**

Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him.’

“Then the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’ I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man’s boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.”

# Teaching on Discipleship

**Matthew 5:43-45, Luke 9:23-25**

“You have heard that it was said,  
‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’

But I tell you:

**Love your enemies,**  
bless those who curse you,  
do good to those who hate you,  
and pray for those who persecute you,  
that you may be children of  
your Father in heaven.”

Then Jesus said to them all:

“If anyone would come after me,  
they must deny themselves  
and take up their cross daily and follow me.

For whoever wants to save their life  
will lose it, but whoever loses  
their life for me will save it.

What good is it for someone  
to gain the whole world,  
and yet lose or forfeit their very self?”

## **That You May Believe**

**John 1:12, 3:36, 20:31**

Yet to all who received him,  
to those who believed in his name,  
he gave the right to become  
children of God.

“Whoever believes in the Son  
has eternal life,  
but whoever rejects the Son  
will not see life,  
for God’s wrath remains on them.”

But these are written  
that you may believe  
that Jesus is the Christ,  
the Son of God,  
and that by believing  
you may have life in his name.

**The Promise of Eternal Life**  
**John 3:16, 4:13-14, 6:39-40, 10:27-29**

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life.”

“Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

“And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.”

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand.”

## The Lord's Supper

Mt. 26, Mk. 14, Lk. 22, Jn. 13

When the hour came,  
Jesus and his apostles  
reclined at the table.

And he took bread,  
gave thanks and broke it,  
and gave it to them, saying,  
“This is my body given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.”

Likewise after the supper,  
he took the cup, saying,  
“This cup is the new covenant  
in my blood, which is  
poured out for you.”

# **In My Father's House**

**John 14:1-7, 19**

Jesus said to them,

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God; trust also in me.

In my Father's house are many rooms;

if it were not so, I would have told you.

I am going there to prepare a place for you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you,

I will come back and take you to be with me,

that you also may be where I am.

You know the way

to the place where I am going.”

Thomas said to him,

“Lord, we don't know where you are going,

so how can we know the way?”

Jesus answered,

“I am the way and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me.

If you really knew me,

you would know my Father as well.

From now on,

you do know him and have seen him.

Because I live, you also will live.”

## Remain in My Word

John 8:31-32, 36, 14:15, 21, 23-24, 15:10, 14

“If you remain in my Word,  
you are really my disciples.  
Then you will know the truth,  
and the truth will set you free.  
So if the Son sets you free,  
you will be free indeed.”

“If you love me,  
you will obey what I command.  
Whoever has my commands and obeys them  
is the one who loves me.  
Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching.  
Anyone who does not love me  
will not obey my teaching.”

“If you obey my commands,  
you will remain in my love,  
just as I have obeyed my Father’s commands  
and remain in his love.  
You are my friends  
if you do what I command.”

# Peace I Leave With You

John 14:26-27, 16:33

“I have spoken all this while still with you.

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit,  
whom the Father will send in my name,  
will teach you all things  
and remind you of everything

I have said to you.

Peace I leave with you;

my peace I give you.

I do not give to you  
as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled,  
and do not be afraid.

I have told you these things,  
so that in me you may have peace.  
In this world you will have trouble.

But take heart!

I have overcome the world.”



# The Crucifixion

**Mt. 27, Mk. 15, Lk. 23, Jn. 19**

So the soldiers took charge of Jesus. Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). Here they crucified him, and with him two others – one on each side and Jesus in the middle. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them ...”

At the sixth hour darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “*Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?*” – which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus said, “It is finished.” And he called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last. And when the centurion, who had stood there in front of Jesus, heard his cry and saw how he died, he said, “Surely this man was the Son of God!”

# **The Resurrection**

**Mt. 28, Mk. 16, Lk. 24, Jn. 20**

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow.

The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.”

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him.

# The Great Commission

**Matthew 28:16-20**

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

Then Jesus came to them and said,  
“All authority in heaven and on earth  
has been given to me.

Therefore go and make disciples  
of all nations, baptizing them  
in the name of the Father  
and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit,  
and teaching them to obey  
everything I have commanded you.  
And surely I am with you always,  
to the very end of the age.”

# The Ascension

Acts 1:7-9

Jesus said to them,  
“It is not for you to know  
the times or dates  
the Father has set by his own authority.  
But you will receive power  
when the Holy Spirit  
comes on you,  
and you will be my witnesses  
in Jerusalem,  
and in all Judea and Samaria,  
and to the ends of the earth.”

After he said this,  
he was taken up  
before their very eyes,  
and a cloud hid him  
from their sight.

# A Righteousness from God

Romans 1:16-17, 3:22-25, 5:1, 8

For I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, **through faith in his blood.**

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

# **Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ**

**Romans 6:10-14, 23, 10:9, 13**

The death Christ died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

**For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

# **More Than Conquerors**

## **Romans 8:18-39 (passim)**

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.

And we know that in all things, God works for the good of those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or nakedness or danger or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

# One God, One Lord

## 1 Corinthians 8:5-6

For even if there are  
so-called gods,  
whether in heaven or on earth  
(as indeed there are  
many “gods” and many “lords”),  
yet for us there is but  
**one God, the Father,**  
from whom all things came  
and for whom we live;  
and there is but  
**one Lord, Jesus Christ,**  
through whom all things came  
and through whom we live.



# Love Never Fails

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a, 13

Love is patient, love is kind.

It does not envy,  
it does not boast, it is not proud.

It is not rude,  
it is not self-seeking,  
it is not easily angered,  
it keeps no record of wrongs.

Love does not delight in evil,  
but rejoices with the truth.

Love bears all things,  
believes all things,  
hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails.

And now these three remain:  
faith, hope and love.

But the greatest of these is love.

# The Resurrection of Christ

## 1 Corinthians 15 (passim)

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.

If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed – in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. “Where, O death, is your victory?” Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear friends, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

# **The God of All Comfort**

**2 Corinthians 1:3-4, 4:7-9, 16-18, 5:6-8**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. We live by faith, not by sight. We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

# **A New Creation**

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

Therefore,  
if anyone is  
in Christ,  
there is  
a new creation;  
the old has gone,  
the new has  
come!

# **The Fruit of the Spirit**

**Galatians 5:22-25**

The fruit of the Spirit is  
love, joy, peace,  
patience, kindness, goodness,  
faithfulness, gentleness  
and self-control.

Against such things  
there is no law.

Those who belong  
to Christ Jesus  
have crucified the sinful nature  
with its passions and desires.  
Since we live by the Spirit,  
let's keep in step with the Spirit.

# **The Love of Christ**

## **Ephesians 2:8-10, 3:16-21**

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.

## **The Full Armor of God**

### **Ephesians 6:10-18**

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of the this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

# The Peace of God

**Philippians 1:20-21, 3:8, 10-11, 4:4-7, 13, 19**

I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.



# Jesus Christ is Lord

## Philippians 2:5-11

Christ Jesus,  
being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God  
something to be grasped,  
but made himself nothing,  
taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.

**And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to death –  
even death on a cross!**

Therefore God exalted him  
to the highest place,  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue confess that  
**Jesus Christ is Lord,**  
to the glory of God the Father.

# The Supremacy of Christ

## Colossians 1:15-20

Christ is the image of the invisible God,  
the firstborn over all creation.  
For by him all things were created:  
things in heaven and on earth,  
visible and invisible,  
whether thrones or powers  
or rulers or authorities;  
all things were created by him and for him.  
He is before all things,  
and in him all things hold together.  
And he is the head of the body, the church;  
he is the beginning and the firstborn  
from among the dead, so that  
in everything he might have the supremacy.  
For God was pleased to have  
all his fullness dwell in him,  
and through him  
to reconcile to himself all things,  
whether things on earth or things in heaven,  
**by making peace through his blood,  
shed on the cross.**

# **Sanctified & Raised**

## **1 Thessalonians 4:3-4, 7, 13-18**

It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.

Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, or to grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage each other with these words.

# The Crown of Righteousness

2 Timothy 4:6-8

For I am already being  
poured out like a drink offering,  
and the time has come  
for my departure.

I have fought the good fight,  
I have finished the race,  
I have kept the faith.

Now there is in store for me  
the crown of righteousness,  
which the Lord,  
the righteous judge,  
will award to me on that day –  
and not only to me,  
but also to all who have  
longed for his appearing.

**Let Us Fix Our Eyes on Jesus**  
**Hebrews 4:14-16, 11:1, 6, 12:1-2**

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,  
the conviction of things not seen.  
And without faith it is impossible to please God.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

## Cast All Your Anxiety Upon Him

### 1 Peter 5:5b-11

All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because,

God opposes the proud  
but gives grace to the humble.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. **Cast all your anxiety upon him, because he cares for you.**

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

## Walking in the Light

### 1 John 1:5-9, 2:9-11

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and **the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.**

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness. Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble. But anyone who hates a brother or sister is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness. They do not know where they are going, because the darkness has blinded them.

**Children of God**  
**1 John 3:1-3, 16-18**

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.



## Look, He is Coming! **Revelation 1:7, 6:15-17, 20:11-15**

Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all peoples of the earth will mourn because of him.

Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and everyone else, both slave and free, hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains. They called to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?”

Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the **Book of Life**. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. The sea and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done. If anyone’s name was not found written in the **Book of Life**, they were thrown into the lake of fire.

# A Great Multitude

## Revelation 7:9-10, 13-15, 17

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”

Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes – who are they, and where did they come from?” I answered, “Sir, you know.” And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white **in the blood of the Lamb**. Therefore,

They are before the throne of God,  
and serve him day and night in his temple;  
and he who sits on the throne  
will spread his tent over them.  
For the Lamb at the center of the throne  
will be their shepherd;  
he will lead them to springs of living water.  
And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

# The New Jerusalem

## Revelation 21:1-5, 22-27

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men and women, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” He who was seated on the throne said, **“I am making everything new!”**

I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the **Lamb’s Book of Life.**

# The River of Life

## Revelation 22:1-5, 12-13, 20-21

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign forever and ever.

“Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”

He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.” **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s people. Amen.

# The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose from the dead,  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of  
God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge  
the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.

Amen.

# **The Lord's Prayer**

**Matthew 6:9-13**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.

# **The Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end, Amen.

**Glory, Power, Majesty & Authority**  
**Jude 3, 20-25**

Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints.

But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.

Be merciful to those who doubt; snatch others from the fire and save them; to others show mercy, mixed with fear – hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.

To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

## The Holy Scriptures

**Psalm 19:7-8, 2 Timothy 3:15-17, Hebrews 4:12**

The law of the LORD is perfect,  
reviving the soul.

The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy,  
making wise the simple.

The precepts of the LORD are right,  
giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the LORD are radiant,  
giving light to the eyes.

... you have known the Holy Scriptures,  
which are able to make you wise for salvation  
through faith in Christ Jesus.

All Scripture is God-breathed  
and is useful for teaching, rebuking,  
correcting and training in righteousness,  
so that the servant of God may be  
thoroughly equipped for every good work.

For the Word of God is living and active.  
Sharper than any double-edged sword,  
it penetrates even to dividing  
soul and spirit, joints and marrow;  
it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.



## Prayer of Surrender

O Lord God Most High, Our Heavenly Father:  
Thank you for the witness of your Holy Scriptures,  
proclaiming the grand truth  
that I am a sinner helpless to save myself,  
and that you in your love and grace and mercy  
have sent Jesus,  
your one and only Son,  
your Holy and Anointed One,  
to live a life of perfect love here on earth,  
to die on the Cross to pay the price  
for the forgiveness of my sins,  
and to be raised from the dead  
as my living Lord and Savior:  
breaking the bondage of Satan and evil,  
washing and cleansing me from my sins,  
**making me a New Creation by faith in his blood,**  
saving me and giving me all the power I need  
to love you with all my heart  
and to love my neighbor as myself,  
to do justice & love mercy & walk humbly with you,  
to trust & follow & obey Jesus above all things,  
especially through seasons of suffering & affliction,  
filled with the hope & joy & peace of his Holy Spirit,  
and to glorify you here on earth  
and enjoy you forever in heaven.  
In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

May the God of hope  
fill you with all joy and peace  
as you trust in him,  
so that you may overflow with hope  
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus Christ is the same  
yesterday and today and forever.

**Romans 15:13, Hebrews 13:8**