

Pray the Word

**Promises
Praise
Worship
Intercession**

Guidelines for Scripture-based Prayer

(Compiled by Bennie Mostert)

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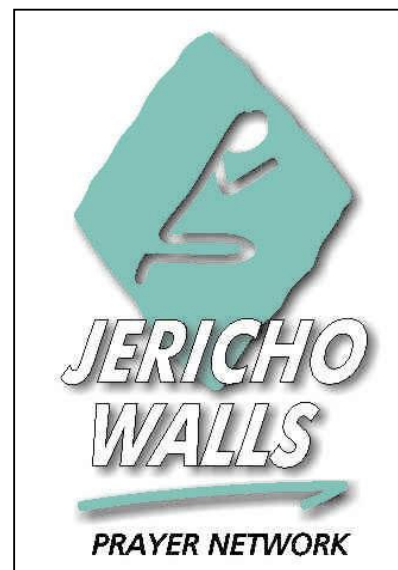


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Guidelines to Pray the Word

In this form, the Word itself is used as basis for prayer. The Word of God — his promises, commands, Psalms, New Testamental prayers, the songs of Revelation etc. — is prayed back to God. There is spiritual power and authority in the Word. Once E. W. Kenyon said: *Fasting and long hours of prayer do not build faith ... Reading books about faith and men of faith and their exploits stirs in the heart a deep passion for faith, but does not build faith. The Word alone is the source of faith.* Andrew Murray wrote: *Little of the Word with little prayer is death to the spiritual life. Much of the Word with little prayer gives a sickly life. Much of prayer with little of the Word gives more life, but without steadfastness. A full measure of the Word and prayer each day gives a healthy and powerful life.*

This form of prayer can be used individually but is equally powerful if used by a prayer group. The following are a number of aspects on which we can focus:

- The Names of God
- The promises of God
- The commands of God
- The apostolic prayers in the New Testament
- The Psalms
- Chapters or sections of chapters from Scripture
- Scripture focusing on the person and character of God
- The songs of Revelation and other sections for Praise and Worship
- Biblical theophany
- Scripture about specific subjects

The “method” is to read the specific Scripture (aloud if possible) and to proclaim it in your prayer, to think about it/meditate on it and/or to sing it. Use the Scripture to pray for yourself, your family, your congregation, your city, the country and the ends of the earth. Pray for another country every day. Listen, look at and read the news and pray for matters that the Lord lays on your heart.

Pray the Word

Faith comes by hearing the word. (*Rm.10:17*) Without faith we cannot pray because prayer without faith does not please God. (*Heb.11:6*) God confirms his Word and his promises with an oath. (*Heb.6:16-17*) He cannot be unfaithful to his Word. In the Word God reveals his character to us. The promises in his Word are in line with his being and character to which He is never unfaithful and to which He cannot be unfaithful.

The Word of God is everlasting, it is an eternal Word – flowers will fall, grass will wither, but the Word of the Lord stands eternally (*1 Pe.1:24-25*). It is impossible for God to perish, and equally impossible for his Word to perish. The power of the Word is the power of God. The Word has authority because God has power and authority. God will never break his Word, just as He will never break his covenant with the day and the night. (*Jer.33:20*)

The Father calls his Son the Word. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (*Jn.1:1-2*) God binds Himself through his Son to the Word. The Word and the Lamb that was slain, standing in the middle of the throne, is the same Person. The Word (written word) has its authority in the risen, living, triumphant, almighty Jesus. The Word is inspired by God and was not thought out by man. (*2 Tim.3:16*)

The Word of God cannot be bound — neither by the dark forces nor the inability of people. (*2 Tim.2:9*) Jails, hospitals, drug dependency, the darkest night, depression and utter poverty, cannot limit the Word of God. He who appeals to the Word, appeals to the living Jesus for whom nothing is impossible.

The Word of God prayed by a believer and a praying heart, breaks the power of the Evil One, delivers us from sin, saves us out of emergency situations and changes the world around us. Hudson Taylor once said: “We (Christians) are supernatural people, reborn by a supernatural birth, carried by a supernatural force, supported by supernatural food and taught by a supernatural Teacher out of a supernatural Book.”

The Word of God has the power to create and re-create.

Why must we pray the Word?

- In the Word, God reveals his will. When we pray the Word, we pray God’s will. And when we pray according to the will of God, the word teaches us that God will answer. (*1 Jn.5:14-15*)
- Books gives knowledge and can bring insight but only reading the Word brings faith. When we pray the Word, the Word brings faith into our hearts. (*Rm.10:17*)
- Scripture/the Word reveals God’s priorities to us. When we pray according to the Word, we come into line with God’s priorities and with it, our lives also comes into line with God’s priorities.
- There is authority in the Word. When the Father created the universe, He created the Word through his Son. The Word spoke a word and there was light and life and people and heavenly bodies. When we proclaim the Word in the spiritual sphere today, call it out as a declaration in the spiritual sphere, there is power in the Word. The Word has power to give life and to re-create because we appeal to the living Word which is capable of keeping its Word and give fulfilment to it.
- The Word teaches us about God — his character, being, power, omnipotence, capabilities and attributes. And it is when we understand God better, that we can pray with more faith. Faith is as strong as the Person in whom we believe.

A few guidelines that will help you to pray the Word/Scripture

- Take a Scripture and read it through slowly. Read it out loud if possible. Personalise what you read – apply it to yourself where possible. Rewrite the verse or pericope in your own language. Paraphrase parts of the verse or pericope. Meditate on it, ponder over it. Look for areas in which to apply it. Watch carefully for the emotions coming to the fore in the Scripture. Where applicable, go and do what the specific scripture teaches.
- Acquire one or two good Bible commentaries when you feel the need to make a deeper study of a specific Scripture or word.
- Pray this Scripture or sing it.
- Many scriptures can be expressed as prayers by referring to God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) in the first person instead of third person. Where he/his is used, replace it with “you”. For instance, *Eph.1:3* reads: “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.” When it is re-written, it will read as follows: “Praise be to you our God Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.”
- Mark the prayers in Scripture and pray accordingly. There are many prayers in Scripture of, for instance, Moses, Abraham, Jacob, Hannah, David, Solomon, the Psalms, Jesus, Mary, the apostles and the songs in Revelation.
- Mark the names of God in the Bible. These names reveal his character, his power and what God can and wants to do. When we pray, let us learn to call unto the name of the Lord who has made more than 7 000 promises to us in the Bible.
- Get yourself a special “prayer” Bible. In that Bible, mark all the Scripture prayers, all the promises, the Names of God the commands/instructions of God and every thing else that has to do with your prayers.

Scriptures for Praise and Worship: focus on the Character and Works of God, also on our Relationship with God

1

The character and works of God

8 He will judge the world in righteousness; he will govern the peoples with justice. 9 The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. 10 Those who know your name will trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you. *(Ps.9:8-11)*

The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made. *(Ps.145:17)*

3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, *(1 Cor.15:3-4)*

3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. *(Ga.1:3-5)*

My/our relationship with God

Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. *(Mt.6:8)*

26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will. *(Rm.8:26-27)*

2

The character and works of God

Your righteousness reaches to the skies, o God, you who have done great things. Who, o God, is like you? *(Ps.71:19)*

21 Declare what is to be, present it — let them take counsel together. Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from the distant past? Was it not I, the Lord? And there is no God apart from me, a

righteous God and a Saviour; there is none but me. 22 “Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other.” *(Is.45:21-22)*

13 But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, 14 for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: “Wake up, o sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” *(Eph.5:13-14)*

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare, 12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. *(2 Pe.3:10, 12)*

My/our relationship with God

9 This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” *(Mt.6:9-10)*

8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls. *(1 Pe.1:8-9)*

3

The character and works of God

7 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, 10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. 11 If I say, “Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,” 12 even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. *(Ps.139:7-12)*

Yet you know me, o Lord; you see me and test my thoughts about you. Drag them off like sheep to be butchered! Set them apart for the day of slaughter!. (*Jer.12:3*)

1 Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. 2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. 16 He saw that there was no one, he was appalled that there was no one to intervene; so his own arm worked salvation for him, and his own righteousness sustained him. 17 He put on righteousness as his breastplate, and the helmet of salvation on his head; he put on the garments of vengeance and wrapped himself in zeal as in a cloak. 18 According to what they have done, so will he repay wrath to his enemies and retribution to his foes; he will repay the islands their due. 19 From the west, men will fear the name of the Lord, and from the rising of the sun, they will revere his glory. For he will come like a pent-up flood that the breath of the Lord drives along. (*Is.59:1-2,16-19*)

I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love; I lifted the yoke from their neck and bent down to feed them. (*Hos.11:4*)

My/our relationship with God

16 But I will sing of your strength, in the morning I will sing of your love; for you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble. 17 O my Strength, I sing praise to you; you, o God, are my fortress, my loving God. 18 O my Strength, I sing praise to you; you, o God, are my fortress, my loving God. (*Ps.59:17-18*)

2 Praise the Lord, o my soul, and forget not all his benefits — 3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, 5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. (*Ps.103:2-5*)

4

The character and works of God

8 The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. 9 The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of the Lord are sure and altogether righteous. 10 They are more precious than gold, than much pure

gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb. 11 By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. (*Ps.19:8-11*)

All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal. (*Ps.119:160*)

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. (*Ps.100:3*)

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end. (*Ecc.3:11*)

My/our relationship with God

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God — that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. (*1 Cor.1:30*)

6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. (*Eph.2:6-7*)

5

The character and works of God

But the Lord is the true God; he is the living God, the eternal King. When he is angry, the earth trembles; the nations cannot endure his wrath. (*Jer.10:10*)

17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. 18 I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. (*Re.1:17-18*)

19 His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, 20 which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. (*Eph.1:19-21*)

Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory. (*1 Tim.3:16*)

My/our relationship with God

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. (*Jn.14:27*)

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. (*Jn.16:33*)

6

The character and works of God

I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted. (*Job 42:2*)

3 From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised. 4 The Lord is exalted over all the nations, his glory above the heavens. 5 Who is like the Lord our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, (*Ps.113:3-5*)

42 So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; 43 it is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; 44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. (*1 Cor.15:42-44*)

47 The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven. 48 As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the man from heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. 49 And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven. (*1 Cor.15:47-49*)

My/our relationship with God

38 Anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. 39 Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. (*Mt.10:38-39*)

26 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,

27 and whoever wants to be first must be your slave. (*Mt.20:26-27*)

7

The character and works of God

O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and obey his commands. (*Neh.1:5*)

3 Great and marvellous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the ages. 4 Who will not fear you, o Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous Ac.have been revealed. (*Re.15:3-4*)

76 And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, 77 to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, 78 because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven 79 to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.” (*Lk.1:76-79*)

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (*Jn.1:29*)

My/our relationship with God

All the saints send their greetings. (*2 Cor.13:13*)

11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, 12 in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. (*Eph.1:11-12*)

8

The character and works of God

The Lord Almighty is the one you are to regard as holy, he is the one you are to fear, he is the one you are to dread. (*Is.8:13*)

But the Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him. (*Hab.2:20*)

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth

in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance? (*Is.40:12*)

This is what God the Lord says — he who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and all that comes out of it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it. (*Is.42:5*)

My/our relationship with God

20 We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. 21 In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. (*Ps.33:20-21*)

17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs — heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. 18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. (*Rm.8:17-18*)

9

The character and works of God

1 Ascribe to the Lord, o mighty ones, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. 2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness. (*Ps.29:1-2*)

1 The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and is armed with strength. The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved. 2 Your throne was established long ago; you are from all eternity. 5 Your statutes stand firm; holiness adorns your house for endless days, o Lord. (*Ps.93:1-2, 5*)

11 He is the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone. 12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved. (*Ac.4:11-12*)

30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. 31 For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead.” (*Ac.17:30-31*)

My/our relationship with God

6 All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. 8 Yet, o Lord, you are our

Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. (*Is.64:6, 8*)

12 “Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” 13 Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. (*Joel 2:12-13*)

10

The character and works of God

11 One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard: that you, o God, are strong, 12 and that you, o Lord, are loving. Surely you will reward each person according to what he has done. (*Ps.62:11-12*)

For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; it is he who will save us. (*Is.33:22*)

2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 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. 5 He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” (*Re.21:2-5*)

12 “Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.” 20 He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. (*Re.22:12-13, 20*)

My/our relationship with God

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it. (*1 Cor.10:13*)

But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. (2 Th.3:3)

11

The character and works of God

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. (Jn.1:1-2)

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (Jn.1:14)

24 but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness — for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. 25 He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. (Rm.4:24-25)

15 But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! 16 Again, the gift of God is not like the result of the one man's sin: The judgement followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. (Rm.5:15-16)

My/our relationship with God

1 As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, o God. 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? (Ps.42:1-2)

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. (Ps.63:2)

12

The character and works of God

10 All you have made will praise you, o Lord; your saints will extol you. 11 They will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, 12 so that all men may know of your mighty Ac.and the glorious splendour of your kingdom. 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made. (Ps.145:10-13)

I looked, and I saw the likeness of a throne of

sapphire above the expanse that was over the heads of the cherubim. (Ez.10:1)

19 By wisdom the Lord laid the earth's foundations, by understanding he set the heavens in place; 20 by his knowledge the deeps were divided, and the clouds let drop the dew. (Pr.3:19-20)

12 It is I who made the earth and created mankind upon it. My own hands stretched out the heavens; I marshalled their starry hosts. (Is.45:12)

My/our relationship with God

18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. 19 Speak to one another with Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, 20 always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Eph.5:18-20)

16 Be joyful always; 17 pray continually; 18 give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Th.5:16-18)

13

The character and works of God

But you, o Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. (Ps.86:15)

2 Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them. 3 Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever. 4 He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and compassionate. (Ps.111:2-4)

5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross! (Php.2:5-8)

17 For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. 18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is

able to help those who are being tempted.
(*Heb.2:17-18*)

My/our relationship with God

3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.
(*Rm.6:3-4*)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! (2
Cor.5:17)

14

The character and works of God

And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."
(*Mt.3:17*)

No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known. (*Jn.1:18*)

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (*Php.2:9-11*)

Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen. (*Re.1:7*)

My/our relationship with God

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (*Jn.8:12*)

1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. (*Jn.15:1-2, 4*)

15

The character and works of God

13 Who has understood the mind of the Lord, or instructed him as his counsellor? 14 Whom did the Lord consult to enlighten him, and who taught him the right way? Who was it that taught him knowledge or showed him the path of understanding? 15 Surely the nations are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; he weighs the islands as though they were fine dust. 17 Before him all the nations are as nothing; they are regarded by him as worthless and less than nothing. 18 To whom, then, will you compare God? What image will you compare him to? (*Is.40:13-15, 17-18*)

I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me? (*Jer.32:27*)

38 Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. 39 Through him everyone who believes is justified from everything you could not be justified from by the law of Moses. (*Ac.13:38-39*)

3 For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, 4 in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit. (*Rm.8:3-4*)

My/our relationship with God

He must become greater; I must become less.
(*Jn.3:30*)

24 I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. 25 The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. (*Jn.12:24-25*)

16

The character and works of God

5 Be exalted, o God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth. 10 For great is your love, reaching to the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies. (*Ps.57:5, 10*)

89 Your word, o Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. 90 Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures. 91 Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve you. (*Ps.119:89-91*)

For this is what the Lord says — he who created the heavens, he is God; he who fashioned and made the earth, he founded it; he did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited — he says: “I am the Lord, and there is no other.” (*Is.45:18*)

But God made the earth by his power; he founded the world by his wisdom and stretched out the heavens by his understanding. (*Jer.10:12*)

My/our relationship with God

This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. (*Jn.15:8*)

I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness. (*Rm.6:19*)

The character and works of God

O sovereign Lord, you are God! Your words are trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant. (*2 Sa.7:28*)

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. (*2 Cor.3:17*)

33 “This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 34 No longer will a man teach his neighbour, or a man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the Lord. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.” (*Jer.31:33-34*)

26 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.” 27 Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. 28 This

is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.” (*Mt.26:26-28*)

My/our relationship with God

23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he already has? 25 But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. (*Rm.8:23-25*)

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. (*Rm.15:13*)

17

The character and works of God

Let the Lord judge the peoples. Judge me, o Lord, according to my righteousness, according to my integrity, o Most High. (*Ps.7:8*)

All a man’s ways seem right to him, but the Lord weighs the heart. (*Pr.21:2*)

6 Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: “Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. 7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.” 9 Then the angel said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!’” And he added, “These are the true words of God.” (*Re.19:6-7, 9*)

11 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. 13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. 14 The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron sceptre. He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. 16 On his robe and on his thigh he has

this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. (*Re.19:11-16*)

My/our relationship with God

Many, o Lord my God, are the wonders you have done. The things you planned for us no one can recount to you; were I to speak and tell of them, they would be too many to declare. (*Ps.40:5*)

4 For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love 5 he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will — 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. (*Eph.1:4-6*)

18

The character and works of God

For the Lord is righteous, he loves justice; upright men will see his face. (*Ps.11:7*)

Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong. Why then do you tolerate the treacherous? Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves? (*Hab.1:13*)

2 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. 3 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. (*Jn.14:2-3*)

11 Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. 12 In a loud voice they sang: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!" (*Re.5:11-12*)

My/our relationship with God

9 He will not always accuse, nor will he harbour his anger forever; 10 he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; 12 as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. 13 As a father has compassion on his children, so the

Lord has compassion on those who fear him; (*Ps.103:9-13*)

"Come now, let us reason together," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." (*Is.1:18*)

19

The character and works of God

I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! (*Dt.32:3*)

Let them know that you, whose name is the Lord — that you alone are the Most High over all the earth. (*Ps.83:18*)

5 The Lord, the Lord Almighty, he who touches the earth and it melts, and all who live in it mourn — the whole land rises like the Nile, then sinks like the river of Egypt — 6 he who builds his lofty palace in the heavens and sets its foundation on the earth, who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out over the face of the land — the Lord is his name. (*Am.9:5-6*)

24 The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. 25 And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. (*Ac.17:24-25*)

My/our relationship with God

I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, o Lord, make me dwell in safety. (*Ps.4:8*)

20 May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, 21 equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (*Heb.13:20-21*)

20

The character and works of God

6 A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry? All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field. 7 The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers and the flowers fall,

but the word of our God stands forever.” (*Is.40:6-8*)

How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; his dominion endures from generation to generation. (*Dn.4:3*)

11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me — 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father — and I lay down my life for the sheep. (*Jn.10:11, 14-15*)

Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. (*Jn.15:13*)

My/our relationship with God

25 Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. 26 My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. 27 Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you. 28 But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the sovereign Lord my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds. (*Ps.73:25-28*)

My son, give me your heart and let your eyes keep to my ways, (*Pr.23:26*)

21

The character and works of God

1 I will sing of the Lord’s great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations. 2 I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself. 5 The heavens praise your wonders, o Lord, your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones. 6 For who in the skies above can compare with the Lord? Who is like the Lord among the heavenly beings? 7 In the council of the holy ones God is greatly feared; he is more awesome than all who surround him. 8 O Lord God Almighty, who is like you? You are mighty, o Lord, and your faithfulness surrounds you. (*Ps.89:1-2, 5-8*)

I will sing of your love and justice; to you, o Lord, I will sing praise. (*Ps.101:1*)

For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open. (*Lk.8:17*)

If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. (*Lk.9:26*)

My/our relationship with God

15 Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, o Lord. 16 They rejoice in your name all day long; they exult in your righteousness. (*Ps.89:15-16*)

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise — the fruit of lips that confess his name. (*Heb.13:15*)

22

The character and works of God

The Lord lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God, the Rock, my Saviour! (*2 Sa.22:47*)

Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord, is the Rock eternal. (*Is.26:4*)

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (*Rm.6:23*)

14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. (*Heb.2:14-15*)

My/our relationship with God

8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. 10 The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. 11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. (*Rm.6:8-11*)

22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. (*Eph.4:22-24*)

23**The character and works of God**

The Almighty is beyond our reach and exalted in power; in his justice and great righteousness, he does not oppress. (*Job 37:23*)

4 He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name. 5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit. (*Ps.147:4-5*)

This is what the Lord says, he who appoints the sun to shine by day, who decrees the moon and stars to shine by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar — the Lord Almighty is his name: (*Jer.31:35*)

My/our relationship with God

6 Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. 7 We live by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. (*2 Cor.5:6-8*)

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. (*Heb.11:1*)

24**The character and works of God**

1 It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, o Most High, 2 to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night, (*Ps.92:1-2*)

17 How precious to me are your thoughts, o God! How vast is the sum of them! 18 Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with you. (*Ps.139:17-18*)

33 “We are going up to Jerusalem,” he said, “and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, 34 who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise.” (*Mk.10:33-34*)

Jesus said: 26 “Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. 44 He said to

them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” (*Lk.24:26-27, 44*)

My/our relationship with God

12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. 13 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. (*Rm.6:12-13*)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. (*Rm.12:1*)

25**The character and works of God**

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” (*Mt.16:16*)

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (*Jn.14:6*)

The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever.” (*Re.11:15*)

6 He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. 7 He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son.” (*Re.21:6-7*)

My/our relationship with God

Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David. (*Is.55:3*)

Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. (*Mt.7:24*)

26**The character and works of God**

The Lord is in his holy temple; the Lord is on his heavenly throne. He observes the sons of men; his eyes examine them. (*Ps.11:4*)

9 The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? 10 I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve. (*Jer.17:9-10*)

4 There is one body and one Spirit — just as you were called to one hope when you were called — 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (*Eph.4:4-6*)

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. (*Col.1:18*)

My/our relationship with God

However, as it is written: “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him.” (*1 Cor.2:9*)

Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. (*1 Cor.13:12*)

27

The character and works of God

I will give thanks to the Lord because of his righteousness and will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High. (*Ps.7:18*)

46 And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, 49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me — holy is his name. 50 His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.” (*Lk.1:46-47, 49-50*)

My own hand laid the foundations of the earth, and my right hand spread out the heavens; when I summon them, they all stand up together. (*Is.48:13*)

1 This is what the Lord says: “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house you will build for me? Where will my resting place be? 2 Has not my hand made all

these things, and so they came into being?” declares the Lord. “This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.” (*Is.66:1-2*)

My/our relationship with God

No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are. (*Ac.15:11*)

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. (*Eph.2:8-9*)

28

The character and works of God

“I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, I am!” (*Jn.8:58*)

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, (*Col.2:9*)

19 Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.” 21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken. (*Jn.2:19, 21-22*)

17 The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life — only to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father. (*Jn.10:17-18*)

My/our relationship with God

13 Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (*Jn.4:13-14*)

I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. (*Jn.5:24*)

29

The character and works of God

To the Lord your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in

it. (*Dt.10:14*)

6 No one is like you, o Lord; you are great, and your name is mighty in power. 7 Who should not revere you, o King of the nations? This is your due. Among all the wise men of the nations and in all their kingdoms, there is no one like you. (*Jer.10:6-7*)

3 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. 4 They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. 5 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 for ever and ever. (*Re.22:3-5*)

22 I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23 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. 24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendour into it. 25 On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. (*Re.21:22-25*)

My/our relationship with God

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills — where does my help come from? 2 My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. 3 He will not let your foot slip — he who watches over you will not slumber. 5 The Lord watches over you — the Lord is your shade at your right hand; 6 the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. 7 The Lord will keep you from all harm — he will watch over your life; 8 the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. (*Ps.121:1-3, 5-8*)

Even to your old age and grey 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. (*Is.46:4*)

30

The character and works of God

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you. (*Ps.89:14*)

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. 8 Let them give thanks to the

Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men, 9 for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things. (*Ps.107:1, 8-9*)

25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; 26 and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” (*Jn.11:25-26*)

The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. (*Rm.8:19*)

My/our relationship with God

9 “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 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. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. (*Jn.15:9-11*)

Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. (*Jn.17:3*)

31

The character and works of God

But if I do it, even though you do not believe me, believe the miracles, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father. (*Jn.10:38*)

Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God. (*Jn.13:3*)

This is the word of the Lord concerning Israel. The Lord, who stretches out the heavens, who lays the foundation of the earth, and who forms the spirit of man within him, declares. (*Zech.12:1*)

For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities — his eternal power and divine nature — have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. (*Rm.1:20*)

My/our relationship with God

Let the righteous rejoice in the Lord and take refuge in him; let all the upright in heart praise him! (*Ps.64:10*)

33 I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. 34 May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the Lord. (*Ps.104:33-34*)

32

The character and works of God

He who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do. (*Ps.33:15*)

Death and Destruction lie open before the Lord — how much more the hearts of men! (*Pr.15:11*)

28 Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 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. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. (*Mt.11:28-30*)

14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. (*Jn.3:14-15*)

My/our relationship with God

16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever — 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. (*Jn.14:16-17*)

You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. (*Rm.8:9*)

33

The character and works of God

The Lord is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him. (*Ps.92:15*)

But, o Lord Almighty, you who judge righteously and test the heart and mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. (*Jer.11:20*)

26 The mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, is now disclosed to the saints. 27 To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. (*Col.1:26-27*)

My/our relationship with God

26 But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. 27 For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. (*Lk.22:26-27*)

Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me. (*Jn.12:26*)

35

The character and works of God

24 The Lord Almighty has sworn, “Surely, as I have planned, so it will be, and as I have purposed, so it will stand.” 27 For the Lord Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart him? His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back? (*Is.14:24, 27*)

11 I, even I, am the Lord, and apart from me there is no Saviour. 13 Yes, and from ancient days I am he. No one can deliver out of my hand. When I act, who can reverse it? (*Is.43:11, 13*)

As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed — the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were. (*Rm.4:17*)

14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. (*Eph.3:14-15*)

My/our relationship with God

16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 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. (*2 Cor.4:16-18*)

20 But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will

transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body. (*Php.3:20-21*)

36

The character and works of God

7 They will celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness. 8 The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. 9 The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. (*Ps.145:7-9*)

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. (*2 Pe.3:9*)

Do I take any pleasure in the death of the wicked? declares the sovereign Lord. Rather, am I not pleased when they turn from their ways and live? (*Ez.18:23*)

Say to them, “‘As surely as I live,’ declares the sovereign Lord, ‘I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, o house of Israel?’” (*Ez.33:11*)

12 On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. 13 But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.” (*Mt.9:12-13*)

My/our relationship with God

Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (*Php.1:6*)

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. (*1 Pe.5:10*)

37

The character and works of God

“Yes, Lord,” she told him, “I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.” (*Jn.11:27*)

Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’”

(*Jn.14:9*)

5 Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, 6 and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father — to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. (*Re.1:5-6*)

9 And they sang a new song: “You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. 10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.” (*Re.5:9-10*)

My/our relationship with God

9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (*Jn.10:9-10*)

27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. (*Jn.10:27-29*)

38

The character and works of God

Though the Lord is on high, he looks upon the lowly, but the proud he knows from afar. (*Ps.138:6*)

I know, o Lord, that a man’s life is not his own; it is not for man to direct his steps. (*Jer.10:23*)

6 He formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength, 7 he stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations. (*Ps.65:6-8*)

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 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. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

(*Col.1:15-17*)

My/our relationship with God

31 What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all — how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? (*Rm.8:31-32*)

3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. (*2 Pe.1:3-4*)

39

The character and works of God

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. 5 For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. (*Ps.100:4-5*)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort. (*2 Cor.1:3*)

You, o Lord, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light. (*Ps.18:28*)

He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way. (*Ps.25:9*)

My/our relationship with God

8 I have set the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. 9 Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure, 11 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. (*Ps.16:8-9, 11*)

24 I say to myself, “The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him.” 25 The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; 26 it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. (*La.3:24-26*)

40

The character and works of God

In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps. (*Pr.16:9*)

Many are the plans in a man’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails. (*Pr.19:21*)

1 In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. (*Heb.1:1-2*)

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. (*Heb.11:3*)

My/our relationship with God

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. (*Php.1:21*)

7 But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. (*Php.3:7-9*)

41

The character and works of God

Be exalted, o God, above the heavens, and let your glory be over all the earth. (*Ps.108:5*)

Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever. (*Ps.136:26*)

25 At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. 26 Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. 27 All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.” (*Mt.11:25-27*)

14 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!” (Mk.1:14-15)

My/our relationship with God

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. (Jn.20:31)

9 That 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. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. 11 As the Scripture says, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” (Rm.10:9-11)

42

The character and works of God

17 Ah, sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you. 18 You show love to thousands but bring the punishment for the fathers’ sins into the laps of their children after them. O great and powerful God, whose name is the Lord Almighty, 19 great are your purposes and mighty are your deeds. Your eyes are open to all the ways of men; you reward everyone according to his conduct and as his deeds deserve. (Jer.32:17-19)

12 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. 13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. (Heb.4:12-13)

5 But they deliberately forget that long ago by God’s word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. 6 By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. 7 By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgement and destruction of ungodly men. (2 Pe.3:5-7)

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. (Re.4:11)

My/our relationship with God

But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked. (Lk.12:48)

1 So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God. 2 Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. (1 Cor.4:1-2)

43

The character and works of God

All this also comes from the Lord Almighty, wonderful in counsel and magnificent in wisdom. (Is.28:29)

in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. (Col.2:3)

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. (2 Chr.7:14)

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people he chose for his inheritance. (Ps.33:12)

My/our relationship with God

1 Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. 2 Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, 3 because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. 4 For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come. (2 Cor.5:1-5)

9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. 10 For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. (2 Cor.5:9-10)

44

The character and works of God

17 The decision is announced by messengers, the holy ones declare the verdict, so that the living may know that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes and sets over them the lowliest of men.

34 At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honoured and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. 35 All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?" 37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble. (Dn.4:17, 34-35, 37)

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." (Mt.28:18)

31 The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth, and speaks as one from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all. 34 For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit. (Jn.3: 31, 34)

22 Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgement to the Son, 23 that all may honour the Son just as they honour the Father. He who does not honour the Son does not honour the Father, who sent him. (Jn.5:22-23)

My/our relationship with God

The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. (1 Tim.1:14)

He has saved us and called us to a holy life — not

because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time. (2 Tim.1:9)

45

The character and works of God

The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him, (Nah.1:7)

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. (1 Jn.1:5)

15 My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. 24 Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. (Jn.17:15, 24)

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. (Ac.1:8)

My/our relationship with God

9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! 10 For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! 11 Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. (Rm.5:9-11)

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Cor.5:21)

46

The character and works of God

I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. (Is.46:10)

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. (Is.55:11)

20 The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, 21 so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (*Rm.5:20-21*)

Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. (*Rm.10:4*).

My/our relationship with God

14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. (2 *Cor.5:14-15*)

4 But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour, 7 so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. (*Tit.3:4-7*)

47

The character and works of God

13 In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. 14 He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. (*Dn.7:13-14*)

to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. (*Jud.25*)

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ. (*Rm 10:17*)

1 Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness — 2

a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time, 3 and at his appointed season he brought his word to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Saviour. (*Tit.1:1-3*)

My/our relationship with God

4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved. (*Eph.2:4-5*)

21 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behaviour. 22 But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation. (*Col.1:21-22*)

The character and works of God

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. (*Ps.118:1*)

138 The statutes you have laid down are righteous; they are fully trustworthy. 142 Your righteousness is everlasting and your law is true. (*Ps.119:138, 142*)

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. (1 *Cor.3:11*)

26 Such a high priest meets our need — one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. 27 Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. (*Heb.7:26-27*)

My/our relationship with God

12 Give thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. 13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (*Col.1:12-14*)

18 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were

redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, *19* but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. (*1 Pe.1:18-19*)

48

The character and works of God

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. (*Mt.24:35*)

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. (*1 Tim.1:17*)

19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, *20* 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. (*Col.1:19-20*)

7 During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. *8* Although he was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered *9* and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him *10* and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek. (*Heb.5:7-10*)

My/our relationship with God

29 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. *30* And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. (*Rm.8:29-30*)

13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, *14* having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. *15* And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. (*Col.2:13-15*)

49

The character and works of God

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. (*Jer.1:5*)

And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. (*Mt.10:30*)

24 But because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. *25* Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them. (*Heb.7:24-25*)

10 And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. *11* Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. *12* But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. *13* Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, *14* because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. (*Heb.10:10-14*)

My/our relationship with God

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will. (*Rm.12:2*)

17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. *18* I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, *19* and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength. (*Eph.1:17-19*)

50

The character and works of God

Have you not heard? Long ago I ordained it. In days of old I planned it; now I have brought it to pass, that you have turned fortified cities into piles of stone. (*2 Ki.19:25*)

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. (*2 Pe.3:8*)

17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly

lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. *18* He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created. (*Jas.1:17-18*)

18 For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, *22* who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand — with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him. (*1 Pe.3:18, 22*)

My/our relationship with God

13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, *14* who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession — to the praise of his glory. (*Eph.1:13-14*)

1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. *2* Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. *3* For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. *4* When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. (*Col.3:1-4*)

51

Focus on the character and works of God

28 You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you. *29* Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. (*Ps.118:28-29*)

15 God is the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, *16* who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honour and might forever. Amen. (*1 Tim.6:15-16*)

1 O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. *2* From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. *3* When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, *4* what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? *5* You

made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honour. *6* You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet. (*Ps.8:1-6*)

O Lord Almighty, God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. (*Is.37:16*)

My/our relationship with God

24 The Lord bless you and keep you; *25* the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; *26* the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. (*Nm.6:24-26*)

To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. (*Rm.1:7*)

52

The character and works of God

God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill? (*Nm.23:19*)

He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a man, that he should change his mind. (*1 Sa.15:29*)

4 One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts. *5* They will speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty, and I will meditate on your wonderful works. *6* They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds. (*Ps.145:4-6*)

18 Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. *19* You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea. (*Mic.7:18-19*)

My/our relationship with God

Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. (*Pr.3:3*)

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. (*1 Cor.13:4-8*)

53

The character and works of God

17 For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. 18 He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the alien, giving him food and clothing. (*Dt.10:17-18*)

29 With your help I can advance against a troop; with my God I can scale a wall. 30 As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him. (*Ps.18:29-30*)

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. (*Is.9:6*)

32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.” (*Lk.1:32-33*)

My/our relationship with God

2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; 3 my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation. He is my stronghold, my refuge and my Saviour — from violent men you save me. 4 I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies. (*2 Sa.22:2-4*)

33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died — more than that, who was raised to life — is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. (*Rm.8:33-34*)

54

The character and works of God

God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you’.” (*Ex.3:14*)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. (*Heb.13:8*)

9 Rejoice greatly, o Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. 10 I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. (*Zech.9:9-10*)

36 You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. 42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. 43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. (*Ac.10:36, 42-43*)

My/our relationship with God

4 Hear, o Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. (*Dt.6:4-5*)

Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. (*Mt.10:37*)

55

The character and works of God

25 For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. 26 For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. 27 Splendour and majesty are before him; strength and joy in his dwelling place. 28 Ascribe to the Lord, o families of nations, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength, 29 ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name. Bring an offering and come before him; worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness. (*1 Chr.16:25-29*)

For this is what the high and lofty One says — he who lives forever, whose name is holy: “I live in a high and holy place, but also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite.” (Is.57:15)

1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. 2 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. 3 And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done. (Gn.2:1-3)

And Hezekiah prayed to the Lord: “O Lord, God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.” (2 Ki.19:15)

My/our relationship with God

10 Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. 11 Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always. 12 Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgements he pronounced. (1 Chr.16:10-12)

28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, 29 for our God is a consuming fire. (Heb.12:28-29)

56

The character and works of God

Who among the gods is like you, o Lord? Who is like you — majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders? (Ex.15:11)

8 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. 9 “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” (Is.55:8-9)

4 For you make me glad by your deeds, o Lord; I sing for joy at the works of your hands. 5 How great are your works, o Lord, how profound your thoughts! 6 The senseless man does not know, fools do not understand. (Ps.92:4-6)

18 The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. 19 He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them. 20 The Lord watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. (Ps.145:18-20)

My/our relationship with God

13 You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. 14 You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. (Mt.5:13-16)

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? (1 Cor.3:16)

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The character and works of God

Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other. (Dt.4:39)

5 I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, 6 so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting men may know there is none besides me. I am the Lord, and there is no other. (Is.45:5-6)

6 The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. 7 The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. 8 The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. 9 They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. (Is.11:6-9)

Lift up your eyes to the heavens, look at the earth beneath; the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment and its inhabitants die like flies. But my salvation will

last forever, my righteousness will never fail. (Is.51:6)

My/our relationship with God

The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song. (Ps.28:7)

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. (Jn.14:1)

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The character and works of God

See now that I myself am He! There is no god besides me. I put to death and I bring to life, I have wounded and I will heal, and no one can deliver out of my hand. (Dt.32:39)

O Lord, God of our fathers, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you. (2 Chr.20: 6)

2 The gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures 3 regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, 4 and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. (Rm.1:2-4)

25 God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished — 26 he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. (Rm.3:25-26)

My/our relationship with God

33 But Jacob said, “Swear to me first.” So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. 34 Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright. (Gn.25:33-34)

But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you. (1 Sa.12:24)

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The character and works of God

6 And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation.” (Ex.34:6-7)

6 The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. 8 The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. (Ps.103:6, 8)

7 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. 9 And the Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground — trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. 15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. (Gn.2:7, 9, 15)

This is the written account of Adam’s line. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. (Gn.5:1)

My/our relationship with God

22 But Samuel replied: “Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. 23 For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has rejected you as king.” (1 Sa.15:22-23)

46 Why do you call me, “Lord, Lord,” and do not do what I say? 47 I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. 48 He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. (Lk.6:46-48)

60**The character and works of God**

4 For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. 5 For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. 6 Splendour and majesty are before him; strength and glory are in his sanctuary. 7 Ascribe to the Lord, o families of nations, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. 8 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts. 9 Worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth. (*Ps.96:4-9*)

3 And they were calling to one another: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.” (*Is.6:3*)

14 The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. 15 The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. 16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. (*Ps.145:14-16*)

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvelous things, things planned long ago. (*Is.25:1*)

My/our relationship with God

25 I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. 26 And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; 27 I myself will see him with my own eyes — I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me! (*Job 19:25-27*)

15 I have the same hope in God as these men, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked. 16 So I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man. (*Ac.24:15-16*)

61**The character and works of God**

9 He will guard the feet of his saints, but the wicked will be silenced in darkness. It is not by strength that one prevails; 10 those who oppose the Lord will be shattered. He will thunder against them from heaven; the Lord will judge the ends of the earth. He will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed. (*1 Sa.2:9-10*)

But in the Lord all the descendants of Israel will be found righteous and will exult. (*Is.45:23*)

8 The sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The Lord has spoken. 9 In that day they will say, “Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.” (*Is.25:8-9*)

Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. (*Is.65:17*)

My/our relationship with God

How great is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you, which you bestow in the sight of men on those who take refuge in you. (*Ps.31:19*)

14 He knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. 15 As for man, his days are like grass, he flourishes like a flower of the field; 16 the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more. 17 But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord’s love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children’s children — 18 with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts. (*Ps.103:14-18*)

62**The character and works of God**

5 Your love, o Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. 6 Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep. O Lord, you preserve both man and beast. 8 They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. (*Ps.36:5-6, 8*)

For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord. (*Ps.117:2*)

25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than man’s wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man’s strength. 27 But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. 28 He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things — and the things that are not — to nullify the things that are, 29 so

that no one may boast before him. (*1 Cor.1:25, 27-29*)

20 Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. 21 To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. (*Re.3:20-21*)

My/our relationship with God

Have mercy on me, o God, have mercy on me, for in you my soul takes refuge. I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed. (*Ps.57:2*)

This is what the sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel, says: “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.” (*Is.30:15*)

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The character and works of God

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. (*Ps.8:1*)

Praise the Lord, o my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendour and majesty. (*Ps.104:1*)

For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. (*Ex.20:11*)

You alone are the Lord. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you. (*Neh.9:6*)

My/our relationship with God

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 6 Surely

goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (*Ps.23:1-6*)

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. (*Rm.8:28*)

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The character and works of God

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” (*1 Sa.16:7*)

1 O Lord, you have searched me and you know me. 2 You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. 3 You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. 4 Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, o Lord. (*Ps.139:1-4*)

1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. 2 The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him — the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord — 3 and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; 4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. 5 Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. (*Is.11:1-5*)

The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel — which means, “God with us.” (*Mt.1:23*)

My/our relationship with God

And now, o Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. (*Dt.10:12*)

A great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me. (*1 Cor.16:9*)

65**The character and works of God**

He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he. (*Dt.32:4*)

4 For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. 5 The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love. (*Ps.33:4-5*)

2 Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. 3 Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. (*Dn.12:2-3*)

28 Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice 29 and come out — those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned. (*Jn.5:28-29*)

My/our relationship with God

I will praise you, o Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever. (*Ps.86:12*)

18 I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Saviour. 19 The sovereign Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to go on the heights. For the director of music. On my stringed instruments. (*Hab.3:18-19*)

66**The character and works of God**

There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. (*1 Sa.2:2*)

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. (*1 Cor.8:6*)

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. (*Jn.3:16-17*)

46 I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness. 47 As for the person who hears my words but does not keep them, I do not judge him. For I did not come to judge the world, but to save it. (*Jn.12:46-47*)

My/our relationship with God

On that day you will realise that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. (*Jn.14:20*)

If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. (*Rm.6:5*)

67**The character and works of God**

And the Lord said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.” (*Ex.33:19*)

To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. (*Re.3:7*)

9 He is the Maker of the Bear and Orion, the Pleiades and the constellations of the south. 10 He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be counted. (*Job 9:9-10*)

16 The day is yours, and yours also the night; you established the sun and moon. 17 It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter. (*Ps.74:16-17*)

My/our relationship with God

7 At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him: “Because you relied on the king of Aram and not on the Lord your God, the army of the king of Aram has escaped from your hand. 8 Were not the Cushites and Libyans a mighty army with great numbers of chariots and horsemen? Yet when you relied on the Lord, he delivered them into your hand.” 12 In the thirty-ninth year of his reign Asa was afflicted with a disease in his feet. Though his disease was severe, even in his illness he did not seek help from the Lord, but only from the physicians. (2

Chr.16:7-8, 12)

3 Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. 4 Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: 7 Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes. (*Ps.37:3-5, 7*)

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The character and works of God

Moses then said to Aaron, "This is what the Lord spoke of when he said: 'Among those who approach me I will show myself holy; in the sight of all the people I will be honoured.'" Aaron remained silent. (*Lev.10:3*)

But the Lord Almighty will be exalted by his justice, and the holy God will show himself holy by his righteousness. (*Is.5:16*)

For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. You have done a foolish thing, and from now on you will be at war. (*2 Chr.16:9*)

But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall. (*Mal.4:2*)

My/our relationship with God

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. (*Jos.1:8*)

Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. (*Ac.20:32*)

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The character and works of God

1 Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. 7 For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a Psalm of praise. (*Ps.47:1, 6-7*)

3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. 4 So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs. (*Heb.1:3-4*)

10 See, the sovereign Lord comes with power, and his arm rules for him. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. 11 He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young. (*Is.40:10-11*)

31 When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. 34 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." (*Mt.25:31-34*)

My/our relationship with God

1 Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. His mother's name was Jedidah daughter of Adaiah; she was from Bozkath. 2 He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord and walked in all the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left. (*2 Ki.22:1-2*)

20 The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. 21 But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. 22 The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. 23 But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. (*Mt.13:20-23*)

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The character and works of God

11 Yours, o Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, o Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. 12 Wealth and honour come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. 13 Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. 14 But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand. (*1 Chr.29:11-14*)

Let your sharp arrows pierce the hearts of the king's enemies; let the nations fall beneath your feet. (*Ps.45:5*)

21 But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 22 This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. (*Rm.3:21-24*)

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (*Rm.5:6-8*)

My/our relationship with God

3 No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame, but they will be put to shame who are treacherous without excuse. 4 Show me your ways, o Lord, teach me your paths; 5 guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long. (*Ps.25:3-5*)

“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.” (*Jer.29:11*)

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The character and works of God

31 As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him. 32 For who is God besides the Lord? And who is the Rock except our God? (*2 Sa.22:31-32*)

Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! (*Is.30:18*)

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. (*Ps.19:1*)

3 For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods. 4 In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. 5 The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. 7 for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. (*Ps.95:3-5, 7*)

My/our relationship with God

The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: “I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness.” (*Jer.31:3*)

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. (*Rm.8:35-37*)

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The character and works of God

And the Levites — Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah and Pethahiah — said: “Stand up and praise the Lord your God, who is from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise.” (*Neh.9:5*)

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests. (*Lk.2:14*)

10 Then I thought, “To this I will appeal: the years of the right hand of the Most High.” 11 I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago. 12 I will meditate on all your works and consider all your mighty deeds. 13 Your ways, o God, are holy.

What god is so great as our God? *14* You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples. (*Ps.77:10-14*)

For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations. (*Is.61:11*)

My/our relationship with God

18 When you ascended on high, you led captives in your train; you received gifts from men, even from the rebellious — that you, o Lord God, might dwell there. *19* Praise be to the Lord, to God our Saviour, who daily bears our burdens. *Selah* (*Ps.68:18-19*)

37 All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. *38* For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. *39* 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. *40* 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 him up at the last day." (*Jn.6:37-40*)

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The character and works of God

But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built! (*1 Ki.8:27*)

22 He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. *23* He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. (*Is.40:22-23*)

And so I will show my greatness and my holiness, and I will make myself known in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the Lord. (*Ez.38:23*)

For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. (*Hab.2:14*)

My/our relationship with God

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. (*Ps.46:1*)

10 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. *13* For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you. (*Is.41:10, 13*)

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The character and works of God

20 Where then does wisdom come from? Where does understanding dwell? *21* It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing, concealed even from the birds of the air. *22* Destruction and Death say, "Only a rumour of it has reached our ears." *23* God understands the way to it and he alone knows where it dwells, *24* for he views the ends of the earth and sees everything under the heavens. (*Job 28:20-24*)

33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgements, and his paths beyond tracing out! *34* Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor? *35* Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him? *36* For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen. (*Rm.11:33-36*)

10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. *11* He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. (*Jn.1:10-11*)

19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. *20* Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. *21* But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God. (*Jn.3:19-21*)

My/our relationship with God

And that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. (*Dt.30:20*)

1 I love you, o Lord, my strength. 2 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. (*Ps.18:1-2*)

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The character and works of God

How great is God — beyond our understanding! The number of his years is past finding out. (*Job 36:26*)

Listen to me, o Jacob, Israel, whom I have called: I am he; I am the first and I am the last. (*Is.48:12*)

1 The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; 2 for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters. (*Ps.24:1-2*)

1 Praise the Lord, o my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendour and majesty. 2 He wraps himself in light as with a garment; he stretches out the heavens like a tent 3 and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters. He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind. 4 He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants. 5 He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved. 6 You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. 7 But at your rebuke the waters fled, at the sound of your thunder they took to flight; 8 they flowed over the mountains, they went down into the valleys, to the place you assigned for them. 24 How many are your works, o Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. (*Ps.104:1-8, 24*)

My/our relationship with God

Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. 9 Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. (*1 Chr.16:8-9*)

3 Look on me and answer, o Lord my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death; 4 my enemy will say, "I have overcome him," and my foes will rejoice when I fall. 5 But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. 6 I will sing to the Lord, for he has been good to me. (*Ps.13:3-6*)

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The character and works of God

Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son. (*Gn.18:14*)

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God." (*Mk.10:27*)

3 I have trodden the winepress alone; from the nations no one was with me. I trampled them in my anger and trod them down in my wrath; their blood spattered my garments, and I stained all my clothing. 4 For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and the year of my redemption has come. 5 I looked, but there was no one to help, I was appalled that no one gave support; so my own arm worked salvation for me, and my own wrath sustained me. 6 I trampled the nations in my anger; in my wrath I made them drunk and poured their blood on the ground. (*Is.53:3-6*)

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (*Mt.20:28*)

My/our relationship with God

6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin — 7 because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. (*Rm.6:6-7*)

19 For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. 20 I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (*Ga.2:19-20*)

77

The character and works of God

Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands. (*Dt.7:9*)

21 Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: 22 Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. 23 They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. (*La.3:21-23*)

For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done. (*Mt.16:27*)

27 For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. 30 At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. (*Mt.24:27, 30*)

My/our relationship with God

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? (*Ps.27:1*)

2 My slanderers pursue me all day long; many are attacking me in their pride. 3 When I am afraid, I will trust in you. (*Ps.56:2-3*)

78

The character and works of God

1 I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. 2 Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. 3 Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. (*Ps.145:1-3*)

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and power, for ever and ever!" (*Re.5:13*)

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. (*2 Cor.8:9*)

5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all men — the testimony given in its proper time. (*1 Tim.2:5-6*)

My/our relationship with God

Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised. (*Job 1:21*)

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone

would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?" (*Mt.16:24-26*)

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The character and works of God

6 The Lord brings death and makes alive; he brings down to the grave and raises up. 7 The Lord sends poverty and wealth; he humbles and he exalts. 8 He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honour. For the foundations of the earth are the Lord's; upon them he has set the world. (*1 Sa.2:6-8*)

The Lord does whatever pleases him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths. (*Ps.135:6*)

By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. (*Ps.33:6*)

25 "To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One. 26 Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. 28 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. (*Is.40:25-26, 28*)

My/our relationship with God

Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him. (*Jn.14:21*)

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this,

not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it — he will be blessed in what he does. (*Jas.1:22-25*)

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The character and works of God

To God belong wisdom and power; counsel and understanding are his. (*Job 12:13*)

1 After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting: “Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, 2 for true and just are his judgements. He has condemned the great prostitute who corrupted the earth by her adulteries. He has avenged on her the blood of his servants.” (*Re.19:1-2*)

3 O Lord, what is man that you care for him, the son of man that you think of him? 4 Man is like a breath; his days are like a fleeting shadow. (*Ps.144:3-4*)

29 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. 30 Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; 31 but those who hope in 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. (*Is.40:29-31*)

My/our relationship with God

4 These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go with the multitude, leading the procession to the house of God, with shouts of joy and thanksgiving among the festive throng. 5 Why are you downcast, o my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Saviour and 10 My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me, saying to me all day long, “Where is your God?” (*Ps.42:4-5, 10*)

3 Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. (*Rm.5:3-5*)

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The character and works of God

1 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: “I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has hurled into

the sea. 2 The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him.” (*Ex.15:1-2*)

Our Redeemer — the Lord Almighty is his name — is the Holy One of Israel. (*Is.47:4*)

So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him. (*Mt.24:44*)

26 At that time men will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. 27 And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens. 33 Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. (*Mk.13:26-27, 33*)

My/our relationship with God

1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. (*Rm.5:1-2*)

38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 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. (*Rm.8:38-39*)

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The character and works of God

22 He reveals the deep things of darkness and brings deep shadows into the light. 23 He makes nations great, and destroys them; he enlarges nations, and disperses them. (*Job 12:22-23*)

20 Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his. 21 He changes times and seasons; he sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. 22 He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him. (*Dn.2:20-22*)

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (*Mk.10:45*)

65 Then some began to spit at him; they blindfolded him, struck him with their fists, and said, “Prophecy!” And the guards took him and beat him. 17 They put a purple robe on him, then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on him. 18 And they began to call out to him, “Hail, king of the Jews!” 19 Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him. Falling on their knees, they paid homage to him. 29 Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, “So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, 30 come down from the cross and save yourself!” 34 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?” (*Mk.14:65; 15:17-19, 29-30, 34*)

My/our relationship with God

Who, then, is the man that fears the Lord? He will instruct him in the way chosen for him. (*Ps.25:12*)

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. (*Ps.32:8*)

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The character and works of God

O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below — you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way. (*1 Ki.8:23*)

He prayed to the Lord, “O Lord, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.” (*Jon.4:2*)

10 Every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. 11 I know every bird in the mountains, and the creatures of the field are mine. (*Ps.50:10-11*)

The heavens are yours, and yours also the earth; you founded the world and all that is in it. (*Ps.89:11*)

My/our relationship with God

Nehemiah said, “Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have

nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.” (*Neh.8:10*)

9 Look upon our shield, o God; look with favour on your anointed one. 10 Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked. 11 For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favour and honour; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. (*Ps.84:9-11*)

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The character and works of God

1 Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise, in the city of our God, his holy mountain. 2 It is beautiful in its loftiness, the joy of the whole earth. Like the utmost heights of Zaphon is Mount Zion, the city of the Great King. 9 Within your temple, o God, we meditate on your unfailing love. (*Ps.48:1-2, 9*)

For he received honour and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” (*2 Pe.1:17*)

9 He has saved us and called us to a holy life — not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. (*2 Tim.1:9-10*)

9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. 10 In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. (*Heb.2:9-10*)

My/our relationship with God

I will praise you, o Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonders. (*Ps.9:1*)

Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him. (*Ps.33:1*)

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The character and works of God

Now therefore, o our God, the great, mighty and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love, do not let all this hardship seem trifling in your eyes — the hardship that has come upon us, upon our kings and leaders, upon our priests and prophets, upon our fathers and all your people, from the days of the kings of Assyria until today. (*Neh.9:32*)

To whom will you compare me or count me equal? To whom will you liken me that we may be compared? (*Is.46:5*)

25 I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. 27 And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man. (*Jn.5:25-27*)

10 You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God's judgement seat. 11 It is written: "As surely as I live," says the Lord, "every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God." 12 So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God. (*Rm.14:10-12*)

My/our relationship with God

1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. (*Rm.8:1-2*)

15 For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. (*Rm.8:15-16*)

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The character and works of God

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. (*1 Chr.16:34*)

9 Surely his salvation is near those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. 10 Love and

faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other. (*Ps.85:9-10*)

18 The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour. (*Lk.4:18-19*)

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost. (*Lk.19:10*)

My/our relationship with God

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil. (*Pr.3:5-7*)

So he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty." (*Zech.4:6*)

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The character and works of God

Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth. (*Ps.46:10*)

The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, who is to be praised forever, knows that I am not lying. (*2 Cor.11:31*)

13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. 15 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, 16 your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. (*Ps.139:13-16*)

3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men. (*Jn.1:3-4*)

My/our relationship with God

But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers

served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. (*Jos.24:15*)

His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!" (*Mt.25:21*)

88

The character and works of God

His wisdom is profound, his power is vast. Who has resisted him and come out unscathed? (*Job 9:4*)

The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good. (*Pr.15:3*)

26 Then Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. 27 Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgement, 28 so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him. (*Heb.9:26-28*)

22 But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, 23 to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, 24 to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. (*Heb.12:22-24*)

My/our relationship with God

2 Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about." 3 Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. 5 He said to his servants, "Stay here

with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you." 6 Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, 7 Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" 8 Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together. 9 When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. 11 But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. (*Gn.22:2-11*)

26 Tell the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the Lord, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says concerning the words you heard: 27 'Because your heart was responsive and you humbled yourself before God when you heard what he spoke against this place and its people, and because you humbled yourself before me and tore your robes and wept in my presence, I have heard you,' declares the Lord." (*2 Chr.34:26-27*)

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The character and works of God

David said to Gad, "I am in deep distress. Let me fall into the hands of the Lord, for his mercy is very great; but do not let me fall into the hands of men." (*1 Chr.21:13*)

You are forgiving and good, o Lord, abounding in love to all who call to you. (*Ps.86:5*)

13 Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. 14 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. 15 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. 16 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. 17

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. (*1 Th.4:13-17*)

13 We wait for the blessed hope — the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. (*Tit.2:13-14*)

My/our relationship with God

13 I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. 14 Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord. (*Ps.27:13-14*)

5 I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope. 7 O Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. (*Ps.130:5, 7*)

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The character and works of God

“You are my witnesses,” declares the Lord, “and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me.” (*Is.43:10*)

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.” (*Re.1:8*)

68 Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people. 69 He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David 70 (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), 71 salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us — 72 to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, 73 the oath he swore to our father Abraham: 74 to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear 75 in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. (*Lk.1:68-75*)

46 He told them, “This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. (*Lk.24:46-47*)

My/our relationship with God

8 He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful. (*1 Cor.1:8-9*)

But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. (*2 Cor.2:14*)

Scriptures for Worship/Admiration of God

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. (*Ps.8:2*)

3 They sang the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb: “Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the ages. 4 Who will not fear you, o Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.” (*Re.15:3-4*)

4 For you make me glad by your deeds, o Lord; I sing for joy at the works of your hands. 5 How great are your works, o Lord, how profound your thoughts! 6 The senseless man does not know, fools do not understand, 7 that though the wicked spring up like grass and all evildoers flourish, they will be forever destroyed. (*Ps.92:4-7*)

I am the Lord; that is my name! I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols. (*Is.42:8*)

2 How awesome is the Lord Most High, the great King over all the earth! 7 For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a Psalm of praise. 8 God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne. (*Ps.47:2, 7-8*)

Moses then said to Aaron, “This is what the Lord spoke of when he said: ‘Among those who approach me I will show myself holy; in the sight of all the people I will be honoured.’” Aaron remained silent. (*Lev.10:3*)

25 For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. 26 For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. 27 Splendour and majesty are before him; strength and joy in his dwelling place. 28 Ascribe to the Lord, o families of nations, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength, 29 ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name. Bring an offering and come before him; worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness. 30 Tremble before him, all the earth! The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved. (*1 Chr.16:25-30*)

17 For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. 18 He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the alien, giving him food and clothing. (*Dt.10:17-18*)

46 And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, 49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me — holy is his name. 50 His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. (*Lk.1:46-47, 49-50*)

33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgements, and his paths beyond tracing out! 34 Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor? 35 Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him? 36 For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen. (*Rm.11:33-36*)

1 After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting: “Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, 2 for true and just are his judgements. He has condemned the great prostitute who corrupted the earth by her adulteries. He has avenged on her the blood of his servants.” (*Re.19:1-2*)

When we heard of it, our hearts melted and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below. (*Jos.2:11*)

He spreads out the northern skies over empty space; he suspends the earth over nothing. (*Job 26:7*)

He who made the Pleiades and Orion, who turns blackness into dawn and darkens day into night, who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out over the face of the land — the Lord is his name. (*Am.5:8*)

21 Declare what is to be, present it — let them take counsel together. Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from the distant past? Was it not I, the Lord? And there is no God apart from me, a

righteous God and a Saviour; there is none but me. 22 Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. (*Is.45:21-22*)

5 For you have been my hope, o sovereign Lord, my confidence since my youth. 14 But as for me, I will always have hope; I will praise you more and more. (*Ps.71:5, 14*)

1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. 2 Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. 3 You turn men back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, o sons of men." 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. (*Ps.90:1-4*)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. (*Heb.13:8*)

1 I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. 2 Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. 3 Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. (*Ps.145:1-3*)

22 Out of the north he comes in golden splendour; God comes in awesome majesty. 23 The Almighty is beyond our reach and exalted in power; in his justice and great righteousness, he does not oppress. (*Job 37:22-23*)

O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven or on earth — you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way. (*2 Chr.6:14*)

Let them know that you, whose name is the Lord — that you alone are the Most High over all the earth. (*Ps.83:18*)

2 The Lord is a jealous and avenging God; the Lord takes vengeance and is filled with wrath. The Lord takes vengeance on his foes and maintains his wrath against his enemies. 3 The Lord is slow to anger and great in power; the Lord will not leave the guilty unpunished. His way is in the whirlwind and the storm, and clouds are the dust of his feet. (*Nah.1:2-3*)

23 "Am I only a God nearby," declares the Lord, "and not a God far away? 24 Can anyone hide in secret places so that I cannot see him?" declares the Lord. "Do not I fill heaven and earth?" declares the Lord. (*Jer.23:23-24*)

1 O Lord, you have searched me and you know me. 2 You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. 3 You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. 4 Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, o Lord. 5 You hem me in — behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. (*Ps.139:1-6*)

7 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, 10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," 12 even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you. (*Ps.139:7-12*)

13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. 15 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, 16 your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. (*Ps.139:13-16*)

17 How precious to me are your thoughts, o God! How vast is the sum of them! 18 Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am still with you. (*Ps.139:17-18*)

To whom will you compare me or count me equal? To whom will you liken me that we may be compared? (*Is.46:5*)

For this is what the high and lofty One says — he who lives forever, whose name is holy: "I live in a high and holy place, but also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of

the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite. (Is.57:15)

The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" (Mt.21:9)

10 David praised the Lord in the presence of the whole assembly, saying, "Praise be to you, o Lord, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. 11 Yours, o Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendour, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, o Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. 12 Wealth and honour come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. 13 Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name." (1 Chr.29:10-13)

I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! (Dt.32:3)

How great you are, o sovereign Lord! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears. (2 Sa.7:22)

You alone are the Lord. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you. (Neh.9:6)

1 Praise the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. 2 Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness. 3 Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, 4 praise him with tambourine and dancing, praise him with the strings and flute, 5 praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. 6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. (Ps.150:1-6)

The Lord will reign for ever and ever. (Ex.15:18)

1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. 2 Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they

covered their feet, and with two they were flying. 3 And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." (Is.6:1-3)

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty." (Re.1:8)

9 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. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." (Re.7:9-10)

Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest! (Lk.19:38)

4 For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. 5 For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. 6 Splendour and majesty are before him; strength and glory are in his sanctuary. 7 Ascribe to the Lord, o families of nations, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. 8 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come into his courts. 9 Worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth. (Ps.96:4-9)

Praise the Lord. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who finds great delight in his commands. (Ps.112:1)

13 In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. 14 He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. (Dn.7:13-14)

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" (Jn.20:28)

4 Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. 5 Who

marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? 6 On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone — 7 while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy? (*Job 38:4-7*)

God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” (*Ex.3:14*)

See now that I myself am He! There is no god besides me. I put to death and I bring to life, I have wounded and I will heal, and no one can deliver out of my hand. (*Dt.32:39*)

Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. (*Is.46:9*)

1 Praise the Lord. Praise, o servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord. 2 Let the name of the Lord be praised, both now and forevermore. 3 From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised. 4 The Lord is exalted over all the nations, his glory above the heavens. 5 Who is like the Lord our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, 6 who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth? (*Ps.113:1-6*)

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance? (*Is.40:12*)

5 I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, 6 so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting men may know there is none besides me. I am the Lord, and there is no other. (*Is.45:5-6*)

11 Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. 12 In a loud voice they sang: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!” (*Re.5:11-12*)

For he received honour and glory from God the

Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” (*2 Pe.1:17*)

20 Fear the Lord your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name. 21 He is your praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes. (*Dt.10:20-21*)

Now therefore, o our God, the great, mighty and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love, do not let all this hardship seem trifling in your eyes — the hardship that has come upon us, upon our kings and leaders, upon our priests and prophets, upon our fathers and all your people, from the days of the kings of Assyria until today. (*Neh.9:32*)

4 For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does. 5 The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love. (*Ps. 33:4-5*)

11 One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard: that you, o God, are strong, 12 and that you, o Lord, are loving. Surely you will reward each person according to what he has done. (*Ps.62:11-12*)

1 Praise the Lord, o my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendour and majesty. 2 He wraps himself in light as with a garment; he stretches out the heavens like a tent 3 and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters. He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind. 4 He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants. 5 He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved.

6 You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains. 7 But at your rebuke the waters fled, at the sound of your thunder they took to flight; 8 they flowed over the mountains, they went down into the valleys, to the place you assigned for them. 23 Then man goes out to his work, to his labour until evening. (*Ps.104:1-8, 23*)

1 As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, o God. 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? (*Ps.42:1-2*)

My soul yearns for you in the night; in the morning my spirit longs for you. When your judgements come upon the earth, the people of the world learn righteousness. (*Is.26:9*)

Not to us, o Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness. (*Ps.115:1*)

Praise the Lord. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him! (*Ps.147:1*)

13 Who has understood the mind of the Lord, or instructed him as his counselor? 14 Whom did the Lord consult to enlighten him, and who taught him the right way? Who was it that taught him knowledge or showed him the path of understanding? 15 Surely the nations are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; he weighs the islands as though they were fine dust. 17 Before him all the nations are as nothing; they are regarded by him as worthless and less than nothing. 18 To whom, then, will you compare God? What image will you compare him to? (*Is.40:13-15, 17-18*)

But the Lord is the true God; he is the living God, the eternal King. When he is angry, the earth trembles; the nations cannot endure his wrath. (*Jer.10:10*)

How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; his dominion endures from generation to generation. (*Dn.4:3*)

25 "To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One. 26 "Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. 28 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." (*Is.40:25-26, 28*)

You, o Lord, reign forever; your throne endures from generation to generation. (*La.5:19*)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. (*Jn.1:1-2*)

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. (*1 Cor.8:6*)

31 Can you bind the beautiful Pleiades? Can you loose the cords of Orion? 32 Can you bring forth the constellations in their seasons or lead out the Bear with its cubs? 33 Do you know the laws of the heavens? Can you set up God's dominion over the earth? (*Job 38:31-33*)

I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted. (*Job 42:2*)

1 The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; 2 for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters. (*Ps.24:1-2*)

22 He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. 23 He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. (*Is.40:22-23*)

Listen to me, o Jacob, Israel, whom I have called: I am he; I am the first and I am the last. (*Is.48:12*)

The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, who is to be praised forever, knows that I am not lying. (*2 Cor.11:31*)

3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. 4 So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs. (*Heb.1:3-4*)

138 The statutes you have laid down are righteous; they are fully trustworthy. 142 Your righteousness is everlasting and your law is true. (*Ps.119:138, 142*)

1 My heart is steadfast, o God; I will sing and make music with all my soul. 2 Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn. 3 I will praise you, o Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples. (Ps.108:1-3)

1 Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise, in the city of our God, his holy mountain. 9 Within your temple, o God, we meditate on your unfailing love. 10 Like your name, o God, your praise reaches to the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with righteousness. (Ps.48:1, 9-10)

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker. (Ps.95:6)

5 The Lord, the Lord Almighty, he who touches the earth and it melts, and all who live in it mourn — the whole land rises like the Nile, then sinks like the river of Egypt — 6 he who builds his lofty palace in the heavens and sets its foundation on the earth, who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out over the face of the land — the Lord is his name. (Am.9:5-6)

Be still before the Lord, all mankind, because he has roused himself from his holy dwelling. (Zech.2:13)

1 The Lord reigns, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and is armed with strength. The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved. 2 Your throne was established long ago; you are from all eternity. 5 Your statutes stand firm; holiness adorns your house for endless days, o Lord. (Ps.93:1-2, 5)

Praise the Lord, o my soul. O Lord my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendour and majesty. (Ps.104:1)

7 The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. 8 They are steadfast for ever and ever, done in faithfulness and uprightness. 9 He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever — holy and awesome is his name. (Ps.111:7-9)

Your name, o Lord, endures forever, your renown, o Lord, through all generations. (Ps.135:13)

17 The decision is announced by messengers, the holy ones declare the verdict, so that the living

may know that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes and sets over them the lowliest of men. 34 At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honoured and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. 35 All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: “What have you done?” 37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble. (Dn.4:17, 34-35, 37)

3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men. (Jn.1:3-4)

To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. (Re.3:7)

1 Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. 2 Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord or fully declare his praise? (Ps.106:1-2)

Who endowed the heart with wisdom or gave understanding to the mind? (Job 38:36)

6 Your throne, o God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom. 7 You love righteousness and hate wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy. (Ps.45:6-7)

4 One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts. 5 They will speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty, and I will meditate on your wonderful works. 6 They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds. (Ps.145:4-6)

The Lord Almighty is the one you are to regard as holy, he is the one you are to fear, he is the one you are to dread. (*Is.8:13*)

He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure. (*Is.33:6*)

But God made the earth by his power; he founded the world by his wisdom and stretched out the heavens by his understanding. (*Jer.10:12*)

This is what the Lord says, he who appoints the sun to shine by day, who decrees the moon and stars to shine by night, who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar — the Lord Almighty is his name. (*Jer.31:35*)

O Lord, God of our fathers, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you. (*2 Chr.20: 6*)

I I will praise you, o Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonders. *2* I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing praise to your name, o Most High. (*Ps.9:1-2*)

Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him. (*Ps.33:1*)

Yes, Lord, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you; your name and renown are the desire of our hearts. (*Is.26:8*)

8 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. *9* “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” (*Is.55:8-9*)

I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me? (*Jer.32:27*)

9 As I looked, thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. *10* A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. (*Dn.7:9-10*)

And Hezekiah prayed to the Lord: “O Lord, God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.” (*2 Ki.19:15*)

He who forms the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals his thoughts to man, he who turns dawn to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth — the Lord God Almighty is his name. (*Am.4:13*)

I looked, and I saw the likeness of a throne of sapphire above the expanse that was over the heads of the cherubim. (*Ez.10:1*)

1 This is what the Lord says: “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house you will build for me? Where will my resting place be? *2* Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?” declares the Lord. “This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.” (*Is.66:1-2*)

My own hand laid the foundations of the earth, and my right hand spread out the heavens; when I summon them, they all stand up together. (*Is.48:13*)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. (*Eph.1:3*)

3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, *4* who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, *5* to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (*Ga.1:3-5*)

1 How lovely is your dwelling place, o Lord Almighty! *2* My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. (*Ps.84:1-2*)

Your righteousness reaches to the skies, o God, you who have done great things. Who, o God, is like you? (*Ps.71:19*)

After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward.” (*Gn.15:1*)

30 As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him. 31 For who is God besides the Lord? And who is the Rock except our God? (Ps.18:30-31)

13 Who appointed him over the earth? Who put him in charge of the whole world? 14 If it were his intention and he withdrew his spirit and breath, 15 all mankind would perish together and man would return to the dust. (Job.34:13-15)

10 for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. 11 I know every bird in the mountains, and the creatures of the field are mine. (Ps.50:10-11)

1 I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips. 2 My soul will boast in the Lord; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. 3 Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together. (Ps.34:1-3)

But the Lord has become my fortress, and my God the rock in whom I take refuge. (Ps.94:22)

6 Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready." 9 Then the angel said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!'" And he added, "These are the true words of God." (Re.19:6-7, 9)

I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star. (Re.22:16)

I will praise you with an upright heart as I learn your righteous laws. (Ps.119:7)

5 Praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. 6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. (Ps.135:5-6)

This is the word of the Lord concerning Israel. The Lord, who stretches out the heavens, who lays the foundation of the earth, and who forms

the spirit of man within him, declares. (Zech.12:1)

May the Lord, the God of the spirits of all mankind, appoint a man over this community. (Nm.27:16)

Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son." (Gn.18:14)

20 Where then does wisdom come from? Where does understanding dwell? 21 It is hidden from the eyes of every living thing, concealed even from the birds of the air. 22 Destruction and Death say, "Only a rumour of it has reached our ears." 23 God understands the way to it and he alone knows where it dwells, 24 for he views the ends of the earth and sees everything under the heavens. (Job 28:20-24)

"You are my witnesses," declares the Lord, "and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me." (Is.43:10)

This is what the Lord says — Israel's King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty: "I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God." (Is.44:6)

9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. 10 In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering.(Heb.2:9-10)

On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. (Re.19:16)

But the Lord Almighty will be exalted by his justice, and the holy God will show himself holy by his righteousness. (Is.5:16)

Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! (Is.30:18)

For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God. (*Dt.4:24*)

Micaiah continued, “Therefore hear the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on his throne with all the host of heaven standing around him on his right and on his left.” (*1 Ki.22:19*)

But will God really dwell on earth with men? The heavens, even the highest heavens, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built! (*2 Chr.6:18*)

Then my soul will rejoice in the Lord and delight in his salvation. (*Ps.35:9*)

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. (*Ps.63:1*)

1 Shout with joy to God, all the earth! 2 Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious! 3 Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you. 4 All the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you, they sing praise to your name.” *Selah* (*Ps.66:1-4*)

My mouth is filled with your praise, declaring your splendour all day long. (*Ps.71:8*)

Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his holy mountain, for the Lord our God is holy. (*Ps.99:9*)

8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him. 9 Fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing. (*Ps.34:8-9*)

6 The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. 8 The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. (*Ps.103:6, 8*)

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you. (*Ps.89:14*)

6 Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep. O Lord, you preserve both man and beast. 7 How priceless is your unfailing love! Both high and low among men

find refuge in the shadow of your wings. 9 For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. (*Ps.36:6-7, 9*)

I will praise God’s name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving. (*Ps.69:30*)

The Lord is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him. (*Ps.92:16*)

4 Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always. 5 Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgements he pronounced. (*Ps.105:4-5*)

Better the little that the righteous have than the wealth of many wicked. (*Ps.37:16*)

The Mighty One, God, the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to the place where it sets. (*Ps.50:1*)

Whoever is wise, let him heed these things and consider the great love of the Lord. (*Ps.107:43*)

All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal. (*Ps.119:160*)

Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. (*Ex.3:6*)

O sovereign Lord, you are God! Your words are trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant. (*2 Sa.7:28*)

I will sing of your love and justice; to you, o Lord, I will sing praise. (*Ps.101:1*)

All this also comes from the Lord Almighty, wonderful in counsel and magnificent in wisdom. (*Is.28:29*)

11 I, even I, am the Lord, and apart from me there is no Saviour. 13 Yes, and from ancient days I am he. No one can deliver out of my hand. When I act, who can reverse it? (*Is.43:11, 13*)

This is what the Lord says — your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb: I am the Lord, who has made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself. (*Is.44:24*)

“Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honour and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!” (*Re.7:12*)

7 They will celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness. 8 The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. 9 The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. (*Ps.145:7-9*)

Our Redeemer — the Lord Almighty is his name — is the Holy One of Israel. (*Is.47:4*)

I the Lord do not change. So you, o descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. (*Mal.3:6*)

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. (*1 Jn.1:5*)

He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgement has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.” (*Re.14:7*)

But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built! (*1 Ki.8:27*)

God’s voice thunders in marvelous ways; he does great things beyond our understanding. (*Job 37:5*)

I Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, o my soul. 2 I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. (*Ps.146:1-2*)

My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever. (*Ps.145:21*)

To God belong wisdom and power; counsel and understanding are his. (*Job 12:13*)

In you our fathers put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them. (*Ps.22:4*)

But you, o Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. (*Ps.86:15*)

My flesh trembles in fear of you; I stand in awe of your laws. (*Ps.119:120*)

The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made. (*Ps.145:17*)

I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. (*Is.46:10*)

Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night they never stop saying: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.” (*Re.4:8*)

Then a voice came from the throne, saying: “Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, both small and great!” (*Re.19:5*)

22 He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. 23 He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. (*Is.40:22-23*)

Listen to me, o Jacob, Israel, whom I have called: I am he; I am the first and I am the last. (*Is.48:12*)

Scriptures for Humiliation and Repentance

The Lord is in his holy temple; the Lord is on his heavenly throne. He observes the sons of men; his eyes examine them. (*Ps.11:4*)

7 Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? 8 If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. 9 Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live! (*He.12:7-9*)

Lord, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, o Lord. Renew them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy. (*Hab.3:2*)

14 Save me from bloodguilt, o God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, o God, you will not despise. (*Ps.51:14-17*)

21 His eyes are on the ways of men; he sees their every step. 22 There is no dark place, no deep shadow, where evildoers can hide. 23 God has no need to examine men further, that they should come before him for judgement. (*Job 34:21-23*)

If you return to the Lord, then your brothers and your children will be shown compassion by their captors and will come back to this land, for the Lord your God is gracious and compassionate. He will not turn his face from you if you return to him. (*2 Chr.30:9*)

17 Now may the Lord's strength be displayed, just as you have declared: 18 The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin and rebellion. Yet He does not leave the guilty unpunished; He punishes the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation. (*Nm.14:17-18*)

You are not a God who takes pleasure in evil; with you the wicked cannot dwell. (*Ps.5:4*)

He forms the hearts of all, He considers everything they do. (*Ps.33:15*)

9 He will not always accuse, nor will he harbour his anger forever; 10 He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; 12 as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. 13 As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him. (*Ps.103:9-13*)

“Your wickedness will punish you; your backsliding will rebuke you. Consider then and realise how evil and bitter it is for you when you forsake the Lord your God and have no awe of me,” declares the Lord, the Lord Almighty. (*Jer.2:19*)

To fear the Lord is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behaviour and perverse speech. (*Pr.8:13*)

I said, “O Lord, have mercy on me; heal me, for I have sinned against You.” (*Ps.41:4*)

Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. (*Re.3:19*)

Take words with you and return to the Lord. Say to Him: “Forgive all our sins and receive us graciously, that we may offer the fruit of our lips.” (*Hos.14:2*)

12 For our offenses are many in your sight, and our sins testify against us. Our offenses are ever with us, and we acknowledge our iniquities: 13 rebellion and treachery against the Lord, turning our backs on our God, fomenting oppression and revolt, uttering lies our hearts have conceived. (*Is.59:12-13*)

We have sinned, even as our fathers did; we have done wrong and acted wickedly. (*Ps.106:6*)

1 O Lord, do not rebuke me in Your anger or discipline me in Your wrath. 2 For Your arrows have pierced me, and Your hand has come down upon me. 3 Because of Your wrath there is no health in my body; my bones have no soundness because of my sin. 4 My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear. (*Ps.38:1-4*)

21 Then Peter came to Jesus and asked: "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?" 22 Jesus answered: "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times." (*Mt.18:21-22*)

Heal me, o Lord, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise. (*Jer.17:14*)

I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more. (*Is.43:25*)

The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good. (*Pr.15:3*)

18 I confess my iniquity; I am troubled by my sin. 21 O Lord, do not forsake me; be not far from me, o my God. 22 Come quickly to help me, o Lord my Saviour. (*Ps.38:18, 21-22*)

3 Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? 4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false. (*Ps.24:3-4*)

In all that has happened to us, You have been just; you have acted faithfully, while we did wrong. (*Neh.9:33*)

But if you fail to do this, you will be sinning against the Lord; and you may be sure that your sin will find you out. (*Nm.32:23*)

7 For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with deep compassion I will bring you back. 8 In a surge of anger I hid my face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you," says the Lord your Redeemer. (*Is.54:7-8*)

7 When my life was ebbing away, I remembered you, Lord, and my prayer rose to You, to Your holy temple. 8 Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs. 9 But I, with

a song of thanksgiving, will sacrifice to You. What I have vowed I will make good. Salvation comes from the Lord. (*Jn.2:7-9*)

5 And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when He rebukes you, 6 because the Lord disciplines those He loves, and He punishes everyone He accepts as a son." (*He.12:5-6*)

21 For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, 22 greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. 23 All these evils come from inside and make a man "unclean." (*Mk.7:21-23*)

33 When Your people Israel have been defeated by an enemy because they have sinned against You, and when they turn back to You and confess Your name, praying and making supplication to You in this temple, 34 then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of Your people Israel and bring them back to the land You gave to their fathers. 36 Then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your servants, Your people Israel. Teach them the right way to live, and send rain on the land you gave Your people for an inheritance. 46 When they sin against You - for there is no one who does not sin -and You become angry with them and give them over to the enemy, who takes them captive to his own land, far away or near; 48 and if they turn back to You with all their heart and soul in the land of their enemies who took them captive, and pray to You toward the land You gave their fathers, toward the city You have chosen and the temple I have built for your Name; 49 then from heaven, Your dwelling place, hear their prayer and their plea, and uphold their cause. (*1 Ki.8:33-34, 36, 46, 48-49*)

His wisdom is profound, his power is vast. Who has resisted him and come out unscathed? (*Job 9:4*)

My shield is God Most High, who saves the upright in heart. (*Ps.7:10*)

The lamp of the Lord searches the spirit of a man; it searches out his inmost being. (*Pr.20:27*)

You have set our iniquities before You, our secret

sins in the light of your presence. (*Ps.90:8*)

Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the word of his servant? Let him who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God. (*Is.50:10*)

Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. (*Mt.3:8*)

He prayed to the Lord: “O Lord, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.” (*Jn.4:2*)

23 I know, o Lord, that a man’s life is not his own; it is not for man to direct his steps. 24 Correct me, Lord, but only with justice — not in Your anger, lest You reduce me to nothing. (*Jer.10:23-24*)

The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but the Lord tests the heart. (*Pr.17:3*)

For a man’s ways are in full view of the Lord, and he examines all his paths. (*Pr.5:21*)

Blessed is the man You discipline, o Lord, the man You teach from your law. (*Ps.94:12*)

12 Who can discern his errors? Forgive my hidden faults. 13 Keep Your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then will I be blameless, innocent of great transgression. (*Ps.19:12*)

2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. 4 Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are proved right when You speak and justified when You judge. 5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. (*Ps.51:2-5*)

8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we claim we have not sinned, we make Him out to be a liar and His word has no place in our lives. (*1 Jn.1:8-10*)

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it. (*1 Cor.10:13*)

I will cleanse them from all the sin they have committed against Me and will forgive all their sins of rebellion against Me. (*Jer.33:8*)

Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him, and to our God, for He will freely pardon. (*Is.55:7*)

23 Search me, o God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. 24 See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. (*Ps.139:23-24*)

9 Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. 10 Create in me a pure heart, o God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. 13 Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will turn back to You. 14 Save me from bloodguilt, o God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of Your righteousness. 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. (*Ps.51:9-15*)

4 Sing to the Lord, you saints of His; praise His holy name. 5 For His anger lasts only a moment, but His favour lasts a lifetime; weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning. (*Ps.30:4-5*)

5 Then I said: “O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant of love with those who love Him and obey His commands, 6 let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open to hear the prayer Your servant is praying before You day and night for Your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father’s house, have committed against You. (*Neh.1:5-6*)

22 But Samuel replied: “Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of

rams. 23 For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has rejected you as king.” (*1 Sa.15:22-23*)

5 “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.” (*Is.6:5*)

9 The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? 10 I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve. (*Jer.17:9-10*)

12 “Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to Me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. 13 Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and He relents from sending calamity.” (*Joel 2:12-13*)

10 Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. 11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. 12 Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. 13 Make level paths for your feet, so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed. (*He.12:10-13*)

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. (*Ps.51:7*)

1 Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. 2 Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit. 3 When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. 4 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to You and did not cover up my iniquity. I said: “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord” — and You forgave the guilt of my sin. (*Ps.32:1-5*)

Does he not see my ways and count my every step? (*Job 31:4*)

5 Guide me in Your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in You all day long. 6 Remember, o Lord, Your great mercy and love, for they are from of old. (*Ps.25:5-6*)

All a man’s ways seem right to him, but the Lord weighs the heart. (*Pr.21:2*)

“Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.” (*Is.1:18*)

1 Come, let us return to the Lord. He has torn us to pieces but He will heal us; He has injured us but He will bind up our wounds. 2 After two days He will revive us; on the third day He will restore us, that we may live in His presence. (*Hos.6:1-2*)

6 If we claim to have fellowship with Him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. 7 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. (*1 Jn.1:6-7*)

Death and Destruction lie open before the Lord — how much more the hearts of men! (*Pr.15:11*)

5 You know my folly, o God; my guilt is not hidden from You. 6 May those who hope in You not be disgraced because of me, o Lord, the Lord Almighty; may those who seek You not be put to shame because of me, o God of Israel. (*Ps.69:5-6*)

Can a mortal be more righteous than God? Can a man be more pure than his Maker? (*Job 4:17*)

Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the Lord your God disciplines you. (*Dt.8:5*)

16 There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to Him: 17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, 18 a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, 19 a false witness who pours out lies and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers. (*Pr.6:16-19*)

This is what the sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel, says: “In repentance and rest is your

salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. (*Is.30:15*)

18 Who is a God like You, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. 19 You will again have compassion on us; You will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea. (*Mic.7:18-19*)

Before his downfall a man's heart is proud, but humility comes before honour. (*Pr.18:12*)

1 My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense — Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. 2 He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. (*1 Jn.2:1-2*)

“What can we say to my Lord?” Judah replied. “What can we say? How can we prove our innocence? God has uncovered your servants' guilt. We are now my Lord's slaves — we ourselves and the one who was found to have the cup.” (*Gn.44:16*)

10 All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful for those who keep the demands of His covenant. 11 For the sake of Your name, o Lord, forgive my iniquity, though it is great. (*Ps.25:10-11*)

Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall. (*Pr.16:18*)

I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you.” (*Is.44:22*)

“Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?” declares the Lord. “This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at My word. (*Is.66:2*)

3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. 4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. 5 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. 6 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. (*Is.53:3-6*)

All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the Lord. (*Pr.16:2*)

1 Out of the depths I cry to You, o Lord; 2 o Lord, hear my voice. Let Your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. 3 If You, o Lord, kept a record of sins, o Lord, who could stand? 4 But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared. (*Ps.130:1-4*)

5 My ears had heard of You but now my eyes have seen You. 6 Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes. (*Job 42:5-6*)

1 O Lord, do not rebuke me in Your anger or discipline me in Your wrath. 2 Be merciful to me, Lord, for I am faint; o Lord, heal me, for my bones are in agony. 3 My soul is in anguish. How long, o Lord, how long? (*Ps.6:1-3*)

O my God, I am too ashamed and disgraced to lift up my face to You, my God, because our sins are higher than our heads and our guilt has reached to the heavens. (*Ezr.9:6*)

17 What is man that You make so much of him, that You give him so much attention, 18 that You examine him every morning and test him every moment? (*Job 7:17-18*)

8 Good and upright is the Lord; therefore He instructs sinners in his ways. 9 He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them His way. (*Ps.25:8-9*)

David was conscience-stricken after he had counted the fighting men, and he said to the Lord: “I have sinned greatly in what I have done. Now, o Lord, I beg You, take away the guilt of your servant. I have done a very foolish thing.” (*2 Sa.24:10*)

Achan replied: “It is true! I have sinned against the Lord, the God of Israel. This is what I have done. (*Jos.7:20*)

You deserted the Rock, who fathered you; you forgot the God who gave you birth. (*Dt.32:18*)

But the Lord said to Samuel: "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the

Lord looks at the heart." (*1 Sa.16:7*)

He said to Moses: "Please, my Lord, do not hold against us the sin we have so foolishly committed." (*Nm.12:11*)

Scriptures for Personal Renewal/Revival

And now, o Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. (*Dt.10:12*)

12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13 Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. (*Php.3:12-14*)

He must become greater; I must become less. (*Jn.3:30*)

1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. (*Jn.15:1-2, 4*)

20 “Do not be afraid,” Samuel replied. “You have done all this evil; yet do not turn away from the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart. 21 Do not turn away after useless idols. They can do you no good, nor can they rescue you, because they are useless.” (*1 Sa.12:20-21*)

19 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. (*Ga.5:19-23*)

3 Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. 4 Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.

5 Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: 6 He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun. 7 Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes. (*Ps.37:3-7*)

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. (*1 Cor.6:18*)

6 Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. 7 Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: “The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry.” 8 We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did — and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. (*1 Cor.10:6-8*)

1 Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. 2 He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord and walked in the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left. 27 Because your heart was responsive and you humbled yourself before God when you heard what he spoke against this place and its people, and because you humbled yourself before me and tore your robes and wept in my presence, I have heard you, declares the Lord. (*2 Chr.34:1-2, 27*)

But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed. (*Lk.5:16*)

When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honour. (*Ac.19:17*)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God — this is your spiritual act of worship. (*Rm.12:1*)

Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him away. (*Gn.5:24*)

But Noah found favour in the eyes of the Lord. (*Gn.6:8*)

1 The word of the Lord came to me: *13* “My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water. (*Jer.2:1, 13*)

Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess. (*Heb.3:1*)

Now let the fear of the Lord be upon you. Judge carefully, for with the Lord our God there is no injustice or partiality or bribery. (*2 Chr.19:7*)

15 I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. *16* I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word. *17* Do good to your servant, and I will live; I will obey your word. *18* Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law. (*Ps.119:15-18*)

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. *7* And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (*Php.4:6-7*)

Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. (*1 Pe.1:13*)

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable. (*Lk.18:9*)

25 Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? *26* Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? *27* Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? *28* And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. *29* Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his

splendour was dressed like one of these. *30* If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, o you of little faith? *31* So do not worry, saying, “What shall we eat?” or “What shall we drink?” or “What shall we wear?” *32* For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. *33* But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (*Mt.6:25-33*)

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.” (*Mk.8:33*)

He gave them these orders: “You must serve faithfully and wholeheartedly in the fear of the Lord.” (*2 Chr.19:9*)

Teach me your way, o Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. (*Ps.86:11*)

29 “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, o Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. *30* Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ *31* The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” *33* To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.” (*Mk.12:29-31, 33*)

16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, *17* so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, *18* may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, *19* and to know this love that surpasses knowledge — that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. (*Eph.3:16-19*)

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone. (*1 Tim.2:1*)

But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him

faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you. (*1 Sa.12:24*)

Then the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah son of Jehoiada the priest. He stood before the people and said, "This is what God says: 'Why do you disobey the Lord's commands? You will not prosper. Because you have forsaken the Lord, he has forsaken you.'" (*2 Chr.24:20*)

14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." (*1 Pe.1:14-16*)

44 I am the Lord your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy. Do not make yourselves unclean by any creature that moves about on the ground. 45 I am the Lord who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy. (*Lev.11:44-45*)

1 The descendants of Judah: Perez, Hezron, Carmi, Hur and Shobal. 2 Reaiah son of Shobal was the father of Jahath, and Jahath the father of Ahumai and Lahad. These were the clans of the Zorathites. (*1 Cor.4:1-2*)

9 People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. 11 But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. (*1 Tim.6:9-11*)

The Lord says: "These people come near to me with their mouth and honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is made up only of rules taught by men." (*Is.29:13*)

46 "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? 47 I will show you what he is like who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice. 48 He is like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well

built. (*Lk.6:46-48*)

Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. (*1 Pe.1:17*)

Observe the commands of the Lord your God, walking in his ways and revering him. (*Dt.8:6*)

37 Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." (*Mt.22:37-40*)

18 Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. 19 This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence 20 whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. 21 Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God 22 and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. (*1 Jn.3:18-22*)

He said, "If you listen carefully to the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, who heals you." (*Ex.15:26*)

3 Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. (*Rm.5:3-5*)

I put in charge of Jerusalem my brother Hanani, along with Hananiah the commander of the citadel, because he was a man of integrity and feared God more than most men do. (*Neh.7:2*)

15 and I have the same hope in God as these men, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked. 16 So I strive always to

keep my conscience clear before God and man. (Ac.24:15-16)

57 May the Lord our God be with us as he was with our fathers; may he never leave us nor forsake us. 58 May he turn our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways and to keep the commands, decrees and regulations he gave our fathers. 60 so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God and that there is no other. 61 But your hearts must be fully committed to the Lord our God, to live by his decrees and obey his commands, as at this time.” (1 Ki.8:57-58, 60-61)

Hear me, you who know what is right, you people who have my law in your hearts: Do not fear the reproach of men or be terrified by their insults. (Is.51:7)

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. (Jn.15:7)

Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. (Jn.16:24)

16 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. (Ga.5:16-18)

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will. (Rm.12:2)

17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. 18 I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength. (Eph.1:17-19)

In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name

was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil. (Job 1:1)

1 I will sing of your love and justice; to you, o Lord, I will sing praise. 2 I will be careful to lead a blameless life — when will you come to me? I will walk in my house with blameless heart. 3 I will set before my eyes no vile thing. The deeds of faithless men I hate; they will not cling to me. (Ps.101:1-3)

13 You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. 14 You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. (Mt.5:13-16)

1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. 2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. (Eph.4:1-2)

Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. (Ecc.12:13)

34 Give me understanding, and I will keep your law and obey it with all my heart. 35 Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight. 36 Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain. 37 Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word. (Ps.119:34-37)

12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. 13 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. (Rm.6:12-13)

Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. (Jas.1:21)

This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God. (*Gn.6:9*)

Moses did everything just as the Lord commanded him. (*Ex.40:16*)

1 Vindicate me, o Lord, for I have led a blameless life; I have trusted in the Lord without wavering. *2* Test me, o Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind. (*Ps.26:1-2*)

Sow for yourselves righteousness, reap the fruit of unfailing love, and break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, until he comes and showers righteousness on you. (*Hos.10:12*)

22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; *23* to be made new in the attitude of your minds; *24* and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. (*Eph.4:22-24*)

5 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; *6* and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; *7* and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. *8* For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (*2 Pe.1:5-8*)

12 Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses. *13* In the sight of God, who gives life to everything, and of Christ Jesus, who while testifying before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you *14* to keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, *15* which God will bring about in his own time — God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords. (*1 Tim.6:12-15*)

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. (*2 Tim.2:15*)

4 You must obey my laws and be careful to follow my decrees. I am the Lord your God. *5* Keep my decrees and laws, for the man who obeys them will live by them. I am the Lord. (*Lev.18:4-5*)

If you fear the Lord and serve and obey him and do not rebel against his commands, and if both you and the king who reigns over you follow the Lord your God — good! (*1 Sa.12:14*)

Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. (*Ps.90:12*)

25 Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you. *26* Make level paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm. *27* Do not swerve to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil. (*Pr.4:25-27*)

Apply your heart to instruction and your ears to words of knowledge. (*Pr.23:12*)

Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak. (*Mt.26:41*)

20 The one who received the seed that fell on rocky places is the man who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. *21* But since he has no root, he lasts only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away. *22* The one who received the seed that fell among the thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke it, making it unfruitful. *23* But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. (*Mt.13:20-23*)

1 My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, *2* turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, *3* and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, *4* and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, *5* then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. *9* Then you will understand what is right and just and fair — every good path. *10* For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul. *11*

Discretion will protect you, and understanding will guard you. (*Pr.2:1-5, 9-11*)

And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for the Lord searches every heart and understands every motive behind the thoughts. If you seek him, he will be found by you; but if you forsake him, he will reject you forever. (*1 Chr.28:9*)

1 Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children 2 and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. (*Eph.5: 1-2*)

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. (*Ga.5:25*)

9 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. 10 And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, 11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully. (*Col.1:9-11*)

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless. (*Gn.17:1*)

35 But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. 36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. (*Lk.6:35-36*)

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. (*1 Cor.13:4-8*)

9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ — to the glory and praise of God. (*Php.1:9-11*)

Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval. (*Jn.6:27*)

7 But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. (*Php.3:7-9*)

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground. (*Ps.143:10*)

Listen to advice and accept instruction, and in the end you will be wise. (*Pr.19:20*)

You shall have no other gods before me. (*Ex.20:3*)

You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. (*Dt.5:8*)

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. (*Ex.20:7*)

Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the Lord your God is giving you. (*Dt.5:16*)

You shall not murder. (*Ex.20:13*)

You shall not commit adultery. (*Dt.5:18*)

You shall not steal. (*Ex.20:15*)

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour. (*Dt.5:20*)

You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour. (*Ex.20:17*)

3 Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. (*Mt.5:3-5*)

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. (*Mt.5:6*)

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. (*Mt.5:7*)

8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. (*Mt.5:8-9*)

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (*Mt.5:10-12*)

Both of them were upright in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commandments and regulations blamelessly. (*Lk.1:6*)

27 But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. 31 Do to others as you would have them do to you. (*Lk.6:27-28, 31*)

I put this in human terms because you are weak in your natural selves. Just as you used to offer the parts of your body in slavery to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer them in slavery to righteousness leading to holiness. (*Rm.6:19*)

5 Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6 The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind

controlled by the Spirit is life and peace. (*Rm.8:5-6*)

31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. (*Eph.4:31-32*)

14 Do everything without complaining or arguing, 15 so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe 16 as you hold out the word of life — in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labour for nothing. (*Php.2:14-16*)

If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favour with you. Remember that this nation is your people. (*Ex.33:13*)

7 Consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am the Lord your God. 8 Keep my decrees and follow them. I am the Lord, who makes you holy. (*Lev.20:7-8*)

Do not profane my holy name. I must be acknowledged as holy by the Israelites. I am the Lord, who makes you holy. (*Lev.22:32*)

4 Hear, o Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. (*Dt.6:4-5*)

21 My son, preserve sound judgement and discernment, do not let them out of your sight; 22 they will be life for you, an ornament to grace your neck. (*Pr.3:21-22*)

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. (*Jos.1:8*)

4 I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. 5 But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him. (*Lk.12:4-5*)

Fear the Lord your God, serve him only and take your oaths in his name. (*Dt.6:13*)

But be very careful to keep the commandment and the law that Moses the servant of the Lord gave you: to love the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to obey his commands, to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and all your soul. (*Jos.22:5*)

1 Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem thirty-one years. His mother's name was Jedidah daughter of Adaiah; she was from Bozkath. 2 He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord and walked in all the ways of his father David, not turning aside to the right or to the left. (*2 Ki.22:1-2*)

Neither before nor after Josiah was there a king like him who turned to the Lord as he did — with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength, in accordance with all the Law of Moses. (*2 Ki.23:25*)

16 These are the things you are to do: Speak the truth to each other, and render true and sound judgement in your courts; 17 do not plot evil against your neighbour, and do not love to swear falsely. I hate all this," declares the Lord. (*Zech.8:16-17*)

Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. (*Mt.6:1*)

Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. (*Mt.10:28*)

11 And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. 12 The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. (*Rm.13:11-12*)

3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish

strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. (*2 Cor.10:3-5*)

3 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. 4 Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. (*Eph.5: 3-4*)

8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things. 9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me — put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you. (*Php.4:8-9*)

You are to be holy to me because I, the Lord, am holy, and I have set you apart from the nations to be my own. (*Lev.20:26*)

Remember the day you stood before the Lord your God at Horeb, when he said to me, "Assemble the people before me to hear my words so that they may learn to revere me as long as they live in the land and may teach them to their children." (*Dt.4:10*)

Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. (*Dt.8:11*)

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. (*Eph.6:10-11*)

But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. (*1 Th.5:8*)

16 Be joyful always; 17 pray continually; 18 give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (*1 Th.5:16-18*)

10 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, *11* and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. (*Php.3:10-11*)

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. *23* Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror *24* and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. *25* But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it — he will be blessed in what he does. (*Jas.1:22-25*)

Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. (*1 Pe.1:22*)

Keep all my decrees and all my laws and follow them. I am the Lord. (*Lev.19:37*)

Do not show partiality in judging; hear both small and great alike. Do not be afraid of any man, for judgement belongs to God. Bring me any case too hard for you, and I will hear it. (*Dt.1:17*)

Solomon asked the Lord: *10* “Give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may lead this people, for who is able to govern this great people of yours?” *11* God said to Solomon, “Since this is your heart’s desire and you have not asked for wealth, riches or honour, nor for the death of your enemies, and since you have not asked for a long life but for wisdom and knowledge to govern my people over whom I have made you king, *12* therefore wisdom and knowledge will be given you. And I will also give you wealth, riches and honour, such as no king who was before you ever had and none after you will have.” (*2 Chr.1:10-12*)

41 “Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, *42* but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.” (*Lk.10:41-42*)

So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, “We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.” (*Lk.17:10*)

As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can

work. (*Jn.9:4*)

1 As God’s fellow workers we urge you not to receive God’s grace in vain. *2* For he says, “In the time of my favour I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you.” I tell you, now is the time of God’s favour, now is the day of salvation. (*2 Cor.6:1-2*)

May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones. (*1 Th.3:13*)

6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. *7* These have come so that your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire — may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. (*1 Pe.1:6-7*)

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare. *11* Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives *12* as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. *13* But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. *14* So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him. (*2 Pe.3:10-14*)

Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the Lord his God. (*2 Chr.14:2*)

His heart was devoted to the ways of the Lord; furthermore, he removed the high places and the Asherah poles from Judah. (*2 Chr.17:6*)

Then he 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.” (*Lk.12:15*)

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has

said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” (*Heb.13:5*)

9 The Lord became angry with Solomon because his heart had turned away from the Lord, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice. 10 Although he had forbidden Solomon to follow other gods, Solomon did not keep the Lord’s command. (*1 Ki.11: 9-10*)

20 This is what Hezekiah did throughout Judah, doing what was good and right and faithful before the Lord his God. 21 In everything that he undertook in the service of God’s temple and in obedience to the law and the commands, he sought his God and worked wholeheartedly. And so he prospered. (*2 Chr.31:20-21*)

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. (*Jn.14:1*)

9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 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. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. (*Jn.15:9-11*)

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. (*Ga.6:14*)

13 Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. 14 Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature. (*Rm.13:13-14*)

Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God. (*2 Cor.7:1*)

12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 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. (*Eph.6:12-13*)

1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. (*Col.3:1-4*)

But after Uzziah became powerful, his pride led to his downfall. He was unfaithful to the Lord his God, and entered the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense. (*2 Chr.26:16*)

12 Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, 13 and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, 14 then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 17 You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” (*Dt.8:12-14, 17*)

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (*Col.3:17*)

And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming. (*1 Jn.2:28*)

Stop trusting in man, who has but a breath in his nostrils. Of what account is he? (*Is.2:22*)

But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not trust in me enough to honour me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them.” (*Nm.20:12*)

So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today — to love the Lord your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul. (*Dt.11:13*)

“If you do not listen, and if you do not set your heart to honour my name,” says the Lord Almighty, “I will send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them, because you have not set your heart to honour me.” (*Mal.2:2*)

Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’” (*Mt.4:10*)

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. (*Ga.6:9*)

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (*Eph.4:30*)

12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed — not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence — continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. (*Php.2:12-13*)

If you do not carefully follow all the words of this law, which are written in this book, and do not revere this glorious and awesome name — the Lord your God. (*Dt.28:58*)

Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice with trembling. (*Ps.2:11*)

My son, give me your heart and let your eyes keep to my ways, (*Pr.23:26*)

8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. 10 The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. 11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. (*Rm.6:8-11*)

Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? (*Ga.3:3*)

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. (*Eph.4:29*)

For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. (*1 Pe.1:23*)

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all

deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. (*1 Pe.2:1*)

4 On the contrary, we speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts. 6 We were not looking for praise from men, not from you or anyone else. As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you. (*1 Th.2:4, 6*)

8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. (*1 Pe.5:8-9*)

14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 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. (*Eph.6:14-18*)

5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross! (*Php.2:5-8*)

For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. (*Php.2:21*)

Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. (*2 Tim.2:22*)

23 Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. 24 And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. (*2 Tim.2:23-24*)

1 My son, keep my words and store up my commands within you. 2 Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye. 3 Bind them on your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart. 4 Say to wisdom, "You are my sister," and call understanding your kinsman. (*Pr.7:1-4*)

If you carefully observe all these commands I am giving you to follow — to love the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways and to hold fast to him. (*Dt.11:22*)

But you must return to your God; maintain love and justice, and wait for your God always. (*Hos.12:6*)

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (*Mt.4:4*)

But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. (*Mt.5:44*)

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. (*Mt.7:12*)

His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' (*Mt.25:21*)

For they loved praise from men more than praise from God. (*Jn.12:43*)

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her. (*Lk.1:38*)

But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. (*Jas.1:6*)

Encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory. (*1 Th.2:12*)

13 For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, 14 because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. (*Rm.8:13-14*)

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life. (*Pr.4:23*)

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. (*Mt.6:34*)

So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him. (*Mt.24:44*)

Apostolic Prayers from the books Acts to Jude

The following is a list of prayers by the apostles in the new Testament, excluding Revelation. These prayers gives us an idea what the apostles prayed for. Note that there are no "negative" elements in these prayers. When we start using these Scriptures as basis for our prayers, we will learn to pray like the apostles. Use these prayers to pray for the community, the country and the nations.

23 On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. 24 When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. 25 You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: 'Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? 26 The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One.' 27 Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. 28 They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. 29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. 30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." 31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. (Ac.4:23-31)

55 But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God." 57 At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, 58 dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59 While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 60 Then he fell on his knees and cried out: "Lord, do not hold this sin against

them." When he had said this, he died. (Ac.7:55-60)

8 First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. 9 God, whom I serve with my whole heart in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you 10 in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you. 11 I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong. (Rm.1:8-11)

1 Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. 2 For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. 3 Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. 4 Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. (Rm.10:1-4)

33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgements, and his paths beyond tracing out! 34 Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counsellor? 35 Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him? 36 For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen. (Rm.11:33-36)

5 May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, 6 so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7 Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. (Rm.15:5-7)

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. (Rm.15:13)

30 I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me. 31 Pray that I

may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea and that my service in Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints there, ³² so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and together with you be refreshed. ³³ The God of peace be with you all. Amen. (*Rm.15:30-33*)

The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you! (*Rm.16:20*)

²⁵ Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, ²⁶ but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him — ²⁷ to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen. (*Rm.16:25-27*)

⁴ I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵ For in him you have been enriched in every way — in all your speaking and in all your knowledge — ⁶ because our testimony about Christ was confirmed in you. ⁷ Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ⁸ He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. (*1 Cor.1:4-8*)

But eagerly desire the greater gifts. (*1 Cor.12:31*)

Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy. (*1 Cor.14:1*)

Therefore, my brothers, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. (*1 Cor.14:39*)

²² If anyone does not love the Lord — a curse be on him. Come, o Lord! ²³ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. ²⁴ My love to all of you in Christ Jesus. Amen. (*1 Cor.16:22-24*)

² Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, ⁴ 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. ⁵ For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives,

so also through Christ our comfort overflows. (*2 Cor.1:2-5*)

¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. (*2 Cor.9:10-11*)

⁷ Now we pray to God that you will not do anything wrong. Not that people will see that we have stood the test but that you will do what is right even though we may seem to have failed. (*2 Cor.13:7*)

We are glad whenever we are weak but you are strong; and our prayer is for your perfection. (*2 Cor.13:9*)

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (*2 Cor.13:14*)

My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you. (*Ga.4:19*)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. (*Eph.1:3*)

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, ²⁰ which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the

church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way. (*Eph.1:15-23*)

14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge — that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. 20 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, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (*Eph.3:14-21*)

18 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. 19 Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should. (*Eph.6:18-20*)

23 Peace to the brothers, and love with faith from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love. (*Eph.6:23-24*)

2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. 7 It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart; for whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. (*Php.1:2-7*)

9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10 so that you may be able to discern

what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ — to the glory and praise of God. (*Php.1:9-11*)

The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (*Php.4:6-7*)

19 And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. 20 To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever! Amen. 23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. (*Php.4:19-20, 23*)

2 To the holy and faithful brothers in Christ at Colosse: grace and peace to you from God our Father. 3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints — 5 the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel 6 that has come to you. All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth. (*Col.1:2-6*)

9 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. 10 And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, 11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. (*Col.1:9-12*)

2 Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. 3 And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. 4 Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I

should. (*Col.4:2-4*)

Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. (*Col.4:12*)

2 We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. 3 We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. (*1 Th.1:2-3*)

9 How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? 10 Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith. 11 Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. 12 May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. 13 May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones. Amen. (*1 Th.3:9-13*)

23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it. 25 Brothers, pray for us. 28 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. (*1 Th.5:23-25, 28*)

We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing. (*2 Th.1:3*)

11 With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfil every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith. 12 We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. (*2 Th.1:11-12*)

16 May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us

eternal encouragement and good hope, 17 encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word. (*2 Th.2:16-17*)

1 Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honoured, just as it was with you. 2 And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men, for not everyone has faith. 3 But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. 4 We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command. 5 May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance. (*2 Th.3:1-5*)

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you! (*2 Th.3:16*)

12 I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me faithful, appointing me to his service. 13 Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. 14 The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. (*1 Tim.1:12-14*)

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever! Amen. (*1 Tim.1:17*)

The appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 which God will bring about in his own time — God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of Lords, 16 who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honour and might forever! Amen. (*1 Tim.6:15-16*)

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, 2 to Timothy, my dear son: grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. 3 I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. 4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you

also. *6* For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. *7* For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. (2 *Tim.1:1-7*)

24 And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. *25* Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, *26* and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will. (2 *Tim.2:24-26*)

14 Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. *15* You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message. *16* At my first defence, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. *17* But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. *18* The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (2 *Tim.4:14-18*)

4 I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, *5* because I hear about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints. *6* I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ. (*Phm.1:4-6*)

10 He also says: "In the beginning, o Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. *11* They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. *12* You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end." (*Heb.1:10-12*)

20 May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, *21* equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is

pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever! Amen. (*Heb.13:20-21*)

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. *6* But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. *7* That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; *8* he is a double minded man, unstable in all he does. (*Jas.1:5-8*)

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, *4* and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you, *5* who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. (*1 Pe.1:3-5*)

10 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. *11* To him be the power for ever and ever! Amen. (*1 Pe.5:10-11*)

2 Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. *3* His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. (*2 Pe.1:2-3*)

Dear friend (Gaius), I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. (*3 Jn.1:2*)

But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. (*Jud.1:20*)

24 To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy — *25* to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. (*Jud.1:24-25*)

Scriptures for Intercession

Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. (*Ac.20:28*)

Finally, brothers, good-by. Aim for perfection, listen to my appeal, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you! (*2 Cor.13:11*)

God, whom I serve with my whole heart in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you. (*Rm.1:9*)

15 For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. 16 To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life. And who is equal to such a task? (*2 Cor.2:15-16*)

Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honour the king. (*1 Pe.2:17*)

14 Remember me for this, o my God, and do not blot out what I have so faithfully done for the house of my God and its services. 31 I also made provision for contributions of wood at designated times, and for the firstfruits. Remember me with favour, o my God. (*Neh.13:14, 31*)

O Lord, be gracious to us; we long for you. Be our strength every morning, our salvation in time of distress. (*Is.33:2*)

4 Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. (*Rm.12:4-6*)

2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. 3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. (*Eph.4:2-3*)

26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will. (*Rm.8:26-27*)

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. (*2 Cor.4:4*)

1 Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, 2 to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men. (*Tit.3:1-2*)

For surely, o Lord, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favour as with a shield. (*Ps.5:12*)

Surely the righteous will praise your name and the upright will live before you. (*Ps.140:13*)

How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity! (*Ps.133:1*)

Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. (*3 Jn.2*)

21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: 23 I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. (*Jn.17:21-23*)

To open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me. (*Ac.26:18*)

1 Everyone must submit himself to the governing

authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. 2 Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgement on themselves. (*Rm.13:1-2*)

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. (*Eph.6:18*)

Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering. (*Heb.13:3*)

6 Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? 7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter — when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? 8 Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard. 9 Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: “Here am I. If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, 10 and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.” (*Is.58:6-10*)

6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. (*Dt.6:6-7*)

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. (*Rm.12:10*)

Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. (*2 Cor.5:11*)

1 I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for

everyone — 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, 4 who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. (*1 Tim.2:1-4*)

1 May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, *Selah* 2 that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations. (*Ps.67:1-2*)

4 I prayed to the Lord my God and confessed: “O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with all who love him and obey his commands, 5 we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws. 9 The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him; 10 we have not obeyed the Lord our God or kept the laws he gave us through his servants the prophets.” (*Dn.9:4-5, 9-10*)

9 God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful. 10 I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought. (*1 Cor.1:9-10*)

Nobody should seek his own good, but the good of others. (*1 Cor.10:24*)

Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. (*Ga.6:2*)

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. (*1 Pe.3:15*)

Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honour, then honour. (*Rm.13:7*)

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. (*Jas.1:27*)

Then Asa called to the Lord his God and said, “Lord, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, o Lord our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. O Lord, you are our God; do not let man prevail against you.” (2 *Chr.14:11*)

4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6 There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. 7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. (1 *Cor.12:4-7*)

1 If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing. (1 *Cor.13:1-3*)

6 All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. 8 Yet, o Lord, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. (*Is.64:6, 8*)

37 Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” (*Mt.9:37-38*)

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. (2 *Chr.7:14*)

18 As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. 20 My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message. (*Jn.17:18, 20*)

3 Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. 4 Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked. (*Ps.82:3-4*)

25 So that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. 26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it. 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. (1 *Cor.12:25-27*)

7 Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast — as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. 8 Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with bread without yeast, the bread of sincerity and truth. (1 *Cor.5:7-8*)

13 You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. 14 The entire law is summed up in a single command: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” (*Ga.5:13-14*)

All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. (2 *Cor.4:15*)

O Lord, God of Israel, you are righteous! We are left this day as a remnant. Here we are before you in our guilt, though because of it not one of us can stand in your presence.” (*Ezr.9:15*)

When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgement. (*Jn.16:8*)

Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow. (*Is.1:17*)

For we were all baptised by one Spirit into one body — whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free — and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. (1 *Cor.12:13*)

Oh, that their hearts would be inclined to fear me and keep all my commands always, so that it might go well with them and their children forever! (*Dt.5:29*)

We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing. (2 *Th.1:3*)

35 Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. 36 Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. (*Jn.4:35-36*)

O Lord, God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac and Israel, keep this desire in the hearts of your people forever, and keep their hearts loyal to you. (*1 Chr.29:18*)

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. (*Ac.1:8*)

Then hear from heaven, your dwelling place. Forgive, and deal with each man according to all he does, since you know his heart, for you alone know the hearts of men. (*2 Chr.6:30*)

18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. 19 Speak to one another with Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, 20 always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (*Eph.5:18-20*)

3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. 4 Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. (*Php.2:3-4*)

A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. (*Jn.13:34*)

18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. (*2 Kor 5:18-20*)

3 The God of Israel spoke, the Rock of Israel said to me: 'When one rules over men in righteousness,

when he rules in the fear of God, 4 he is like the light of morning at sunrise on a cloudless morning, like the brightness after rain that brings the grass from the earth.' (*2 Sa.23:3-4*)

19 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, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. (*Mt.28:19-20*)

4 Restore us again, o God our Saviour, and put away your displeasure toward us. 5 Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger through all generations? 6 Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you? 7 Show us your unfailing love, o Lord, and grant us your salvation. (*Ps.85:4-7*)

4 There is one body and one Spirit — just as you were called to one hope when you were called — 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (*Eph.4:4-6*)

As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you. And I will teach you the way that is good and right. (*1 Sa.12:23*)

4 Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; 5 in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; 6 in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; 7 in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; 8 through glory and dishonour, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; 9 known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; 10 sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything. (*2 Cor.6:4-10*)

Do everything in love. (*1 Cor.16:14*)

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people. (*Pr.14:34*)

30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. 31 For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead. (*Ac.17:30-31*)

The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. (*1 Pe.4:7*)

5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (*1 Pe.2:5, 9*)

16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge — that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. (*Eph.3:16-19*)

13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. 14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. (*Eph.4:13-15*)

3 And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. 4 Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. (*Col.4:3-4*)

Early in the morning they left for the Desert of Tekoa. As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and

you will be successful.” (*2 Chr.20:20*)

Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” (*Jn.20:21*)

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” (*Ac.20:35*)

There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. (*Ga.3:28*)

9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ — to the glory and praise of God. (*Php.1:9-11*)

10 Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble. 11 But whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness; he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded him. (*1 Jn.2:10-11*)

May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. (*1 Th.3:12*)

We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses. (*Neh.1:7*)

1 Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honoured, just as it was with you. 2 And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men, for not everyone has faith. (*2 Th.3:1-2*)

From the Lord comes deliverance. May your blessing be on your people. *Selah* (*Ps.3:8*)

7 But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. 11 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. (*Eph.4:7, 11-12*)

But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. (*Heb.3:13*)

8 Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. 9 The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbour as yourself." 10 Love does no harm to its neighbour. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. (*Rm.13:8-10*)

Be merciful to those who doubt. (*Jud.22*)

The men of Israel were subdued on that occasion, and the men of Judah were victorious because they relied on the Lord, the God of their fathers. (2 *Chr.13:18*)

And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. (*Heb.13:16*)

Many are asking, "Who can show us any good?" Let the light of your face shine upon us, o Lord. (*Ps.4:6*)

You have filled my heart with greater joy than when their grain and new wine abound. (*Ps.4:7*)

The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. (1 *Cor.12:12*)

6 He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken. 7 My salvation and my honour depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge. 8 Trust in him at all times, o people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge. *Selah* (*Ps.62:6-9*)

Songs of Worship in Revelation

These songs of worship can be used to guide your own prayers in praise, worship and thanksgiving.

4 John, to the seven churches in the province of Asia: grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the sevenfold Spirit before his throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, 6 and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father — to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. 7 Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen. 8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.” (Re.1:4-8)

8 Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night they never stop saying: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.” 9 Whenever the living creatures give glory, honour and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say: 11 “You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.” (Re.4:8-11)

8 And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. 9 And they sang a new song: “You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. 10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.” 11 Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten

thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. 12 In a loud voice they sang: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!” 13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and power, for ever and ever!” 14 The four living creatures said: “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshiped. (Re.5:8-14)

They called out in a loud voice: “How long, sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?” (Re.6:10)

9 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. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice: “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.” 11 All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying: “Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honour and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!” 13 Then one of the elders asked me: “These in white robes — who are they, and where did they come from?” 14 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. 15 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. 16 Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. 17 For the Lamb at the centre 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.” (Re.7:9-17)

15 The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and

there were loud voices in heaven, which said: “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever.” 16 And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, 17 saying: “We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign. 18 The nations were angry; and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your saints and those who reverence your name, both small and great — and for destroying those who destroy the earth.” 19 Then God’s temple in heaven was opened, and within his temple was seen the ark of his covenant. And there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake and a great hailstorm. (Re.11:15-19)

10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: “Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. 11 They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death. 12 Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.” (Re.12:10-12)

1 I saw in heaven another great and marvellous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues — last, because with them God’s wrath is completed. 2 And I saw what looked like a sea of glass mixed with fire and, standing beside the sea, those who had been victorious over the beast and his image and over the number of his name. They held harps given them by God 3 and sang the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb: “Great and marvellous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the ages. 4 Who will not fear you, o Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous Ac.have been revealed.” 5 After this I looked and in heaven the temple, that is, the tabernacle of the Testimony, was opened. 6 Out of the temple came the seven angels with the seven plagues. They were dressed in clean, shining linen and wore golden sashes around their chests. 7

Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls filled with the wrath of God, who lives for ever and ever. 8 And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one could enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed. (Re.15:1-8)

4 The third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. 5 Then I heard the angel in charge of the waters say: “You are just in these judgements, you who are and who were, the Holy One, because you have so judged; 6 for they have shed the blood of your saints and prophets, and you have given them blood to drink as they deserve.” 7 And I heard the altar respond: “Yes, Lord God Almighty, true and just are your judgements.” (Re.16:4-7)

1 After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting: “Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, 2 for true and just are his judgements. He has condemned the great prostitute who corrupted the earth by her adulteries. He has avenged on her the blood of his servants.” 3 And again they shouted: “Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up for ever and ever.” 4 The twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God, who was seated on the throne. And they cried: “Amen, Hallelujah!” 5 Then a voice came from the throne, saying: “Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, both small and great!” 6 Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: “Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. 7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. 8 Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.” (Re.19:1-8)

16 “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.” 17 The Spirit and the bride say: “Come!” And let him who hears say: “Come!” Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life. 20 He who testifies to these things says: “Yes, I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. (Re.22:16-17, 20)

Biblical Revelations of Jesus

These sections can be used when we are in worship to understand better who and how God is, how He wants us to think about Him. We can also use these sections with Jabez's prayer when we call on the Name of the Lord.

10 On the Lord's day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, 11 which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea." 12 I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lamp stands, 13 and among the lamp stands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. 14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. 15 His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. 16 In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. 17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. 18 I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades." (Re.1:10-18)

2 At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. 3 And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian. A rainbow, resembling an emerald, encircled the throne. 4 Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads. 5 From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder. Before the throne, seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits of God. 6 Also before the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the centre, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. 7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle. 8 Each of the four living creatures had six

wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night they never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come." (Re.4:2-8)

11 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. 13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is "The Word of God." 14 The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron sceptre. He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. 16 On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: "King of kings and Lord of Lords." (Re.19:11-16)

2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying: "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 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." 5 He who was seated on the throne said: "I am making everything new!" Then he said: "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." 6 He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. 7 He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son. 8 But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars — their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulphur. This is the second death." 9 One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me: "Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain

great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. *11* It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. *12* It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. *13* There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. *14* The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. *15* The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city, its gates and its walls. *16* The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12 000 stadia in length, and as wide and high as it is long. *17* He measured its wall and it was 144 cubits thick, by man's measurement, which the angel was using. *18* The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass. *19* The foundations of the city walls were decorated with every kind of precious stone. The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, *20* the fifth sardonyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. *21* The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of pure gold, like transparent glass. *22* I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. *23* 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. *24* The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendour into it. *25* On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. *26* The glory and honour of the nations will be brought into it. *27* 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. *1* 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 *2* 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. *3* 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. *4* They will see his face, and his name will be on

their foreheads. *5* 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 for ever and ever. (*Re.21:2-22:5*)

9 As I looked, thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. *10* A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. *11* Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire. *12* The other beasts had been stripped of their authority, but were allowed to live for a period of time. *13* In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of days and was led into his presence. *14* He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. (*Dn.7:9-14*)

1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. *2* Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: with two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. *3* And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." *4* At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. *5* "Woe to me!" I cried, "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty." *6* Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. *7* With it he touched my mouth and said: "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for." *8* Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying: "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said: "Here am I. Send me!" *9* He said: "Go and tell this people, 'Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing,

but never perceiving.” (Is.6:1-9)

4 I looked, and I saw a windstorm coming out of the north — an immense cloud with flashing lightning and surrounded by brilliant light. The centre of the fire looked like glowing metal, 5 and in the fire was what looked like four living creatures. In appearance their form was that of a man, 6 but each of them had four faces and four wings. 7 Their legs were straight; their feet were like those of a calf and gleamed like burnished bronze. 8 Under their wings on their four sides they had the hands of a man. All four of them had faces and wings, 9 and their wings touched one another. Each one went straight ahead; they did not turn as they moved. 10 Their faces looked like this: each of the four had the face of a man, and on the right side each had the face of a lion, and on the left the face of an ox; each also had the face of an eagle. 11 Such were their faces. Their wings were spread out upward; each had two wings, one touching the wing of another creature on either side, and two wings covering its body. 12 Each one went straight ahead. Wherever the spirit would go, they would go, without turning as they went. 13 The appearance of the living creatures was like burning coals of fire or like torches. Fire moved back and forth among the creatures; it was bright, and lightning flashed out of it. 14 The creatures sped back and forth like flashes of lightning. 15 As I looked at the living creatures, I saw a wheel on the ground beside each creature with its four faces. 16 This was the appearance and structure of the wheels: they sparkled like chrysolite, and all four looked alike. Each appeared to be made like a wheel intersecting a wheel. 17 As they moved, they would go in any one of the four directions the creatures faced; the wheels did not turn about as the creatures went. 18 Their rims were high and awesome, and all four rims were full of eyes all around. 19 When the living creatures moved, the wheels beside them moved; and when the living creatures rose from the ground, the wheels also rose. 20 Wherever the spirit would go, they would go, and the wheels would rise along with them, because the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels. 21 When the creatures moved, they also

moved; when the creatures stood still, they also stood still; and when the creatures rose from the ground, the wheels rose along with them, because the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels. 22 Spread out above the heads of the living creatures was what looked like an expanse, sparkling like ice, and awesome. 23 Under the expanse their wings were stretched out one toward the other, and each had two wings covering its body. 24 When the creatures moved, I heard the sound of their wings, like the roar of rushing waters, like the voice of the Almighty, like the tumult of an army. When they stood still, they lowered their wings. 25 Then there came a voice from above the expanse over their heads as they stood with lowered wings. 26 Above the expanse over their heads was what looked like a throne of sapphire, and high above on the throne was a figure like that of a man. 27 I saw that from what appeared to be his waist up he looked like glowing metal, as if full of fire, and that from there down he looked like fire; and brilliant light surrounded him. 28 Like the appearance of a rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the radiance around him. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. When I saw it, I fell facedown, and I heard the voice of one speaking. (Ez.1:4-28)

18 Then Moses said: “Now show me your glory.”
19 And the Lord said: “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.” (Ex.33:18-19)

5 Then the Lord came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the Lord.
6 And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming: “The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation.” (Ex.34:5-7)

Prayers of Jesus

The prayers in this section give us guidelines on how we can pray. These Scriptures reveal to us the will of God and teaches us what and how Jesus and the apostles prayed. Let us follow them and use the contents of these prayers as the basis of our own prayers.

9 This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today our daily bread. 12 Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.” 14 For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. (Mt.6:9-15)

25 At that time Jesus said: “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. 26 Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. 27 All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.” (Mt.11:25-27)

39 Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed: “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.” 40 Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter. 41 “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.” 42 He went away a second time and prayed: “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.” 43 When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. 44 So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing. (Mt.26:39-44)

1 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. 2 For

you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. 3 Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. 4 I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. 6 I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. 8 For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. 9 I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. 11 I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name — the name you gave me — so that they may be one as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. 13 I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. 14 I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. 15 My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. 17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. 20 My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: 23 I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. 24 Father,

I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. 25 Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and

they know that you have sent me. 26 I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”
(*Jn.17:1-26*)

Promises for Specific Situations

These are only a few promises from scripture, there are literally thousands more. We must learn to start living for the Lord out of these promises. It is important to note the conditions and commands which accompanies the promises of God. The promises are coupled to God's commands and conditions. We cannot claim the promises for ourselves if we do not meet the conditions.

Answers to prayer: God listens to and answers our prayers

Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear. (*Is.65:24*)

Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know. (*Jer.33:3*)

22 "Have faith in God," Jesus answered. 23 "I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. 24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." (*Mk.11:22-24*)

Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. (*Jn.16:24*)

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. (*Jn.15:7*)

Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: "Here am I." (*Is.58:9*)

20 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, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (*Eph.3:20-21*)

7 Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will

be opened. (*Mt.7:7-8*)

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil. (*1 Pe.3:12*)

The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. (*Ps.34:18*)

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. (*1 Jn.5:14*)

For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. You have done a foolish thing, and from now on you will be at war. (*2 Chr.16:9*)

Know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself; the Lord will hear when I call to him. (*Ps.4:3*)

He will respond to the prayer of the destitute; he will not despise their plea. (*Ps.102:17*)

Desires: (God gives us the desires of our hearts)

He fulfils the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them. (*Ps.145:19*)

You have granted him the desire of his heart and have not withheld the request of his lips. (*Ps.21:3*)

You have granted him the desire of his heart and have not withheld the request of his lips. (*Pr.10:24*)

Praise the Lord, 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, 5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. (*Ps.103:4-5*)

Cares and worries

30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, o you of little faith? 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. (*Mt.6:30, 34*)

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (*Php.4:6-7*)

25 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? 26 Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? (*Lk.12:25-26*)

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. (*1 Pe.5:6-7*)

1 Listen to my prayer, o God, do not ignore my plea; 2 hear me and answer me. My thoughts trouble me and I am distraught. (*Ps.55:1-2*)

7 He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, 8 the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous. 9 The Lord watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked. (*Ps.146:7-9*)

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. (*Ga.5:1*)

28 Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 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. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. (*Mt.11:28-30*)

Promises (God keeps his promises)

God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfil? (*Nm.23:19*)

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. (*Heb.10:23*)

From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfil my purpose. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do. (*Is.46:11*)

33 I will not take my love from him, nor will I ever betray my faithfulness. 34 I will not violate my covenant or alter what my lips have uttered. (*Ps.89:33-34*)

Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! (*Is.30:18*)

Gladness and joy

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. (*Jn.15:11*)

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. (*Ps.16:11*)

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (*Rm.14:17*)

You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. (*Is.55:12*)

The ransomed of the Lord will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away. (*Is.35:10*)

Depression

Why are you downcast, o my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Saviour and my God. (*Ps.43:5*)

My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. (*Ps.73:26*)

23 If the Lord delights in a man's way, he makes his steps firm; 24 though he stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand. (*Ps.37:23-24*)

Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. (*Ps.34:5*)

Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!

(*Is.49:15*)

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said: “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” (*Heb.13:5*)

Eternal life

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (*Jn.3:16*)

And this is what he promised us — even eternal life. (*1 Jn.2:25*)

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (*Rm.6:23*)

27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. (*Jn.10:27-28*)

I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. (*Jn.5:24*)

11 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. (*1 Jn.5:11-13*)

Financial, Material and Physical needs

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. (*Php.4:19*)

25 Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? (*Mt.6:25-26*)

31 So do not worry, saying: “What shall we eat?” or “What shall we drink?” or “What shall we wear?” 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his

righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (*Mt.6:31-33*)

1 If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. 11 The Lord will grant you abundant prosperity — in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground — in the land he swore to your forefathers to give you. 12 The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. (*Dt.28:1, 11, 12*)

30 For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. 31 But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. (*Lk.12:30-31*)

Carefully follow the terms of this covenant, so that you may prosper in everything you do. (*Dt.29:9*)

He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever. (*Ps.111:5*)

If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land. (*Is.1:19*)

Ask the Lord for rain in the springtime; it is the Lord who makes the storm clouds. He gives showers of rain to men, and plants of the field to everyone. (*Zech.10:1*)

3 If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, 4 I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees of the field their fruit. 5 Your threshing will continue until grape harvest and the grape harvest will continue until planting, and you will eat all the food you want and live in safety in your land. (*Lev.26:3-5*)

Consider the ravens: they do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! (*Lk.12:24*)

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. (*Lk.11:9*)

For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord

bestows favour and honour; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. (*Ps.84:11*)

3 Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. 25 I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread. (*Ps.37:3, 25*)

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. (*Lk.6:38*)

Spiritual gifts

God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. (*Rm.11:29*)

5 So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. 7 If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; 8 if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully. (*Rm.12:5-8*)

Spiritual growth

I am confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (*Php.1:6*)

18 As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. (*Jn.17:18-19*)

3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. (*2 Pt.1:3-4*)

And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. (*2 Cor.3:18*)

He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. (*1 Cor.1:8*)

16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge — that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. (*Eph.3:16-19*)

9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ. (*Php.1:9-10*)

Faith in God

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgement, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. (*Eph.2:8*)

Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. (*Heb.11:6*)

Because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. (*Jas.1:3*)

These have come so that your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire — may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. (*1 Pe.1:7*)

For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith." (*Rm.1:17*)

For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. (*1 Jn.5:4*)

"If you can?" said Jesus, "Everything is possible for him who believes." (*Mk.9:23*)

In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. (*Eph.6:16*)

Then Jesus told him: “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” (*Jn.20:29*)

21 Jesus replied: “I tell you the truth, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and it will be done. 22 If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.” (*Mt.21:21-22*)

Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. (*Jn.16:24*)

Healing and healthiness

By his wounds we are healed. (*Is.53:5*)

“I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,” declares the Lord, “because you are called an outcast, Zion for whom no one cares.” (*Jer.30:17*)

12 If you pay attention to these laws and are careful to follow them, then the Lord your God will keep his covenant of love with you, as he swore to your forefathers. 13 He will love you and bless you and increase your numbers. He will bless the fruit of your womb, the crops of your land — your grain, new wine and oil — the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks in the land that he swore to your forefathers to give you. 14 You will be blessed more than any other people; none of your men or women will be childless, nor any of your livestock without young. 15 The Lord will keep you free from every disease. He will not inflict on you the horrible diseases you knew in Egypt, but he will inflict them on all who hate you. (*Dt.7:12, 15*)

5 You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, 6 nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. 7 A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. 8 You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked. 9 If you make the Most High your dwelling — even the Lord, who is my refuge — 10 then no harm will

befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. (*Ps.91:5-10*)

Dear Gaius, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. (*3 Jn.2*)

I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security. (*Jer.33:6*)

25 Then Moses cried out to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became sweet. There the Lord made a decree and a law for them, and there he tested them. 26 He said: “If you listen carefully to the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, who heals you.” (*Ex.15:25-26*)

The Lord forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases. (*Ps.103:3*)

But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall. (*Mal.4:2*)

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. (*1 Pe.2:24*)

13 Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. 14 Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. 16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. (*Jas.5:13-14, 16*)

16 When evening came, many who were demon possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. 17 This was to fulfil what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: “He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases.” (*Mt.8:16-17*)

Families

The Lord blesses the home of the righteous.

(Pr.3:33)

Wicked men are overthrown and are no more, but the house of the righteous stands firm. (Pr.12:7)

Be careful to obey all these regulations I am giving you, so that it may always go well with you and your children after you, because you will be doing what is good and right in the eyes of the Lord your God. (Dt.12:28)

All your sons will be taught by the Lord, and great will be your children's peace. (Is.54:13)

1 Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who finds great delight in his commands. 2 His children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. 3 Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever. (Ps.112:1-3)

Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it. (Pr.22:6)

1 Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways. 3 Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots around your table. (Ps.128:1, 3)

Keep his decrees and commands, which I am giving you today, so that it may go well with you and your children after you and that you may live long in the land the Lord your God gives you for all time. (Dt.4:40)

2 "Honour your father and mother" — which is the first commandment with a promise — 3 "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." (Eph.6:2-3)

Holy Spirit

If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! (Lk.11:13)

For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants. (Is.44:3)

16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever — 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him,

because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. (Jn.14:16-17)

But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counsellor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. (Jn.16:7)

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. (Ac.1:8)

38 Peter replied: "Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off — for all whom the Lord our God will call." (Ac.2:38-39)

Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." (Ga.4:6)

He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit. (Ga.3:14)

We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. (1 Jn.4:13)

I baptise you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. (Mt.3:11)

And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. (Ez.36:27)

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit. (Eph.1:13)

Heaven

2 I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying: "Now the

dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.” (Re.21:2-3)

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade – kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. (1 Pe.1:3-5)

10 Therefore, my brothers, be all the more eager to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never fall, 11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. (2 Pe.1:10-11)

But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. (2 Pe.3:13)

Jesus answered him: “I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise.” (Lk.23:43)

Hope (of a Christian)

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. (Rm.15:4)

To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. (Col.1:27)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Pe.1:3)

18 God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. 19 We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain. (Heb.6:18-19)

Through Jesus Christ we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

(Rm.5:2)

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. (Rm.15:13)

Strength (Spiritual power and strength to serve to God)

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. (Is.40:29)

The Lord gives strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace. (Ps.29:11)

Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord, is the Rock eternal. (Is.26:4)

Nehemiah said: “Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.” (Neh.8:10)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. (Eph.6:10)

I can do everything through him who gives me strength. (Php.4:13)

The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. (Is.58:11)

“Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,” says the Lord Almighty. (Zech.4:6)

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. (Ac.1:8)

But those who hope in 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. (Is.40:31)

Therefore put on the full armour 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. (Eph.6:13)

For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. (*Php.2:13*)

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being. (*Eph.3:16*)

May God strengthen you with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience. (*Col.1:11*)

Guidance (The Lord wants to guide us)

Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying: "This is the way; walk in it." (*Is.30:21*)

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. 3 he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. (*Ps.23:1, 3*)

9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, 10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. (*Ps.139:9-10*)

Life (new life)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! (*2 Cor.5:17*)

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (*Jn.10:10*)

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. (*1 Pe.2:24*)

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (*Ga.2:20*)

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. (*Rm.6:4*)

No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God. (*1 Jn.3:9*)

And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. (*2 Cor.3:18*)

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. (*Ez.36:26*)

The love of God

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (*Rm.5:8*)

The Lord has appeared to us from afar saying: "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving kindness." (*Jer.31:3*)

"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the Lord, who has compassion on you. (*Is.54:10*)

9 This is how God showed his love among us: he sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. (*1 Jn.4:9-10*)

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. (*Jn.15:9*)

How great is the 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. (*1 Jn.3:1*)

Suffering, hardship and attacks from people

39 The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble. 40 The Lord helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him. (*Ps.37:39-40*)

Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. (*Jas.1:12*)

Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance. (*Rm.5:3*)

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire — may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. (*1 Pe.1:3-7*)

I will save you from the hands of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the cruel. (*Jer.15:21*)

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? 2 When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. (*Ps.27:1-2*)

Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. (*1 Pe.3:9*)

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? (*Rm.8:31*)

13 Moses answered the people: "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. 14 The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still." (*Ex.14:13-14*)

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (*Mt.5:10-12*)

12 But before all this, they will lay hands on you and persecute you. They will deliver you to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought

before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. 13 This will result in your being witnesses to them. 14 But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. 15 For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. (*Lk.21:12-15*)

Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life. (*Re.2:10*)

Failure, defeat and helplessness

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. (*Jn.14:1*)

1 The Spirit of the sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, 2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, 3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion — to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendour. (*Is.61:1-3*)

He heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds. (*Ps.147:3*)

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. (*Rm.8:28*)

For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you: "Do not fear; I will help you" (*Is.41:13*)

But he said to me: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. (*2 Cor.12:9*)

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. (*Rm.8:26*)

So we say with confidence: “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?” (*Heb.13:6*)

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. (*1 Jn.4:4*)

Teach (The Lord will teach us)

8 Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways. 9 He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way. (*Ps.25:8-9*)

12 Who, then, is the man that fears the Lord? He will instruct him in the way chosen for him. 13 He will spend his days in prosperity, and his descendants will inherit the land. 14 The Lord confides in those who fear him; he makes his covenant known to them. (*Ps.25:12-14*)

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. (*Ps.32:8*)

16 All Scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (*2 Tim.3:16-17*)

The fear of the Lord teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honour. (*Pr.15:33*)

Justification

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (*2 Cor.5:21*)

But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. (*Rm.8:10*)

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God — that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. (*1 Cor.1:30*)

21 But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 22 This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. (*Rm.3:21-22*)

4 Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. 5 However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness. (*Rm.4:4-5*)

For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God’s abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. (*Rm.5:17*)

Struggle against the Evil One

The Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. (*2 Th.3:3*)

The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever! Amen. (*2 Tim.4:18*)

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. (*Col.1:13*)

And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. (*Col.2:15*)

We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. (*1 Jn.5:18*)

38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 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. (*Rm.8:38-39*)

9 If you make the Most High your dwelling — even the Lord, who is my refuge — 10 then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. 11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; 12 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. 13 You will tread upon the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent. (*Ps.91:9-13*)

14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he

might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. (*Heb.2:14-15*)

Presence of God

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. (*Mt.28:20*)

Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. (*Is.43:5*)

Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double minded. (*Jas.4:8*)

15 If you love me, you will obey what I command. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever. (*Jn.14:15-16*)

For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them. (*Mt.18:20*)

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. (*Ps.23:4*)

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said: “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” (*Heb.13:5*)

Safety and protection

The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. (*Pr.18:10*)

He will guard the feet of his saints, but the wicked will be silenced in darkness. It is not by strength that one prevails. (*1 Sa.2:9*)

1 Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever. 2 As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people both now and forevermore. (*Ps.125:1-2*)

3 Surely he will save you from the fowler’s snare and from the deadly pestilence. 4 He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. (*Ps.91:3-4*)

11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; 12 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. (*Ps.91:11-12*)

18 The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. 19 A righteous man may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all. (*Ps.34:18-19*)

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills — where does my help come from? 2 My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. 3 He will not let your foot slip — he who watches over you will not slumber; 4 indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. 5 The Lord watches over you — the Lord is your shade at your right hand; 6 the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. 7 The Lord will keep you from all harm — he will watch over your life; 8 the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. (*Ps.121:1-8*)

Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe. (*Pr.29:25*)

Forgiveness

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (*1 Jn.1:9*)

1 Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. 2 Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit. (*Ps.32:1-2*)

I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more. (*Is.43:25*)

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. (*Ps.103:12*)

I write to you, dear children, because your sins have been forgiven on account of his name. (*1 Jn.2:12*)

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace. (*Eph.1:7*)

Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. (*Rm.8:33*)

Redemption

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. (*Jn.3:17*)

9 That 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. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. (*Rm.10:9-10*)

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (*Rm.10:13*)

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. (*Eph.2:8-9*)

3 This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, 4 who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. (*1 Tim.2:3-4*)

God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. (*Heb.6:18*)

Comforting/Consolation

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. (*Mt.5:4*)

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, 4 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. (*2 Cor.1:3-4*)

16 May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, 17 encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word. (*2 Th.2:16-17*)

Shout for joy, o heavens; rejoice, o earth; burst into song, o mountains! For the Lord comforts his people and will have compassion on his afflicted ones. (*Is.49:13*)

I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. (*Jn.14:18*)

Temptations and demonic attacks

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it. (*1 Cor.10:13*)

7 And if he rescued Lot, a righteous man, who was distressed by the filthy lives of lawless men 8 for that righteous man, living among them day after day, was tormented in his righteous soul by the lawless deeds he saw and heard — 9 if this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials and to hold the unrighteous for the day of judgement, while continuing their punishment. (*2 Pe.2:7-9*)

14 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. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin. 16 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. (*Heb.4:14-16*)

22 Avoid every kind of evil. 23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it. (*1 Th.5:22-24*)

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. (*Jas.4:7*)

3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father. (*Ga.1:3-4*)

The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you. (*Rm.16:20*)

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. (*Jn.16:33*)

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. (*1 Jn.4:4*)

Trust (we can trust God)

25 Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, 26 for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being snared. (*Pr.3:25-26*)

He who fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for his children it will be a refuge. (*Pr.14:26*)

This is what the sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel, says: “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.” (*Is.30:15*)

21 Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God 22 and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. (*1 Jn.3:21-22*)

14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us — whatever we ask — we know that we have what we asked of him. (*1 Jn.5:14-15*)

Prosperity (The Lord will make us prosperous)

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. (*Pr.3:5-6*)

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. (*Jos.1:8*)

Early in the morning they left for the Desert of Tekoa. As they set out, Jehoshaphat stood and said: “Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the Lord your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful.” (*2 Chr.20:20*)

Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed. (*Pr.16:3*)

Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. (*2 Cor.3:5*)

12 May the Lord give you discretion and understanding when he puts you in command over Israel, so that you may keep the law of the Lord your God. 13 Then you will have success if you are careful to observe the decrees and laws that the Lord gave Moses for Israel. Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged. (*1 Chr.22:12-13*)

Peace of God

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. (*Is.53:5*)

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. (*Jn.14:27*)

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (*Rm.5:1*)

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (*Php.4:7*)

Just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (*Rm.5:22*)

Fear and doubt

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. (*Is.41:10*)

For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you. (*Is.41:13*)

But now, this is what the Lord says — he who created you, o Jacob, he who formed you, o Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.” (*Is.43:1*)

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. (*2 Tim.1:7*)

6 Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. 7 Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be

afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. (*Lk.12:6-7*)

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. (*1 Jn.4:18*)

Being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. (*Rm.4:21*)

He will have no fear of bad news; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord. (*Ps.112:7*)

Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: "Here am I." (*Is.58:9*)

Freedom

32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. (*Jn.8:32, 36*)

For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace. (*Rm.6:14*)

But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. (*Rm.6:22*)

1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. (*Rm.8:1-2*)

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. (*2 Cor.3:17*)

Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. (*Ac.13:38*)

Word (The Word of God)

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (*2 Tim.3:16-17*)

The word of the Lord stands forever. And this is the word that was preached to you. (*1 Pe.1:25*)

The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever. (*Is.40:8*)

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" (*Mt.4:4*)

The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may follow all the words of this law. (*Dt.29:29*)

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. (*Jos.1:8*)

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. (*Is.55:11*)

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. (*Heb.4:12*)

Truth

When the Counsellor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. (*Jn.15:26*)

31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (*Jn.8:31-32*)

They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me. (*Jn.16:3*)

The fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth. (*Eph.5:9*)

Second coming Jesus

2 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. 3 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. (*Jn.14:2-3*)

"You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am

coming back to you.’ If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.” (*Jn.14:28*)

“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.” (*Ac.1:11*)

16 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. 17 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. (*1 Th.4:16-17*)

When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. (*Col.3:4*)

Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him. (*Heb.9:28*)

Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him. So shall it be! Amen. (*Re.1:7*)

Wisdom

To the man who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness, but to the sinner he

gives the task of gathering and storing up wealth to hand it over to the one who pleases God. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. (*Ecc.2:26*)

6 For the Lord gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. 7 He holds victory in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless. (*Pr.2:6-7*)

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. (*Pr.9:10*)

To God belong wisdom and power; counsel and understanding are his. (*Job 12:13*)

20“Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his. 21 He changes times and seasons; he sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. 22 He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him. (*Dn.2:20-22*)

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God — that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. (*1 Cor.1:30*)

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. (*Jas.1:5*)

Pray the Word in times of Demonic Attacks and Spiritual Warfare

And they blessed Rebecca and said to her, “Our sister, may you increase to thousands upon thousands; may your offspring possess the gates of their enemies.” (*Gn.24:60*)

22 Joseph is a fruitful vine, a fruitful vine near a spring, whose branches climb over a wall. 23 With bitterness archers attacked him; they shot at him with hostility. 24 But his bow remained steady, his strong arms stayed limber, because of the hand of the Mighty One of Jacob, because of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel. (*Gn.49:22-24*)

God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” (*Ex.3:14*)

1 Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the Lord: “I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted. The horse and its rider he has hurled into the sea. 2 The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him. 3 The Lord is a warrior; the Lord is his name.” (*Ex.15:1-3*)

20 “See, I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared. 21 Pay attention to him and listen to what he says. Do not rebel against him; he will not forgive your rebellion, since my Name is in him. 22 If you listen carefully to what he says and do all that I say, I will be an enemy to your enemies and will oppose those who oppose you. 23 My angel will go ahead of you and bring you into the land of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hivites and Jebusites, and I will wipe them out. 24 Do not bow down before their gods or worship them or follow their practices. You must demolish them and break their sacred stones to pieces. 25 Worship the Lord your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you, 26 and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span. 27 I will send my terror ahead of you and throw into confusion every nation you encounter. I will make all your enemies turn their backs and run.” (*Ex.23:20-27*)

2 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. 3 I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies. 4 The cords of death entangled me; the torrents of destruction overwhelmed me. 5 The cords of the grave coiled around me; the snares of death confronted me. my cry came before him, into his ears. (*Ps.18:2-5*)

9 He parted the heavens and came down; dark clouds were under his feet. 10 He mounted the cherubim and flew; he soared on the wings of the wind. 11 He made darkness his covering, his canopy around him — the dark rain clouds of the sky. 12 Out of the brightness of his presence clouds advanced, with hailstones and bolts of lightning. 13 The Lord thundered from heaven; the voice of the Most High resounded. 14 He shot his arrows and scattered the enemies, great bolts of lightning and routed them. 15 The valleys of the sea were exposed and the foundations of the earth laid bare at your rebuke, o Lord, at the blast of breath from your nostrils. 16 He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters. 17 He rescued me from my powerful enemy, from my foes, who were too strong for me. (*Ps.18:9-17*)

With your help I can advance against a troop; with my God I can scale a wall. (*Ps.18:29*)

30 As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him. 31 For who is God besides the Lord? And who is the Rock except our God? 32 It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect. 33 He makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he enables me to stand on the heights. 34 He trains my hands for battle; my arms can bend a bow of bronze. 35 You give me your shield of victory, and your right hand sustains me; you stoop down to make me great. 36 You broaden the path beneath me, so that my ankles do not turn. (*Ps.18:30-36*)

You armed me with strength for battle; you made my adversaries bow at my feet. (*Ps.18:39*)

47 He is the God who avenges me, who subdues nations under me, 48 who saves me from my enemies. You exalted me above my foes; from violent men you rescued me. (*Ps.18:47-48*)

Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. (*Ps.24:8*)

1 To you, o Lord, I lift up my soul; 2 in you I trust, o my God. Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me. 3 No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame, but they will be put to shame who are treacherous without excuse. (*Ps.25:1-3*)

19 See how my enemies have increased and how fiercely they hate me! 20 Guard my life and rescue me; let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you. 21 May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope is in you. 22 Redeem Israel, o God, from all their troubles! (*Ps.25:19-22*)

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? 2 When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. 3 Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident. 4 One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. 5 For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock. 6 Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord. (*Ps.27:1-6*)

1 In you, o Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. 2 Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me. 3 Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me. 4 Free me from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge. 5 Into your hands I commit my spirit; redeem me, o Lord, the God of truth. (*Ps.31:1-5*)

7 I will be glad and rejoice in your love, for you saw my affliction and knew the anguish of my soul. 8 You have not handed me over to the enemy but have set my feet in a spacious place. (*Ps.31:7-8*)

13 For I hear the slander of many; there is terror on every side; they conspire against me and plot to take my life. 14 But I trust in you, o Lord; I say, “You are my God.” 15 My times are in your hands; deliver me from my enemies and from those who pursue me. 16 Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love. (*Ps.31:13-16*)

6 Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found; surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him. 7 You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance. *Selah* (*Ps.32:6-7*)

1 Contend, o Lord, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me. 2 Take up shield and buckler; arise and come to my aid. 3 Brandish spear and javelin against those who pursue me. Say to my soul, “I am your salvation.” 4 May those who seek my life be disgraced and put to shame; may those who plot my ruin be turned back in dismay. 5 May they be like chaff before the wind, with the angel of the Lord driving them away. (*Ps.35:1-5*)

My whole being will exclaim, “Who is like you, o Lord? You rescue the poor from those too strong for them, the poor and needy from those who rob them.” (*Ps.35:10*)

21 They gape at me and say, “Aha! Aha! With our own eyes we have seen it.” 22 O Lord, you have seen this; be not silent. Do not be far from me, o Lord. 23 Awake, and rise to my defence! Contend for me, my God and Lord. 24 Vindicate me in your righteousness, o Lord my God; do not let them gloat over me. 25 Do not let them think, “Aha, just what we wanted!” or say, “We have swallowed him up.” (*Ps.35:21-25*)

32 The wicked lie in wait for the righteous, seeking their very lives; 33 but the Lord will not leave them in their power or let them be condemned when brought to trial. 34 Wait for the Lord and keep his way. He will exalt you to inherit

the land; when the wicked are cut off, you will see it. (Ps.37:32-34)

39 The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble. 40 The Lord helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him. (Ps.37:39-40)

1 Blessed is he who has regard for the weak; the Lord delivers him in times of trouble. 2 The Lord will protect him and preserve his life; he will bless him in the land and not surrender him to the desire of his foes. 3 The Lord will sustain him on his sickbed and restore him from his bed of illness. (Ps.41:1-3)

9 He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the shields with fire. 10 "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." (Ps.46:9-10)

1 Listen to my prayer, o God, do not ignore my plea; 2 hear me and answer me. My thoughts trouble me and I am distraught 3 at the voice of the enemy, at the stares of the wicked; for they bring down suffering upon me and revile me in their anger. 4 My heart is in anguish within me; the terrors of death assail me. 5 Fear and trembling have beset me; horror has overwhelmed me. 9 Confuse the wicked, o Lord, confound their speech, for I see violence and strife in the city. 22 Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall. (Ps.55:1-5, 9, 22)

1 Hear my cry, o God; listen to my prayer. 2 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. 3 For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe. 4 I long to dwell in your tent forever and take refuge in the shelter of your wings. *Selah* (Ps.61:1-4)

8 Praise our God, o peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard; 9 he has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping. 10 For you, o God, tested us; you refined us like silver. 11 You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs. 12 You let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us to a place of abundance. (Ps.66:8-12)

1 May God arise, may his enemies be scattered; may his foes flee before him. 2 As smoke is blown away by the wind, may you blow them away; as wax melts before the fire, may the wicked perish before God. 3 But may the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; may they be happy and joyful. (Ps.68:1-3)

3 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. 4 Deliver me, o my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of evil and cruel men. 5 For you have been my hope, o sovereign Lord, my confidence since my youth. 6 From birth I have relied on you; you brought me forth from my mother's womb. I will ever praise you. 7 I have become like a portent to many, but you are my strong refuge. 8 My mouth is filled with your praise, declaring your splendour all day long. (Ps.71:3-8)

21 When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, 22 I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you. 23 Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. 24 You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory. 25 Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. 26 My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. 27 Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you. 28 But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the sovereign Lord my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds. (Ps.73:21-28)

13 If my people would but listen to me, if Israel would follow my ways, 14 how quickly would I subdue their enemies and turn my hand against their foes! (Ps.81:13-14)

1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." 3 Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. 4 He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. 5 You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, 6 nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. 7 A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. 8

You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked. *9* If you make the Most High your dwelling — even the Lord, who is my refuge — *10* then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. *11* For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; *12* they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. *13* You will tread upon the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent. *14* “Because he loves me,” says the Lord, “I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. *15* He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honour him. *16* With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation.” (*Ps.91:1-16*)

7 that though the wicked spring up like grass and all evildoers flourish, they will be forever destroyed. *8* But you, o Lord, are exalted forever. *9* For surely your enemies, o Lord, surely your enemies will perish; all evildoers will be scattered. *10* You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine oils have been poured upon me. *11* My eyes have seen the defeat of my adversaries; my ears have heard the rout of my wicked foes. *12* The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; *13* planted in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the courts of our God. *14* They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green. (*Ps 92:8-15*)

1 The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice. *2* Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. *3* Fire goes before him and consumes his foes on every side. *4* His lightning lights up the world; the earth sees and trembles. *5* The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth. *6* The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory. *7* All who worship images are put to shame, those who boast in idols — worship him, all you gods! (*Ps.97:1-7*)

5 In my anguish I cried to the Lord, and he answered by setting me free. *6* The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? *7* The Lord is with me; he is my helper. I will look in triumph on my enemies. *8* It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. *9* It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. (*Ps.118:5-9*)

Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain. (*Ps.127:1*)

7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes, with your right hand you save me. *8* The Lord will fulfil his purpose for me; your love, o Lord, endures forever — do not abandon the works of your hands. (*Ps.138:7-8*)

7 Answer me quickly, o Lord; my spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me or I will be like those who go down to the pit. *8* Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul. *9* Rescue me from my enemies, o Lord, for I hide myself in you. *10* Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground. *11* For your name’s sake, o Lord, preserve my life; in your righteousness, bring me out of trouble. (*Ps.143:7-11*)

1 Praise be to the Lord my Rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle. *2* He is my loving God and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield, in whom I take refuge, who subdues peoples under me. *5* Part your heavens, o Lord, and come down; touch the mountains, so that they smoke. *6* Send forth lightning and scatter the enemies; shoot your arrows and rout them. *7* Reach down your hand from on high; deliver me and rescue me from the mighty waters, from the hands of foreigners (*Ps.144:1-2, 5-7*)

“No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me,” declares the Lord. (*Is.54:17*)

Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? (*Is.58:6*)

34 While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and smashed them. *35* Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were broken to pieces at the same time and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the

summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the rock that struck the statue became a huge mountain and filled the whole earth. (*Dn.2:34-35*)

Our Father in heaven, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. (*Mt.6:13*)

19 But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, 20 for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. (*Mt.10:19-20*)

Or again, how can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can rob his house. (*Mt.12:29*)

18 I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them. (*Mt.18:18-20*)

And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues. (*Mk.16:17*)

26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will. (*Rm.8:26-27*)

The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you. (*Rm.16:20*)

38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 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. (*Rm.8:38-39*)

In order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes. (*2 Cor.2:11*)

3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 6 And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete. (*2 Cor.10:3-6*)

He gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father. (*Ga.1:4*)

And his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength. (*Eph.1:19*)

20 He exerted his mighty strength in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. 22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus. (*Eph.1:20-22; 2:6*)

And do not give the devil a foothold. (*Eph.4:27*)

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armour of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armour 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. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 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. (*Eph.6:10-18*)

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, (*Col.1:13*)

14 God cancelled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. *15* And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. (*Col.2:14-15*)

And that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will. (*2 Tim.2:26*)

The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen. (*2 Tim.4:18*)

Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?. (*Heb.1:14*)

But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. (*2 Th.3:3*)

14 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — *15* and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. (*Heb.2:14-15*)

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. (*Heb.4:16*)

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (*Jas.4:7*)

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. *7* Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. *8* Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. *9* Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. *10* 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. *11* To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen. (*1 Pe.5:6-11*)

He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. (*1 Jn.3:8*)

We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. (*1 Jn.5:18*)

They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death. (*Re.12:11*)

Pray the Word in times of Fear, Anxiety, Doubt, Worry, Suffering, and Attacks by others; Failure, Defeat and Helplessness; Depression

Anxiety, fear and doubt

Fear, anxiety and doubt are general human problems. In the Word of God there are 366 promises which deals directly with fear and anxiety. Hold on to the Word of God and his eternal promises.

1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. *2* I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.” *3* Surely he will save you from the fowler’s snare and from the deadly pestilence. *4* He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. *5* You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, *6* nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. *7* A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. *8* You will only observe with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked. *9* If you make the Most High your dwelling — even the Lord, who is my refuge — *10* then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent. *11* For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; *12* they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. *13* You will tread upon the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent. *14* “Because he loves me,” says the Lord, “I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. *15* He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honour him. *16* With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation.” (Ps.91:1-16)

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? (Ps.27:1)

1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. *2* Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea. (Ps.46:1-2)

1 Praise the Lord. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who finds great delight in his commands. *7* He will have no fear of bad news; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord. *8* His heart is secure, he will have no fear; in the end he will look in triumph on his foes. (Ps.112:1, 7-8)

Say to those with fearful hearts, “Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.” (Is.35:4)

1 When you go to war against your enemies and see horses and chariots and an army greater than yours, do not be afraid of them, because the Lord your God, who brought you up out of Egypt, will be with you. *3* He shall say: “Hear, o Israel, today you are going into battle against your enemies. Do not be fainthearted or afraid; do not be terrified or give way to panic before them. *4* For the Lord your God is the one who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies to give you victory.” (Dt.20:1, 3-4)

Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. (Lk.12:32)

25 Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, *26* for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being snared. (Pr.3:25-26)

“Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” (2 Ki.6:16)

David also said to Solomon his son, “Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the service of the temple of the Lord is finished.” (1 Chr.28:20)

3 Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. *4* Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.

5 Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this: (*Ps.37:3-5*)

As it is written: “See, I lay in Zion a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” (*Rm.9:33*)

5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” 6 So we say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?” (*Heb.13:5-6*)

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. (*Is.41:10*)

For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you. (*Is.41:13*)

But now, this is what the Lord says — he who created you, o Jacob, he who formed you, o Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.” (*Is.43:1*)

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. (*2 Tim.1:7*)

6 Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. 7 Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. (*Lk.12:6-7*)

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. (*1 Jn.4:18*)

Being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. (*Rm.4:21*)

For the Lord is righteous, he loves justice; upright men will see his face. (*Ps.112:7*)

Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I. “If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk.” (*Is.58:9*)

The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. (*Pr.18:10*)

He will guard the feet of his saints, but the wicked will be silenced in darkness. It is not by strength that one prevails. (*1 Sa.2:9*)

1 Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever. 2 As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people both now and forevermore. (*Ps.125:1-2*)

3 Surely he will save you from the fowler’s snare and from the deadly pestilence. 4 He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. (*Ps.91:3-4*)

11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; 12 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. (*Ps.91:11-12*)

18 The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. 19 A righteous man may have many troubles, but the Lord delivers him from them all. (*Ps.34:18-19*)

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills — where does my help come from? 2 My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. 3 He will not let your foot slip — he who watches over you will not slumber; 4 indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. 5 The Lord watches over you — the Lord is your shade at your right hand; 6 the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. 7 The Lord will keep you from all harm — he will watch over your life; 8 the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. (*Ps.121:1-8*)

Worries

It is typical of man to worry and therefore God provided in his Word for times when we will be full of worries. In the Sermon on the mount, we read that Jesus said the following to his disciples: 25 “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly

Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? 28 And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, o you of little faith? 31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (Mt.6:25-34)

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Php.4:6-7)

25 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? 26 Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest? (Lk.12:25-26)

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. (1 Pe.5:6-7)

1 Listen to my prayer, o God, do not ignore my plea; 2 hear me and answer me. My thoughts trouble me and I am distraught. (Ps.55:1-2)

7 He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, 8 the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous. 9 The Lord watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked. (Ps.146:7-9)

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. (Ga.5:1)

28 Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 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. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. (Mt.11:28-30)

Suffering and attacks by others

Suffering, hardships and temptations are not always negative. More and more Christians re-discover that God uses this to teach and to bring us closer to him. God often uses this as spiritual discipline in our lives. Therefore David wrote: 71 "It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees. 75 I know, o Lord, that your laws are righteous, and in faithfulness you have afflicted me." (Ps. 119:71, 75)

9 For it seems to me that God has put us apostles on display at the end of the procession, like men condemned to die in the arena. We have been made a spectacle to the whole universe, to angels as well as to men. 10 We are fools for Christ, but you are so wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are honoured, we are dishonoured! 11 To this very hour we go hungry and thirsty, we are in rags, we are brutally treated, we are homeless. 12 We work hard with our own hands. When we are cursed, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure it; 13 when we are slandered, we answer kindly. Up to this moment we have become the scum of the earth, the refuse of the world. (1 Cor.4:9-13)

23 Are they servants of Christ? (I am out of my mind to talk like this.) I am more. I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. 24 Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. 25 Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, 26 I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brothers. 27 I have laboured and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. 28 Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches. 29 Who is

weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn? (2 Cor.11:23-29)

39 The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble. 40 The Lord helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him. (Ps.37:39-40)

Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. (Jas.1:12)

Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; (Rm.5:3)

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, (Jas.1:2)

4 There is an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire — may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. (1 Pe.1:4-7)

I will save you from the hands of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the cruel. (Jer.15:21)

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? 2 When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. (Ps.27:1-2)

Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. (1 Pe.3:9)

31 What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all — how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? (Rm.8:31-32)

13 Moses answered the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. 14 The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.” (Ex.14:13-14)

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (Mt.5:10-12)

12 But before all this, they will lay hands on you and persecute you. They will deliver you to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. 13 This will result in your being witnesses to them. 14 But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. 15 For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. (Lk.21:12-15)

Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life. (Re.2:10)

Failure, defeat and helplessness

There is no Christian who does not know something of the road of failure, defeat and helplessness. Paul knew that road and wrote about it in various of his letters. Listen to what he wrote to the Corinthians: 7 “But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. 8 We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. 10 We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.” (2 Cor.4:7-10)

3 We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited. 4 Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; 5 in beatings,

imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; 6 in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; 7 in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; 8 through glory and dishonour, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; 9 known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; 10 sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything. (2 Cor.6:3-10)

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. (Jn.14:1)

He heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds. (Ps.147:3)

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. (Rm.8:28)

For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you. (Is.41:13)

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. (2 Cor.12:9)

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. (Rm.8:26)

So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" (Heb.13:6)

1 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, 3 though its waters roar and foam. (Ps.46:1-3)

3 In the morning, o Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation. 4 You are not a God who takes pleasure in evil; with you the wicked cannot dwell. 7 But I, by your great mercy, will come into your house; in reverence will I bow down toward your

holy temple. 8 Lead me, o Lord, in your righteousness because of my enemies — make straight your way before me. 11 But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you. (Ps.5:3-4, 7-8, 11)

143 Trouble and distress have come upon me, but your commands are my delight. 144 Your statutes are forever right; give me understanding that I may live. (Ps.119:143-144)

5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name. (Php.2:5-9)

2 Hear my prayer, o God; listen to the words of my mouth. 3 Strangers are attacking me; ruthless men seek my life — men without regard for God. *Selah* (Ps.54:2-3)

9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 10 That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Cor.12:9-10)

26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will. (Rm.8:26-27)

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. (Heb.4:16)

I can do everything through him who gives me strength. (Php.4:13)

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's

mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. (1 Pe.5:6-7)

Depression

So many people experience times of depression and days where everything becomes too much. Listen to the encouraging words of the prophet Isaiah when he prophesied and referred to Jesus hundreds of years before the coming of Christ to the world: 1 “The Spirit of the sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, 2 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, 3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion — to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendour.” (Is.61:1-3)

Why are you downcast, o my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Saviour and my God. (Ps.43:5)

My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. (Ps.73:26)

23 If the Lord delights in a man’s way, he makes his steps firm; 24 though he stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand. (Ps.37:23-24)

This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. (Ps.34:6)

Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! (Is.49:15)

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” (Heb.13:5)

Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. (Lk.6:21)

8 By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me — a prayer to the God of my life. 9 I say to God my Rock, “Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?” (Ps.42:8-9)

But may all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation always say, “The Lord be exalted!” (Ps.40:16)

20 We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. 21 In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. (Ps.33:20-21)

He heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds. (Ps.147:3)

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. (Jn.14:27)

For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. (Php.2:13)

Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Th.5:18)

For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. (2 Cor.4:17)

12 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. (1 Pe.4:12-13)

The ransomed of the Lord will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away. (Is.51:11)

3 O Lord, you brought me up from the grave; you spared me from going down into the pit. 4 Sing to the Lord, you saints of his; praise his holy name. 5 For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favour lasts a lifetime; weeping may remain for a night, but rejoicing comes in the morning. (Ps.30:3-5)

The blessing of the Lord brings wealth, and he adds no trouble to it. (*Pr.10:22*)

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. (*Heb.12:2*)

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. (*1 Jn.4:4*)

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things. (*Php.4:8*)

He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters. (*2 Sa.22:17*)

But he knows the way that I take. (*Job.23:10*)

Together with everyone seeking the Lord's guidance and protection, I now proclaim and declare: 7 The Lord will keep you from all harm — he will watch over your life; 8 the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. (Ps.121:7-8)

Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain. (*Ps.127:1*)

I 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? 2 When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. 3 Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident. 4 One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. 5 For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock. 6 Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord. (Ps.27:1-6)

20 See, I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared. 21 Pay attention to him and listen to what he says. Do not rebel against him; he will not forgive your rebellion, since my Name is in him. 22 If you listen carefully to what he says and do all that I say, I will be an enemy to your enemies and will oppose those who oppose you. 23 My angel will go ahead of you and bring you into the land of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hivites and Jebusites, and I will wipe them out. 24 Do not bow down before their gods or worship them or follow their practices. You must demolish them and break their sacred stones to pieces. 25 Worship the Lord your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you, 26 and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span. 27 I will send my terror ahead of you and throw into confusion every nation you encounter. I will make all your enemies turn their backs and run. (Ex.23:20-27)

7 The Lord is with me; he is my helper. I will look in triumph on my enemies. 8 It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man. (Ps.118:7-8)

And together with my brothers and sisters who are being tested and who are suffering, I declare and proclaim: 11 Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; 12 if we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us. (2 Tim.2:11-12)

57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain. (1 Cor.15:57-58)

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes

even though refined by fire — may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (*1 Pe.1:3-9*)

Together with everyone who is confused and emotionally upset, I proclaim and confess: How clear is your Word that teaches: 28 “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 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. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” (Mt.11:28-30)

9 There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; 10 for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. 11 Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience. (*Heb.4:9-11*)

You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you. (*Is.26:3*)

Great peace have they who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble. (*Ps.119:165*)

3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 6 And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete. (*2 Cor.10:3-6*)

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. (*2 Tim.1:7*)

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. (*Rm.15:13*)

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things. (*Php.4:6-8*)

Pray the Word for Financial, Material and Physical Needs

All of us needs money to survive. Millions in our country and many more in other countries have financial needs. We live in a world where money has become more important than God. We Christians must learn to focus on our Father and to trust him for our daily bread. He promised to take care of his children and as proof, Christ paid the full price for us. Remember, your needs are not bigger than what God can do. Keep your eyes on God and not on your needs or on people who can employ or assist you financially. He is your Father and He will take care of you: And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. (Php.4:19)

25 Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? (Mt.6:25-26)

31 So do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (Mt.6:31-33)

1 If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. 11 The Lord will grant you abundant prosperity — in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground — in the land he swore to our forefathers to give you. 12 The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands.

You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. (Dt.28:1, 11-12)

Carefully follow the terms of this covenant, so that you may prosper in everything you do. (Dt.29:9)

He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever. (Ps.111:5)

If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land. (Is.1:19)

3 If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, 4 I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees of the field their fruit. 5 Your threshing will continue until grape harvest and the grape harvest will continue until planting, and you will eat all the food you want and live in safety in your land. (Lev.26:3-5)

Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! (Lk.12:24)

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. (Lk.11:9)

O Lord Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in you. (Ps.84:12)

3 Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. 25 I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread. (Ps.37:3, 25)

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. (Lk.6:38)

Pray the Word for Strength, Fullness, and the Working of the Holy Spirit

Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. (*Gn.1:2*)

1 Then the Lord said to Moses, *2* “See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, *3* and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts — *4* to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, *5* to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship.” (*Ex.31:1-5*)

I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take of the Spirit that is on you and put the Spirit on them. They will help you carry the burden of the people so that you will not have to carry it alone. (*Nm.11:17*)

Then the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet, summoning the Abiezrites to follow him. (*Jas.6:34*)

The Spirit of the Lord will come upon you in power, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person. (*1 Sa.10:6*)

11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. *12* Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. (*Ps.51:11-12*)

1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. *2* The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him — the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord (*Is.11:1-2*)

For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants. (*Is.44:3*)

1 Who is this coming from Edom, from Bozrah, with his garments stained crimson? Who is this, robed in splendour, striding forward in the greatness of his strength? It is I, speaking in

righteousness, mighty to save. *2* Why are your garments red, like those of one treading the winepress? *3* I have trodden the winepress alone; from the nations no one was with me. I trampled them in my anger and trod them down in my wrath; their blood spattered my garments, and I stained all my clothing. (*Is.63:1-3*)

1 Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! *2* As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! *3* For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. *4* Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acted on behalf of those who wait for him. (*Is.64:1-4*)

19 I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh. *20* Then they will follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. They will be my people, and I will be their God. (*Ez.11:19-20*)

26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. *27* And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. (*Ez.36:26-27*)

But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the Lord, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression, to Israel his sin. (*Mic.3:8*)

So he said to me, “This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,’ says the Lord Almighty.” (*Zech.4:6*)

I baptise you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.” (*Mt.3:11*)

Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations. (*Mt.12:18*)

Whenever you are arrested and brought to trial, do not worry beforehand about what to say. Just say whatever is given you at the time, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit. (*Mk.13:11*)

1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. (*Lk.4:1-2*)

If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! (*Lk.11:13*)

The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit. (*Jn.3:8*)

The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. (*Jn.6:63*)

38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him. 39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified. (*Jn.7:38-39*)

10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. 23 In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. 24 Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete. (*Jn.10:10; 16:23-24*)

16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever — 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. (*Jn.14:16-17*)

But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the

Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. (*Jn.14:26*)

When the Counsellor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. (*Jn.15:26*)

13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. 14 He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. 15 All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you. (*Jn.16:13-15*)

7 But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counsellor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. 8 When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgement: 9 in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; 10 in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; 11 and in regard to judgement, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. (*Jn.16:7-11*)

21 Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." 22 And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (*Jn.20:21-23*)

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. (*Ac.1:8*)

1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. (*Ac.2:1-4*)

17 “In the last days,” God says, “I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. 18 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.” (Ac.2:17-18)

38 Peter replied, “Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off — for all whom the Lord our God will call.” (Ac.2:38-39)

29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. 30 Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus. 31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. (Ac.4:29-31)

Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them (Ac.6:3)

5 This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. 8 Now Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, did great wonders and miraculous signs among the people. (Ac.6:5, 8)

And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. (Rm.5:5)

26 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God’s will. (Rm.8:26-27)

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (Rm.14:17)

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. (Rm.15:13)

5 May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, 6 so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Rm.15:5-6)

4 My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, 5 so that your faith might not rest on men’s wisdom, but on God’s power. (1 Cor.2:4-5)

10 God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. 11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man’s spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. 13 This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. 14 The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. 15 The spiritual man makes judgements about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man’s judgement: 16 For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ. (1 Cor.2:10-16)

Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit lives in you? (1 Cor.3:16)

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power. (1 Cor.4:20)

19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; 20 you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your body. (1 Cor.6:19-20)

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. (1 Cor.12:7)

5 Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. 6 He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant — not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. (2 Cor.3:5-6)

And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. (2 Cor.3:18)

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Cor.13:14)

He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit. (Ga.3:14)

Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." (Ga.4:6)

But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. (Ga.5:18)

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. (Ga.5:22-23, 25)

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit. (Eph.1:13)

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. (Eph.4:3)

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (Eph.4:30)

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to

debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. (Eph.5:18)

17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 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. (Eph.6:17-18)

For I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. (Php.1:19)

To this end I labour, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me. (Col.1:29)

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. (2 Tim.1:7)

5 He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour, (Tit.3:5-6)

God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will. (Heb.2:4)

If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen. (1 Pe.4:11)

16 "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star." 17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life. (Re.22:16-17)

Pray the Word for the Salvation of the Unsaved, Unreached and the Nations

Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. (*Ps.2:8*)

He who gathers crops in summer is a wise son, but he who sleeps during harvest is a disgraceful son. (*Pr.10:5*)

The righteous will never be uprooted, but the wicked will not remain in the land. (*Pr.10:30*)

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" (*Is.6:8*)

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. (*Is.53:5*)

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. (*1 Pe.2:24*)

See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant. (*Jer.1:10*)

Do I take any pleasure in the death of the wicked? declares the sovereign Lord. Rather, am I not pleased when they turn from their ways and live? (*Ez.18:23*)

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. (*Ez.36:26*)

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. (*Mt.6:10*)

37 Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." (*Mt.9:37-38*)

But the one who received the seed that fell on good soil is the man who hears the word and

understands it. He produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. (*Mt.13:23*)

In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost. (*Mt.18:14*)

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 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, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (*Mt.28:18-20*)

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (*Mk.10:45*)

He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." (*Mk.16:15*)

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed. (*Lk.4:18*)

He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." (*Lk.10:2*)

Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost." (*Lk.19:9-10*)

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (*Jn.1:29*)

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,

but to save the world through him. (*Jn.3:16-17*)

Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. (*Jn.4:35*)

For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it. (*Jn.5:21*)

No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day. (*Jn.6:44*)

The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. (*Jn.6:63*)

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (*Jn.10:10*)

He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. (*1 Jn.3:8*)

And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. (*Jn.14:13*)

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. (*Jn.14:27*)

When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgement: (*Jn.16:8*)

20 My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: 23 I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. (*Jn.17:20-23*)

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. (*Ac.1:8*)

Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. (*Ac.4:29*)

Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance? (*Rm.2:4*)

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (*Rm.5:8*)

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." (*Rm.8:15*)

Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. (*Rm.10:1*)

13 Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. 14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (*Rm.10:13-15*)

Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain. (*1 Cor.15:58*)

3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. 4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. (*2 Cor.4:3-4*)

18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. (*2 Cor.5:18-19*)

4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish

arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. (2 *Cor.10:4-5*)

2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (*Eph.2:2, 10*)

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (*Php.2:9-11*)

3 And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. 4 Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. (*Col.4:3-4*)

9 For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 *Th.5:9*)

1 Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honoured, just as it was with you. 2 And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men, for not everyone has faith. (2 *Th.3:1-2*)

3 This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, 4 who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all men — the testimony given in its proper time. (1 *Tim.2:3-6*)

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. (2 *Tim.1:7*)

God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will. (*Heb.2:4*)

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. (1 *Pe.3:15*)

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. (2 *Tim.2:15*)

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. (2 *Pe.3:9*)

14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us — whatever we ask — we know that we have what we asked of him. (1 *Jn.5:14-15*)

If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that. (1 *Jn.5:16*)

Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. (3 *Jn.2*)

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. (*Re.3:20*)

9 And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. 10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth." (*Re.5:9-10*)

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. (*Re.7:9*)

Promises and Blessing of Deuteronomy 28

1. If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth
2. All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God:
3. You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country.
4. The fruit of your womb will be blessed, and the crops of your land and the young of your livestock — the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks.
5. Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed.
6. You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out.
7. The Lord will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven.
8. The Lord will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The Lord your God will bless you in the land he is giving you.
9. The Lord will establish you as his holy people, as he promised you on
10. oath, if you keep the commands of the Lord
11. your God and walk in his ways.
12. Then all the peoples on earth will see that you are called by the name of the Lord, and they will fear you.
13. The Lord will grant you abundant prosperity — in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground — in the land he swore to your forefathers to give you.
14. The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none.
15. The Lord will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the Lord your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom.
16. Do not turn aside from any of the commands I give you today, to the right or to the left, following other gods and serving them.
17. However, if you do not obey the Lord your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come upon you and overtake you.

Who am I in Christ Jesus?

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. (*Mt.5:13*)

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. (*Mt.5:14*)

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. (*Jn.1:12*)

I I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. *5* I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (*Jn.15:1, 5*)

I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. (*Jn.15:15*)

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit — fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. (*Jn.15:16*)

You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. (*Rm.6:18*)

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (*Rm.6:23*)

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. (*Rm.8:1*)

Because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. (*Rm.8:14*)

Now if we are children, then we are heirs — heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. (*Rm.8:17*)

16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? *19* For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight. As it is written: "He catches the wise in their

craftiness." (*1 Cor.3:16, 19*)

But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit. (*1 Cor.6:17*)

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. (*1 Cor.12:27*)

But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them — yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. (*1 Cor.15:10*)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! (*2 Cor.5:17*)

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: *19* that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. (*2 Cor.5:18-19*)

There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. (*Ga.3:28*)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus. (*Eph.1:1*)

20 which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, *21* far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. *6* And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, (*Eph.1:20-21; 2:6*)

6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus. *20* But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, (*Eph.2:6; Php.3:20*)

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (*Eph.2:10*)

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, (*Eph.2:19*)

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles. (*Eph.3:1*)

And to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. (*Eph.4:24*)

For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. (*Col.3:3*)

When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. (*Col.3:4*)

12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. *4* For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you. (*Col.3:12; 1 Th.1:4*)

You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. (*1 Th.5:5*)

Therefore, holy brothers, who share in the heavenly calling, fix your thoughts on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we confess. (*Heb.3:1*)

You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (*1 Pe.2:5*)

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (*1 Pe.2:9*)

Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. (*1 Pe.2:10*)

Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. (*1 Pe.2:11*)

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. (*1 Pe.5:8*)

1 How great is the 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. *2* Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. (*1 Jn.3:1-2*)

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. (*1 Jn.4:4*)

For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. (*1 Jn.5:4*)

We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him. (*1 Jn.5:18*)

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. (*Rm.5:1*)

1 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? *2* By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? *3* Or don't you know that all of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? *4* We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. *5* If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. *6* For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin. (*Rm.6:1-6*)

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, (*Rm.8:1*)

12 We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. *16* For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ. (*1 Cor.2:12,16*)

19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have

received from God? You are not your own; *20* you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your body. (*1 Cor.6:19, 20*)

Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, (*2 Cor.1:21*)

13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, *14* who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession — to the praise of his glory. (*Eph.1:13-14*)

19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, *20* which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms. (*Eph.1:19-20*)

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (*Ga.2:20*)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. (*Eph.1:3*)

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love. (*Eph.1:4*)

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace (*Eph.1:7*)

In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. (*Eph.3:12*)

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, (*Col.1:13*)

To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. (*Col.1:27*)

In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the

circumcision done by Christ. (*Col.2:11*)

10 and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. (*Col.2:10*)

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. (*2 Tim.1:7*)

Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. (*Heb.2:11*)

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. (*Heb.4:16*)

Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. (*2 Pe.1:4*)

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. (*Rm.8:37*)

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? (*Rm.8:31*)

He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all — how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? (*Rm.8:32*)

38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, *39* 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. (*Rm.8:38-39*)

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children (*Rm.8:16*)

And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. (*1 Cor.6:11*)

Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain. (*1 Cor.15:58*)

But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. (2 Cor.2:14)

But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. (2 Cor.12:9)

He was caught up to paradise. He heard inexpressible things, things that man is not permitted to tell. (2 Cor.12:4)

I can do everything through him who gives me strength. (Php.4:13)

This is what God says about me, therefore I can say it about myself and believe it. When the devil comes with his attacks, I can find shelter in these truths and hold it before him. This discourages the devil, especially since it is the truth. He will, however, persist trying to draw us away from these truths and to make us believe that we are losing the battle.

The other part of the truth about being a Christian: *This is not all that the Word of God says about us. It was Martin Luther who said on occasion: “The more holy, the more sinful.” With that he meant that the closer we get to God and the more holy we live, the more we discover our sinfulness and brokenness and how dependant we really are of the Lord. Out of the reformation of the sixteenth century comes the expression *simul justus et peccator* which means: saint and sinner simultaneously. There are two dangers in the Christian life. We can become so aware of who we are in Christ, that we are hallowed and that we are conquerors, that we don’t understand we are sinful and broken people at the same time. On the other hand, we may be so conscious of our sinfulness that we do not realise our victory in Christ and live accordingly.*

Here we are dealing with a spiritual paradox. What is a paradox? A paradox is an apparent contradiction. It seems to be an absurd, illogical, contradictory statement. It is a statement that seemingly, cannot be explained logically at the outset. It can also have the meaning of a statement which is in conflict with the accepted view. Martin Luther’s statement is a paradox. The expression

simul justus et peccator is a paradoxical statement. Unfortunately it is true that in the spiritual life we mostly cannot express ourselves other than in the form of a paradox.

For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do — this I keep on doing. (Rm.7:19)

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. (2 Cor.4:7)

But I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. (Rm.7:23)

Now if we are children, then we are heirs — heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. (Rm.8:17)

Now I rejoice in what was suffered for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ’s afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. (Col.1:24)

In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, (2 Tim.3:12)

7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. (Jas.4:7; 1 Pe.5:8)

13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it. 12 Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. 13 When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; 14 but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. 15 Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. (1 Cor.10:13; Jas.1:12-15)

17 Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. 11 For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie (2 *Pe.3:17*; 2 *Th.2:11*)

So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you. (2 *Cor.4:12*)

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 5 For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows. 6 If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer. 7 And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort. (*Rm.8:18, 35-37*; 2 *Cor.1:5-7*)

Will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields — and with them, persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life. (*Mk.10:30*)

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God. (*Rm.1:1*)

5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God

exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (*Php.2:5-11*)

He must become greater; I must become less. (*Jn.3:30*)

Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, (*Eph.3:8*)

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners — of whom I am the worst. (1 *Tim.1:15*)

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. (*Mt.6:41*)

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. (2 *Cor.12:9*)

He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. (*Heb.5:2*)

We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check. (*Jas.3:2*)

Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. (*Jas.4:14*)

What does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." (*Rm.4:3*)

Prayers and Proclamations for Different Situations

A Life of Health and Strength

28 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. 29 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. 30 Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; 31 but those who hope in 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. (Is.40:28-31)

9 But he said to me: “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. 10 That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Cor.12:9-10)

12 The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; 13 planted in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the courts of our God. 14 They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, 15 proclaiming, “The Lord is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him.” (Ps.92:12-15)

14 But as for me, I will always have hope; I will praise you more and more. 15 My mouth will tell of your righteousness, of your salvation all day long, though I know not its measure. 16 I will come and proclaim your mighty acts, o sovereign Lord; I will proclaim your righteousness, yours alone. 17 Since my youth, o God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. 18 Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, o God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come. (Ps.71:14-18)

21 My son, preserve sound judgement and discernment, do not let them out of your sight; 22 they will be life for you, an ornament to grace your neck. 23 Then you will go on your way in safety, and your foot will not stumble; 24 when you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. 25 Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, 26 for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being snared. (Pr.3:21-26)

I can do everything through him who gives me strength. (Php.4:13)

A Life of Righteousness and Holiness

1 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. 2 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. 22 But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, 23 to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, 24 to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. (Heb.12:1-2; 22-24)

9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ — to the glory and praise of God. (Php.1:9-11)

11 By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. 12 Who can discern his errors? Forgive my hidden faults. 13 Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then will I be blameless, innocent of great transgression. (*Ps.19:11-13*)

9 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. 10 And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, 11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. 13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (*Col.1:9-14*)

1 My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, 2 turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, 3 and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, 4 and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, 5 then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. (*Pr.2:1-5*)

23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth. (*Jn.4:23-24*)

23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

(*1 Th.5:23-24*)

1 Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. 3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers. (*Ps.1:1-3*)

For Guidance, Protection and Keeping

7 The Lord will keep you from all harm — he will watch over your life; 8 the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. (*Ps.121:7-8*)

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? 2 When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. 3 Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident. 4 One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. 5 For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock. 6 Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his tabernacle will I sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord. (*Ps.27:1-6*)

20 See, I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared. 21 Pay attention to him and listen to what he says. Do not rebel against him; he will not forgive your rebellion, since my Name is in him. 22 If you listen carefully to what he says and do all that I say, I will be an enemy to your enemies and will oppose those who oppose you. 23 My angel will go ahead of you and bring you into the land of the Amorites, Hittites, Perissites,

Canaanites, Hivites and Jebusites, and I will wipe them out. 24 Do not bow down before their gods or worship them or follow their practices. You must demolish them and break their sacred stones to pieces. 25 Worship the Lord your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you, 26 and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span. 27 I will send my terror ahead of you and throw into confusion every nation you encounter. I will make all your enemies turn their backs and run. (*Ex.23:20-27*)

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. (*Pr.3:5-6*)

5 In my anguish I cried to the Lord, and he answered by setting me free. 6 The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? 7 The Lord is with me; he is my helper. I will look in triumph on my enemies (*Ps.118:7*)

For God's Intervention in human activities: economy, politics etc

20 Daniel said: "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his. 21 He changes times and seasons; he sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. 22 He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him." (*Dn.2:20-22*)

34 At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honoured and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. 35 All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?" (*Dn.4:34-35*)

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (*Eph.2:8-10*)

7 Show the wonder of your great love, you who save by your right hand those who take refuge in you from their foes. 8 Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings 9 from the wicked who assail me, from my mortal enemies who surround me. (*Ps.17:7-9*)

Then Asa called to the Lord his God and said: "Lord, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, o Lord our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. O Lord, you are our God; do not let man prevail against you." (*2 Chr.14:11*)

O Lord, God of our fathers, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you. (*2 Chr.20:6*)

Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering. (*Heb.13:3*)

7 To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. 8 I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. (*Re.3:7-8*)

5 May all who hate Zion be turned back in shame. 6 May they be like grass on the roof, which withers before it can grow. (*Ps.129:5-6*)

I would hurry to my place of shelter, far from the tempest and storm. (*Ps.55:8*)

The scepter of the wicked will not remain over the land allotted to the righteous, for then the righteous might use their hands to do evil. (*Ps.125:3*)

8 Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the people of the world revere him. 9 For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm. 10 The Lord foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. (*Ps.33:8-10*)

For times of testing and suffering

57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain. (*1 Cor.15:57-58*)

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (*Jas.4:7*)

11 Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; 12 if we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us. (*2 Tim.2:11-12*)

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire — may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. 8

Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (*1 Pe.1:3-9*)

In times of spiritual conflict

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. 10 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. 11 To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen. (*1 Pe.5:6-11*)

3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 6 And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete. (*2 Cor.10:3-6*)

They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death. (*Re.12:11*)

25 The bolts of your gates will be iron and bronze, and your strength will equal your days. 26 There is no one like the God of Jeshurun, who rides on the heavens to help you and on the clouds in his majesty. 27 The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. He will drive out your enemy before you, saying, "Destroy him!" (*Dt.33:25-*

27)

“No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me,” declares the Lord. (*Is.54:17*)

For complete redemption

24 To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy — 25 to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. (*Ju.24-25*)

1 Praise the Lord, o my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. 2 Praise the Lord, o my soul, and forget not all his benefits — 3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, 5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s. (*Ps.103:1-5*)

17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. 18 I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, 20 which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. 22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way. (*Eph.1:17-23*)

I am confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (*Php.1:6*)

1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. (*Rm.8:1-2*)

By one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy. (*Heb.10:14*)

13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: “Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.” 14 He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit. (*Ga.3:13-14*)

Abraham was now old and well advanced in years, and the Lord had blessed him in every way. (*Gn.24:1*)

Mental and emotional stability

28 Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. 29 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. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. (*Mt.11:28-30*)

9 There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; 10 for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. 11 Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience. (*Heb.4:9-11*)

You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you. (*Is.26:3*)

Great peace have they who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble. (*Ps.119:165*)

3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 6 And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete. (2 Cor.10:3-6)

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. (2 Tim.1:7)

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. (Rm.15:13)

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable — if anything is excellent or praiseworthy — think about such things. (Php.4:6-8)

To serve God

14 But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. 15 For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. 16 To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life. And who is equal to such a task? 17 Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, like men sent from God. (2 Cor.2:14-17)

20 Now to him who is able to do immeasur-

ably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Eph.3:20-21)

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. (2 Cor.9:8)

Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. (Mt.18:19)

37 Then he said to his disciples: “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” (Mt.9:37-38)

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. (Mt.24:14)

10 As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, 11 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. (Is.55:10-11)

The effect and power of the blood

They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death. (Re.12:11)

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace. (Eph.1:7)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 Jn.1:9)

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 every sin. (*1 Jn.1:7*)

Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! (*Rm.5:9*)

And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood. (*Heb.13:12*)

Therefore, brothers, we have confidence to enter the most holy Place by the blood of Jesus. (*Heb.10:19*)

But you have come to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. (*Heb.12:24*)

The effect of the cross

4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. 5 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. (*Is.53:4-5*)

Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him (his servant) and cause him to suffer, and though the Lord makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand. (*Is.53:10*)

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (*2 Cor.5:21*)

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. (*Heb.2:9*)

13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." 14 He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit. (*Ga.3:13-14*)

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. (*2 Cor.8:9*)

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. (*2 Cor.9:8*)

35 When they had crucified him, they divided up his clothes by casting lots. 36 And sitting down, they kept watch over him there. (*Mt.27:35-36*)

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. (*Heb.12:2*)

46 About 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?" 47 When some of those standing there heard this, they said, "He's calling Elijah." 48 Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a stick, and offered it to Jesus to drink. 49 The rest said: "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to save him." 50 And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. (*Mt.27:46-50*)

5 He predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will — 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. (*Eph.1:5-6*)

By oppression and judgement he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken. (*Is.53:8*)

But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit. (*1 Cor.6:17*)

For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin. (*Rm.6:6*)

9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. (*Col.3:9-10*)

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the believer

And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. (*2 Cor.3:18*)

The Names of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

Adonai (sovereign Lord; Master)	- Gn.15:2, 8	Christ our Life	- Col.3:4
Advocate	- 1 Jn.2:1	Christ the power of God	- 1 Cor.1:24
Almighty	- Re.1:8	Cluster of Henna Flowers	- SS.1:14
Altogether Lovely	- SS.5:16	Commander	- Is.55:4
Alpha and Omega	- Re.3:14	Consolation of Israel	- Lk.2:25
Anointed	- Ps.2:2	Consuming Fire	- Heb.12:29
Ancient of Days	- Dn.7:13-14	Counsellor	- Is.9:6
Angel of His Presence	- Is.63:9	Covenant to the people	- Is.42:6
Apostle and High Priest	- Heb.3:1	Cover from the tempest	- Is.32:2
Apostle of Confession	- Heb.3:1	Creator of all things	- Col.1:16
Arm of the Lord	- Is.51:9-10	Creator of the ends of the earth	- Is.40:28
As Rivers of Water in a Dry Place	- Is.32:2	Crown of Glory	- Is.28:5
Author of Eternal Salvation	- Heb.5:9	Day Star	- 2 Pe.1:19 (KJV)
Author of our Faith	- Heb.12:2	Day spring from on High	- Lk.1:78
Balm of Gilead	- Jer.8:22	Deliverer	- Rm.11:26
Banner of the Nations	- Is.11:12	Desire of all nations	- Hag.2:7
Beloved	- Mt.12:18	Diadem of Beauty	- Is.28:5
Beginning and End	- Re.22:13	Door of the sheep	- Jn.10:7
Bishop of our Souls	- 1 Pe.2:25 (KJV)	El (The Strong One)	- Dt.10:17
Blessed and Only Potentate (Ruler)	- 1 Tim.6:15	El Elyon (The Most High)	- Gn.14:18-22
Branch	- Zech.6:12	Elah, Eloah (The Adorable One)	- Jer.10:10
Branch of Yahweh	- Is.4:2	Elect Stone	- 1 Pe.2:6
Branch of David	- Is.11:1	Elohim (implies the fullness of His Might)	- Gn.1:26
Branch of Righteousness	- Jer.23:5	El Olam (God of Eternity)	- Is.26:3
Branch out of His Roots	- Is.11:1	El-Roi (The Lord that Seeth)	- Gn.16:13-14
Branch of the Lord	- Is.4:2	El Shaddai (The Almighty, All-Sufficient God)	- Gn.17:1
Bread of God	- Jn.6:33	Emmanuel	- Mt.1:23
Bread of Life	- Jn.6:35	Eternal Life	- 1 Jn.5:20
Bridegroom	- Mt.25:1-10	Eternal Blessed God	- Rm.9:5
Brightness of His Glory	- Heb.1:3	Everlasting Father	- Is.9:6
Bright Morning Star	- Re.22:16	Faithful and True	- Re.19:11
Bundle of Myrrh	- SS.1:13	Faithful and True Witness	- Re.3:14
Captain of our Salvation	- Heb.2:10 (KJV)	Father	- Mt.6:9
Captain of the Host of the Lord	- Jos.5:14 (KJV)	Father of mercies	- 2 Cor.1:3
Carpenter	- Mt.13:55	My Father	- Jn.5:17
Chief Cornerstone	- Ps.118:22; 1 Pe.2:6	Your Father	- Mt.5:16
Chief Shepherd	- 1 Pe.5:4	Our Father	- Mt.6:9
Chief among ten thousand	- SS.5:10	Holy Father	- Jn.17:1
Child	- Is.9:6	Righteous Father	- Jn.17:25
Chosen of God	- Lk.23:35	Abba Father	- Ga.4:6
Christ	- Jn.6:69	Finisher of our Faith	- Heb.12:2
		First and the Last	- Re.1:17

Firstborn among the dead	- <i>Col.1:18</i>	Holy and Awesome	- <i>Ps.111:9</i>
Firstborn over all creation	- <i>Col.1:15;</i> <i>Re.1:5</i>	Holy and True	- <i>Re.6:10</i>
Flame	- <i>Is.10:17</i>	Holy One and the Just	- <i>Ac.3:14</i>
Forerunner	- <i>Heb.6:20</i>	Hope of Glory	- <i>Col.1:27</i>
Fortress	- <i>Ps.18:2</i>	Horn of Salvation	- <i>Lk.1:69</i>
Foundation	- <i>Is.28:16</i>	Husband	- <i>Is.54:5</i>
Foundation of Living Waters	- <i>Jer.17:13-14</i>	I AM	- <i>Jn.8:58</i>
Friend	- <i>Pr.18:24</i>	Image of God	- <i>2 Cor.4:4</i>
Gift of God	- <i>Jn.4:10</i>	Immanuel (God with Us)	- <i>Mt.1:23</i>
Glorious Lord	- <i>Is.33:21</i> (KJV)	Jah (The Independent One)	- <i>Ps.68:4</i>
God full of compassion	- <i>Ps.86:15</i>	Jahweh (The Eternal, Ever Loving One)	- <i>Mal.3:6</i>
God my Saviour	- <i>Lk.1:47</i>	Jahweh-Elohay (The Lord my God)	- <i>Zech.14:5</i>
God of all Comfort	- <i>2 Cor.1:3</i>	Jahweh-Eloheka (The Lord your God)	- <i>Ex.20:2</i>
God of all Grace	- <i>1 Pe.5:10</i>	Jahweh-Eloheenu (The Lord our God)	- <i>Dt.6:4</i>
God of Glory	- <i>Ac.7:2</i>	Jahweh-Elohim (The Eternal Creator)	- <i>Gn.2:4-25</i>
God of Hope	- <i>Rm.15:13</i>	Jahweh-Elyon (The Lord Most High)	- <i>Ps.7:17</i>
God of Love and Peace	- <i>2 Cor.13:11</i>	Jahweh-Gmolah (The God of Recompenses)	- <i>Jer.51:7-8</i>
God of my Life	- <i>Ps.42:8</i>	Jahweh-Hoseenu (The Lord our Maker)	- <i>Ps.95:6</i>
God of Patience and Comfort	- <i>Rm.15:5</i>	Jahweh-Jireh (The Lord will Provide)	- <i>Gn.22:8-14</i>
God of Peace	- <i>Rm.15:33</i>	Jahweh-Makkeh (The Lord shall smite thee)	- <i>Ez.7:9</i>
God of Recompense	- <i>Jer.51:56</i>	Jahweh-Mekaddishkem (The Lord our Sanctifier)	- <i>Lev.20:8</i>
God of Truth	- <i>Dt.32:4</i>	Jahweh-Nissi (The Lord my Banner)	- <i>Ex.17:15</i>
God the Judge of all Good	- <i>Heb.12:23</i> <i>Ps.34:8</i>	Jahweh-Rohi (The Lord is my Shepherd)	- <i>Ps.23:1</i>
Good Master	- <i>Mt.19:16</i>	Jahweh-Ropheka (The Lord your Healer)	- <i>Ex 15:26</i>
Good Shepherd	- <i>Jn.10:11</i>	Jahweh-Sabaoth (The Lord of Hosts)	- <i>1 Sam.1:3;</i> <i>Is.6:3</i>
Good Teacher	- <i>Mk.10:17</i>	Jahweh-Shalom (The Lord our Peace)	- <i>Jdg.6:24</i>
Governor	- <i>Mt.2:6 (KJV)</i>	Jahweh-Shammah (The Lord is There)	- <i>Ez.48:35</i>
Grain Offering	- <i>Lev.2:1-10</i>	Jahweh-Tsidkenu (The Lord our Righteousness)	- <i>Jer.23:6,</i> <i>33:16</i>
Grain of Wheat	- <i>Jn.12:23-24</i>	Jealous	- <i>Gn.34:14</i>
Great High Priest	- <i>Heb.4:14</i>	Jesus Christ	- <i>1 Pe.1:1</i>
Great Light	- <i>Is.9:2</i>	Jesus Christ the Righteous Judge and Law giver	- <i>1 Jn.2:1</i>
Great Prophet	- <i>Lk.7:16</i>	Judge of the living and the dead	- <i>Is.33:22</i>
Habitation of Justice	- <i>Jer.50:7</i>	Just One	- <i>Ac.10:42</i>
Head	- <i>Re.19:12</i>	King	- <i>Ac.7:52</i> <i>Zech.14:16</i>
Head of every Man	- <i>1 Cor.11:3</i>		
Head of the Body	- <i>Col.1:18</i>		
Head over all things	- <i>Eph.1:22</i>		
Heir of all things	- <i>Heb.1:2</i>		
Help of my Countenance	- <i>Ps.42:11</i>		
He who fill all in all	- <i>Eph.1:23</i>		
He who will Come	- <i>Heb.10:36-37</i>		
Hidden Manna	- <i>Re.2:17</i>		
Hiding Place from the Wind	- <i>Is.32:2</i>		
High and Lofty One	- <i>Is.57:15</i>		
High Priest	- <i>Heb.3:1</i>		
Highest	- <i>Lk.1:76</i>		
His Only Begotten Son	- <i>Jn.3:16</i>		
Holy	- <i>Is.57:15</i>		

King of Glory	- Ps.24:10	Man of war	- Ex.16:31
King of Kings	- Re.17:14	Master	- 1 Tim.2:5
King of Peace	- Heb.7:2	Master of the House	- Lk.13:25
King of Righteousness	- Heb. 7:2	Mediator	- Job 9:33
King of the Saints	- Re.15:3	Mediator of a better	- Heb.8:6
King over all the earth	- Zech.14:9	Covenant	
Lamb in the midst of the	- Re.7:17	Mediator of the new	- Heb.12:24
Throne		Covenant	
Lamb of God	- Jn.1:29	Messenger of the Covenant	- Mal.3:1
Lamb Slain	- Re.5:12	Messiah	- Jn.4:25
Lamb without blemish	- 1 Pe.1:19	Mighty God	- Is.9:6
Last Adam	- 1 Cor.15:45	Mighty One	- Ps.45:3
Leader	- Is.55:4	Morning Star	- Re.2:28
Life-giving Spirit	- 1 Cor.15:45	Morning without clouds	- 2 Sa.23:4
Light Everlasting	- Is.60:19-20	Most High	- Ps.18:13
Light of men	- Jn.1:4	Most Holy	- Dn.9:24
Light of the City	- Re.21:23	My Beloved	- Mt.12:18
Light of the Gentiles	- Is.42:6; Lk.2:32	My Elect One	- Is.42:1
Light of the Morning	- 2 Sam.23:4	My Fortress	- Ps.12:2
Light of the World	- Jn.8:12	My Glory	- Ps.3:3
Lily of the Valley	- SS.2:1	My Helper	- Heb.13:6
Lion	- Re.5:5	My High Tower	- Ps.144:2
Lion of the Tribe of Judah	- Re.5:5	My Hope	- Ps.71:5
Living Bread	- Jn.6:51	My Lord and My God	- Jn.20:28
Living Stone	- 1 Pe.2:4	My Portion	- Ps.73:26
Lord	- Rm.10:13	My Power	- 2 Sa.22:33
Lord and Saviour Jesus	- 2 Pe.3:18	My Rock of Refuge	- Ps.31:2
Christ		My Salvation	- Ps.38:22
Lord from Heaven	- 1 Cor.15:47	My Shield	- 2 Sa.22:3
Lord God Almighty	- Re.4:8	My Strength	- Is.12:2
Lord God of Truth	- Ps.31:5	My Support	- 2 Sa.22:19
Lord God Omnipotent	- Re.19:6	Nazarene	- Mt.2:23
Lord Mighty in battle	- Ps.24:8	Offering	- Eph.5:2
Lord Most High	- Ps.47:2	Ointment Poured Forth	- SS.1:3
Lord of all	- Ac.10:36	Only Begotten of the Father	- Jn.1:14
Lord of all the earth	- Zech.6:5	Only Wise God	- 1 Tim.1:17
Lord of Hosts	- 1 Cor.2:8	Our Passover	- 1 Cor.5:7
Lord of Lords	- Re.17:14	Our Peace	- Eph.2:14
Lord of the dead and the	- Rm.14:9	Our Potter	- Is.64:8
living		Passover	- 1 Cor.5:7
Lord our Maker	- Ps.95:6	Peace offering	- Lev.3:1-5
Lord our Righteousness	- Jer.23:6	Physician	- Lk.4:23
Lord over all	- Rm.10:12	Polished Shaft	- Is.49:2
Lord Strong and Mighty	- Ps.24:8	Power of God	- 1 Cor.1:24
Lord who Created the	- Is.45:18	Precious Stone	- 1 Pe.2:6
Heavens		Priest Forever	- Heb.5:6
Lord your Redeemer	- Is.43:14	Prince of Life	- Ac.3:15
Love	- 1 Jn.4:8	Prince of Peace	- Dn.8:25
Man	- Jn.19:5	Prophet	- Jn.7:40
Maker	- Is.17:7	Propitiation (atoning	- 1 Jn.2:2
Maker of all things	- Jer.51:19	sacrifice) for our sins	
Man attested by God	- Ac.2:22	Purifier; Refiner	- Mal.3:3
Man of sorrows	- Is.53:3	Rabbi	- Jn.1:49
		Rain upon the Mown Grass	- Ps.72:6

Ransom	- <i>Mk.10:45</i>	Tried Stone	- <i>Is.28:16</i>
Redeemer	- <i>Is.59:20</i>	True Bread of Heaven	- <i>Jn.6:32</i>
Refiner and Purifier	- <i>Is.25:4</i>	True God	- <i>1 Jn.5:20</i>
Refuge	- <i>Dt.33:27</i>	True Light	- <i>Jn.1:9</i>
Resting Place	- <i>Jer.50:6</i>	Truth	- <i>Jn.14:6</i>
Restorer	- <i>Ps.23:3</i>	Unspeakable Gift	- <i>2 Cor.9:15</i> (KJV)
Resurrection and the Life	- <i>Jn.11:25</i>	Upholder of all things	- <i>Heb.1:3</i>
Rewarder	- <i>Heb.11:6</i>	Vine	- <i>Jn.15:5</i>
Rock	- <i>Dt.32:18</i>	Wall of fire	- <i>Zech.2:5</i>
Rock of Offence	- <i>1 Pe.2:8</i>	Way, Truth, Life	- <i>Jn.14:6</i>
Rock that is Higher than I	- <i>Ps.62:2</i>	Wisdom	- <i>Pr.8:12</i>
Rod of your strength	- <i>Ps.110:2</i>	Wisdom of God	- <i>1 Cor.1:24</i>
Root of David	- <i>Re.5:5</i>	Wonderful	- <i>Is.55:4</i>
Root of Jesse	- <i>Is.11:10</i>	Word	- <i>Jn.1:1</i>
Root out of dry ground	- <i>Is.53:2</i>	Word of God	- <i>Re.19:13</i>
Ruler	- <i>Mic.5:2</i>	Word of Life	- <i>1 Jn.1:1</i>
Ruler over the kings of the Earth	- <i>Re.1:5</i>	Your Confidence	- <i>Pr.3:26</i>
Sanctuary	- <i>Is.8:14</i>	Your exceedingly Great Reward	- <i>Gn.15:1</i>
Saviour of the World	- <i>1 Jn.4:14</i>	Your Shade	- <i>Ps.121:5</i>
Sceptre	- <i>Gn.49:10</i>	Your Keeper	- <i>Gn.15:1</i>
Seed	- <i>Gn.3:15</i>		
Servant	- <i>Is.52:13-15</i>	Names of the Holy Spirit	
Shade from the heat	- <i>Is.25:4</i>	The Spirit of God	- <i>Gn.1:2</i>
Shadow of a great rock in a weary land	- <i>Is.32:2</i>	The Spirit of the Lord	- <i>Is.11:2</i>
Shepherd and Bishop	- <i>1 Pe.2:25</i>	The Spirit of the Lord	- <i>Is.61:1</i>
Shelter for His people	- <i>Joel 3:16</i>	God	
Shield	- <i>2 Sa.22:31</i>	The Spirit	- <i>Nm.11:17</i>
Shield of your help	- <i>Dt.33:29</i>	My Spirit	- <i>Gn.6:3</i>
Shiloh (Peacemaker)	- <i>Gn.49:10</i>	Your Spirit	- <i>Neh.9:30</i>
Sign	- <i>Lk.2:34</i>	His Spirit	- <i>Ps.106:33</i>
Son of God	- <i>Mk.6:3</i>	Your Good Spirit	- <i>Neh.9:20</i>
Son of Man	- <i>Mt.8:20</i>	Your Free Spirit	- <i>Ps.51:12</i>
Son of the Most High God	- <i>Mk.5:7</i>	Your Holy Spirit	- <i>Ps.51:11</i>
Spirit of Justice	- <i>Is.28:5-6</i>	His Holy Spirit	- <i>Is.63:10-11</i>
Star	- <i>Nm.24:17</i>	A New Spirit	- <i>Ez.11:19, 36:26</i>
Star out of Jacob	- <i>Nm.24:17</i>	The Spirit of Wisdom	- <i>Is.11:2</i>
Stone cut out without hands	- <i>Dn.2:34-35</i>	The Spirit of	- <i>Is.11:2</i>
Stone of stumbling	- <i>1 Pe.2:8</i>	Understanding	
Strength of my life	- <i>Ps.27:1</i>	The Spirit of Counsel and Might	- <i>Is.11:2</i>
Strength to the needy	- <i>Is.25:4</i>	The Spirit of Knowledge and the Fear of The Lord	- <i>Is.11:2</i>
Strength to the poor	- <i>Is.25:4</i>	The Spirit of Grace and Supplication	- <i>Zech.12:10</i>
Strong Lord	- <i>Ps.89:8 (KJV)</i>	The Spirit of Burning	- <i>Is.4:4</i>
Strong Tower	- <i>Ps.61:3</i>	The Voice of The Almighty	- <i>Ez.1:24</i>
Stronghold	- <i>Nah.1:7</i>	The Voice of Yahweh	- <i>Ps.29:2</i>
Sun and Shield	- <i>Ps.84:11</i>	The Breath of The Almighty	- <i>Job 32:8</i>
Sure foundation	- <i>Is.28:16</i>	The Promise of The	- <i>Ac.1:4</i>
Surety	- <i>Heb.7:22</i>		
Sword of your Majesty	- <i>Dt.33:29</i>		
Teacher	- <i>Mt.23:8</i>		
Tender Grass	- <i>2 Sa.23:4</i>		
Tower of Salvation	- <i>2 Sa.22:51</i>		
Trap and a snare	- <i>Is.8:14</i>		

Father

The Promise of My Father - *Lk.24:49*
The Promise of The Spirit - *Ga.3:14*
The Gift of God - *Jn.4:10*
The Spirit of Him Who Raised up Jesus - *1 Pe.3:18*
The Spirit of Our God - *1 Cor.6:11*
The Spirit of Holiness - *Rm.1:4*
The Spirit of Love - *2 Tim.1:7*
The Spirit of Life - *Rm.8:2*
The Spirit of Adoption - *Rm.8:15*
The Spirit of Faith - *2 Cor.4:13*
The Spirit of Praise - *1 Cor.14:15*
The Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation - *Eph.1:17*
The Spirit of Promise - *Eph.1:13*
The Spirit of Grace - *Zech.12:10*
The Spirit of Glory - *1 Pe.4:14*
The Spirit of Truth - *Jn.14:17*
The Holy Spirit of God - *Eph.4:30*
His Holy Spirit - *1 Th.4:8*
The Power of The Highest - *Lk.1:35*
Meal Offering - *Lev.2:5*
The Spirit of Jesus - *Ac.16:6-7*
The Spirit of Christ - *Rm.8:9*
The Spirit of Jesus Christ - *Php.1:19*
His Witness - *Ac.5:30-32*
Another Comforter - *Jn.14:16*

God - *Ac.5:3-4*
Lord - *2 Cor.3:17*
Eternal Spirit - *Heb.9:14*
Omnipresent Spirit - *Ps.139:7-10*
Omniscient Spirit - *1 Cor.2:10*
Omnipotent Spirit - *Rm.15:13*
Seven Spirits - *Re.4:5*
Unction From The Holy One - *1 Jn.2:20*
Wind - *Jn.3:8*
Water - *Jn.7:37-39*
Fire - *Is.4:4*
Salt - *Mt.5:13*
Wine - *Ac.2:13-15*
Oil - *Heb.1:9*
Seed - *1 Jn.3:9*
Seal - *Eph.1:13*
Earnest - *2 Cor.1:22*
Clothing - *Jdg.6:34*
Dove - *Lk.3:22*
Porter - *Jn.10:3*
Advocate - *1 Jn.2:1*
Paraclete (Counsellor) - *Jn.14:16*
Helper - *Rm.8:26*
Witness - *Rm.8:16*
Finger of God - *Mt.12:28; Lk.11:20*

The Hour that Changes the World

An hour seems a very long time to spend in prayer, especially for young Christians. How can I spend an hour in prayer meaningfully without repeating myself, and without it becoming boring and a burden? Dick Eastman suggests in his book *The Hour that Changes the World* that we divide an hour into 12 periods of 5 minutes each. You change to another form of prayer after every 5 minutes. The following is his method:

1. Praise and worship
2. Waiting on the Lord
3. Confession
4. Praying Scripture
5. Watching
6. Intercession
7. Petitions
8. Thanksgiving
9. Song
10. Meditation
11. Listening
12. Praise



(The above illustration is taken from *The Hour that Changes the World* by Dick Eastman © 1978 by Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, MI)

This book of Dick Eastman is a valuable asset and one can hardly improve on it. I would wholeheartedly recommend it. There is a summary at the end of each of the twelve chapters. The following

is a short synopsis of each of the 12 aspects of prayer:

Praise — is an act of commitment to God. Through praise we acknowledge God for who He is, exalt Him with our words, our whole being and our attitude, in prayer. All prayer should start with praise. *Ps. 115:1* says: “Not to us, o Lord, not to us but to your Name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.” We praise Him for his Name, His justice, love, holiness, omnipotence, greatness, faithfulness, his Word, his creation, his redemption, etc. You can for instance, use a different theme each time in this time span of praise and worship. Expand on this theme as much as possible, meditate on it, weigh the practical implications of it on your life and the lives of others. Watch out, though for a mere repetition of words.

Waiting on the Lord — is an act of silent love or adoration of God. It incorporates worship and praise to God for who He is. It is to worship God and to praise Him for who He is. During this period of silence we tune in to (adjust ourselves to) God Himself, we direct our whole being to Him and commit ourselves to Him anew. We rejoice in and over his presence. *Ps. 46:10* says: “Be still and know that I am God.” We can say that this is a very intimate form of communication between God and ourselves; it is I, as the limited (shackled) and finite being, before God who is the unlimited and infinite Being. We make sure at this point that we are in contact with God. This time of waiting on the Lord cannot be hurried, there is no place for impatience and haste here. During this time you think of nothing else but God the Father, his Son Jesus your Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit. You need not express your thoughts in words. Concentrate on your relationship with God and your love for Him.

Confession — is the condition of admission to God. This is a time of self-examination (introspection) and allowing the Holy Spirit to point out any unconfessed sin to you. I acknowledge my sin and sinfulness before the Lord during this period; I confess my sin and turn my back on it; I break with my sin and accept the Lord’s forgiveness. Confession is the cleansing of

the Christian. Sin builds a wall between us and God so that God will not hear us. (*Is.59:1-2*) Our sins are paid for and forgiven solely through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ on the grounds of his death on the Cross. I don't ask God to change the circumstances during confession, but that He will forgive and change me. Confess each form of failure, negligence and sin. Also see chapter 4 in connection with this.

Praying Scripture — To be able to pray in a balanced way, I have to spend time in the Word. I must get to know God's promises and pray them to God. The promises of God create faith. In the first place, the Bible is a book that has to be believed and obeyed. During this period I ask, "Lord what promises can I make my own; what commands must I obey, what warnings must I pay attention to?" The Word is our prayer manual. We must remind the Lord of his promises in his Word day and night. As you read Scripture, ask the Lord how to apply it in your life and in your prayer time. Your prayers must become quotations from Scripture more and more. Take a special look at the quotation from George Muller's autobiography in chapter 10 and take another look at chapter 8.

Watching — a time of spiritual perception (observation) to be spiritually aware of matters to pray for. It will lead to praying for the needs of others and some of your own needs. You tune into the Lord, and ask the Holy Spirit specifically to draw your attention to specific matters, so that you can pray for them. Be especially wary and alert for the onslaughts of the evil one during this time. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you the plans, methods, strongholds and strategies of the evil one. Paul teaches us to watch and pray with thanksgiving. "Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." (*Col.4:2*) Satan will certainly try to keep you from praying and confuse you so that you cannot concentrate. Be wary, rebuke and resist him. Be sure to pray purposefully. What are the problems people experience while teaching the Gospel? Pray for that. Are there things reported in the newspapers, things that we hear on the radio or see on the television that we should pray for? Things like economic problems, political unrest, wars, etc.

Intercession — to intercede for others, to pray for others. In intercession we concentrate on the needs and distress of others — we stand in the gap for someone else. Intercession is God's method to get

his children involved in his plan for the world. We become involved in world evangelization during intercession. When you intercede you stand at God's side and you work with Him for the salvation or the benefit of someone else. By faithful intercession you can do as much as those who are physically in the field. Work out a systematic plan for intercession, start with your own household and family, then your friends and church, then your town, your country and lastly, the whole world (see chapters 13 and 14). Every Christian should have a burden for lost souls and a world in need. Remember the church of the Lord also needs intercession. Intercession is not only on behalf of unbelievers. Spiritual warfare is an element of intercessory prayer that deserves a specific place in our prayer time. Pray and ask the Lord to show you through the working of the Holy Spirit where the powers of evil are at work. Bind evil forces in Jesus' Name, break their strongholds and resist them. Resist the devil, don't give him a hold in your life. Jesus conquered the evil one on the Cross. We as believers must proclaim his victory in each area of life. Spiritual warfare will also be part of your prayer time during watching and petition.

Petition — for your personal needs. The believer may and should come to his Father and pray for his own personal needs. And he can pray expectantly, even for the smallest things. During this period we pray for our "daily bread" and we also pray for spiritual strengthening and equipment for our lives and work as believers. I look to the Lord in total dependence to meet my needs. We must never ask out of selfishness. No, our requests must bring praise to our Father. Anticipate what your needs are going to be during the day in this period, and pray for them. John Rice said, "Prayer is asking and receiving." Tell the Lord why you ask these things from Him, thus ensuring that your intentions are pure. Come with frankness, as our Father wants to meet our needs gladly.

Thanksgiving — is to acknowledge your appreciation to the Lord for what He has done for you and others. During this period I thank God for who He is, his gifts, his answers to my prayers, his care and provision. Thank the Lord for spiritual, material, physical and any other blessings. Be specific in your thanksgiving and beware of generalisations. Tell the Lord why you are grateful. Think about the day or days gone by, and thank the Lord for everything which you have

received from Him.

Song — is melodious worship. Song does not have to be used during communal worship only. The intercessor can sing his own (new) song to the Lord or make use of existing songs as circumstances determine. Song and spiritual warfare (our battle with the evil one) are inextricably linked to each other. During this period one praises, worships, exalts and adores your Father in song. Your singing can take the form of praise songs, songs that testify to God's power and grace, thanksgiving and songs about God's Name. To sing to the glory of the Lord is definitely a **command** from God. (*Ps.100*) Sing enthusiastically and heartily, because you are exalting God. The attitude of your heart and the fact that you are carrying out his instructions are of greater value to the Lord than whether you can sing beautifully, or can sing in tune.

Meditation — means to reflect upon or examine a matter more closely (deeply), to evaluate it spiritually. During this period I think about the Being and the nature of the Triune God, his creation and great deeds. You can use a portion of Scripture to reflect upon, a Psalm for instance, but also other portions. Christian meditation is the opposite of Eastern meditation. To the Christian, meditation is an active process of evaluation, searching and pondering, where he uses his full intellect and is led by Scripture and the Holy Spirit in his meditation. Meditation is to ponder in a disciplined way. Beware that Satan does not plant his thoughts into your mind. Also beware of negative thoughts during this time. Consider everything that is true, pure, noble, right, beautiful and praiseworthy. When you meditate on a certain portion of Scripture you must ask yourself among other things, what this portion means to you.

Listening — is a period during which you ask the Lord to reveal new things to you, things that He wants you to notice and pay attention to. You deliberately ask God to reveal his will and strategies/plans to you. In waiting on the Lord the emphasis is on loving God. During meditation we want to learn more from God. During the period of listening we want to hear what God wants to say to us. During this period I ask, "Lord, what do you expect from me; What is your will for me?" You can also ask the Lord specific questions, perhaps some difficult questions that you do not have the answers to. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. Write down all the thoughts that, in your opinion, come from the Lord, and put them to the test in Scripture. Use them as directives for the execution of God's command. Be careful not to say immediately, "The Lord said this and that to me." Always test if the Lord is still with you in the matter and be prepared to make a change of course, if necessary.

Worship — to exalt God and say of Him: "I know who I am praying to and I trust Him with my prayers (supplications)." This is a period of jubilation before the Lord. Let your AMEN be strong at the end and confirm thus that you believe that God has heard you and will answer you. Amen means "it is true and sure," "so shall it be." This "method" of prayer can be applied meaningfully by individuals and by prayer groups. Of course you don't have to keep to 5 minutes. It can be shorter or longer. Eventually each individual will develop his own method or style. All the elements do not have to be present during each prayer session. You will also notice that some of these sections overlap each other. Initially keep to the scheme, but be free to do it in a different order or to incorporate two or three aspects with each other.

Jabez's Prayer

How to use the prayer of Jabez to pray for one hour

In *1 Chr.4: 9-10* we read of Jabez, a man who enjoyed greater respect than his brothers: “**Jabez was honourable above his brothers** (*was honoured more than his brothers*): **but his mother named him Jabez** (*sorrow maker*), saying, ‘**Because I bore him in pain**’. **Jabez cried to the God of Israel, saying, ‘Oh that you would bless me and enlarge my border, and that your hand might be with me, and you would keep me from evil so it might not hurt me!’ And God granted his request.**”

This is an exceptional prayer. Most probably, the reason why Jabez was more honoured than his brothers is to be found in this prayer. Jabez's prayer is a useful model for people who wish to pray meaningfully for an hour. If one spends approximately 8-9 minutes on each of the elements that may be discerned in this prayer, it would take up about an hour.

1. Call upon the Name of the Lord. (Jabez cried to the God of Israel)

Start by calling on the Name of the Lord. This is what Jabez did. In *Gn.4:26b* we read: “At that time men began to call [upon God] by the name of the Lord.” In dozens of places in the Bible we read about people “*calling upon the Name of the Lord.*”

Gn.32:26-28 – 26 Then the man said, “Let me go, for it is daybreak.” But Jacob replied, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.” 27 The man asked him, “What is your name?” “Jacob,” he answered. 28 Then the man said, “Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome.” Pray like Jacob, who became a prince with God through laying hold of God, wrestling with God.

Practical exercise: Be still before the Lord Almighty and focus on Him only. Consider the different names of the Lord. Start your time of prayer every day by focussing on 10 to 15 of the Names of God (or as many as are meaningful to you). The names of God reflect his character: they reveal what He wishes us to know about Him and what He want to do for us. When we call upon the

Name of the Lord, we should keep the following in mind:

- Remember what his Name(s) represent.
- Rejoice and delight in his Name.
- Express your love for Him and your faith by using /calling his Name.
- Believe in his Name.
- Make your prayer requests in his Name.
- Stand upon the authority of his Name.
- Rebuke Satan in his Name.
- Sanctify your prayers in his Name.
- Obtain the support of the triune God by using his Name.
- Use his Name as your shelter and your strength.

2. Lord, bless me

Jabez's first prayer request was, “**Oh, that you would bless me** (*grant me Godly favour*).” He asks for unlimited blessing — that God would shower his blessings upon him; bless him abundantly. Jabez knew the secret of invoking God's blessing upon himself.

What does the word “bless” mean? Within a religious context, a blessing refers to the favour of God; that God will grant prosperity; that God will help and protect. It implies God's goodwill; that man will receive only the best from God; that God will grant success and make him happy. Whomever is blessed by God shall receive from Him all that is good and beautiful. Have you ever asked for God's blessing on your life, fully expecting that He will give it? If we do not have God's blessing, God's favour, we have nothing to give to others as it is only from the abundance that God gives us that we can again give unto others. Study the following Scriptures: *Nm.6:24-27* — The Lord bless you and watch, guard and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon and enlighten you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. And they shall put my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them. *Eph.1:3* — May blessing be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ Who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realm! *Gn.12:3* — And I will bless those who bless you and curse him who curses or uses insolent language towards you; in you will all the families

and kindred of the earth be blessed.

According to these passages from Scripture God wishes to bless us and because He blesses us we should be a blessing unto others. According to *Nm.6:27* it was the duty of the priests to call the Name of the Lord upon the Israelites. In other words, it was their duty to bless them. As all believers are priests of God (*1 Pe.2:9-10*) we are called to do the same to the people around us.

Organise this part of your time of prayer as follows: Ask God the Father to bless you.

- Pray about your personal needs, pray for your own crises.
- Ask God to pour his abundance and favour upon you. Speak to God about the desires of your heart. God wants to bless you. Ask Him for both the small and the big things in life: He is your Father and it pleases Him to care for his children.
- Ask God the Father to bless you and your family.
- Ask God the Father to bless your church.
- Ask God the Father to bless the nations.
- Pray for different countries and populations groups by name.

3. Lord, enlarge my territory

Jabez's second prayer request to the Almighty God was: **Enlarge my border/territory/ coast (increase/extend it).**

So many Christians pray only for protection, safety, or just to stay alive. God the Father has called us as kings, priests and prophets to take the gospel of peace to the ends of the earth. (*Mt.28:18-20*) This is what Jesus taught his disciples in the *Our Father* when He prayed, *Let Thy Kingdom come*. In *Is.54:2-3* the people of Israel are given the following command: *Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; spare not; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes, for you will spread abroad to the right hand and to the left; and your offspring will possess the nations and make desolate cities to be inhabited.*

Jabez asked the Lord to give him a larger territory. God wishes also to extend your territory, your area of spiritual responsibility. Imagine what would happen if every day you prayed earnestly, "Lord extend my territory. Give me greater spiritual responsibility in your Kingdom. Give me

more people to lead to You, more people for whom I can pray, more work to do for You." If you pray this from today on for the rest of your life, just imagine what God would be able to accomplish through you. God did this for Jabez and He wants to do it for each one of us. Are you ready to be more involved in the Kingdom, to do more for the Lord, to take on greater responsibility, to dream bigger dreams, and to ask God for a greater spiritual vision?

Every time you pray, ask the Lord to extend your territory. Listen to what God wishes to say to you and make yourself available to God so that He can do more and greater things through you so that others may be blessed. Set aside this time in your hour of prayer to pray for the extension of the Kingdom. When you pray that God will extend your territory, also ask it for your family your church and for the Church all over the world.

4. Lord, let your hand be with me

Jabez's third request was: **Let your hand be with me (that your power and presence will be in my life).** In the language of the New Testament, Jabez asked, "Give me your spiritual power. Fill me with the Holy Spirit."

The moment that God blesses you and extends your territory, you will immediately begin to find yourself in situations in which you will realise that the work and the responsibilities that God has given you surpass your human capabilities. Only then will begin to realise that you cannot do the Lord's work in your own spiritual strength. People cannot live spiritual lives in their own strength. It is at this point that we call out to God in desperation and beg Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit and give us his Godly strength.

In *Ac.1:8* the Lord promised, "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth." *Eph.5:18* admonishes us to be, *ever be filled with the Holy Spirit*. In *Eph.3:16-21* the apostle Paul prays: *May he grant you out of the rich treasury of his glory to be strengthened and reinforced with mighty power in the inner man by the Spirit. May Christ through your faith dwell in your hearts! May you be rooted deep in love and founded securely on love. That you may have the power and be strong to apprehend and grasp with all the saints what is the breadth and length and*

height and depth of it. That you may come to know the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge; that you may be filled unto all the fullness of God! Now to him who, by the power that is at work within us, is able to do super-abundantly, far over and above all that we dare ask or think, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and ever. Amen.

During this period of your time of prayer you can pray for the power of God in your life, that you may be filled with the Holy Spirit, and that the Hand of God will be upon you. You can pray for God's presence in your life, that his supernatural power and presence will empower you and guide you to do his will. Pray this for yourself, your family, your church, for other congregations and for the Church all over the world.

5. Lord, keep me from evil

Jabez's fourth prayer was: **Keep me from evil so it might not hurt me** (*so that I will not experience pain nor cause pain*). This is exactly what Jesus taught his disciples in the *Lord's Prayer*: *Let us not come into temptation, but deliver us from evil.* (Mt.6:13) In 2 Th.3:3 Paul says, "Yet the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and set you on a firm foundation and guard you from the evil one." In Jas.4:7 James, the brother of Jesus, teaches: "Be subject to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." The apostle Peter warns in 1 Pe.5:8: "Be well balanced, be vigilant and cautious at all times; for that enemy of yours, the devil, roams around like a lion roaring, seeking someone to seize upon and devour."

During this period of your hour of prayer pray that God will not lead you into temptation; that no evil will befall you; that there will be no pain and anguish in your life. Pray that God will protect you from attacks and temptations by the evil one and that if the devil should attack you, the Lord God will give you the victory. Pray this prayer for yourself, your family, your church, and for believers all over the world.

6. Lord, help me not to cause any pain

Literally, Jabez means *the one who causes pain*. The word may, however, be translated in two ways: meaning either "That I experience no anguish/pain" or "that I shall not cause pain." For the purposes of this hour of prayer, let us choose to give it the second meaning.

Pray that you will not cause pain in the lives of others. Pray that the Lord will help you not to hurt others by your actions, words, deeds or what you neglect to do. Pray for spiritual insight and sensitivity with regard to the physical, practical and spiritual needs of others so that you may be a blessing to them. Confess your sins and weaknesses and resolve to refrain from doing whatever the Lord lays upon your heart that may be to the detriment of others, cause pain in their lives or cause them not to receive or experience God's blessing. Pray for practical opportunities in your daily life to ease pain and to be a blessing to someone. Pray this prayer for yourself, your church and for other believers as God lays their names upon your hearts.

7. Praise and thanksgiving

At the end of Jabez's prayer we read: **And God granted his request.** Does the fact that God answers prayers not give reason for praise and thanksgiving? Mt.7:7-8 reads: *Ask and it will be given you; keep on seeking and you will find; keeps on knocking and the door will be opened to you.* According to Jas.4:2-3: (We) do not have because (we) do not ask. Or (we) ask and fail to receive because (we) ask with wrong purpose and evil, selfish motives. (Our) intention is to spend it in sensual pleasures. God answers prayer. Many people receive nothing from God because they do not pray. Those who pray, receive much from God.

Use the last minutes of your hour of prayer to thank God for answers to prayer and to praise Him for his goodness. You may use some of the Psalms to praise and worship God. Close your hour of prayer on a triumphant and victorious note by thanking God. Praise and worship Him.

Take Note:

1. Jabez prayed — he didn't just complain. No, he called on the name of the Lord.
2. He prayed with boldness — cried out to God. *24 And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. 25 And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him. 26 And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. 27 And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. 28 And he said, Thy*

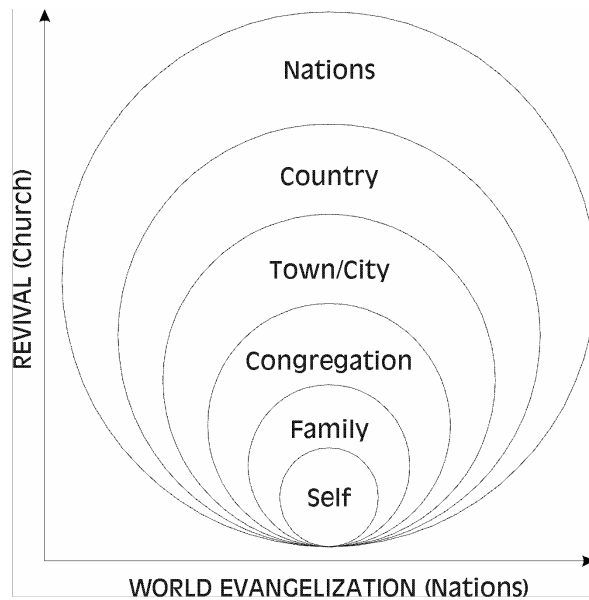
name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed. Because Jacob called out to God in prayer, held on and wrestled with Him, God changed his name from Jacob (Deceiver) to Israel (Prince with God).

3. He prayed a God size prayer. He asked of God what was humanly impossible. Jabez was in a hopeless and desperate situation, but because he called out God. He did the impossible because God is God of the impossible.
4. He prayed till God answered — not just till He heard. So many people pray once or twice and then stop. Persevere in prayer, pray it through, until you have an answer from God.

Become an intercessor like Jabez

1. Begin every day by praying Jabez's prayer. Every day! To discipline yourself, tick the days that you prayed this prayer off on a calendar. Do not make it a ritual prayer. Pray this prayer earnestly every day, with a genuine expectation that God will hear your prayer.
2. Secondly, begin to put time aside.
3. Try, as far as possible, to spend an hour in prayer every day.
4. Start a prayer group and pray together at least once a week for an hour. As soon as the group grows to more than 7, divide and start a second group.
5. Use Jabez's prayer to pray for yourself, your

family, your church, the country and the ends of the earth.



6. Start keeping a personal prayer journal of the changes that occur in your life, answers to prayer, spiritual breakthroughs and God's blessings in your life.
7. Read the book *The Prayer of Jabez* by Bruce Wilkinson, founder and president of *WaLk.Thru the Bible*. The following two books are also highly recommended: *The Hour That Changes the World* by Dick Eastman and *Could You Not Tarry One Hour* by Larry Lea.

