

DECLARE
HIS GLORY
AMONG
THE NATIONS
For He is Coming





Volume 1 of 7

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FOREWORD

The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments (essentially the Hebrew Tanakh and B'Rit Hadashah) reveal God's viewpoint regarding this world: namely, that all its peoples, the earth itself, and the whole Cosmos are all corrupted and fallen from the perfection that he originally intended as their Creator. And the cause of this fall was us – humanity! The Bible is clear that God created a first man and woman (Adam and Eve) to be the 'progenitors' of the human race. They were given charge over a creation that was 'very good' in God's eyes, and a simple command to show their love and obedience to their Maker – but they chose wilfully to rebel against God and disobey his clear instruction to 'not eat' one specific thing. As the LORD God warned, so it was: in the moment they rebelled, sin and death entered them (spiritual death instantly, then being followed by physical later). And the whole created order was handed over by them to a state of corruption and decay. The human race is descended from the loins of Adam, and thus we all have inherited his rebellious and disobedient nature. The Word of God declares bluntly, "There is none righteous, no, not one; there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; they have together become unprofitable; there is none who does good, no, not one." [Romans 3: 10 – 12] It would be a very bleak prospect for humanity if that assessment of us was God's final word on the matter. We could have no hope at all. But there is good news! He chose instead to set in motion a 'rescue operation' for humanity. However, because he is absolutely holy and just, his plan of redemption could not contravene his own nature; it must fulfil his own standard of holiness, justice and righteousness. Therefore without any 'help' from fallen man, who could do no good works to merit God's salvation, the Most High commenced a step-by-step plan to provide a means of rescue for Man. It began with God calling out of the nations a people for himself, to set over them his anointed King.

We tend to like immediate solutions and instant gratification, but God's intricate plan of redemption stretches over millennia, much of it being built on one (righteous) person at a time carrying out the task given them through the power of God's Holy Spirit. The Canon of Scripture reveals this story of redemption that culminates in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, coming to this earth – first as Saviour then as Judge. Salvation was purchased by Christ at his first coming as Saviour of the world. But God's righteous anger against continued human rebellion will be meted out by the Son of God at his second coming as Judge of the whole earth. In between these two momentous events is the Church Age in which we live – the 'acceptable year of the LORD' – a time of grace in which God is 'not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.'

Throughout the Scriptures, God reveals to us his purpose and plan. The Law, the Prophets, the writings – and the New Testament written during the apostolic era – bring into focus the true meanings of the following:

Redemption – from the moment humanity fell into a state of sin and death, and even before Creation, God purposed to redeem a holy people – to buy them back out of bondage – through the substitutionary death of his Son on our behalf [see Genesis 3: 15].

Atonement – that since 'the wages of sin is death' and 'the life is in the blood' therefore death is the only appropriate judgment for sin. Thus, the shedding of innocent blood for sin, as pictured by God through the Jewish sacrificial system, could be made on behalf of sinners, in order for them to be forgiven by God and come into his holy presence without being instantly condemned. The only innocent man who could pay the price for (all) human sin was Jesus Christ.

Incarnation – that God the Son, the second person of the divine trinity, set aside his eternal glory and entered the world as a man, born of a virgin. Thus he was not corrupted by Adam's fall. Therefore God's divine nature and uncorrupted human nature were perfectly in harmony in Jesus of Nazareth, who was a perfect man.

Substitution – because he lived a perfect, sinless life as a man always in obedience to the will of God the Father, the Son of God was slain on behalf of humanity as the sacrificial Lamb of God. He bore the punishment for the sins of the whole world, in our place. His blood was shed and his life given on behalf of others. All the Old Testament sacrifices pointed to this once-for-all sacrifice.

Propitiation – that the death of his Son nailed to a Roman cross was sufficient to appease God's wrath and take the judgment due to all others. Everyone who looks to the Lord Jesus as their propitiation receives God's forgiveness.

Justification – that God the Father declares righteous (not guilty of their sins against God and man) everyone who trusts in the finished work of Jesus Christ on their behalf.

Imputation – that the perfect righteousness of the Lamb of God is imputed to everyone who put their faith in Jesus Christ. God the Father no longer imputes a believer's sins to him, but sees them clothed in his Son's spotless righteousness.

New Birth/Life in Christ – that everyone who believes that Jesus Christ has died and risen for them receives the free gift of eternal life – God’s very life inside them (the Holy Spirit).

Grace – We do nothing ourselves to earn, deserve or merit salvation. As the apostle Paul said, ‘For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.’ [Ephesians 2: 8, 9]. Jesus when asked, “What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?” answered, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him who he sent.” [John 6: 28, 29]. Salvation is a free gift, given by God to those who do not deserve it.

Resurrection – as prophesied in The Scriptures, the Messiah could not be held down by death because he had no sin of his own. Therefore, he arose in a changed body after three days in the grave, and was seen by many reliable witnesses. Christ’s resurrection confirmed that his death on the cross on behalf of others was accepted by the Father as a sacrifice for their sins.

Repentance – turning to God and away from going our own way, by acknowledging Jesus Christ as Saviour and submitting to him as Lord of a believer’s life, in accordance with all the saints of all the ages.

Sanctification – that those who believe in Jesus Christ will be transformed more and more into Christ’s likeness each day by the Holy Spirit at work in them.

Hope – Scriptural ‘hope’ is without uncertainty, and is described by the apostle Paul in Romans, chapter 8, as follows; ‘Not only *that*, but we also who have the first-fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for *it* with perseverance.'

Glorification – Everything pertaining to this fallen created order is corrupted by sin; all is temporal and will pass away when Christ dismisses it. God has prepared new glorified bodies for his people that will be immortal, incorruptible, no longer subject to sin and decay, suitable for everlasting life in the new heaven and new earth.

Judgment – All those who reject, ignore and dismiss the sacrifice of God's Beloved on their behalf will not, after they die, stand justified before God. They will be eternally punished because they are sinners and did not believe in the name of Jesus Christ – the one means of salvation prepared by God. They will experience eternal separation of their rebellious spirit from God (the second death). There is no need for anyone to undergo this indescribable punishment, for God 'takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked' [Ezekiel 33: 11] and is 'longsuffering, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.' [II Peter 3: 9].

God's glory – Everything that exists, including the plan that he is now unfolding in Creation, will ultimately be to God's glory. The consummation of everything will demonstrate God's absolute holiness, his ultimate power, his unsearchable wisdom, his unequalled creativity, his infinite love, his unfailing mercy, his unchanging determination to redeem humanity, his Son's right to rule over all, his spotless righteousness and his irrefutable justice as Judge of heaven and earth.

INTRODUCTION

The Hebrew Tanakh – re-ordered as the Christian Old Testament – promised that One would come from God to bring peace, righteousness and justice to the earth. It also described God bringing both salvation and judgment to its peoples. This Anointed and Chosen One is called Mashiach in Hebrew (which we translate as Messiah in English). According to the inspired Old Testament writers, Messiah would both suffer as God’s Servant and rule over Israel and the nations as God’s King – a duality that traditional Judaism was and is unable to accommodate. Messiah would come as a light to the Gentiles and restore Israel to a right relationship with God, living under his Kingship in the Promised Land. There were strong indications that Messiah would be God, the LORD himself, yet also a man!

The New Testament (B’Rit Hadashah in Hebrew) was written in Greek, with Messiah being translated as Christos (Christ in English). According to its inspired writers, Messiah (Christ) came into the world, as prophesied in the Tanakh, not clothed in power and glory to execute God’s vengeance on his enemies and restore Israel to an exalted position immediately, but rather clothed in ordinary human flesh in the form of a servant. He was born into poverty and lowliness as Jesus (Heb. Yeshua, a form of Joshua) of Nazareth. His name means ‘Saviour’ or ‘God is Salvation’. Jesus announced he had come to bring ‘the acceptable year of the LORD’, a time of Jubilee – freedom from slavery, and not the day of God’s vengeance [Isaiah 61: 1 – 3]. This current era from his birth to the present day, is still a time of God’s grace during which rebellious humanity has been given a way to receive everlasting life rather than judgment/condemnation, and come into the presence of a holy and just God.

The first believers in Jesus Christ – who witnessed his resurrection from the dead and ascension back to heaven – were all Jewish. The new believers during the next few years and decades were similarly Jewish. But soon the gospel of salvation by grace was sent to the non-Jewish peoples too.

Most people today deny that God entered the world as a man born of a woman, in order to redeem humanity and reconcile us to himself by his sacrificial death on our behalf. The world and its religions generally reject the fact that no amount of ‘good works’ can earn anyone a way into God’s heaven. While in the world as a man, Jesus of Nazareth always retained the divine nature of eternal God – even though he chose to set aside his glory. He became the propitiation for God’s righteous anger against human rebellion and sin. Israel wanted their Messiah to be a conquering King who would restore the land to them immediately and rule the nations with a rod of iron – not someone who would say, ‘My kingdom is not of this world’ and be brutally nailed on a Roman cross to die a ‘sinner’s death’.

The inspired writers of the New Testament unveil Jesus Christ as the promised Messiah who lived and died on the earth as a man, but who rose from the dead on the third day, according to The Scriptures. He will return again to the earth to reveal his almighty power and eternal glory.

When the ‘year’ of grace has ended, then the time of God’s judgment will be revealed – a time of God’s wrath for all who deny, reject or ignore his Holy One. The Scriptures reveal that the One who was pierced (crucified) for us will step back on to the earth at God’s appointed time, put down all unrighteousness and judge the Earth and Cosmos that he originally created, and then create a new heaven and a new earth characterised by righteousness.



Declare his glory among the nations,
his wonders among all peoples.

For the LORD *is* great and greatly to be praised;
he *is* to be feared above all gods. For all the gods
of the peoples *are* idols, but the LORD made the
heavens. Honour and majesty *are* before him;
strength and beauty *are* in his sanctuary.

Give to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
give to the LORD glory and strength.
Give to the LORD the glory *due* his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts.

Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!
Tremble before him, all the earth.
Say among the nations,

"The LORD reigns;
the world also is firmly established,
it shall not be moved;
he shall judge the peoples righteously."

PSALM 96: 3 – 10



“Your right hand, O LORD, has become glorious in power; your right hand, O LORD, has dashed the enemy in pieces. And in the greatness of your excellence you have overthrown those who rose against you; you sent forth your wrath; it consumed them like stubble. And with the blast of your nostrils the waters were gathered together; the floods stood upright like a heap; the depths congealed in the heart of the sea. The enemy said, ‘I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my desire shall be satisfied on them. I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them.’ You blew with your wind, the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters. Who *is* like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who *is* like you, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders? You stretched out your right hand; the earth swallowed them. You in your mercy have led forth the people whom you have redeemed; you have guided *them* in your strength to your holy habitation.”

EXODUS 15: 6 – 13

OLORD, our Lord, how excellent *is* your name in all the earth, who have set your glory above the heavens! Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants you have ordained strength, because of your enemies, that you may silence the enemy and the avenger. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have ordained, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you visit him? For you have made him a little lower than the angels, and you have crowned him with glory and honour. You have made him to have dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all *things* under his feet, all sheep and oxen—even the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea that pass through the paths of the seas. O LORD, our Lord, how excellent *is* your name in all the earth!

PSALM 8: 1 – 9



The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows his handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. *There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tabernacle for the sun, which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoices like a strong man to run its race. Its rising is from one end of heaven, and its circuit to the other end; and there is nothing hidden from its heat.*

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the judgements of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and I shall be innocent of great transgression.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.

PSALM 19: 1 – 14



The earth *is* the LORD'S, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein. For he has founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the waters. Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. This *is* Jacob, the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face. Selah. Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. Who *is* this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. Who *is* this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he *is* the King of glory. Selah

PSALM 24: 1 – 10

Give unto the LORD, O you mighty ones, give unto the LORD glory and strength. Give unto the LORD the glory due to his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. The voice of the LORD *is* over the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD *is* over many waters. The voice of the LORD *is* powerful; the voice of the LORD *is* full of majesty. The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars, yes, the LORD splinters the cedars of Lebanon. He makes them also skip like a calf, Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox. The voice of the LORD divides the flames of fire. The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the Wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth, and strips the forests bare; and in his temple everyone says, "Glory!" The LORD sat *enthroned* at the Flood, and the LORD sits as King forever. The LORD will give strength to his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace. Selah

PSALM 29: 1 – 11

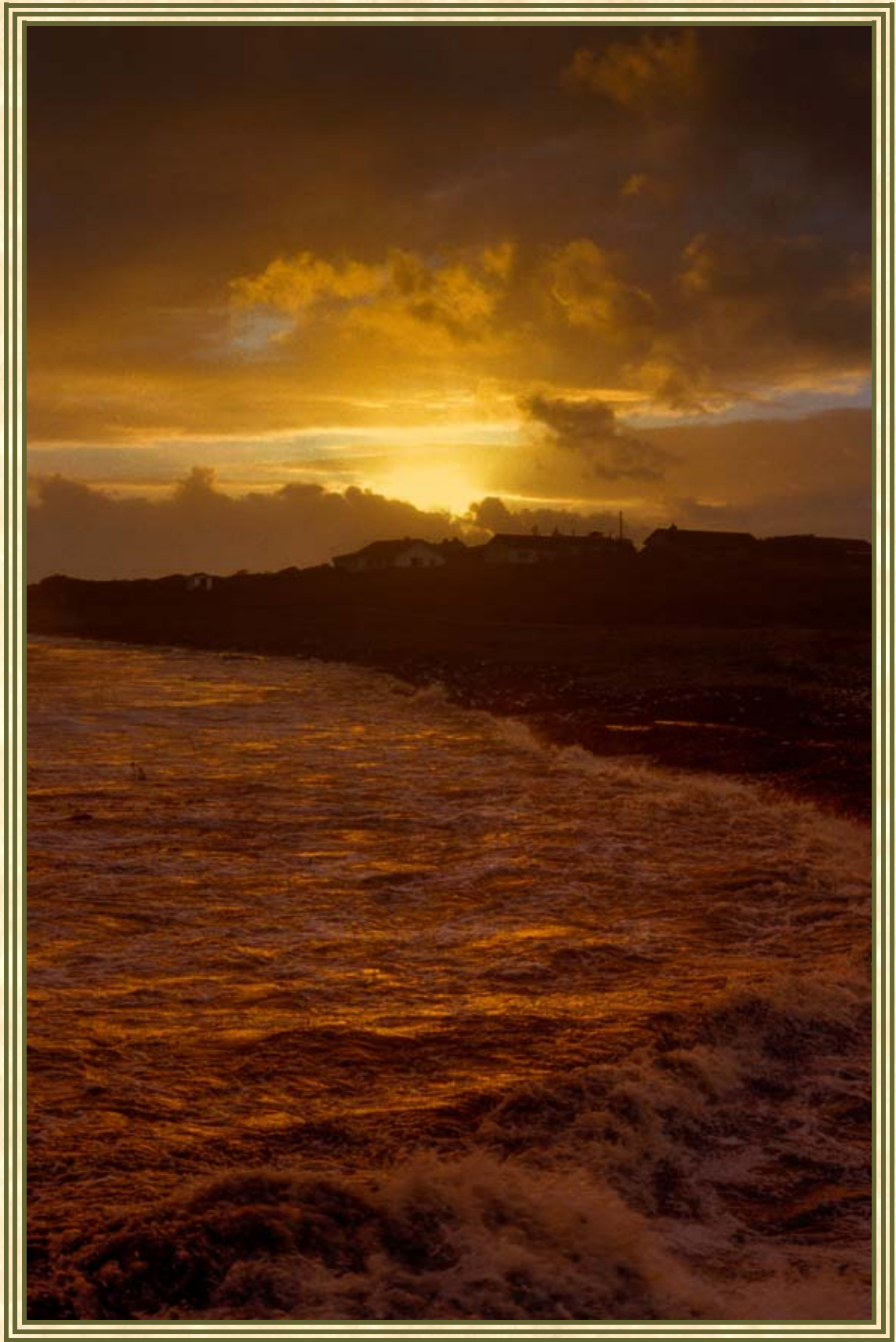


You are fairer than the sons of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you forever. Gird your sword upon *your* thigh, O Mighty One, with your glory and your majesty. And in your majesty ride prosperously because of truth, humility, *and* righteousness; and your right hand shall teach you awesome things. Your arrows *are* sharp in the heart of the King's enemies; the peoples fall under you. 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.

PSALM 45: 2 – 7

He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. Those who dwell in the wilderness will bow before him, and his enemies will lick the dust. The kings of Tarshish and of the isles will bring presents; the kings of Sheba and Seba will offer gifts. Yes, all kings shall fall down before him; all nations shall serve him. For he will deliver the needy when he cries, the poor also, and *him* who has no helper. He will spare the poor and needy, and will save the souls of the needy. He will redeem their life from oppression and violence; and precious shall be their blood in his sight. And he shall live; and the gold of Sheba will be given to him; prayer also will be made for him continually, *and* daily he shall be praised. There will be an abundance of grain in the earth, on the top of the mountains; its fruit shall wave like Lebanon; and *those* of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth. His name shall endure forever; his name shall continue as long as the sun. And *men* shall be blessed in him; all nations shall call him blessed. Blessed *be* the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only does wondrous things! And blessed *be* his glorious name forever! And let the whole earth be filled *with* his glory. Amen and Amen.

PSALM 72: 5 – 19



A Prayer of Moses the man of God.

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, you *are* God. You turn man to destruction, and say, "Return, O children of men." For a thousand years in your sight *are* like yesterday when it is past, and *like* a watch in the night. You carry them away *like* a flood; *they are* like a sleep. In the morning they are like grass *which* grows up: in the morning it flourishes and grows up; in the evening it is cut down and withers. For we have been consumed by your anger, and by your wrath we are terrified.

You have set our iniquities before you, our secret *sins* in the light of your countenance. For all our days have passed away in your wrath; we finish our years like a sigh. The days of our lives *are* seventy years; and if by reason of strength *they are* eighty years, yet their boast *is* only labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

Who knows the power of your anger? For as the fear of you, *so is* your wrath. So teach *us* to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Return, O LORD! How long? And have compassion on your servants. Oh, satisfy us early with your mercy, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days! Make us glad according to the days *in which* you have afflicted us, the years *in which* we have seen evil. Let your work appear to your servants, and your glory to their children. And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands for us; yes, establish the work of our hands.

PSALM 90: 1 – 17



My days *are* like a shadow that lengthens, and I wither away like grass. But you, O LORD, shall endure forever, and the remembrance of your name to all generations. You will arise *and* have mercy on Zion; for the time to favour her, yes, the set time, has come. For your servants take pleasure in her stones, and show favour to her dust. So the nations shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth your glory. For the LORD shall build up Zion; he shall appear in his glory. He shall regard the prayer of the destitute, and shall not despise their prayer. This will be written for the generation to come, that a people yet to be created may praise the LORD. For he looked down from the height of his sanctuary; from heaven the LORD viewed the earth, to hear the groaning of the prisoner, to release those appointed to death, to declare the name of the LORD in Zion, and his praise in Jerusalem, when the peoples are gathered together, and the kingdoms, to serve the LORD. He weakened my strength in the way; he shortened my days. I said, "O my God, do not take me away in the midst of my days; your years *are* throughout all generations. Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens *are* the work of your hands. They will perish, but you will endure; yes, they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak you will change them, and they will be changed. But you *are* the same, and your years will have no end. The children of your servants will continue, and their descendants will be established before you."

PSALM 102: 11 – 28

Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, Praise the name of the LORD! Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore! From the rising of the sun to its going down the LORD'S name *is* to be praised. The LORD *is* high above all nations, his glory above the heavens.

PSALM 113: 1 – 4

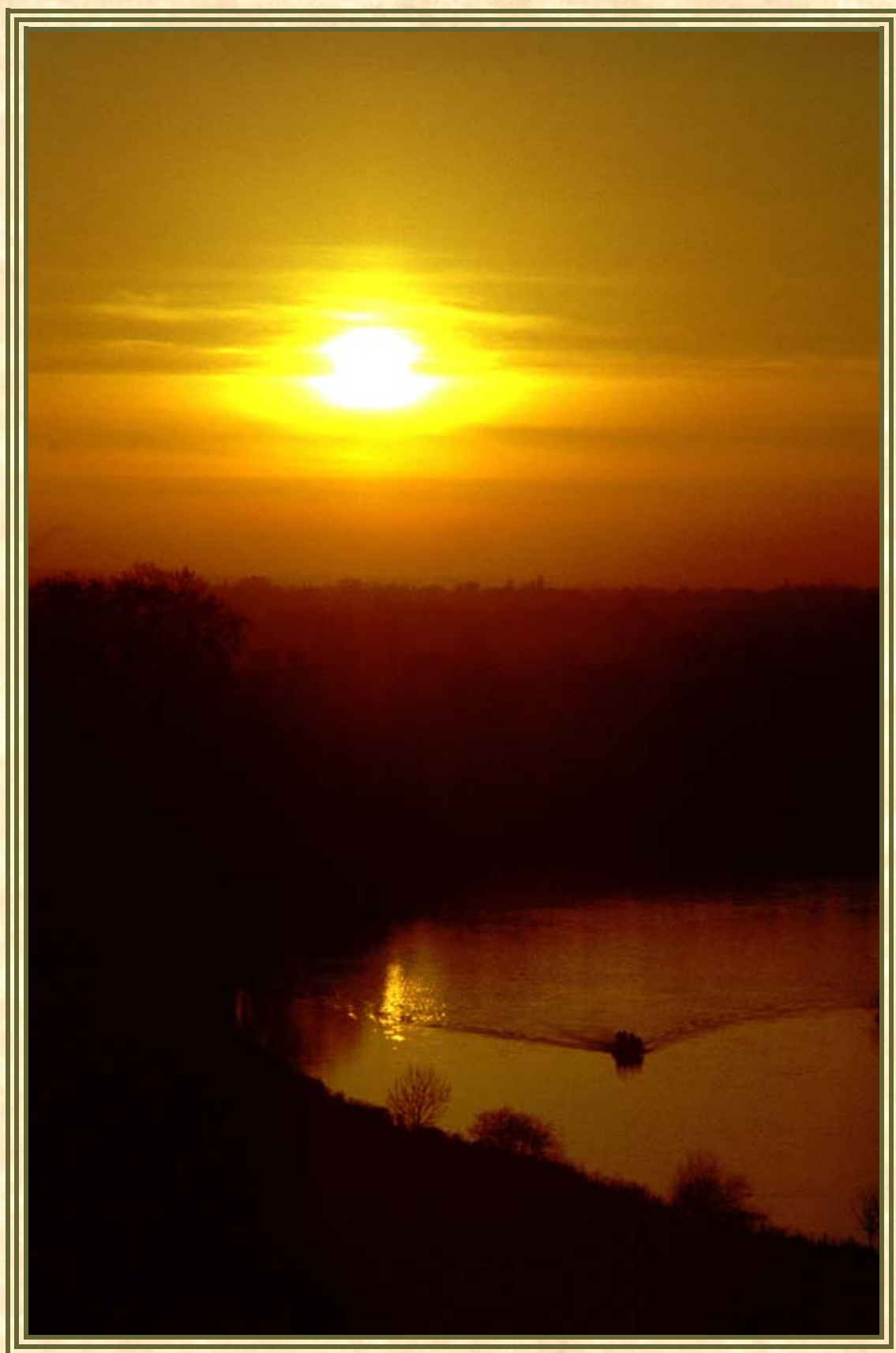


The LORD *is* gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy. The LORD *is* good to all, and his tender mercies *are* over all his works. All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your saints shall bless you. They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and talk of your power,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

PSALM 145: 8 – 20

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; Praise him in the heights! Praise him, all his angels; Praise him, all his hosts! Praise him, sun and moon; Praise him, all you stars of light! Praise him, you heavens of heavens, and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created. He also established them forever and ever; he made a decree which shall not pass away. Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all the depths; fire and hail, snow and clouds; stormy wind, fulfilling his word; mountains and all hills; fruitful trees and all cedars; beasts and all cattle; creeping things and flying fowl; kings of the earth and all peoples; princes and all judges of the earth; both young men and maidens; old men and children. Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory *is* above the earth and heaven.

PSALM 148: 1 – 13



In the year that King Uzziah died [739 BC], 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!" And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.

So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I *am* a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts." Then 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?" Then 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.' Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and return and be healed."

Then I said, "Lord, how long?" And he answered: "Until the cities are laid waste and without inhabitant, the houses are without a man, the land is utterly desolate, the LORD has removed men far away, and the forsaken places *are* many in the midst of the land. But yet a tenth *will be* in it, and will return and be for consuming, as a terebinth tree or as an oak, whose stump *remains* when it is cut down. So the holy seed *shall be* its stump."



“Comfort, yes, comfort my people!” Says your God. “Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned; for she has received from the LORD’S hand double for all her sins.”

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: 1 – 8

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: 5 – 9



Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong *hand*, and his arm shall rule for him; behold, his reward *is* with him, and his work before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs with his arm, and carry *them* in his bosom, *and* gently lead those who are with young.

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, measured heaven with a span and calculated the dust of the earth in a measure? Weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, or *as* his counsellor has taught him? With whom did he take counsel, and *who* instructed him, and taught him in the path of justice? Who taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding?

Behold, the nations *are* as a drop in a bucket, and are counted as the small dust on the scales; look, he lifts up the isles as a very little thing. And Lebanon *is* not sufficient to burn, nor its beasts sufficient for a burnt offering. All nations before him *are* as nothing, and they are counted by him less than nothing and worthless.

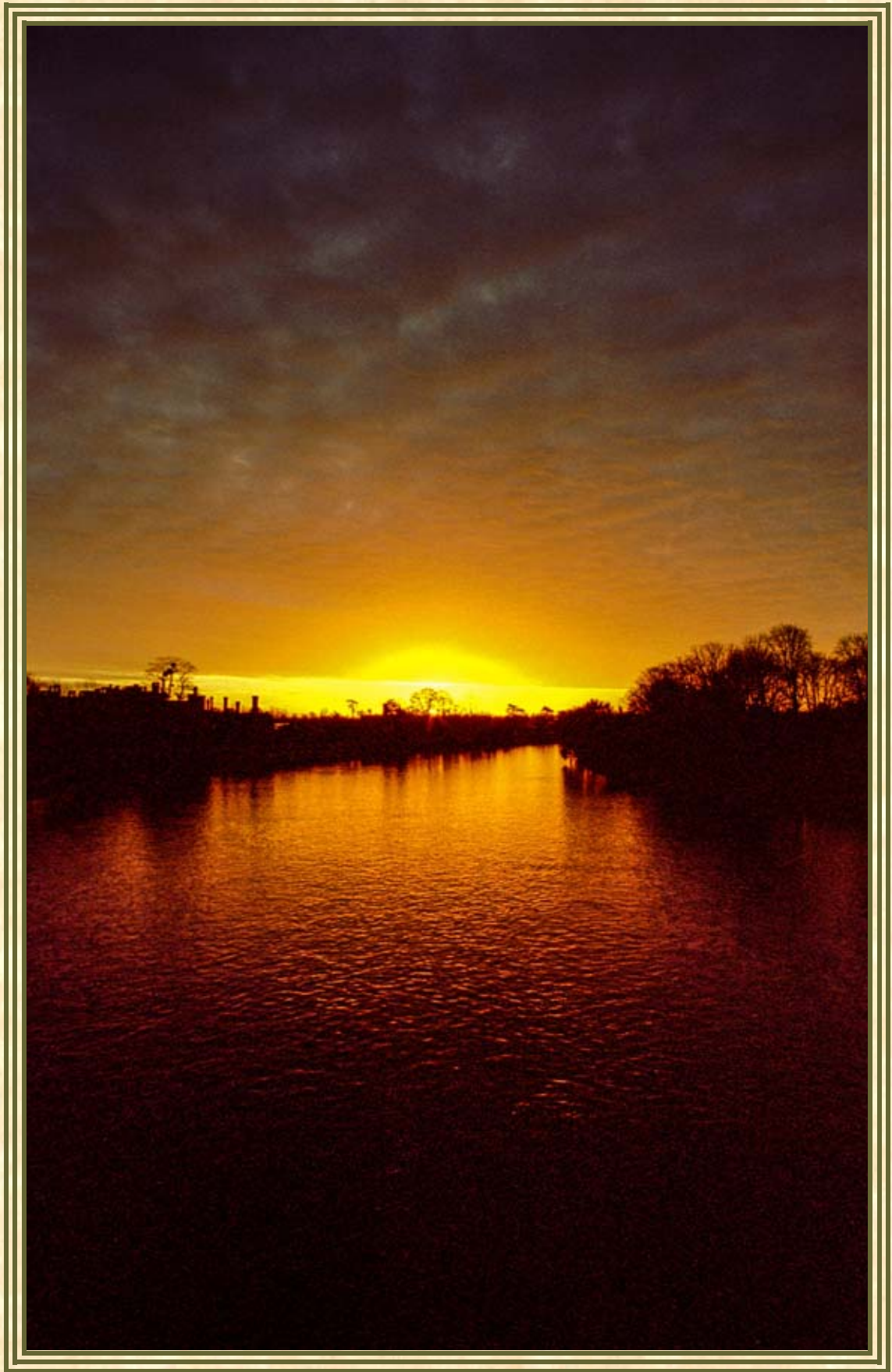


Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? *It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.*

He brings the princes to nothing; he makes the judges of the earth useless. Scarcely shall they be planted, scarcely shall they be sown, scarcely shall their stock take root in the earth, when he will also blow on them, and they will wither, and the whirlwind will take them away like stubble.

"To whom then will you liken me, or to whom shall I be equal?" says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, and see who has created these *things*, who brings out their host by number; he calls them all by name, by the greatness of his might and the strength of *his* power; not one is missing.

ISAIAH 40: 21 – 26



For our transgressions are multiplied before you, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions *are* with us, and *as for* our iniquities, we know them: in transgressing and lying against the LORD, and departing from our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood. Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands afar off; for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. So truth fails, and he *who* departs from evil makes himself a prey. Then the LORD saw *it*, and it displeased him that *there was* no justice.

He saw that *there was* no man, and wondered that *there was* no intercessor; therefore his own arm brought salvation for him; and his own righteousness, it sustained him. For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and a helmet of salvation on his head; he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloak. According to *their* deeds, accordingly he will repay, fury to his adversaries, recompense to his enemies; the coastlands he will fully repay. So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun; when the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him.

"The Redeemer will come to Zion, and to those who turn from transgression in Jacob," says the LORD. "As for me," says the LORD, "this *is* my covenant with them: my Spirit who *is* upon you, and my words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants' descendants," says the LORD, "from this time and forevermore."

ISAIAH 59: 12 – 21



For behold, the LORD will come with fire and with his chariots, like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword the LORD will judge all flesh; and the slain of the LORD shall be many. "Those who sanctify themselves and purify themselves, *to go to the gardens after an idol in the midst, eating swine's flesh and the abomination and the mouse, shall be consumed together,*" says the LORD. "For I *know* their works and their thoughts. It shall be that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come and see my glory. I will set a sign among them; and those among them who escape I will send to the nations: *to Tarshish and Pul and Lud, who draw the bow, and Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands afar off who have not heard my fame nor seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.*

Then they shall bring all your brethren for an offering to the LORD out of all nations, on horses and in chariots and in litters, on mules and on camels, to my holy mountain Jerusalem," says the LORD, "as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD. And I will also take some of them for priests *and Levites,*" says the LORD.

"For as the new heavens and the new earth which I will make shall remain before me," says the LORD, "so shall your descendants and your name remain. And it shall come to pass *that* from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before me," says the LORD. "And they shall go forth and look upon the corpses of the men who have transgressed against me. For their worm does not die, and their fire is not quenched. They shall be an abhorrence to all flesh."



Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise *man* glory in his wisdom, let not the mighty *man* glory in his might, nor let the rich *man* glory in his riches; but let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows me, that I *am* the LORD, exercising loving-kindness, judgement, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD. "Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "that I will punish all *who are* circumcised [*Jews*] with the uncircumcised [*Gentiles*] — Egypt, Judah, Edom, the people of Ammon, Moab, and all *who are* in the farthest corners, who dwell in the wilderness. For all *these* nations *are* uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel *are* uncircumcised in the heart."

JEREMIAH 9: 23 – 26

Hear and give ear: Do not be proud, for the LORD has spoken. Give glory to the LORD your God before he causes darkness, and before your feet stumble on the dark mountains, and while you are looking for light, he turns it into the shadow of death *and* makes *it* dense darkness.

But if you will not hear it, my soul will weep in secret for *your* pride; my eyes will weep bitterly and run down with tears, because the LORD'S flock [*Israel*] has been taken captive. Say to the king and to the queen mother, "Humble yourselves; sit down, for your rule shall collapse, the crown of your glory." The cities of the South shall be shut up, and no one shall open *them*; Judah shall be carried away captive, all of it; it shall be wholly carried away captive.

JEREMIAH 13: 15 – 19



Then the Spirit lifted me up, and I heard behind me a great thunderous voice: "Blessed is the glory of the LORD from his place!" I also *heard* the noise of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels beside them, and a great thunderous noise. So the Spirit lifted me up and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me.

Then I came to the captives at Tel Abib, who dwelt by the River Chebar; and I sat where they sat, and remained there astonished among them seven days. Now it came to pass at the end of seven days that the word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore hear a word from my mouth, and give them warning from me: When I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.

Again, when a righteous *man* turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and I lay a stumbling block before him, he shall die; because you did not give him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered; but his blood I will require at your hand. Nevertheless if you warn the righteous *man* that the righteous should not sin, and he does not sin, he shall surely live because he took warning; also you will have delivered your soul."

EZEKIEL 3: 12 – 21



And it came to pass in the sixth year, in the sixth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I sat in my house with the elders of Judah sitting before me, that the hand of the Lord GOD fell upon me there. Then I looked, and there was a likeness, like the appearance of fire—from the appearance of his waist and downward, fire; and from his waist and upward, like the appearance of brightness, like the colour of amber. He stretched out the form of a hand, and took me by a lock of my hair; and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven, and brought me in visions of God to Jerusalem, to the door of the north gate of the inner court, where the seat of the image of jealousy *was*, which provokes to jealousy. And behold, the glory of the God of Israel *was* there, like the vision that I saw in the plain. Then he said to me, "Son of man, lift your eyes now toward the north." So I lifted my eyes toward the north, and there, north of the altar gate, was this image of jealousy in the entrance. Furthermore he said to me, "Son of man, do you see what they are doing, the great abominations that the house of Israel commits here, to make me go far away from my sanctuary? Now turn again, you will see greater abominations." So he brought me to the door of the court; and when I looked, there was a hole in the wall. Then he said to me, "Son of man, dig into the wall"; and when I dug into the wall, there was a door. And he said to me, "Go in, and see the wicked abominations which they are doing there." So I went in and saw, and there—every sort of creeping thing, abominable beasts, and all the idols of the house of Israel, portrayed all around on the walls. And there stood before them seventy men of the elders of the house of Israel, and in their midst stood Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan. Each man had a censer in his hand, and a thick cloud of incense went up. Then he said to me, "Son of man, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the room of his idols? For they say, 'The LORD does not see us, the LORD has forsaken the land.'"

EZEKIEL 8: 1 – 12



“Therefore say, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: “I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.”’ And they will go there, and they will take away all its detestable things and all its abominations from there. Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in my statutes and keep my judgements and do them; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God. But *as for those* whose hearts follow the desire for their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their deeds on their own heads,” says the Lord GOD. So the cherubim lifted up their wings, with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel *was* high above them. And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain, which *is* on the east side of the city.

EZEKIEL 11: 17 – 23

“I will set my glory among the nations; all the nations shall see my judgement which I have executed, and my hand which I have laid on them. So the house of Israel shall know that I *am* the LORD their God from that day forward. The Gentiles shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity; because they were unfaithful to me, therefore I hid my face from them. I gave them into the hand of their enemies, and they all fell by the sword. According to their uncleanness and according to their transgressions I have dealt with them, and hidden my face from them. Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: ‘Now I will bring back the captives of Jacob, and have mercy on the whole house of Israel; and I will be jealous for my holy name—after they have borne their shame, and all their unfaithfulness in which they were unfaithful to me, when they dwelt safely in their *own* land and no one made *them* afraid.’”

EZEKIEL 39: 21 – 26



“I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; his garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of his head *was* like pure wool. His throne *was* a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; a fiery stream issued and came forth from before him. A thousand thousands ministered to him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame. As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. I was watching 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.”

DANIEL 7: 9 – 14

T**hen I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the seven lampstands *one* like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. His head and hair *were* white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes like a flame of fire; his feet *were* like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and his voice as the sound of many waters; he had in his right hand seven stars, out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and his countenance *was* like the sun shining in its strength. And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. I *am* he who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death."**

REVELATION 1: 12 – 18



A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet, on Shigionoth.

O LORD, I have heard your speech *and* was afraid; O LORD, revive your work in the midst of the years! In the midst of the years make *it* known; in wrath remember mercy. God came from Teman, the Holy One from Mount Paran. Selah

His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise. His brightness was like the light; he had rays *flashing* from his hand, and there his power *was* hidden. Before him went pestilence, and fever followed at his feet. He stood and measured the earth; he looked and startled the nations. And the everlasting mountains were scattered, the perpetual hills bowed. His ways *are* everlasting.

Isaw the tents of Cushan in affliction; the curtains of the land of Midian trembled. O LORD, were *you* displeased with the rivers, *was* your anger against the rivers, *was* your wrath against the sea, that you rode on your horses, your chariots of salvation? Your bow was made quite ready; oaths were sworn over *your* arrows. Selah

You divided the earth with rivers. The mountains saw you *and* trembled; the overflowing of the water passed by. The deep uttered its voice, *and* lifted its hands on high.



The sun and moon stood still in their habitation; at the light of your arrows they went, at the shining of your glittering spear. You marched through the land in indignation; you trampled the nations in anger. You went forth for the salvation of your people, for salvation with your Anointed. You struck the head from the house of the wicked, by laying bare from foundation to neck. Selah

You thrust through with his own arrows the head of his villages. They came out like a whirlwind to scatter me; their rejoicing was like feasting on the poor in secret. You walked through the sea with your horses, through the heap of great waters. When I heard, my body trembled; my lips quivered at *the* voice; rottenness entered my bones; and I trembled in myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble. When he comes up to the people, he will invade them with his troops.

Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines; though the labour of the olive may fail, and the fields yield no food; though the flock may be cut off from the fold, and there be no herd in the stalls—yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength; he will make my feet like deer's *feet*, and he will make me walk on my high hills.

HABBAKUK 3: 1 – 19A



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? In comparison with it, *is this* not in your eyes as nothing? Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel,' says the LORD; 'and be strong, Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; and be strong, all you people of the land,' says the LORD, 'and work; for I *am* with you,' says the LORD of hosts. *According to* the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so my Spirit remains among you; do not fear!' 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. The silver *is* mine, and the gold *is* mine,' says the LORD of hosts. The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,' says the LORD of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace,' says the LORD of hosts."

HAGGAI 2: 1 – 9

“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. In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, like the mourning at Hadad Rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. 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."

ZECHARIAH 12: 10 – 14



“Your 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. “They 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.” Then you shall again discern between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.

"For 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 Sun of Righteousness [the Messiah] 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: 13 – 4: 6



Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David [\[Bethlehem\]](#) a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us."

If we receive the witness of men,
the witness of God is greater;
for this is the witness of God which he
has testified of his Son.

He who believes in the Son of God
has the witness in himself;
he who does not believe God has made him a liar,
because he has not believed the testimony that
God has given of his Son.

And this is the testimony: that God has given us
eternal life, and this life is in his Son.
He who has the Son has life; he who does not
have the Son of God does not have life.

These things I have written to you who believe
in the name of the Son of God,
that you may know that you have eternal life,
and that you may *continue to* believe in the name
of the Son of God.

I JOHN 5: 9 – 13



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: '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.'" Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young child, and when you have found *him*, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship him also."

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. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. 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. Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way. Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him."

MATTHEW 2: 1 – 13



Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of Man will come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and then he will reward each according to his works. Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; and he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with him. Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear him!"

And when the disciples heard *it*, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid. But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid." When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. 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."

MATTHEW 16: 24 – 17: 9



“Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer *is* near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will by no means pass away. But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noah *were*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. Then two *men* will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two *women will be* grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

MATTHEW 24: 27 – 44



“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. And he will set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you took me in; I *was* naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to me.’ ”

MATTHEW 25: 31 – 36

“For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.” And he said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power.”

Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them up on a high mountain apart by themselves; and he was transfigured before them. His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them. And Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah” — because he did not know what to say, for they were greatly afraid. And a cloud came and overshadowed them; and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is my beloved Son. Hear him!”

MARK 8: 38 – 9: 7



He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered and said, "The Christ of God." And he strictly warned and commanded them to tell this to no one, saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day." Then he said to *them* all, "If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when he comes in his *own* glory, and *in his* Father's, and of the holy angels. But I tell you truly, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the kingdom of God."

Now it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that he took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the appearance of his face was altered, and his robe *became* white *and* glistening. And behold, two men talked with him, who were Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his decease which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. But Peter and those with him were heavy with sleep; and when they were fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Then it happened, as they were parting from him, *that* Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were fearful as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my beloved Son. Hear him!" When the voice had ceased, Jesus was found alone. But they kept quiet, and told no one in those days any of the things they had seen.



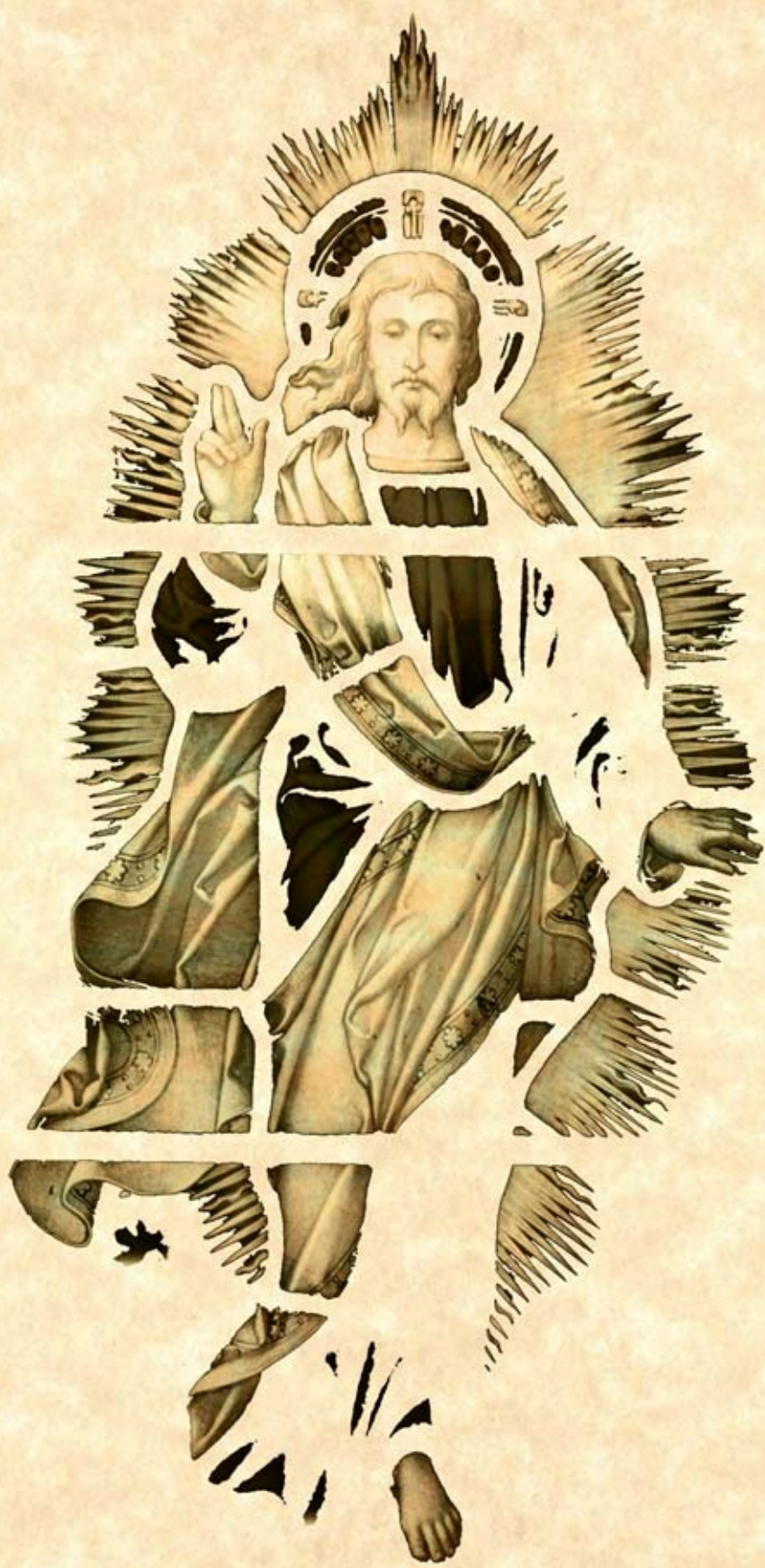
“And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men’s hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.” Then he spoke to them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. When they are already budding, you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near. So you also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. Assuredly, I say to you, this generation **[alive at the time]** will by no means pass away till all things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will by no means pass away. But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

LUKE 21: 25 – 36

Then he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into his glory?” And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, he expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. Then they drew near to the village where they were going, and he indicated that he would have gone farther. But they constrained him, saying, “Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.” And he went in to stay with them. Now it came to pass, as he sat at the table with them, that he took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they knew him; and he vanished from their sight.

LUKE 24: 25 – 32





“Look to me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth! For I *am* God, and *there is* no other. I have sworn by myself; the word has gone out of my mouth *in* righteousness, and shall not return, that to me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall take an oath.

He shall say, ‘Surely in the LORD I have righteousness and strength. To him *men* shall come, and all shall be ashamed who are incensed against him. In the LORD all the descendants of Israel shall be justified, and shall glory.’”

ISAIAH 45: 22 – 25

For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s. For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

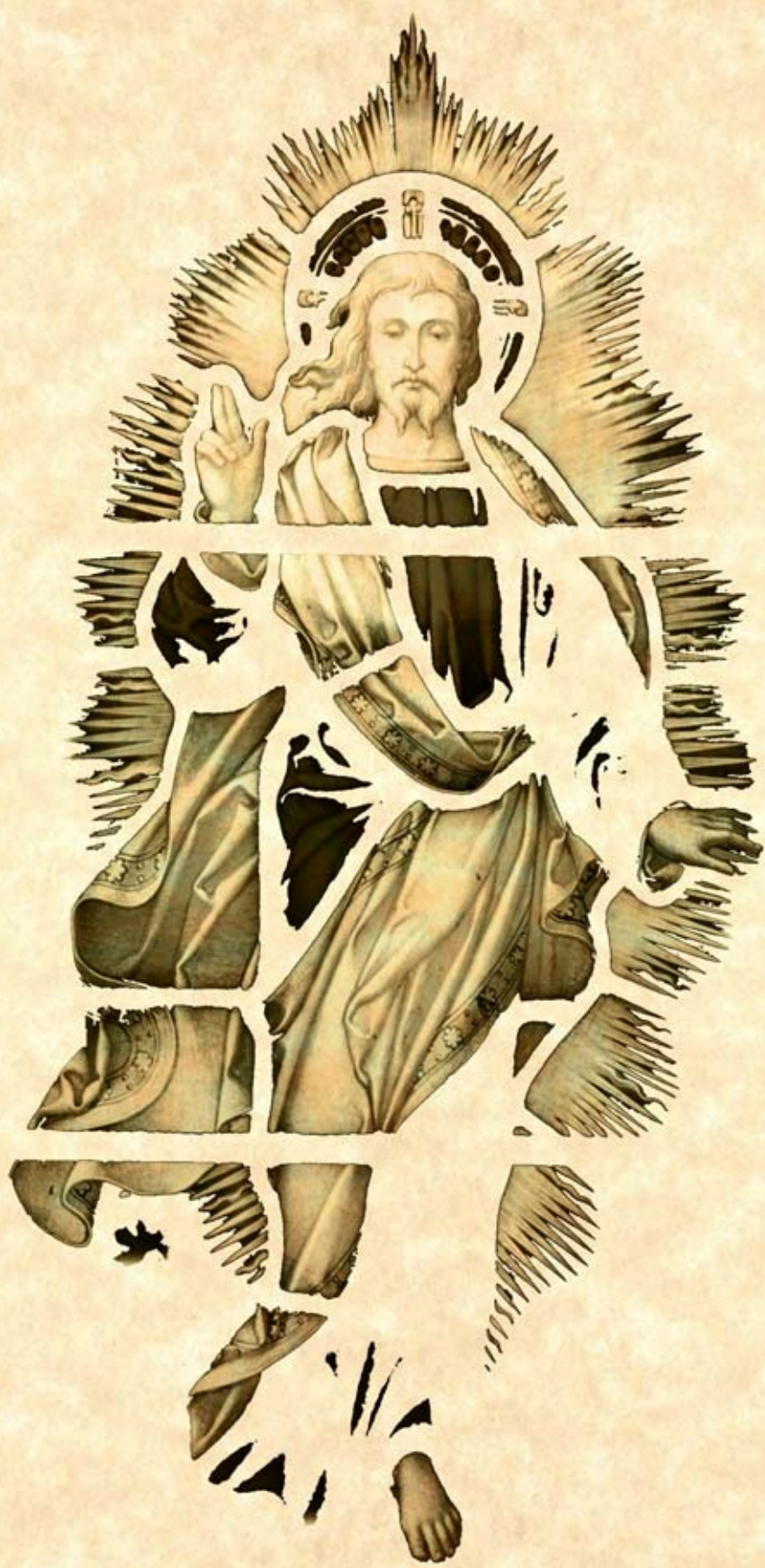
But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written: “As I live, says the LORD, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.” So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.

ROMANS 14: 8 – 12

Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. 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.

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *his* good pleasure. Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or laboured in vain.

PHILIPPIANS 2: 4 – 16

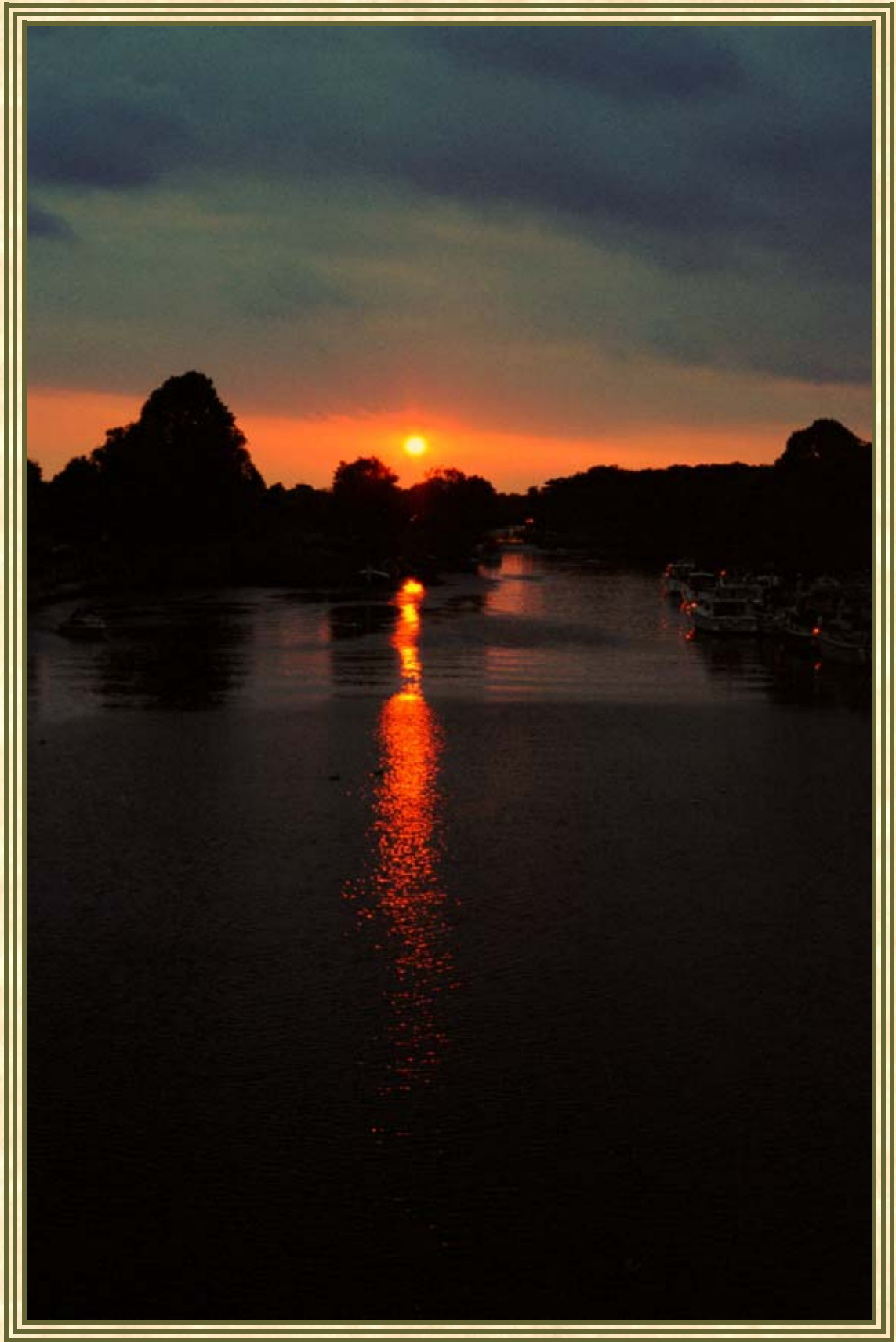


In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him nothing was made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name *was* John. [John the Baptist] 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*.

JOHN 1: 1 – 18



And some of them said, "Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind, also have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again groaning in himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been *dead* four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"

Then they took away the stone *from the place where the dead man* was lying. And Jesus lifted up *his* eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. And I know that you always hear me, but because of the people who are standing by I said *this*, that they may believe that you sent me." Now when He had said these things, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with grave-clothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go." Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in him.

JOHN 11: 37 – 45

Jesus spoke these words, *lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said:* "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son also may glorify you, as you have given him authority over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I have glorified you on the earth. I have finished the work which you have given me to do. And now, O Father, glorify me together with yourself, with the glory which I had with you before the world was."

JOHN 17: 1 – 5



“**O**ur fathers had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness, as he appointed, instructing Moses to make it according to the pattern that he had seen, which our fathers, having received it in turn, also brought with Joshua into the land possessed by the Gentiles, whom God drove out before the face of our fathers until the days of David, who found favour before God and asked to find a dwelling for the God of Jacob. But Solomon built him a house. However, the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands, as the prophet says: ‘Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool. What house will you build for me?’ says the LORD, ‘Or what is the place of my rest? Has my hand not made all these things?’ *You* stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers *did*, so *do* you. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, [Messiah/Christ] of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers, who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept *it*.”

When they heard these things they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed at him [Stephen] with *their* teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; and they cast *him* out of the city and stoned *him*. And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul [later to become the apostle Paul]. And they stoned Stephen as he was calling on *God* and saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

ACTS 7: 44 – 60



A



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.

For to which of the angels did he ever say: "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? And again: "I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son"? But when he again brings the firstborn into the world, he says: "Let all the angels of God worship him." 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: 1 – 12

Jesus Christ *is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Do not be* carried about with various and strange doctrines. For *it is* good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them. We have an altar from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. Therefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered outside the gate. Therefore let us go forth to him, outside the camp, bearing his reproach. For here we have no continuing city, but we seek the one to come. Therefore by him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to his name. But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you. Pray for us; for we are confident that we have a good conscience, in all things desiring to live honourably. But I especially urge *you* to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.

Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do his will, working in you what is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom *be* glory forever and ever. Amen.

HEBREWS 13: 8 – 21

Ω





Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

ROMANS 5: 1 – 8

Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we were buried with him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of his death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness* of his resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over him. For *the death* that he died, he died to sin once for all; but *the life* that he lives, he lives to God. Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 6: 3 – 11

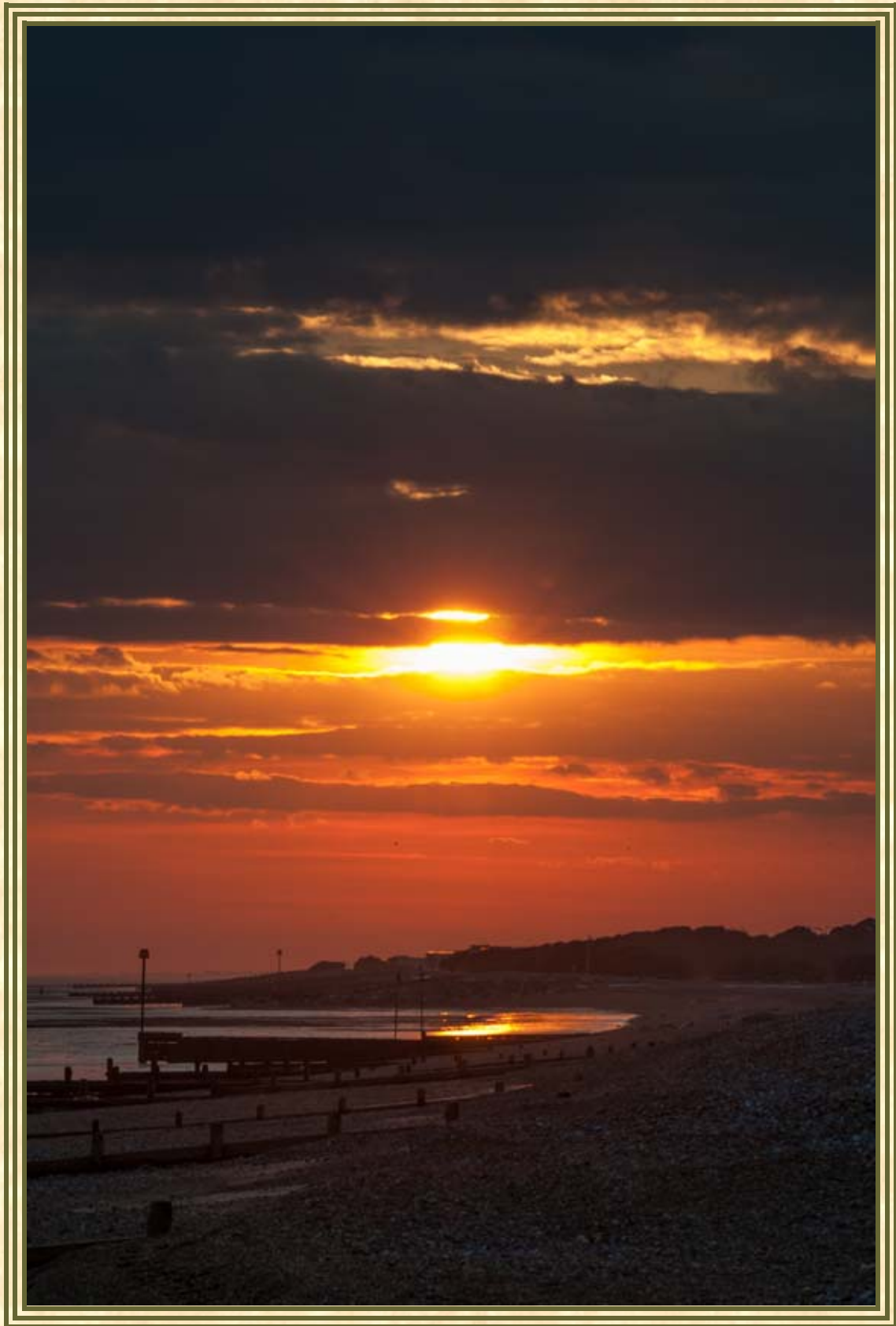


Now to him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith—to God, alone wise, *be* glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen.

ROMANS 16: 25 – 27

But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in his presence. But of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption—that, as it is written, "He who glories, let him glory in the LORD." And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching *were* not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden *wisdom* which God ordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

CORINTHIANS 1: 27 – 2: 8



But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. *We are* hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; *we are* perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that he who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present *us* with you. For all things *are* for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God. Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward *man* is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal. For we know that if our earthly house, *this* tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

II CORINTHIANS 4: 3 – 5: 1

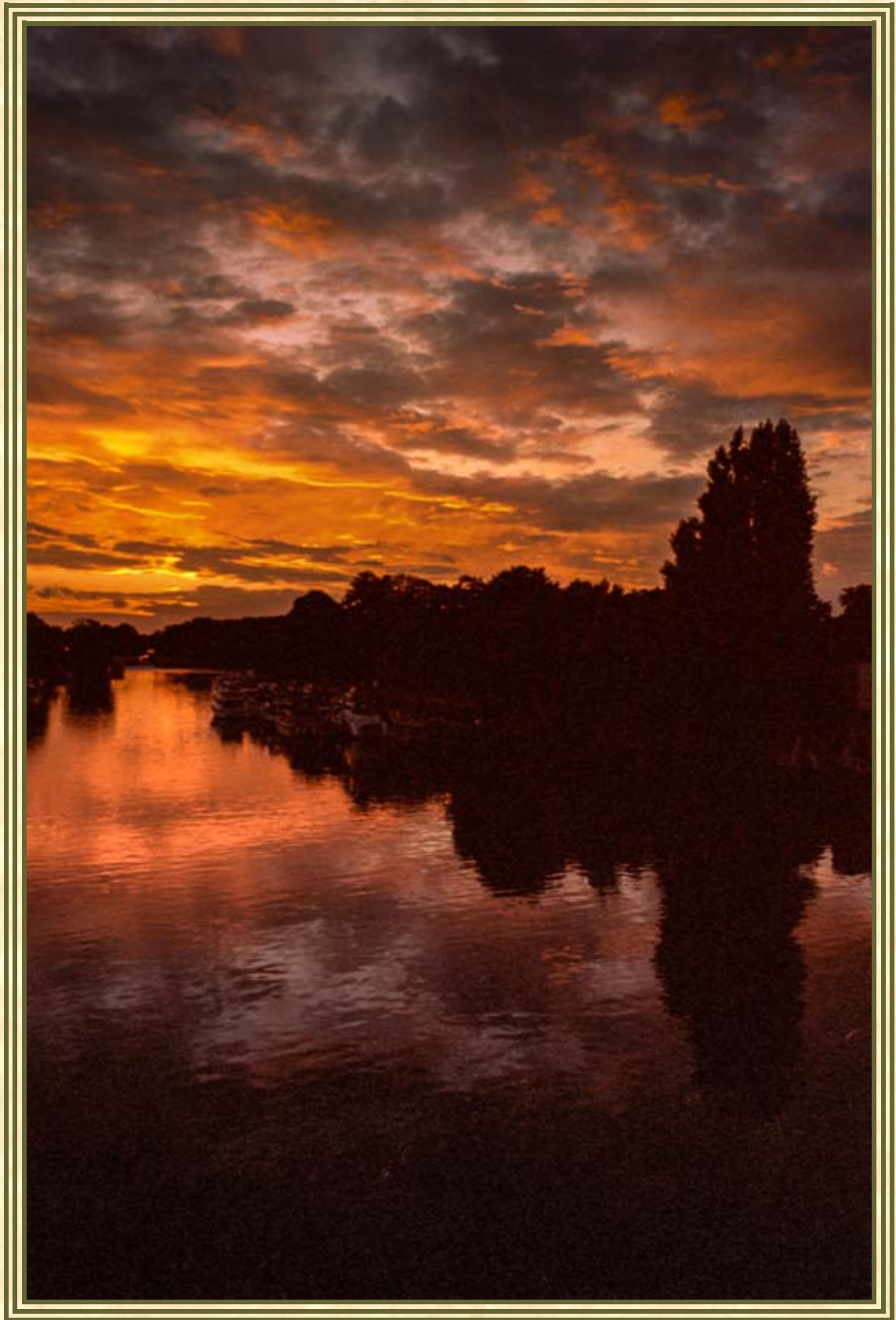


Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom *be* glory forever and ever. Amen. I marvel that you are turning away so soon from him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ. But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught *it*, but *it came* through the revelation of Jesus Christ.

GALATIANS 1: 3 – 13

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, just as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of the glory of his grace, by which he has made us accepted in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace which he made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he purposed in himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in him.

EPHESIANS 1: 2 – 10



In him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of his glory.

In him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of his glory. Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of his calling, what are the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his mighty power which he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated *him* at his right hand in the heavenly *places*, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

And he put all *things* under his feet, and gave him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. And you *he made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

EPHESIANS 1: 11 – 2: 3



For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might through his Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height—to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

EPHESIANS 3: 14 – 21

Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. 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: 4 – 11



And my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father *be* glory forever and ever. Amen. Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren who are with me greet you. All the saints greet you, but especially those who are of Caesar's household. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

PHILIPPIANS 4: 19 – 23

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. And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now he has reconciled in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in his sight—if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister. I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of his body, which is the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God, the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to his saints. To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

COLOSSIANS 1: 15 – 27



We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other, so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure, *which is* manifest evidence of the righteous judgement of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer; since *it is* a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, and to *give* you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power, when he comes, in that Day, to be glorified in his saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed. Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of *his* goodness and the work of faith with power, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things?

II THESSALONIANS 1: 3 – 2: 5



And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because he counted me faithful, putting *me* into the ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. This *is* a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, *be* honour and glory forever and ever. Amen.

I TIMOTHY 1: 12 – 17

Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel, for which I suffer trouble as an evildoer, *even* to the point of chains; but the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. *This is* a faithful saying: For if we died with *him*, we shall also live with *him*. If we endure, we shall also reign with *him*. If we deny *him*, he also will deny us. If we are faithless, he remains faithful; he cannot deny himself. Remind *them* of these things, charging *them* before the Lord not to strive about words to no profit, to the ruin of the hearers. Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane *and* idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some. Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

II TIMOTHY 2: 8 – 19



Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, who was faithful to him who appointed him, as Moses also *was faithful* in all his house.

For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who built the house has more honour than the house. For every house is built by someone, but he who built all things *is* God.

And Moses indeed *was faithful* in all his house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken *afterward*,

but Christ as a Son over his own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.

HEBREWS 3: 1 – 6

Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honour, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls.

I PETER 1: 3 – 9

And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay *here* in fear; knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through him believe in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, because "All flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away, but the word of the LORD endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

I PETER 1: 17 – 25



If anyone speaks, *let him speak as the oracles of God*. If anyone ministers, *let him do it as with the ability which God supplies*, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when his glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed *are you*, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part he is blasphemed, but on your part he is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters. Yet if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter. For the time *has come* for judgement to begin at the house of God; and if *it begins* with us first, what will *be* the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? Now "If the righteous one is scarcely saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?" Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls *to him* in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

I PETER 4: 11 – 19

Therefore *humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God*, that he may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon him, for he cares for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. But may the God of all grace, who called us to his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle *you*. To him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

I PETER 5: 6 – 11



Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding *you*, knowing that shortly I *must* put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease. For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honour and glory when such a voice came to him from the Excellent Glory: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain. And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.

II PETER 1: 13 – 21

Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by him in peace, without spot and blameless; and consider *that* the longsuffering of our Lord *is* salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable *people* twist to their own destruction, as *they do* also the rest of the Scriptures. You therefore, beloved, since you know *this* beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* the glory both now and forever. Amen.

II PETER 3: 13 – 18



Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgement on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling *words*, flattering people to gain advantage.

But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit. But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And on some have compassion, making a distinction; but others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to God our Saviour, who alone is wise, *be* glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.

JUDE 1: 14 – 25





The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants — things which must shortly take place. And he sent and signified *it* by his angel to his servant John, who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw. Blessed *is* he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time *is* near.

John, to the seven churches which are in Asia [modern Turkey]: 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, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To him who loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and has made us kings and priests to his God and Father, to him *be* glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Behold, he is coming with clouds, and every eye will see him, even they who pierced him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of him. Even so, Amen.

"Iam the Alpha and the Omega, *the Beginning and the End*," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

REVELATION 1: 1 – 8



Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and *one* sat on the throne. And he who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and *there was* a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. Around the throne *were* twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices.

Seven lamps of fire *were* burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. Before the throne *there was* a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, *were* four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. The first living creature *was* like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature *was* like a flying eagle. *The* four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"

Whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: "You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power; for you created all things, and by your will they exist and were created."

REVELATION 4: 2 – 11



Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain [Christ] to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honour and glory and blessing!" And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honour and glory and power *be* to him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!" Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshipped him who lives forever and ever.

REVELATION 5: 11 – 14

After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honour and power and might, *be* to our God forever and ever. Amen."

REVELATION 7: 9 – 12



Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever!" And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshipped God, saying: "We give you thanks, O Lord God Almighty, the one who is and who was and who is to come, because you have taken your great power and reigned. The nations were angry, and your wrath has come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that you should reward your servants the prophets and the saints, and those who fear your name, small and great, and should destroy those who destroy the earth." Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of his covenant was seen in his temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

REVELATION 11: 15 – 19

Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people — saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to him, for the hour of his judgement has come; and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

REVELATION 14: 6 & 7



Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete. And I saw *something* like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark *and* over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: "Great and marvellous *are* your works, Lord God Almighty! Just and true *are* your ways, O King of the saints! Who shall not fear you, O Lord, and glorify your name? For *you* alone *are* holy. For all nations shall come and worship before you, for your judgements have been manifested."

After these things I looked, and behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened. And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands. Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God who lives forever and ever. The temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one was able to enter the temple till the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed. Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth."

REVELATION 15: 1 – 16: 1



After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honour and power *belong* to the Lord our God! For true and righteous *are* his judgements, because he has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and he has avenged on her the blood of his servants *shed* by her." Again they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!" And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshipped God who sat on the throne, saying, "Amen! Alleluia!"

Then a voice came from the throne, saying, "Praise our God, all you his servants and those who fear him, both small and great!" And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Let us be glad and rejoice and give him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his wife has made herself ready." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed *are* those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

REVELATION 19: 1 – 9



And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people. God himself will be with them *and be* their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." Then he who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And he said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be my son. But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. Her light *was* like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal.

REVELATION 21: 3 – 11



The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb *is* its light. And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honour into it. Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). And they shall bring the glory and the honour of the nations into it. But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, *was* the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and his servants shall serve him. They shall see his face, and his name *shall be* on their foreheads. There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever.

Then he said to me, "These words *are* faithful and true." And the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to show his servants the things which must shortly take place. "Behold, I am coming quickly! Blessed *is* he who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

REVELATION 21: 23 – 22: 7

"And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions
as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will
be heard for their many words. Therefore do not
be like them. For your Father knows the things
you have need of before you ask him.

In this manner, therefore, pray:
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done on earth as *it is* in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our
debtors. And do not lead us into temptation,
but deliver us from the evil one.

**For yours is the kingdom and the power and the
glory forever. Amen.**

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your
heavenly Father will also forgive you.
But if you do not forgive men their trespasses,
neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

MATTHEW 6: 7 – 15





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