

Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,

³ he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

⁴ 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.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Psalm 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the mountains— 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.

Psalm 1

¹ Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers,

² but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night.

³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither whatever they do prospers.

⁴ Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

⁶ For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

Psalm 8

¹ LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens.

² Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against 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 mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

⁵ You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.

⁶ You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet:

⁷ all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,

⁸ the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

⁹ LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Psalm 100

¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

² Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

³ 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.

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.

Psalm 150

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 timbrel and dancing, praise him with the strings and pipe,

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.

Psalm 91

¹ Whoever 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 say, "The LORD is my refuge," and you make the Most High your dwelling,

¹⁰ no harm will overtake 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 on 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 on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.

¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

Psalm 32

¹ Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

² Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them 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 on 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.

⁶ Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them.

⁷ You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

⁹ Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

¹⁰ Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him.

¹¹ Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

Psalm 15

¹ LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent?

Who may live on your holy mountain?

² The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart;

³ whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others;

⁴ who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the LORD; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind;

⁵ who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

Psalm 103

¹ Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

² Praise the LORD, 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.

⁶ The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all the oppressed.

⁷ He made known his ways to Moses,
his deeds to the people of Israel:

⁸ The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

⁹ He will not always accuse,
nor will he harbor 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;

¹⁴ for he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.

¹⁵ The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish 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.

¹⁹ The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.

²⁰ Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word.

²¹ Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts,
you his servants who do his will.

²² Praise the LORD, all his works
everywhere in his dominion.

Praise the LORD, my soul.

Psalm 51

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

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 you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

⁶ Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

⁷ Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean ; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

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, so that sinners will turn back to you.

¹⁴ Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior , and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

¹⁵ Open my lips, Lord, 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 My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.

¹⁸ May it please you to prosper Zion, to build up the walls of Jerusalem.

¹⁹ Then you will delight in the sacrifices of the righteous, in burnt offerings offered whole; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Psalm 34

¹ I will extol the LORD at all times;
his praise will always be on my lips.

² I will glory in the LORD;
let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

³ Glorify the LORD with me;
let us exalt his name together.

⁴ I sought the LORD, and he answered
me; he delivered me from all my fears.

⁵ Those who look to him are radiant;
their faces are never covered with
shame.

⁶ This poor man called, and
the LORD heard him;
he saved him out of all his troubles.

⁷ The angel of the LORD encamps around
those who fear him, and he
delivers them.

⁸ Taste and see that the LORD is
good; blessed is the one who takes
refuge in him.

⁹ Fear the LORD, you his holy people,
for those who fear him lack nothing.

¹⁰ The lions may grow weak and
hungry, but those who seek
the LORD lack no good thing.

¹¹ Come, my children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

¹² Whoever of you loves life
and desires to see many good days,

¹³ keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from telling lies.

¹⁴ Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.

¹⁵ The eyes of the LORD are on the
righteous, and his ears are attentive to
their cry;

¹⁶ but the face of the LORD is
against those who do evil, to blot out
their name from the earth.

¹⁷ The righteous cry out, and
the LORD hears them; he delivers them
from all their troubles.

¹⁸ The LORD is close to the
brokenhearted and saves those who are
crushed in spirit.

¹⁹ The righteous person may have many
troubles, but the LORD delivers him from
them all;

²⁰ he protects all his bones,
not one of them will be broken.

²¹ Evil will slay the wicked; the foes of
the righteous will be condemned.

²² The LORD will rescue his servants; no
one who takes refuge in him will be
condemned.

Psalm 46

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 and
the mountains quake with their surging.
⁴ There is a river whose streams make
glad the city of God, the holy place
where the Most High dwells.
⁵ God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.
⁶ Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.
⁷ The LORD Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.
⁸ Come and see what the LORD has done,
the desolations he has brought on the
earth.
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 He says, "Be still, and know that I am
God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."
¹¹ The LORD Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

1 Corinthians 13

¹ If I speak in the tongues of men or of
angels, but do not have 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 do not have love, I
am nothing.

³ If I give all I possess to the poor and
give over my body to hardship that I
may boast, but do not have love, I gain
nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not
envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

⁵ It does not dishonor others, 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.

⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy
in part, ¹⁰ but when completeness
comes, what is in part disappears.

¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a
child, I thought like a child, I reasoned
like a child. When I became a man, I put
the ways of childhood behind me.

¹² For now we see only a 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.

¹³ And now these three remain: faith,
hope and love. But the greatest of these
is love.

Ephesians 6:10-20

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.

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.

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 Lord's people.

¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, 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.

Psalm 66

¹ Shout for 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 the praises of your name.”

⁵ Come and see what God has done, his awesome deeds for mankind!

⁶ He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the waters on foot— come, let us rejoice in him.

⁷ He rules forever by his power, his eyes watch the nations— let not the rebellious rise up against him.

⁸ Praise our God, all peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard;

⁹ he has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.

¹⁰ For you, God, tested us; you refined us like silver.

¹¹ You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs.

¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us to a place of abundance.

¹³ I will come to your temple with burnt offerings and fulfill my vows to you—

¹⁴ vows my lips promised and my mouth spoke when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ I will sacrifice fat animals to you and an offering of rams; I will offer bulls and goats.

¹⁶ Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me.

¹⁷ I cried out to him with my mouth; his praise was on my tongue.

¹⁸ If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;

¹⁹ but God has surely listened and has heard my prayer.

²⁰ Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!

Proverbs 4:10-27

¹⁰ Listen, my son, accept what I say,
and the years of your life will be
many.

¹¹ I instruct you in the way of wisdom
and lead you along straight paths.

¹² When you walk, your steps will not be
hampered; when you run, you will not
stumble.

¹³ Hold on to instruction, do not let it
go; guard it well, for it is your life.

¹⁴ Do not set foot on the path of the
wicked or walk in the way of evildoers.

¹⁵ Avoid it, do not travel on it;
turn from it and go on your way.

¹⁶ For they cannot rest until they do
evil; they are robbed of sleep till they
make someone stumble.

¹⁷ They eat the bread of wickedness
and drink the wine of violence.

¹⁸ The path of the righteous is like the
morning sun, shining ever brighter till

the full light of day.

¹⁹ But the way of the wicked is like deep
darkness; they do not know what makes
them stumble.

²⁰ My son, pay attention to what I say;
turn your ear to my words.

²¹ Do not let them out of your sight,
keep them within your heart;

²² for they are life to those who find
them and health to one's whole body.

²³ Above all else, guard your heart,
for everything you do flows from it.

²⁴ Keep your mouth free of perversity;
keep corrupt talk far from your lips.

²⁵ Let your eyes look straight ahead;
fix your gaze directly before you.

²⁶ Give careful thought to the paths for
your feet and be steadfast in all your
ways.

²⁷ Do not turn to the right or the left;
keep your foot from evil.

Romans 12

¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

² Do not conform 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.

³ 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 judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.

⁴ For 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, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;

⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach;

⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

¹³ Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.

¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

²⁰ On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.

In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head."

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

James 1

1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings.

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds,

³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

⁴ Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

⁶ But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.

⁷ That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord.

⁸ Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

⁹ Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position.

¹⁰ But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower.

¹¹ For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.

¹² Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord 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 person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

¹⁵ Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

¹⁶ Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters.

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.

¹⁹ My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,

²⁰ because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

²¹ 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.

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 someone 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 whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

²⁶ Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight

rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.

²⁷ 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.