

GOOD STUFF TO MEMORIZE -

⇒ passages that are either really interesting, challenging, or encouraging

Psalm 92 A psalm. A song. For the Sabbath.^[b]

2 It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praise to your name,^[c] O Most High, to
proclaim your kindness^[d] in the morning
and your faithfulness during the night, with the
ten-stringed harp,
to the melody of the lyre.

5 Your deeds, O LORD, have caused me to exult;
at the works of your hands I shout for joy:
How great are your deeds, O LORD!
How profound are your thoughts!
A senseless person cannot grasp this;
a fool^[e] is unable to comprehend it.

8 Even though the wicked may sprout like grass
and all evildoers may prosper,
they are doomed to eternal destruction, whereas
you, O LORD, are exalted forever.^[f]

10 Surely your enemies, O LORD,
surely your enemies will perish,
and all evildoers will be scattered.
You have given me the strength of a wild bull
and anointed me with fresh oil.

12 My eyes have witnessed the downfall of my
enemies; my ears have heard the rout of my
wicked foes.
The righteous will flourish like the palm tree;
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon.

14 They are planted in the house of the LORD^[g]
and will flourish in the courts of our God.
They still will bear fruit, in their old age,
and they will remain fresh and green,
proclaiming, "The LORD is upright;
he is my Rock, in whom no injustice can be
found."

My soul magnifies the Lord
And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
For he has regarded
the low estate of his handmaiden.
For behold, henceforth all generations
will call me blessed;
For he who is mighty
has done great things for me
And holy is his name.
And his mercy is on those who fear him
From generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm
He has scattered the proud
in the imagination of their hearts,
He has put down the mighty from their thrones,
And exalted those of low degree,
He has filled the hungry with good things.
And the rich he has sent empty away.
He has helped his servant Israel
In remembrance of his mercy
As he spoke to our fathers
To Abraham and to his posterity forever.

through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

I confess to almighty God and to you,
my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done
and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of Heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell; the third day
He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into Heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God,
the Father almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,

and life everlasting. Amen.

John 6

When they arrived on the other side and found CSF, they asked, “Wisdomkeeper, when did you get here?” CSF ignored their question and said to them, “Listen closely to my words, you are not looking for me because of the powerful sign you saw, but only because you filled your bellies with food. Why are you working so hard for food that fades away? You should work for the food that gives you the life of the world to come that never fades away. The True Human Being will give you this food, for he has the Father’s full approval.”

“What does Great Spirit require from us,” they asked, “so we can do what he wants and have his approval also?” Here is what he wants you to do,” he answered, “put your trust in the one he has sent.”

“What powerful sign will you show us, that we should trust in you?” they asked. “What sign will you perform? When our ancestors were wandering in the desert they ate bread, just as the Sacred Teachings tell us, ‘From the spirit-world above he gave them bread to eat.’”

“Listen closely” CSF answered. “Drawn from the Water did not give you the bread from the spirit-world above. It is my Father who gives you the true bread that comes down from the spirit-world above. This bread gives the life of beauty and harmony to the world.”

“Honored One,” they said, “from now on give us this bread.” CSF smiled, held out his arms to them, and said, “I am the bread of life that came down from the spirit-world above. The ones who come to me will hunger no more. The ones who trust me will thirst no more.”

He lowered his arms and with a heavy heart he continued, “But even as I told you before, you have seen me but you still do not trust me. The ones my Father has given to me will come to me. They are a gift from my Father that I will always keep.”

I came down from the spirit world above, from the one who sent me, to walk his path, not to walk my own. He wants me to keep safe the ones he has given me and bring them back to life again at the end of all days. The ones who see who the Son truly is will put their trust and hope in him and have the life of the world to come that never fades away. Yes! I will bring them back to life

again at the end of all days, for this is what my Father
who sent me wants.”

Psalm 16

A David michtam

Guard me, O God,
For I shelter in You.
I said to the Lord,
“My Master You are.
My good is only through You.”
As to holy ones in the land
And the mighty who were all my desire,
Let their sorrows abound -
Another did they betroth.

I will not pour their libations of blood
I will not bear their names on my lips.

The Lord is my portion and lot,
It is You Who sustain my fate.
An inheritance fell to me with delight,
My estate, too, is lovely to me.

I shall bless the Lord Who gave me counsel
Through the nights that my conscience (kidneys) would lash me.
I set the Lord always before me,
On my right hand, that I not stumble.

So my heart rejoices and my pulse (liver) beats with joy,
My whole body abides secure.
For You will not forsake my life to Sheol,
You won't let Your faithful one see the Pit.
Make me know the path of life.
Joys overflow in Your presence,
Delights in Your right hand forever.

He who dwells in the Most High's shelter,
 in the shadow of Shaddai lies at night—
 I say of the L-rd, "My refuge and bastion,
 my G-d in whom I trust."

For He will save you from the fowler's snare,
 from the disastrous plague.

With His pinion He shelters you,
 and beneath His wings you take refuge,
 a shield and a buckler, His truth.

You shall not fear from the terror of night
 nor from the arrow that flies by day,
 from the plague that stalks in darkness
 nor from the scourge that rages at noon.

Though a thousand fall at your side
 and ten thousand at your right hand,
 you it will not reach.

You but look with your eyes,

 and the wicked's requital you see.

For you—the L-rd is your refuge,
 the Most High you have made your abode.

No harm will befall you,
 nor affliction draw near to your tent.

For His messengers He charges for you
 to guard you on all your ways.

On their palms they lift you up
 lest your foot be bruised by a stone.

On lion and viper you tread,
 you trample young lion and serpent.

"For Me he desired and I freed him.

 I raised him high, for he has known My name.

He calls Me and I answer him,

 I am with him in his straits.

 I deliver him and grant him honor.

With length of days I shall sate him,
 and show him my rescue."

Psalm 65

Praise is due to you,
O God, in Zion,
and to you shall vows be performed,

2 O you who answer prayer!
To you all flesh shall come.

3 When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
you forgive our transgressions.

4 Happy are those whom you choose and bring near
to live in your courts.
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your
house,
your holy temple.

5 By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,
O God of our salvation;
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.

6 By your^a strength you established the mountains;
you are girded with might.

7 You silence the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples.

8 Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by
your signs;
you make the gateways of the morning and the evening
shout for joy.

9 You visit the earth and water it;
you greatly enrich it;
the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain,
for so you have prepared it.

10 You water its furrows abundantly,
settling its ridges,
softening it with showers,
and blessing its growth.

11 You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

12 The pastures of the wilderness overflow;
the hills gird themselves with joy;

13 the meadows clothe themselves with flocks;
the valleys deck themselves with grain;
they shout and sing together for joy.

Psalms 104

Bless, O my being, the LORD!
LORD, my God, You are very great.
Grandeur and glory You don.
Wrapped in light like a cloak,
stretching out heavens like a tent-cloth.
Setting beams for His lofts in the waters,
making His chariot the clouds,
He goes on the wings of the wind.
He makes His messengers the winds,
His ministers, glowing fire.
He founded earth on its solid base,
not to be shaken forevermore.
With the deep You covered it like a garment—
over mountains the waters stood.

From Your blast they fled,
from the sound of Your thunder they scattered.
They went up the mountains, went down the valleys,

to the place that You founded for them.
A border You fixed so they could not cross,
so they could not come back to cover the earth.
You let loose the springs in freshets,
among the mountains they go.
They water all beasts of the field,
the wild asses slake their thirst.
Above them the fowl of the heavens dwell,
from among the foliage they send forth their voice.
He waters mountains from His lofts,
from the fruit of Your works the earth is sated.
He makes the hay sprout for cattle,
grass for the labor of humankind
to bring forth bread from the earth,
and wine that gladdens the heart of man
to make faces shine brighter than oil,
and bread that sustains the heart of
man.

The trees of the LORD drink their fill,
the Lebanon cedars He planted,
where the birds make their nest,
the stork whose home is the cypresses,
the high mountains for the gazelles,
the crags a shelter for badgers.

He made the moon for the fixed seasons;
the sun—He appointed its setting.
You bring down darkness and it turns to night
in which all beasts of the forest stir.
The lions roar for prey,
seeking from God their food.
When the sun comes up, they head home,
and in their dens they lie down.
Man goes out to his work
and to his labor until evening.
How many Your deeds, O LORD,
all of them You do in wisdom.
All the earth is filled with Your riches.
This sea great and wide,
where creatures beyond number stir,
the little beasts and the large.

There the ships go,
this Leviathan You fashioned to play with.
All of them look to You
to give them their food in its season.
When You give them, they gather it in,
when You open Your hand, they are sated with good.
When You hide Your face, they panic,
You withdraw their breath and they perish,
and to the dust they return.
When You send forth Your breath, they are created,
and You renew the face of the earth.
May the LORD's glory be forever,
may the LORD rejoice in His works,
Who but looks down to earth, and it trembles,
but touches the mountains—they smoke.

Let me sing to the LORD while I live,
let me hymn to my God while I breathe.
Let my speech be sweet unto Him.
As for me, I rejoice in the LORD.
Let offenders vanish from earth

and the wicked be no more.
Bless, O my being, the LORD,

Hallelujah!

2 Timothy 2:15-22

Do your best to present yourself to God
as one approved by him,
a worker who has no need to be ashamed,
rightly explaining the word of truth.
Avoid profane chatter,
for it will lead people into more and more impiety,
and their talk will spread like gangrene.
Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus,
who have swerved from the truth
by claiming that the resurrection has already taken place.
They are upsetting the faith of some.
But God's firm foundation stands,
bearing this inscription:
"The Lord knows those who are his," and,
"Let everyone who calls on the name of the Lord turn away from wickedness."
In a large house there are utensils
not only of gold and silver
but also of wood and clay,
some for special use,
some for ordinary.
All who cleanse themselves of the things I have mentioned
will become special utensils,
dedicated and useful to the owner of the house,
ready for every good work.
Shun youthful passions and pursue
righteousness, faith, love, and peace,
along with those who call on the Lord
from a pure heart.

Phil. 2:1-11

If then there is any encouragement in Christ,
any consolation from love,
any sharing in the Spirit,
any compassion and sympathy,
make my joy complete:
be of the same mind,
having the same love,
being in full accord and of one mind.
Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit,
but in humility regard others as better than
yourselves.
Let each of you look not to your own interests,
but to the interests of others.
Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point
of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Hosea 11

When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son.

2

The more I^[a] called them,
the more they went from me;^[b]
they kept sacrificing to the Baals,
and offering incense to idols.

3

Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk,
I took them up in my^[c] arms;
but they did not know that I healed them.

4

I led them with cords of human kindness,
with bands of love.
I was to them like those
who lift infants to their cheeks.^[d]
I bent down to them and fed them.

5

They shall return to the land of Egypt,
and Assyria shall be their king,
because they have refused to return to
me.

6

The sword rages in their cities,
it consumes their oracle-priests,
and devours because of their schemes.

7

My people are bent on turning away from
me.
To the Most High they call,
but he does not raise them up at all.^[e]

8

How can I give you up, Ephraim?
How can I hand you over, O Israel?
How can I make you like Admah?
How can I treat you like Zeboiim?
My heart recoils within me;
my compassion grows warm and tender.

9

I will not execute my fierce anger;
I will not again destroy Ephraim;
for I am God and no mortal,
the Holy One in your midst,
and I will not come in wrath.^[f]

10

They shall go after the Lord,
who roars like a lion;
when he roars,
his children shall come trembling from
the west.

11

They shall come trembling like birds from
Egypt,
and like doves from the land of Assyria;
and I will return them to their homes,
says the Lord.

12

^[g] Ephraim has surrounded me with lies,
and the house of Israel with deceit;
but Judah still walks^[h] with God,
and is faithful to the Holy One.

Psalm 51

Prayer for Cleansing and Pardon

To the leader. A Psalm of David, when the prophet Nathan came to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

1

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.

2

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin.

3

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

4

Against you, you alone, have I sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are justified in your sentence
and blameless when you pass judgment.

5

Indeed, I was born guilty,
a sinner when my mother conceived me.

6

You desire truth in the inward being;^[a]
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret
heart.

7

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be
clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8

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

9

Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

10

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right^[b] spirit within
me.

11

Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.

12

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing^[c] spirit.

13

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

14

Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,
O God of my salvation,
and my tongue will sing aloud of your
deliverance.

15

O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

16

For you have no delight in sacrifice;
if I were to give a burnt offering, you
would not be pleased.

17

The sacrifice acceptable to God^[d] is a
broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you
will not despise.

18

Do good to Zion in your good pleasure;
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem,

19

then you will delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt offerings and whole burnt
offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Psalm 104

God the Creator and Provider

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, you are very great.
You are clothed with honor and majesty,
wrapped in light as with a garment.
You stretch out the heavens like a tent,
you set the beams of your^[a] chambers on the waters,
you make the clouds your^[b] chariot,
you ride on the wings of the wind,
you make the winds your^[c] messengers,
fire and flame your^[d] ministers.

You set the earth on its foundations,
so that it shall never be shaken.
You cover it with the deep as with a garment;
the waters stood above the mountains.
At your rebuke they flee;
at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.
They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys
to the place that you appointed for them.
You set a boundary that they may not pass,
so that they might not again cover the earth.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
they flow between the hills,
giving drink to every wild animal;
the wild asses quench their thirst.
By the streams^[e] the birds of the air have their habitation;
they sing among the branches.
From your lofty abode you water the mountains;
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

You cause the grass to grow for the cattle,
and plants for people to use,^[f]
to bring forth food from the earth,
and wine to gladden the human heart,
oil to make the face shine,
and bread to strengthen the human heart.
The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly,
the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.
In them the birds build their nests;
the stork has its home in the fir trees.
The high mountains are for the wild goats;
the rocks are a refuge for the coney.
You have made the moon to mark the seasons;
the sun knows its time for setting.
You make darkness, and it is night,

when all the animals of the forest come creeping out.

The young lions roar for their prey,
seeking their food from God.
When the sun rises, they withdraw
and lie down in their dens.
People go out to their work
and to their labor until the evening.

O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
Yonder is the sea, great and wide,
creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great.
There go the ships,
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

These all look to you
to give them their food in due season;
whon you give to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled
with good things.
When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.
When you send forth your spirit,^[g] they are created;
and you renew the face of the ground.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works—
who looks on the earth and it trembles,
who touches the mountains and they smoke.
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
May my meditation be pleasing to him,
for I rejoice in the Lord
Let sinners be consumed from the earth,
and let the wicked be no more.
Bless the Lord, O my soul.
Praise the Lord!

Psalm 1 - The Two Ways

1 Happy are those
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;
but their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law they meditate day and night.
They are like trees
planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.
The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the
judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the
righteous;
for the Lord watches over the way of the
righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Psalm 2 - God's Promise to His Anointed

1 Why do the nations conspire,
and the peoples plot in vain?
2 The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the Lord and his anointed, saying,
3 "Let us burst their bonds asunder,
and cast their cords from us."
4 He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord has them in derision.
5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,
6 "I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill."

7 I will tell of the decree of the Lord:
He said to me, "You are my son; today I have
begotten you.
8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your
heritage, and the ends of the earth your
possession.
9 You shall break them with a rod of iron,
and dash them in pieces like a potter's
vessel."
10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned,
O rulers of the earth.
11 Serve the Lord with fear- with trembling 12
kiss his feet, or he will be angry, and you will
perish in the way; for his wrath is quickly
kindled. Happy are all who take refuge in him.

Psalm 3 - A Psalm of David, when he fled from his son Absalom.

1 O Lord, how many are my foes!
Many are rising against me;
2 many are saying to me,
"There is no help for you[a] in God." *Selah*
3 But you, O Lord, are a shield around me,
my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.
4 I cry aloud to the Lord,
and he answers me from his holy hill. *Selah*
5 I lie down and sleep;
I wake again, for the Lord sustains me.
6 I am not afraid of ten thousands of people
who have set themselves against me all
around.
7 Rise up, O Lord!
Deliver me, O my God!
For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;
you break the teeth of the wicked.
8 Deliverance belongs to the Lord;
may your blessing be on your people! *Selah*

Psalm 4- To the leader: with stringed instruments. A Psalm of David.

1 Answer me when I call, O God of my right!
You gave me room when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.
2 How long, you people, shall my honor suffer
shame?
How long will you love vain words, and seek
after lies? *Selah*
3 But know that the Lord has set apart the
faithful for himself;
the Lord hears when I call to him.
4 When you are disturbed,[a] do not sin;
ponder it on your beds, and be silent. *Selah*
5 Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the Lord.
6 There are many who say, "O that we might
see some good!
Let the light of your face shine on us, O
Lord!"
7 You have put gladness in my heart
more than when their grain and wine
abound.
8 I will both lie down and sleep in peace;
for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in
safety.

Isaiah 50:4-9

The Lord God has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he awakens—
awakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord God has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?
All of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

John 4

Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard,
“Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John” —
although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized—
he left Judea and started back to Galilee.

But he had to go through Samaria.

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar,
near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.
Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey,
was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water,
and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.”
(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)

The Samaritan woman said to him,

“How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?”
(Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)

Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you
would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”

The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep.

Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob,
who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?”

Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,
but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty.

The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”

The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty
or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.”

The woman answered him, “I have no husband.”

Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’;
for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband.
What you have said is true!”

The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet.

Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain,
but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.”

Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father
neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.

You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know,
for salvation is from the Jews.

But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship
the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him.
God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ).
“When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.”

Jesus said to her, “I am he the one who is speaking to you.”

Just then his disciples came.

They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why
are you speaking with her?”

Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city.

She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done!

He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"

They left the city and were on their way to him.

31 Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."

But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."

So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"

Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.

Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'?

But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.

The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life,

so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.

For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.'

I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor.

Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony,

"He told me everything I have ever done."

So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days.

And many more believed because of his word.

They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe,

for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

When the two days were over, he went from that place to Galilee

(for Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in the prophet's own country).

When he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him,

since they had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the festival;

for they too had gone to the festival.

Then he came again to Cana in Galilee where he had changed the water into wine.

Now there was a royal official whose son lay ill in Capernaum.

When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee,

he went and begged him to come down and heal his son,

for he was at the point of death.

Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe."

The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my little boy dies."

Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live."

The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started on his way.

As he was going down, his slaves met him and told him that his child was alive.

So he asked them the hour when he began to recover, and they said to him,

"Yesterday at one in the afternoon the fever left him."

The father realized that this was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live."

So he himself believed, along with his whole household.

Now this was the second sign that Jesus did after coming from Judea to Galilee.

2 Timothy 1

1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,
To Timothy, my beloved child:
Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 I am grateful to God—
whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—
when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. 4
Recalling your tears,
I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. 5
I am reminded of your sincere faith,
a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice
and now, I am sure, lives in you. 6
For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you
through the laying on of my hands; 7
for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice,
but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

8 Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord
or of me his prisoner,
but join with me in suffering for the gospel,
relying on the power of God, 9
who saved us and called us with a holy calling,
not according to our works
but according to his own purpose and grace.
This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,
10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus,
who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.
For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher,
and for this reason I suffer as I do.

But I am not ashamed,
for I know the one in whom I have put my trust,
and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him.
Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me,
in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 14
Guard the good treasure entrusted to you,
with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Psalm 39 in full

1 I said, "I will guard my ways
that I may not sin with my tongue;
I will keep a muzzle on my mouth
as long as the wicked are in my presence."

2

I was silent and still;
I held my peace to no avail;
my distress grew worse,

3

my heart became hot within me.
While I mused, the fire burned;
then I spoke with my tongue:

4

"Lord, let me know my end,
and what is the measure of my days;
let me know how fleeting my life is.

5

You have made my days a few handbreadths,
and my lifetime is as nothing in your sight.
Surely everyone stands as a mere breath. *Selah*

6

Surely everyone goes about like a shadow.
Surely for nothing they are in turmoil;
they heap up, and do not know who will gather.

7

"And now, O Lord, what do I wait for?
My hope is in you.

8

Deliver me from all my transgressions.
Do not make me the scorn of the fool.

9

I am silent; I do not open my mouth,
for it is you who have done it.

10

Remove your stroke from me;

I am worn down by the blows[a] of your hand.

11

"You chastise mortals
in punishment for sin,
consuming like a moth what is dear to them;
surely everyone is a mere breath. *Selah*

12

"Hear my prayer, O Lord,
and give ear to my cry;
do not hold your peace at my tears.
For I am your passing guest,
an alien, like all my forebears.

13

Turn your gaze away from me, that I may smile again,
before I depart and am no more."

Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him,
“Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.”
But he said to him,
“Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?”
And he said to them,
“Take care!
Be on your guard against all kinds of greed;
for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.”
Then he told them a parable:
“The land of a rich man produced abundantly.
And he thought to himself,
‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’
Then he said,
‘I will do this:
I will pull down my barns and build larger ones,
and there I will store all my grain and my goods.
And I will say to my soul,
Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years;
relax, eat, drink, be merry.’
But God said to him,
‘You fool!
This very night your life is being demanded of you.
And the things you have prepared,
whose will they be?’
So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves
but are not rich toward God.”

Hebrews 6:17-20

In the same way,
when God desired to show even more clearly
to the heirs of the promise
the unchangeable character of his purpose,
he guaranteed it by an oath,
so that through two unchangeable things,
in which it is impossible that God would prove false,
we who have taken refuge
might be strongly encouraged
to seize the hope set before us.
We have this hope,
a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul,
a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain,
where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf,
has entered,
having become a high priest forever
according to the order of Melchizedek.

Isaiah 52:1-12

Awake, awake,
put on your strength, O Zion!
Put on your beautiful garments,
O Jerusalem, the holy city;
for the uncircumcised and the unclean
shall enter you no more.
Shake yourself from the dust, rise up,
O captive Jerusalem;
loose the bonds from your neck,
O captive daughter Zion!

For thus says the Lord: You were sold for nothing,
and you shall be redeemed without money.
For thus says the Lord God:
Long ago, my people went down into Egypt to reside there as aliens;
the Assyrian, too, has oppressed them without cause.

Now therefore what am I doing here, says the Lord,
seeing that my people are taken away without cause?
Their rulers howl, says the Lord,
and continually, all day long, my name is despised.
Therefore my people shall know my name;
therefore in that day they shall know that it is I who speak; here am I.

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.
Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.
Depart, depart, go out from there!
Touch no unclean thing;
go out from the midst of it, purify yourselves,
you who carry the vessels of the Lord.
For you shall not go out in haste,

and you shall not go in flight;
for the Lord will go before you,
and the God of Israel will be your rear guard.

Ecclesiastes 2:9-11

So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem;
also my wisdom remained with me.
Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them;
I kept my heart from no pleasure,
for my heart found pleasure in all my toil,
and this was my reward for all my toil.
Then I considered all that my hands had done
and the toil I had spent in doing it,
and again,
all was vanity
and a chasing after wind,
and there was nothing to be gained
under the sun.

Matthew 8

8 When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him;
2 and there was a leper who came to him and knelt before him, saying,
“Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean.”
3 He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I do choose. Be made clean!”
Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.
4 Then Jesus said to him, “See that you say nothing to anyone;
but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”
5 When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him and saying,
“Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible distress.”
7 And he said to him, “I will come and cure him.”
8 The centurion answered, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof;
but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed.
9 For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me;
and I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes,
and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and the slave does it.”
10 When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those who followed him,
“Truly I tell you, in no one[d] in Israel have I found such faith.
11 I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with
Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven,
12 while the heirs of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness,
where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” 1
3 And to the centurion Jesus said,
“Go; let it be done for you according to your faith.”
And the servant was healed in that hour.
...
18 Now when Jesus saw great crowds around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side.
19 A scribe then approached and said, “Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.”
20 And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests;
but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.”
21 Another of his disciples said to him, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”
22 But Jesus said to him, “Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead.”

Revelation 1:4-20 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed[a] us from our sins by his blood, 6 and made[b] us to be a kingdom, priests serving[c] his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

7

Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to 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.

A Vision of Christ

9 I, John, your brother who share with you in Jesus the persecution and the kingdom and the patient endurance, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.[d] 10 I was in the spirit[e] on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet 11 saying, “Write in a book what you see and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamum, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.”

12 Then I turned to see whose voice it was that spoke to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the lampstands I saw one like the Son of Man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash across his chest. 14 His head and his hair were white as white wool, white as snow; his eyes were like a flame of fire, 15 his feet were like burnished bronze, refined as in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of many waters. 16 In his right hand he held seven stars, and from his mouth came a sharp, two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining with full force.

17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he placed his right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive forever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades. 19 Now write what you have seen, what is, and what is to take place after this. 20 As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Psalm 116

Thanksgiving for Recovery from Illness

I love the LORD because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.
Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.
The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.
Then I called on the name of the LORD,
"O LORD, I pray, save my life!"
Gracious is the LORD and righteous;
our God is merciful.

The LORD protects the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.
Return, O my soul, to your rest,
for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.
For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears,
my feet from stumbling.

I walk before the LORD
in the land of the living.
kept my faith, even when I said,
"I am greatly afflicted";
I said in my consternation,
"Everyone is a liar."
What shall I return to the LORD
for all his bounty to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD;
I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.
Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.

O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.
You have loosed my bonds
I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice
and call on the name of the LORD.
I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,
in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.
Praise the LORD!

