





You search the Scriptures,
because you think that in
them you have eternal life:
and these are they which testify to
me: yet you refuse to come to me
that you might have life.

Ido not receive glory from
men. But I know that you
have not the love of God
within you.

I have come in my Father's
name, and you do not receive
me: if another comes in his
own name, him you will receive.

FOREWARD

Obviously, the statement given opposite by Jesus to the Jewish religious leaders regarding himself in the 'Scriptures' refers to the Law (Torah) the Prophets and the Psalms of the Hebrew Tanakh. These have become the Christian Old Testament. This volume is concerned primarily with Old Testament references regarding the coming Messiah (God's Anointed One), a title translated into the Greek language as the Christ.

God's redemption of fallen humanity, by grace through the saving work of his Son, is the essence, theme and substance of Holy Scripture - both in the Old Testament and the New Testament subsequently penned by the Apostles and disciples of Jesus Christ.

In the former, the Coming One is promised and anticipated. The writings of God's servants, his prophets, foresee the great Redeemer, Saviour, Lord and King who would realize God's kingdom on earth. In the New Testament, he is revealed as Jesus of Nazareth - the Christ and Saviour promised from before the foundation of the world now in the world as Emmanuel (God with us).

JESUS OF NAZARETH ~ THE CHRIST

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him nothing was made that was made.

In him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. What was the true light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world was made through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own did not receive him. But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in his name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. (John, 1)

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.

Therefore God also has highly exalted him and given him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
(Philippians, 2)

He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of his love, in whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things consist.

And he is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things he may have the pre-eminence. For it pleased *the Father* that in him all the fullness should dwell, and by him to reconcile all things to himself, by him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of his cross.
(Colossians, 1)

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep [died], lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if [since] we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with him those who sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep.

For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. When we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. (I Thessalonians, 4)

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by *his* Son, whom he has appointed heir of all things, through whom also he made the worlds; who being the brightness of *his* glory and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as he has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

And of the angels he says: "Who makes his angels spirits and his ministers a flame of fire." But to the Son *he says*: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness more than your companions."

And: "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak you will fold them up, and they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will not fail." (Hebrews, 1)

OLD
CHRISTIAN
EAST
AND
WEST

IN THE BEGINNING

God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.

Then God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters." And God called the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day.

Then God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry *land* appear"; and it was so. And God called the dry *land* Earth, and the gathering together of the waters he called Seas. And God saw that *it was* good.

Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb *that* yields seed, *and* the fruit tree *that* yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed *is* in itself, on the earth"; and it was so.

Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth"; and it was so.

Then God said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens." When God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, *each* according to its kind"; and it was so.

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his *own* image; in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Then God saw everything that he had made, and indeed *it was* very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. (Genesis, 1 & 2)

IN THE BEGINNING

was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him nothing was made that was made.

In him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name *was* John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but *was sent* to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world was made through him, and the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own did not receive him. But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in his name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John bore witness of him and cried out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for he was before me.'" And of his fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.

For the law was given through Moses, *but* grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has declared *him*.

Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ."

And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." When they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?"

He said: "I *am* 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Make straight the way of the LORD,'" as the prophet Isaiah said." (John, 1)

Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where *are* you?" So he said, "I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." And he said, "Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" When the man said, "The woman whom you gave *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." And the LORD God said to the woman, "What *is* this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent [*Satan*] deceived me, and I ate." So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, you *are* cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; on your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her *Seed*; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." (Genesis, 3)

Moreover the LORD spoke again to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign for yourself from the LORD your God; ask it either in the depth or in the height above." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, nor will I test the LORD!" When he said, "Hear now, O house of David! *Is it* a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also?"

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call his name Immanuel [With Us God]. Curds and honey he shall eat, that he may know to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child shall know to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land that you dread will be forsaken by both her kings." (Isaiah, 7)

So he took up his oracle and said: "The utterance of Balaam the son of Beor, and the utterance of the man whose eyes are opened; the utterance of him who hears the words of God, and has the knowledge of the Most High, *who* sees the vision of the Almighty, *who* falls down, with eyes wide open: "I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near; a Star shall come out of Jacob [Israel]; a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and batter the brow of Moab, and destroy all the sons of tumult.

And Edom shall be a possession; Seir also, his enemies, shall be a possession, while Israel does valiantly. Out of Jacob one shall have dominion, and destroy the remains of the city." (Numbers, 24)

Now when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his three hundred and eighteen trained *servants* who were born in his own house, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. He divided his forces against them by night, and he and his servants attacked them and pursued them as far as Hobah, which *is* north of Damascus.

So he brought back all the goods, and also brought back his brother Lot and his goods, as well as the women and the people. And the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that *is*, the King's Valley), after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who *were* with him.



Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he *was* the priest of God Most High. And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, possessor of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he [Abram] gave him a tithe of all.

Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself." But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have raised my hand to the LORD, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth,

that I *will take* nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that *is* yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich' – except only what the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men who went with me: Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion."

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I *am* your shield, your exceedingly great reward." But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what will you give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house *is* Eliezer of Damascus?"

Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!" And behold, the word of the LORD *came* to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir."

Then he brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed in the LORD, and he accounted it to him for righteousness. (Genesis, 14 & 15)

Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram *was* seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I *am* Almighty God; walk before me and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly."

Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: "As for me, behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."

So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid *it* on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son."

Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where *is* the lamb for a burnt offering?" And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for himself the [sacrificial] lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together.

Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.



But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." And he said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only *son*, from me."

Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind *him* was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said *to* this day, "In the Mount of The LORD it shall be provided."

Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, and said: "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only *son* -blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which *is* on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

In your seed [Christ] all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice." (Genesis, 12, 17 & 22)

And Jacob [Abraham's grandson] called his sons and said, "Gather together, that I may tell you what shall befall you in the last days: gather together and hear, you sons of Jacob, and listen to Israel your father.

Judah *is* a lion's whelp; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He bows down, he lies down as a lion; and as a lion, who shall rouse him? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh [Messiah] comes; and to him *shall be* the obedience of the people. Binding his donkey to the vine, and his donkey's colt to the choice vine, he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes. His eyes *are* darker than wine, and his teeth whiter than milk." [King David & Jesus Christ were of the tribe of Judah].

Then he charged them and said to them: "I am to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that *is* in the field of Ephron the Hittite, in the cave that *is* in the field of Machpelah, which *is* before Mamre in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite as a possession for a burial place." And when Jacob had finished commanding his sons, he drew his feet up into the bed and breathed his last, and was gathered to his people. (Genesis, 49)

Now the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, "This month *shall be* your beginning of months; it *shall be* the first month of the year to you. Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying: 'On the tenth *day* of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of *his* father, a lamb for a household. And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next to his house take *it* according to the number of the persons; according to each man's need you shall make your count for the lamb.

Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take *it* from the sheep or from the goats. Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. When the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. And they shall take *some* of the blood and put *it* on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. When they shall eat the flesh on that night; roasted in fire, with unleavened bread *and* with bitter *herbs* they shall eat it. Do not eat it raw, nor boiled at all with water, but roasted in fire—its head with its legs and its entrails. You shall let none of it remain until morning, and what remains of it until morning you shall burn with fire.

And thus you shall eat it: *with* a belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. It *is* the LORD'S Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgement: I *am* the LORD. Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you *are*. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy *you* when I strike the land of Egypt. So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance."



Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Pick out and take lambs for yourselves according to your families, and kill the Passover *lamb*. And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, dip *it* in the blood that *is* in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that *is* in the basin. And none of you shall go out of the door of his house until morning. For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike *you*."

And you shall observe this thing as an ordinance for you and your sons forever. It will come to pass when you come to the land which the **LORD** will give you, just as he promised, that you shall keep this service. And it shall be, when your children say to you, 'What do you mean by this service?' that you shall say, 'It is the Passover sacrifice of the **LORD**, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt when he struck the Egyptians and delivered our households.'"

So the people bowed their heads and worshipped. When the children of Israel went away and did so, just as the **LORD** had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did. And it came to pass at midnight that the **LORD** struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who *was* in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of livestock. (Exodus, 12)

Therefore purge out the old leaven [of the world], that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Wherefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth. (I Corinthians, 5)



Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'In the seventh month, on the first *day* of the month, you shall have a Sabbath-rest, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation. You shall do no customary work *on it*; and you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD.'"

And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: "Also the tenth *day* of this seventh month *shall be* the Day of Atonement. It shall be a holy convocation for you; you shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. And you shall do no work on that same day, for it *is* the Day of Atonement, to make atonement for you before the LORD your God." (Leviticus, 23)

But God demonstrates his own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only *that*, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the atonement. (Romans, 5)

And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For *there is* no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread." So the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died. Wherefore the people came to Moses, and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery *serpent*, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live." So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived. (Numbers, 21)

"No one has ascended to heaven but he who came down from heaven, *that is*, the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up [crucified], that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John, 3)

"**T**he LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet [Christ] like me [Moses] from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear, according to all you desired of the LORD your God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, nor let me see this great fire anymore, lest I die.'

And the LORD said to me: 'What they have spoken is good. I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And it shall be *that* whoever will not hear my words, which he speaks in my name, I will require *it* of him.' (Deuteronomy, 18)

And when he [Jesus] came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." When he came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried *him* stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And he presented him to his mother. When fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us"; and, "God has visited his people." (Luke, 7)

And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush *was* not consumed. When Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn." So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." When he said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand *is* holy ground."



And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of my people who *are* in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. But Moses said to God, "Who *am* I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" So he said, "I will certainly be with you. And this *shall be* a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, *when* I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What *is* his name?' what shall I say to them?"

And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This *is* my name forever, and this *is* my memorial to all generations.'" (Exodus, 3)

Then the Jews [the religious leaders] said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and you say, 'If anyone keeps my word he shall never taste death.' Are you greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Whom do you make yourself out to be?"

Jesus answered, "If I honour myself, my honour is nothing. It is my Father who honours me, of whom you say that he is your God. Yet you have not known him, but I know him. And if I say, 'I do not know him,' I shall be a liar like you; but I do know him and keep his word. Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day, and he saw *it* and was glad." When the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." (John, 8)

Then the LORD said to Joshua, "This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." Wherefore the name of the place is called Gilgal to this day. Now the children of Israel camped in Gilgal, and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight on the plains of Jericho. And they ate of the produce of the land on the day after the Passover, unleavened bread and parched grain, on the very same day. When the manna ceased on the day after they had eaten the produce of the land; and the children of Israel no longer had manna, but they ate the food of the land of Canaan that year.

And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a man stood opposite him with his sword drawn in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us or for our adversaries?"

So he said, "No, but *as* Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshipped, and said to him, "What does my Lord say to his servant?" When the Commander of the LORD'S army said to Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand *is* holy." And Joshua did so. (Joshua, 5)



Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And he [Christ] who sat on him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on his head *were* many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except himself. He *was* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed him on white horses. Now out of his mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it he should strike the nations. And he himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And he has on *his* robe and on his thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him who sat on the horse and against his army. When the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of him who sat on the horse. (Revelation, 19)

"Now therefore, thus shall you say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a name like the name of the great men who *are* on the earth.

Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously, since the time that I commanded judges *to be* over my people Israel. Also I will subdue all your enemies.

Furthermore I tell you that the LORD will build you a house. And it shall be, when your days are fulfilled, when you must go *to be* with your fathers, that I will set up your seed after you, who will be of your sons; and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build me a house, and I will establish his throne forever. I will be his Father, and he shall be my son; and I will not take my mercy away from him, as I took *it* from *him* who was before you. And I will establish him in my house and in my kingdom forever; and his throne shall be established forever.'"" (I Chronicles, 17)

Oh, that my words were written! Oh, that they were inscribed in a book! What they were engraved on a rock with an iron pen and lead, forever! For I know *that* my Redeemer lives, and he shall stand at last on the earth; and after my skin is destroyed, this *I know*, that in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another. *How* my heart yearns within me!" (Job, 19)

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: "Who *is* this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? Where *is* the way to the dwelling of light? And darkness, where *is* its place, that you may know the paths *to* its home? Shall the one who contends with the Almighty correct *him*? He who rebukes God, let him answer it. Look now at the behemoth, which I made *along* with you; he eats grass like an ox. His bones *are like* beams of bronze, his ribs like bars of iron." When Job answered the LORD and said: "I know that you can do everything, and that no purpose *of yours* can be withheld from you. Wherefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know." (Job, 38 - 42)

Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, *saying*, "Let us break their bonds in pieces and cast away their cords from us."

He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the Lord shall hold them in derision. When he shall speak to them in his wrath, and distress them in his deep displeasure: "Yet I have set my Ring on my holy hill of Zion."



"I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to me, 'You *are* my Son, today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will give *you* the nations *for* your inheritance, and the ends of the earth *for* your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron; you shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.'"

Now therefore, be wise, O kings; be instructed, you judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish *in* the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed *are* all those who put their trust in him. (Psalms, 2)

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet [Micah, 5]: 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary his mother, and fell down and worshipped him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. When, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way. (Matthew, 2)

THE LORD

is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside the still waters.

He restores my soul; he leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you *are* with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. (Psalms, 23)



good shepherd.

The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep. But a hireling, *he who is not the shepherd*, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep.

I am the good shepherd; and I know my *sheep*, and am known by my own. As the Father knows me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear my voice; and there will be one flock *and* one shepherd.

Therefore my Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from my Father." (John, 10)

I have set the LORD always before me;
because *he is* at my right hand I shall
not be moved. Therefore my heart is
glad, and my glory rejoices; my flesh also will
rest in hope. For you will not leave my soul in
Sheol, nor will you allow your Holy One to see
corruption. You will show me the path of life; in
your presence *is* fullness of joy; at your right
hand *are* pleasures forevermore.

From my mother's womb you *have been*
my God. Be not far from me, for trouble
is near; for *there is* none to help. I am
poured out like water, and all my bones are out
of joint; my heart is like wax; it has melted
within me. My strength is dried up like a
potsherd, and my tongue clings to my jaws; you
have brought me to the dust of death. For dogs
have surrounded me; the congregation of the
wicked has enclosed me. They pierced my hands
and my feet; I can count all my bones. They
divide my garments among them, and for my
clothing they cast lots. But you, O LORD, do
not be far from me; O my Strength, hasten to
help me! Deliver me from the sword, my
precious *life* from the power of the dog. Save
me from the lion's mouth and from the horns of
the wild oxen! You have answered me. I will
declare your name to my brethren; in the midst
of the assembly I will praise you. (Psalms, 16 &
22)

Sacrifice and offering you did not desire;
my ears you have opened. Burnt offering
and sin offering you did not require.

When I said, "Behold, I come; in the scroll of
the book *it is* written of me. I delight to do your
will, O my God, and your law *is* within my heart."
I have proclaimed the good news of
righteousness in the great assembly; indeed, I
do not restrain my lips, O LORD, you yourself
know.

I have not hidden your righteousness within my
heart; I have declared your faithfulness and
your salvation; I have not concealed your loving
kindness and your truth from the great
assembly. Do not withhold your tender mercies
from me, O LORD; let your loving kindness and
your truth continually preserve me.

Even my own familiar friend in whom I
trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up
his heel against me. But you, O LORD, be
merciful to me, and raise me up, that I may
repay them. By this I know that you are well
pleased with me, because my enemy does not
triumph over me. As for me, you uphold me in
my integrity, and set me before your face
forever. Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel
from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and
Amen. (Psalms, 40 & 41)



Your throne, O God, *is* forever and ever; a sceptre of righteousness *is* the sceptre of your kingdom. You love righteousness and hate wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness more than your companions.

I have become a stranger to my brothers, and an alien to my mother's children; because zeal for your house has eaten me up, and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fallen on me. Those who sit in the gate speak against me, and I *am* the song of the drunkards. But as for me, my prayer *is* to you, O LORD, *in* the acceptable time; O God, in the multitude of your mercy, hear me in the truth of your salvation. Hear me, O LORD, for your loving kindness *is* good; turn to me according to the multitude of your tender mercies. And do not hide your face from your servant, for I am in trouble; hear me speedily. Draw near to my soul, *and* redeem it; deliver me because of my enemies. You know my reproach, my shame, and my dishonour; my adversaries *are* all before you. Reproach has broken my heart, and I am full of heaviness; I looked *for someone* to take pity, but *there was* none; and for comforters, but I found none. They also gave me gall for my food, and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink. (Psalms, 45 & 69)

The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, till I make your enemies your footstool." The LORD shall send the rod of your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of your enemies! Your people *shall be* volunteers in the day of your power; in the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, you have the dew of your youth. The LORD has sworn and will not relent, "You *are* a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

The stone *which* the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD'S doing; it *is* marvellous in our eyes. This *is* the day the LORD has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. Save now, I pray, O LORD; O LORD, I pray, send now prosperity.

Blessed *is* he who comes in the name of the LORD! We have blessed you from the house of the LORD. God *is* the LORD, and he has given us light; bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar. You *are* my God, and I will praise you; *you are* my God, I will exalt you. Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *he is* good! For his mercy *endures* forever. (Psalms, 110 & 118)

The LORD *is* gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy. The LORD *is* good to all, and his tender mercies *are* over all his works. All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your saints shall bless you. They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and talk of your power, to make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom.

Your kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion *endures* throughout all generations. The LORD upholds all who fall, and raises up all *who are* bowed down. The eyes of all look expectantly to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

The LORD *is* righteous in all his ways, Gracious in all his works. The LORD *is* near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth. He will fulfil the desire of those who fear him; he also will hear their cry and save them.

The LORD preserves all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD, and all flesh shall bless his holy name forever and ever.

(Psalms, 145)

"**M**en of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves also know - him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that he should be held by it.

For you will not leave my soul in Hades, nor will you allow your Holy One to see corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of joy in your presence.'



This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Wherefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he poured out this which you now see and hear.

For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: 'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, till I make your enemies your footstool."' Wherefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." (Acts, 2)

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of his *robe* filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy *is* the LORD of hosts; the whole earth *is* full of his glory!" When one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal *which* he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth *with it*, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged." Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" When I said, "Here *am* I! Send me." And he said, "Go, and tell this people: 'Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive.'"

Moreover the LORD spoke again to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign for yourself from the LORD your God; ask it either in the depth or in the height above." When he said, "Hear now, O house of David! *Is it* a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? Wherefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

(Isaiah, 6 & 7)



" **T**he LORD of hosts, him you shall hallow; *let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. He will be as a sanctuary, but a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, as a trap and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And many among them shall stumble; they shall fall and be broken, be snared and taken.*" Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples.

Nevertheless the gloom *will not be* upon her who *is* distressed, as when at first he lightly esteemed the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, and afterward more heavily oppressed *her, by* the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder. And his name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father [or Father of Eternity], Prince of Peace. Of the increase of *his* government and peace *there will be* no end, upon the throne of David and over his kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgement and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. (Isaiah, 8 & 9)

"For the LORD will judge his people and have compassion on his servants, when he sees that *their* power is gone, and *there is* no one *remaining*, bond or free. He will say: 'Where *are* their gods, the rock in which they sought refuge? Who ate the fat of their sacrifices, *and* drank the wine of their drink offering [*those the people worshipped*]? Let them rise and help you, *and* be your refuge.

Now see that I, *even I, am* he, and *there is* no God besides me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; nor *is there any* who can deliver from my hand. For I raise my hand to heaven, and say, "*As* I live forever, if I whet my glittering sword, and my hand takes hold on judgement, I will render vengeance to my enemies, and repay those who hate me.

I will make my arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh, with the blood of the slain and the captives, from the heads of the leaders of the enemy."

Rejoice, O Gentiles, *with* his people; for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and render vengeance to his adversaries; he will provide atonement for his land *and* his people." (Deuteronomy, 32)

There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse [King David's father], and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. His delight *is* in the fear of the LORD, and he shall not judge by the sight of his eyes, nor decide by the hearing of his ears; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his loins, and faithfulness the belt of his waist.

“The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek him, and his resting place shall be glorious.” (Isaiah, 11)

Therefore they [the sailors] cried out to the LORD and said, "We pray, O LORD, please do not let us perish for this man's life, and do not charge us with innocent blood; for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you." So they picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and offered a sacrifice to the LORD and took vows. Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the fish's belly. And he said: "I cried out to the LORD because of my affliction, and he answered me. Out of the belly of Sheol I cried, *and* you heard my voice. The waters surrounded me, *even* to my soul; the deep closed around me; weeds were wrapped around my head. I went down to the moorings of the mountains; the earth with its bars *closed* behind me forever; yet you have brought up my life from the pit, O LORD, my God.

When my soul fainted within me, I remembered the LORD; and my prayer went *up* to you, into your holy temple. Those who regard worthless idols forsake their own mercy. But I will sacrifice to you with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay what I have vowed. Salvation *is* of the LORD." So the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry *land*. (Jonah, 1 & 2)

How gather yourself in troops, O daughter of troops; he has laid siege against us; they will strike the judge of Israel with a rod on the cheek. "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *though* you are little among the thousands of Judah, *yet* out of you shall come forth to me the one to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth *are* from of old, from everlasting." Therefore he shall give them up, until the time *that* she who is in labour has given birth; then the remnant of his brethren shall return to the children of Israel. And he shall stand and feed *his flock* in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God; and they shall abide, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and this *one* shall be peace. (Micah, 5)

In the seventh *month*, on the twenty-first of the month, the word of the LORD came by Haggai the prophet, saying: "Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, saying: 'Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now?' For thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Once more (it *is* a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations [*the Messiah*], and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the LORD of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the LORD of hosts." (Haggai, 2)

Because you have said, "We have made a covenant with death, and with Sheol we are in agreement. When the overflowing scourge passes through, it will not come to us, for we have made lies our refuge, and under falsehood we have hidden ourselves." Wherefore thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; whoever believes will not act hastily. Also I will make justice the measuring line, and righteousness the plummet; the hail will sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters will overflow the hiding place. Your covenant with death will be annulled, and your agreement with Sheol will not stand; when the overflowing scourge passes through, then you will be trampled down by it." (Isaiah, 28)

Say to those *who are* fearful-hearted, "Be strong, do not fear! Behold, your God will come *with* vengeance, *with* the recompense of God; he will come and save you." When the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. When the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb sing. For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.

A highway shall be there, and a road, and it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it, but it *shall be* for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, shall not go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall *any* ravenous beast go up on it; it shall not be found there. But the redeemed shall walk *there*, and the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing, with everlasting joy on their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. (Isaiah, 35)

The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth; the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see *it* together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

The voice said, "Cry out!" And he said, "What shall I cry?" "All flesh *is* grass, and all its loveliness *is* like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people *are* grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever." (Isaiah, 40)

Now this is the testimony of John [the Baptist], when the Jews [the religious leaders] sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ."

And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." When they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?" He said: "I am 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Make straight the way of the LORD,'" as the prophet Isaiah said."

Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. And they asked him, saying, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" John answered them, saying, "I baptize with water, but there stands one among you whom you do not know. It is he who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose." These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing. The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who is preferred before me, for he was before me.'"

I did not know him; but that he should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and he remained upon him. I did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God." Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. And looking at Jesus as he walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" (John, 1)



And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples and said to him, "Are you the Coming One, or do we look for another?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: *the* blind see and *the* lame walk; *the* lepers are cleansed and *the* deaf hear; *the* dead are raised up and *the* poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he who is not offended because of me." As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. For this is *he* of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'" (Matthew, 11)

"Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, my Elect One *in whom* my soul delights! I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the Gentiles. He will not cry out, nor raise *his voice*, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed he will not break, and smoking flax he will not quench; he will bring forth justice for truth. He will not fail nor be discouraged, till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands shall wait for his law."



Thus says God the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it, and spirit to those who walk on it: "I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness, and will hold your hand; I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people, as a light to the Gentiles, to open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the prison, those who sit in darkness from the prison house."

I am the LORD, that *is* my name; and my glory I will not give to another, nor my praise to carved images. Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them." (Isaiah, 42)

"The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to *him who is* weary. He awakens me morning by morning, he awakens my ear to hear as the learned. The Lord GOD has opened my ear; and I was not rebellious, nor did I turn away. I gave my back to those who struck *me*, and my cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide my face from shame and spitting. For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore I will not be disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I will not be ashamed. *He* is near who justifies me; who will contend with me? Who *is* my adversary? Let him come near me. Surely the Lord GOD will help me; who *is* he who will condemn me? Indeed they will all grow old like a garment; the moth will eat them up. Who among you fears the LORD? Who obeys the voice of his Servant? Who walks in darkness and has no light? Let him trust in the name of the LORD and rely upon his God.

My righteousness *is* near, my salvation has gone forth, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands will wait upon me, and on my arm they will trust. For the heavens will vanish away like smoke, the earth will grow old like a garment, and those who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and My righteousness will not be abolished."

(Isaiah, 50 & 51)

Listen to me, O Jacob, and Israel, my
called: I *am* he, I *am* the First, I *am* also
the Last. Indeed my hand has laid the
foundation of the earth, and my right hand has
stretched out the heavens; *when* I call to them,
they stand up together. I, *even* I, have spoken;
yes, I have called him, I have brought him, and
his way will prosper. Come near to me, hear this:
I have not spoken in secret from the beginning;
from the time that it was, I *was* there. And now
the Lord GOD and his Spirit have sent me."

Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the
Holy One of Israel: "I *am* the LORD your
God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you by
the way you should go. Oh, that you had heeded
my commandments! When your peace would
have been like a river, and your righteousness
like the waves of the sea.

Listen, O coastlands, to me, and take heed,
you peoples from afar! The LORD has
called me from the womb; from the
matrix of my mother he has made mention of
my name. And he has made my mouth like a
sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he has
hidden me, and made me a polished shaft; in his
quiver he has hidden me. And he said to me,
'*You are my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be
glorified.*'

Then I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and in vain; yet surely my just reward *is* with the **LORD**, and my work with my God.' And now the **LORD** says, who formed me from the womb *to be* his **Servant**, to bring Jacob back to him, so that Israel is gathered to him (for I shall be glorious in the eyes of the **LORD**, and my God shall be my strength), indeed he says, 'It is too small a thing that you should be my **Servant** to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give you as a light to the **Gentiles**, that you should be my salvation to the ends of the earth.'

Thus says the **LORD**, the **Redeemer** of Israel, their **Holy One**, to him whom man despises, to him whom the nation abhors, to the **Servant** of rulers: "Kings shall see and arise, Princes also shall worship, because of the **LORD** who is faithful, the **Holy One** of Israel; and he has chosen you."

Thus says the **LORD**: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you; I will preserve you and give you as a covenant to the people, to restore the earth, to cause them to inherit the desolate heritages; that you may say to the prisoners, 'Go forth,' to those who *are* in darkness, 'Show yourselves.'" (Isaiah, 48 & 49)

Behold, my Servant shall deal prudently; he shall be exalted and extolled and be very high. Just as many were astonished at you, so his visage was marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men; so shall he sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths at him; for what had not been told them they shall see, and what they had not heard they shall consider.

Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; and when we see him, *there is* no beauty that we should desire him. He is despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, *our* faces from him; he was despised, and we did not esteem him.

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace *was* upon him, and by his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; he was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgement, and who will declare his generation? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgressions of my people he was stricken.

And they made his grave with the wicked—but with the rich at his death, because he had done no violence, nor *was any* deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he has put *him* to grief.

When you make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see *his* seed, he shall prolong *his* days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. He shall see the labour of his soul, *and* be satisfied. By his knowledge my righteous Servant shall justify many, for he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul unto death, and he was numbered with the transgressors, and he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. (Isaiah, 52 & 53)

Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near. Let the
wicked forsake his way, and the
unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to
the LORD, and he will have mercy on him; and
to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. "For
my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, nor *are*
your ways my ways," says the LORD. "For *as*
the heavens are higher than the earth, so are
my ways higher than your ways, and my
thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain
comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do
not return there, but water the earth, and make
it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to
the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my
word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall
not return to me void, but it shall accomplish
what I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing*
for which I sent it."

Thus says the LORD: "Keep justice, and do
righteousness, for my salvation *is* about
to come, and my righteousness to be
revealed. Blessed *is* the man *who* does this, and
the son of man *who* lays hold on it; who keeps
from defiling the Sabbath, and keeps his hand
from doing any evil." Do not let the son of the
foreigner who has joined himself to the LORD
speak, saying, "The LORD has utterly
separated me from his people"; nor let the
eunuch say, "Here I am, a dry tree."

For thus says the LORD: "To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, and choose what pleases me, and hold fast my covenant, even to them I will give in my house and within my walls a place and a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices *will be* accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations." (Isaiah, 55 & 56)

Who is this who comes from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah, this *one who is* glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? - "I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save." Why is your apparel red, and your garments like one who treads in the winepress? "I have trodden the winepress alone, and from the peoples no one *was* with me. For I have trodden them in my anger, and trampled them in my fury; their blood is sprinkled upon my garments, and I have stained all my robes. For the day of vengeance *is* in my heart, and the year of my redeemed has come.

I looked, but *there was* no one to help, and I wondered that *there was* no one to uphold; therefore my own arm brought salvation for me; and my own fury, it sustained me." (Isaiah, 63)



"Behold, *the* days are coming," says the LORD, "that I will raise to [King] David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgement and righteousness in the earth. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; now this *is* his name by which he will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS." (Jeremiah, 23)

"You, O king [Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon], were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendour *was* excellent, stood before you; and its form *was* awesome. This image's head *was* of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. When the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. This *is* the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king.

You, O king, *are* a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory—you *are* this head of gold. But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, *that kingdom* will break in pieces and crush all the others. Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. And *as* the toes of the feet *were* partly of iron and partly of clay, *so* the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.

And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.” (Daniel, 2)



in the night visions, and behold, *one* like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven!

He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought him near before him. Then to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *the one* which shall not be destroyed.

I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit within *my* body, and the visions of my head troubled me. I came near to one of those who stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things: 'Those great beasts, which are four, *are* four kings *which* arise out of the earth. But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'

I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them, until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgement was made *in favour* of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom." (Daniel, 7)

SEVENTY WEEKS

are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.

Know therefore and understand, *that* from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, *there shall be* seven weeks [of 7 years each] and sixty-two weeks [of 7 years each]; the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times. And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for himself; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it *shall be* with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined.

Then he [the Antichrist] shall confirm a covenant with many for one week [7 years]; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate.”

(Daniel, 9)

Then the Angel of the LORD admonished Joshua, saying, "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'If you will walk in my ways, and if you will keep my command, then you shall also judge my house, and likewise have charge of my courts; I will give you places to walk among these who stand here. Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, you and your companions who sit before you, for they are a wondrous sign; for behold, I am bringing forth my Servant the BRANCH. For behold, the stone that I have laid before Joshua: upon the stone *are* seven eyes. Behold, I will engrave its inscription,' says the LORD of hosts, 'and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day. In that day,' says the LORD of hosts, 'everyone will invite his neighbour under his vine and under his fig tree.'" (Zechariah, 3)

Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying: "Receive *the gift* from the captives—from Heldai, Tobijah, and Jedaiah, who have come from Babylon—and go the same day and enter the house of Josiah the son of Zephaniah. Take the silver and gold, make an elaborate crown, and set *it* on the head of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest. Then speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying: "Behold, the man whose name *is* the BRANCH! From his place he shall branch out, and he shall build the temple of the LORD; yes, he shall build the temple of the LORD.

He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule
on his throne; so he shall be a priest on his
throne [only Christ is both King and Priest],
and the counsel of peace shall be between them
both.” (Zechariah, 6)

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold,
your King is coming to you; he *is* just and
having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a
colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the
chariot from Ephraim and the horse from
Jerusalem; the battle bow shall be cut off. He
shall speak peace to the nations; his dominion
shall be 'from sea to sea, and from the River to
the ends of the earth.' As for you also, because
of the blood of your covenant, I will set your
prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to
the stronghold, you prisoners of hope. Even
today I declare *that* I will restore double to you.
For I have bent Judah, my *bow*, fitted the bow
with Ephraim, and raised up your sons, O Zion,
against your sons, O Greece, and made you like
the sword of a mighty man.”

The LORD their God will save them in that
day, as the flock of his people. For they
shall be like the jewels of a crown, lifted like a
banner over his land—for how great is its
goodness and how great its beauty! (Zechariah,
9)



In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David, and the house of David *shall be* like God, like the Angel of the LORD before them. It shall be in that day *that* I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for him as one mourns for *his* only son, and grieve for him as one grieves for a firstborn. And the land shall mourn, every family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of Shimei by itself, and their wives by themselves; all the families that remain, every family by itself, and their wives by themselves.

In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness. It shall be in that day," says the LORD of hosts, "*that* I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, and they shall no longer be remembered. I will also cause the prophets and the unclean spirit to depart from the land." (Zechariah, 12 & 13)

Behold, the day of the **LORD** is coming, and your spoil will be divided in your midst. For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; the city shall be taken, the houses rifled, and the women ravished. When the **LORD** will go forth and fight against those nations, as he fights in the day of battle.

And in that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, *making* a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south. Yes, you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Thus the **LORD** my God will come, *and* all the saints with you. It shall come to pass in that day *that* there will be no light; the lights will diminish. It shall be one day which is known to the **LORD**—neither day nor night. But at evening time it shall happen *that* it will be light.

And in that day it shall be *that* living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and half of them toward the western sea; in both summer and winter it shall occur. And the **LORD** shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be—“The **LORD** *is* one,” and his name one.

(Zechariah, 14)



"**Y**our words have been harsh against me," says the **LORD**, "yet you say, 'What have we spoken against you?' You have said, 'It is useless to serve God; what profit *is it* that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked as mourners before the **LORD** of hosts? So now we call the proud blessed, for those who do wickedness are raised up; they even tempt God and go free.'"

Then those who feared the **LORD** spoke to one another, and the **LORD** listened and heard *them*; so a book of remembrance was written before him for those who fear the **LORD** and who meditate on his name.

"**T**hey shall be mine," says the **LORD** of hosts, "on the day that I make them my jewels. And I will spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him." When you shall again discern between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.

"**F**or behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, and all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," says the **LORD** of hosts, "that will leave them neither root nor branch.

But to you who fear my name the Son of Righteousness shall arise with healing in his wings; and you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves. You shall trample the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I do *this*," says the LORD of hosts. "Remember the Law of Moses, my servant, which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, *with the* statutes and judgements. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse." (Malachi, 3 & 4)

Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead." And his disciples asked him, saying, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all things. But I say to you that Elijah has come already, and they did not know him but did to him whatever they wished. Likewise the Son of Man is also about to suffer at their hands." When the disciples understood that he spoke to them of John the Baptist. (Matthew, 17)



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