

Rain verses

Psalm 72:6-11

May the king's rule be refreshing like spring rain on freshly cut grass,
like the showers that water the earth.
May all the godly flourish during his reign.
May there be abundant prosperity until the moon is no more.
May he reign from sea to sea,
and from the Euphrates River to the ends of the earth.

Isaiah 4:2-6

But in that day, the branch of the LORD
will be beautiful and glorious;
the fruit of the land will be the pride and glory
of all who survive in Israel.
All who remain in Zion
will be a holy people—
those who survive the destruction of Jerusalem
and are recorded among the living.
The Lord will wash the filth from beautiful Zion

Isaiah 55

"Is anyone thirsty?
Come and drink—
even if you have no money!
Come, take your choice of wine or milk—
it's all free!
Why spend your money on food that does not give you strength?
Why pay for food that does you no good?
Listen to me, and you will eat what is good.
You will enjoy the finest food.
"Come to me with your ears wide open.
Listen, and you will find life.
I will make an everlasting covenant with you.
I will give you all the unfailing love I promised to David.
See how I used him to display my power among the peoples.
I made him a leader among the nations.
You also will command nations you do not know,
and peoples unknown to you will come running to obey,
because I, the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, have made you glorious."
Seek the LORD while you can find him.
Call on him now while he is near.
Let the wicked change their ways
and banish the very thought of doing wrong.

Desert nomads will bow before him;
his enemies will fall before him in the dust.
The western kings of Tarshish and other distant lands
will bring him tribute.
The eastern kings of Sheba and Seba
will bring him gifts.
All kings will bow before him,
and all nations will serve him.

and cleanse Jerusalem of its bloodstains
with the hot breath of fiery judgment.
Then the LORD will provide shade for Mount Zion
and all who assemble there.
He will provide a canopy of cloud during the day
and smoke and flaming fire at night,
covering the glorious land.
It will be a shelter from daytime heat
and a hiding place from storms and rain.

Let them turn to the LORD that he may have mercy on them.
Yes, turn to our God, for he will forgive generously.
"My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the LORD.
"And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.
For just as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so my ways are higher than your ways
and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.
"The rain and snow come down from the heavens
and stay on the ground to water the earth.
They cause the grain to grow,
producing seed for the farmer
and bread for the hungry.
It is the same with my word.
I send it out, and it always produces fruit.
It will accomplish all I want it to,
and it will prosper everywhere I send it.
You will live in joy and peace.
The mountains and hills will burst into song,
and the trees of the field will clap their hands!
Where once there were thorns, cypress trees will grow.
Where nettles grew, myrtles will sprout up.
These events will bring great honor to the LORD's name;
they will be an everlasting sign of his power and love."

Hebrews 6:4-8

For it is impossible to bring back to repentance those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come— and who then turn away from God. It is impossible to bring such people back to repentance; by

Jeremiah 51:15-16

The LORD made the earth by his power,
and he preserves it by his wisdom.
With his own understanding
he stretched out the heavens.
When he speaks in the thunder,
the heavens roar with rain.
He causes the clouds to rise over the earth.
He sends the lightning with the rain
and releases the wind from his storehouses.

Job 5:8-16

“If I were you, I would go to God
and present my case to him.
He does great things too marvelous to understand.
He performs countless miracles.
He gives rain for the earth
and water for the fields.
He gives prosperity to the poor
and protects those who suffer.
He frustrates the plans of schemers

Job 28:23-28

“God alone understands the way to wisdom;
he knows where it can be found,
for he looks throughout the whole earth
and sees everything under the heavens.
He decided how hard the winds should blow
and how much rain should fall.
He made the laws for the rain

Job 38:25-30

“Who created a channel for the torrents of rain?
Who laid out the path for the lightning?
Who makes the rain fall on barren land,
in a desert where no one lives?
Who sends rain to satisfy the parched ground
and make the tender grass spring up?

rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame. When the ground soaks up the falling rain and bears a good crop for the farmer, it has God’s blessing. But if a field bears thorns and thistles, it is useless. The farmer will soon condemn that field and burn it.

Psalms 135:5-7

I know the greatness of the LORD—
that our Lord is greater than any other god.
The LORD does whatever pleases him
throughout all heaven and earth,
and on the seas and in their depths.
He causes the clouds to rise over the whole earth.
He sends the lightning with the rain
and releases the wind from his storehouses.

so the work of their hands will not succeed.
He traps the wise in their own cleverness
so their cunning schemes are thwarted.
They find it is dark in the daytime,
and they grope at noon as if it were night.
He rescues the poor from the cutting words of the strong,
and rescues them from the clutches of the powerful.
And so at last the poor have hope,
and the snapping jaws of the wicked are shut.

and laid out a path for the lightning.
Then he saw wisdom and evaluated it.
He set it in place and examined it thoroughly.
And this is what he says to all humanity:
‘The fear of the Lord is true wisdom;
to forsake evil is real understanding.’”

“Does the rain have a father?
Who gives birth to the dew?
Who is the mother of the ice?
Who gives birth to the frost from the heavens?
For the water turns to ice as hard as rock,
and the surface of the water freezes.

Psalm 68:7-10

O God, when you led your people out from Egypt,
 when you marched through the dry wasteland,
 Interlude
 the earth trembled, and the heavens poured down rain
 before you, the God of Sinai,

before God, the God of Israel.
 You sent abundant rain, O God,
 to refresh the weary land.
 There your people finally settled,
 and with a bountiful harvest, O God,

Isaiah 45:8

“Open up, O heavens,
 and pour out your righteousness.
 Let the earth open wide
 so salvation and righteousness can sprout up together.
 I, the LORD, created them.

Job 36:22-33

“Look, God is all-powerful.
 Who is a teacher like him?
 No one can tell him what to do,
 or say to him, ‘You have done wrong.’
 Instead, glorify his mighty works,
 singing songs of praise.
 Everyone has seen these things,
 though only from a distance.
 “Look, God is greater than we can understand.
 His years cannot be counted.
 He draws up the water vapor
 and then distills it into rain.

The rain pours down from the clouds,
 and everyone benefits.
 Who can understand the spreading of the clouds
 and the thunder that rolls forth from heaven?
 See how he spreads the lightning around him
 and how it lights up the depths of the sea.
 By these mighty acts he nourishes the people,
 giving them food in abundance.
 He fills his hands with lightning bolts
 and hurls each at its target.
 The thunder announces his presence;
 the storm announces his indignant anger.

Psalm 147:7-11

Sing out your thanks to the LORD;
 sing praises to our God with a harp.
 He covers the heavens with clouds,
 provides rain for the earth,
 and makes the grass grow in mountain pastures.
 He gives food to the wild animals

and feeds the young ravens when they cry.
 He takes no pleasure in the strength of a horse
 or in human might.
 No, the LORD's delight is in those who fear him,
 those who put their hope in his unfailing love.

Jeremiah 10:12-13

But the LORD made the earth by his power,
 and he preserves it by his wisdom.
 With his own understanding
 he stretched out the heavens.
 When he speaks in the thunder,
 the heavens roar with rain.
 He causes the clouds to rise over the earth.
 He sends the lightning with the rain
 and releases the wind from his storehouses.
 The whole human race is foolish and has no knowledge!

The craftsmen are disgraced by the idols they make,
 for their carefully shaped works are a fraud.
 These idols have no breath or power.
 Idols are worthless; they are ridiculous lies!
 On the day of reckoning they will all be destroyed.
 But the God of Israel is no idol!
 He is the Creator of everything that exists,
 including Israel, his own special possession.
 The LORD of Heaven's Armies is his name!

Deuteronomy 28:1-14

“If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully keep all his commands that I am giving you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the world. You will experience all these blessings if you obey the LORD your God:

Your towns and your fields
will be blessed.

Your children and your crops
will be blessed.

The offspring of your herds and flocks
will be blessed.

Your fruit baskets and breadboards
will be blessed.

Wherever you go and whatever you do,
you will be blessed.

“The LORD will conquer your enemies when they attack you. They will attack you from one direction, but they will scatter from you in seven!

Jeremiah 14:19-22

LORD, have you completely rejected Judah?

Do you really hate Jerusalem?

Why have you wounded us past all hope of healing?

We hoped for peace, but no peace came.

We hoped for a time of healing, but found only terror.

LORD, we confess our wickedness

and that of our ancestors, too.

We all have sinned against you.

For the sake of your reputation, LORD, do not abandon us.

Leviticus 26:1-13

“Do not make idols or set up carved images, or sacred pillars, or sculptured stones in your land so you may worship them.

I am the LORD your God. You must keep my Sabbath days of rest and show reverence for my sanctuary. I am the LORD.

“If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, I will send you the seasonal rains. The land will then yield its crops, and the trees of the field will produce their fruit. Your threshing season will overlap with the grape harvest, and your grape harvest will overlap with the season of planting grain. You will eat your fill and live securely in your own land.

“I will give you peace in the land, and you will be able to sleep with no cause for fear. I will rid the land of wild animals and keep your enemies out of your land. In fact, you will

“The LORD will guarantee a blessing on everything you do and will fill your storehouses with grain. The LORD your God will bless you in the land he is giving you.

“If you obey the commands of the LORD your God and walk in his ways, the LORD will establish you as his holy people as he swore he would do. Then all the nations of the world will see that you are a people claimed by the LORD, and they will stand in awe of you.

“The LORD will give you prosperity in the land he swore to your ancestors to give you, blessing you with many children, numerous livestock, and abundant crops. The LORD will send rain at the proper time from his rich treasury in the heavens and will bless all the work you do. You will lend to many nations, but you will never need to borrow from them. If you listen to these commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today, and if you carefully obey them, the LORD will make you the head and not the tail, and you will always be on top and never at the bottom. You must not turn away from any of the commands I am giving you today, nor follow after other gods and worship them.

Do not disgrace your own glorious throne.

Please remember us,

and do not break your covenant with us.

Can any of the worthless foreign gods send us rain?

Does it fall from the sky by itself?

No, you are the one, O LORD our God!

Only you can do such things.

So we will wait for you to help us.

chase down your enemies and slaughter them with your swords. Five of you will chase a hundred, and a hundred of you will chase ten thousand! All your enemies will fall beneath your sword.

“I will look favorably upon you, making you fertile and multiplying your people. And I will fulfill my covenant with you. You will have such a surplus of crops that you will need to clear out the old grain to make room for the new harvest! I will live among you, and I will not despise you. I will walk among you; I will be your God, and you will be my people. I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt so you would no longer be their slaves. I broke the yoke of slavery from your neck so you can walk with your heads held high.

Acts 14:14-17

But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard what was happening, they tore their clothing in dismay and ran out among the people, shouting, “Friends, why are you doing this? We are merely human beings—just like you! We have come to bring you the Good News that you should turn from these worthless things and turn to the living God, who made

heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them. In the past he permitted all the nations to go their own ways, but he never left them without evidence of himself and his goodness. For instance, he sends you rain and good crops and gives you food and joyful hearts.”

Deuteronomy 11:13-32

“If you carefully obey the commands I am giving you today, and if you love the LORD your God and serve him with all your heart and soul, then he will send the rains in their proper seasons—the early and late rains—so you can bring in your harvests of grain, new wine, and olive oil. He will give you lush pastureland for your livestock, and you yourselves will have all you want to eat.

“But be careful. Don’t let your heart be deceived so that you turn away from the LORD and serve and worship other gods. If you do, the LORD’s anger will burn against you. He will shut up the sky and hold back the rain, and the ground will fail to produce its harvests. Then you will quickly die in that good land the LORD is giving you.

“So commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these words of mine. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, so that as long as the sky remains above the earth, you and your children may flourish in the land the LORD swore to give your ancestors.

“Be careful to obey all these commands I am giving you. Show love to the LORD your God by walking in his ways and holding tightly to him. Then the LORD will drive out all the

nations ahead of you, though they are much greater and stronger than you, and you will take over their land. Wherever you set foot, that land will be yours. Your frontiers will stretch from the wilderness in the south to Lebanon in the north, and from the Euphrates River in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. No one will be able to stand against you, for the LORD your God will cause the people to fear and dread you, as he promised, wherever you go in the whole land.

“Look, today I am giving you the choice between a blessing and a curse! You will be blessed if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today. But you will be cursed if you reject the commands of the LORD your God and turn away from him and worship gods you have not known before.

“When the LORD your God brings you into the land and helps you take possession of it, you must pronounce the blessing at Mount Gerizim and the curse at Mount Ebal. (These two mountains are west of the Jordan River in the land of the Canaanites who live in the Jordan Valley, near the town of Gilgal, not far from the oaks of Moreh.) For you are about to cross the Jordan River to take over the land the LORD your God is giving you. When you take that land and are living in it, you must be careful to obey all the decrees and regulations I am giving you today.

1 Kings 8:35-36

“If the skies are shut up and there is no rain because your people have sinned against you, and if they pray toward this Temple and acknowledge your name and turn from their sins because you have punished them, then hear from heaven

and forgive the sins of your servants, your people Israel. Teach them to follow the right path, and send rain on your land that you have given to your people as their special possession.

James 5:13-18

Are any of you suffering hardships? You should pray. Are any of you happy? You should sing praises. Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord. Such a prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, and the Lord will make you well. And if you have committed any sins, you will be forgiven.

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results. Elijah was as human as we are, and yet when he prayed earnestly that no rain would fall, none fell for three and a half years! Then, when he prayed again, the sky sent down rain and the earth began to yield its crops.

2 Chronicles 6:26-27

“If the skies are shut up and there is no rain because your people have sinned against you, and if they pray toward this Temple and acknowledge your name and turn from their sins because you have punished them, then hear from heaven

2 Chronicles 7:12-16

Then one night the LORD appeared to Solomon and said, “I have heard your prayer and have chosen this Temple as the place for making sacrifices. At times I might shut up the heavens so that no rain falls, or command grasshoppers to devour your crops, or send plagues among you. Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways,

2 Samuel 23:1-4

These are the last words of David:
“David, the son of Jesse, speaks—
David, the man who was raised up so high,
David, the man anointed by the God of Jacob,
David, the sweet psalmist of Israel.
“The Spirit of the LORD speaks through me;
his words are upon my tongue.
The God of Israel spoke.

Deuteronomy 32:1-4

“Listen, O heavens, and I will speak!
Hear, O earth, the words that I say!
Let my teaching fall on you like rain;
let my speech settle like dew.
Let my words fall like rain on tender grass,
like gentle showers on young plants.

Zechariah 10:1, 6, 12

Ask the LORD for rain in the spring,
for he makes the storm clouds.
And he will send showers of rain
so every field becomes a lush pasture....
“I will strengthen Judah and save Israel;
I will restore them because of my compassion.

Hosea 10:12

I said, ‘Plant the good seeds of righteousness,
and you will harvest a crop of love.
Plow up the hard ground of your hearts,
for now is the time to seek the LORD,
that he may come
and shower righteousness upon you.’

and forgive the sins of your servants, your people Israel. Teach them to follow the right path, and send rain on your land that you have given to your people as their special possession.

I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land. My eyes will be open and my ears attentive to every prayer made in this place. For I have chosen this Temple and set it apart to be holy—a place where my name will be honored forever. I will always watch over it, for it is dear to my heart.

The Rock of Israel said to me:
‘The one who rules righteously,
who rules in the fear of God,
is like the light of morning at sunrise,
like a morning without clouds,
like the gleaming of the sun
on new grass after rain.’

I will proclaim the name of the LORD;
how glorious is our God!
He is the Rock; his deeds are perfect.
Everything he does is just and fair.
He is a faithful God who does no wrong;
how just and upright he is!

It will be as though I had never rejected them,
for I am the LORD their God, who will hear their cries...
By my power I will make my people strong,
and by my authority they will go wherever they wish.
I, the LORD, have spoken!”

Psalms 84:5-7

What joy for those whose strength comes from the LORD,
who have set their minds on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem.
When they walk through the Valley of Weeping,
it will become a place of refreshing springs.
The autumn rains will clothe it with blessings.
They will continue to grow stronger,
and each of them will appear before God in Jerusalem.

2 Samuel 22

David sang this song to the LORD on the day the LORD rescued him from all his enemies and from Saul. He sang:

“The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my savior;
my God is my rock, in whom I find protection.

He is my shield, the power that saves me,
and my place of safety.

He is my refuge, my savior,
the one who saves me from violence.

I called on the LORD, who is worthy of praise,
and he saved me from my enemies.

“The waves of death overwhelmed me;
floods of destruction swept over me.

The grave wrapped its ropes around me;
death laid a trap in my path.

But in my distress I cried out to the LORD;
yes, I cried to my God for help.

He heard me from his sanctuary;
my cry reached his ears.

“Then the earth quaked and trembled.

The foundations of the heavens shook;
they quaked because of his anger.

Smoke poured from his nostrils;
fierce flames leaped from his mouth.

Glowing coals blazed forth from him.

He opened the heavens and came down;
dark storm clouds were beneath his feet.

Mounted on a mighty angelic being, he flew,
soaring on the wings of the wind.

He shrouded himself in darkness,
veiling his approach with dense rain clouds.

A great brightness shone around him,
and burning coals blazed forth.

The LORD thundered from heaven;
the voice of the Most High resounded.

He shot arrows and scattered his enemies;
his lightning flashed, and they were confused.

Then at the command of the LORD,
at the blast of his breath,

the bottom of the sea could be seen,
and the foundations of the earth were laid bare.

“He reached down from heaven and rescued me;
he drew me out of deep waters.

He rescued me from my powerful enemies,
from those who hated me and were too strong for me.

They attacked me at a moment when I was in distress,
but the LORD supported me.

He led me to a place of safety;

he rescued me because he delights in me.

The LORD rewarded me for doing right;
he restored me because of my innocence.

For I have kept the ways of the LORD;
I have not turned from my God to follow evil.

I have followed all his regulations;
I have never abandoned his decrees.

I am blameless before God;
I have kept myself from sin.

The LORD rewarded me for doing right.
He has seen my innocence.

“To the faithful you show yourself faithful;
to those with integrity you show integrity.

To the pure you show yourself pure,
but to the crooked you show yourself shrewd.

You rescue the humble,
but your eyes watch the proud and humiliate them.

O LORD, you are my lamp.

The LORD lights up my darkness.

In your strength I can crush an army;
with my God I can scale any wall.

“God’s way is perfect.

All the LORD’s promises prove true.

He is a shield for all who look to him for protection.

For who is God except the LORD?

Who but our God is a solid rock?

God is my strong fortress,
and he makes my way perfect.

He makes me as surefooted as a deer,
enabling me to stand on mountain heights.

He trains my hands for battle;
he strengthens my arm to draw a bronze bow.

You have given me your shield of victory;
your help has made me great.

You have made a wide path for my feet
to keep them from slipping.

“I chased my enemies and destroyed them;
I did not stop until they were conquered.

I consumed them;

I struck them down so they did not get up;
they fell beneath my feet.

You have armed me with strength for the battle;
you have subdued my enemies under my feet.

You placed my foot on their necks.

I have destroyed all who hated me.

They looked for help, but no one came to their rescue.

They even cried to the LORD, but he refused to answer.

I ground them as fine as the dust of the earth;

I trampled them in the gutter like dirt.

“You gave me victory over my accusers.
You preserved me as the ruler over nations;
people I don’t even know now serve me.
Foreign nations cringe before me;
as soon as they hear of me, they submit.
They all lose their courage
and come trembling from their strongholds.
“The LORD lives! Praise to my Rock!
May God, the Rock of my salvation, be exalted!
He is the God who pays back those who harm me;

Matthew 7:24-27

“Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise,
like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the
rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds
beat against that house, it won’t collapse because it is built

Proverbs 16:15

When the king smiles, there is life;
his favor refreshes like a spring rain.

Hosea 6:1-7

“Come, let us return to the LORD.
He has torn us to pieces;
now he will heal us.
He has injured us;
now he will bandage our wounds.
In just a short time he will restore us,
so that we may live in his presence.
Oh, that we might know the LORD!
Let us press on to know him.
He will respond to us as surely as the arrival of dawn
or the coming of rains in early spring.”
“O Israel and Judah,

Ezekiel 34:25-31

“I will make a covenant of peace with my people and drive
away the dangerous animals from the land. Then they will be
able to camp safely in the wildest places and sleep in the
woods without fear. I will bless my people and their homes
around my holy hill. And in the proper season I will send the
showers they need. There will be showers of blessing. The
orchards and fields of my people will yield bumper crops,
and everyone will live in safety. When I have broken their
chains of slavery and rescued them from those who enslaved
them, then they will know that I am the LORD. They will no

he brings down the nations under me
and delivers me from my enemies.
You hold me safe beyond the reach of my enemies;
you save me from violent opponents.
For this, O LORD, I will praise you among the nations;
I will sing praises to your name.
You give great victories to your king;
you show unfailing love to your anointed,
to David and all his descendants forever

on bedrock. But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn’t
obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand.
When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against
that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash.”

what should I do with you?” asks the LORD.
“For your love vanishes like the morning mist
and disappears like dew in the sunlight.
I sent my prophets to cut you to pieces—
to slaughter you with my words,
with judgments as inescapable as light.
I want you to show love,
not offer sacrifices.
I want you to know me
more than I want burnt offerings.
But like Adam, you broke my covenant
and betrayed my trust.

longer be prey for other nations, and wild animals will no
longer devour them. They will live in safety, and no one will
frighten them.
“And I will make their land famous for its crops, so my people
will never again suffer from famines or the insults of foreign
nations. In this way, they will know that I, the LORD their God,
am with them. And they will know that they, the people of
Israel, are my people, says the Sovereign LORD. You are my
flock, the sheep of my pasture. You are my people, and I am
your God. I, the Sovereign LORD, have spoken!”

Isaiah 30:18-26

So the LORD must wait for you to come to him
so he can show you his love and compassion.
For the LORD is a faithful God.
Blessed are those who wait for his help.
O people of Zion, who live in Jerusalem,
you will weep no more.
He will be gracious if you ask for help.
He will surely respond to the sound of your cries.
Though the Lord gave you adversity for food
and suffering for drink,
he will still be with you to teach you.
You will see your teacher with your own eyes.
Your own ears will hear him.
Right behind you a voice will say,
“This is the way you should go,”

Joel 2:12-27

That is why the LORD says,
“Turn to me now, while there is time.
Give me your hearts.
Come with fasting, weeping, and mourning.
Don't tear your clothing in your grief,
but tear your hearts instead.”
Return to the LORD your God,
for he is merciful and compassionate,
slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.
He is eager to relent and not punish.
Who knows? Perhaps he will give you a reprieve,
sending you a blessing instead of this curse.
Perhaps you will be able to offer grain and wine
to the LORD your God as before.
Blow the ram's horn in Jerusalem!
Announce a time of fasting;
call the people together
for a solemn meeting.
Gather all the people—
the elders, the children, and even the babies.
Call the bridegroom from his quarters
and the bride from her private room.
Let the priests, who minister in the LORD's presence,
stand and weep between the entry room to the Temple and
the altar.
Let them pray, “Spare your people, LORD!”

Matthew 8:1-3

Large crowds followed Jesus as he came down the mountainside. Suddenly, a man with leprosy approached him and knelt before him. “Lord,” the man said, “if you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean.”
Jesus reached out and touched him. “I am willing,” he said. “Be healed!” And instantly the leprosy disappeared.

whether to the right or to the left.
Then you will destroy all your silver idols
and your precious gold images.
You will throw them out like filthy rags,
saying to them, “Good riddance!”
Then the LORD will bless you with rain at planting time. There
will be wonderful harvests and plenty of pastureland for your
livestock. The oxen and donkeys that till the ground will eat
good grain, its chaff blown away by the wind. In that day,
when your enemies are slaughtered and the towers fall, there
will be streams of water flowing down every mountain and
hill. The moon will be as bright as the sun, and the sun will
be seven times brighter—like the light of seven days in one!
So it will be when the LORD begins to heal his people and
cure the wounds he gave them.

Don't let your special possession become an object of
mockery.
Don't let them become a joke for unbelieving foreigners who
say,
“Has the God of Israel left them?”
“I will make a covenant of peace with my people and drive
away the dangerous animals from the land. Then they will be
able to camp safely in the wildest places and sleep in the
woods without fear. I will bless my people and their homes
around my holy hill. And in the proper season I will send the
showers they need. There will be showers of blessing. The
orchards and fields of my people will yield bumper crops,
and everyone will live in safety. When I have broken their
chains of slavery and rescued them from those who enslaved
them, then they will know that I am the LORD. They will no
longer be prey for other nations, and wild animals will no
longer devour them. They will live in safety, and no one will
frighten them.
“And I will make their land famous for its crops, so my people
will never again suffer from famines or the insults of foreign
nations. In this way, they will know that I, the LORD their God,
am with them. And they will know that they, the people of
Israel, are my people, says the Sovereign LORD. You are my
flock, the sheep of my pasture. You are my people, and I am
your God. I, the Sovereign LORD, have spoken!”

Psalm 51:1-12

Have mercy on me, O God,
because of your unfailing love.
Because of your great compassion,
blot out the stain of my sins.
Wash me clean from my guilt.
Purify me from my sin.
For I recognize my rebellion;
it haunts me day and night.
Against you, and you alone, have I sinned;
I have done what is evil in your sight.
You will be proved right in what you say,
and your judgment against me is just.
For I was born a sinner—
yes, from the moment my mother conceived me.
But you desire honesty from the womb,

Hebrews 9:11-28

So Christ has now become the High Priest over all the good things that have come. He has entered that greater, more perfect Tabernacle in heaven, which was not made by human hands and is not part of this created world. With his own blood—not the blood of goats and calves—he entered the Most Holy Place once for all time and secured our redemption forever.

Under the old system, the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer could cleanse people's bodies from ceremonial impurity. Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our consciences from sinful deeds so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. That is why he is the one who mediates a new covenant between God and people, so that all who are called can receive the eternal inheritance God has promised them. For Christ died to set them free from the penalty of the sins they had committed under that first covenant.

Now when someone leaves a will, it is necessary to prove that the person who made it is dead. The will goes into effect only after the person's death. While the person who made it is still alive, the will cannot be put into effect.

That is why even the first covenant was put into effect with the blood of an animal. For after Moses had read each of God's commandments to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, along with water, and sprinkled both the

teaching me wisdom even there.
Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
Oh, give me back my joy again;
you have broken me—
now let me rejoice.
Don't keep looking at my sins.
Remove the stain of my guilt.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Renew a loyal spirit within me.
Do not banish me from your presence,
and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and make me willing to obey you.

book of God's law and all the people, using hyssop branches and scarlet wool. Then he said, "This blood confirms the covenant God has made with you." And in the same way, he sprinkled blood on the Tabernacle and on everything used for worship. In fact, according to the law of Moses, nearly everything was purified with blood. For without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.

That is why the Tabernacle and everything in it, which were copies of things in heaven, had to be purified by the blood of animals. But the real things in heaven had to be purified with far better sacrifices than the blood of animals.

For Christ did not enter into a holy place made with human hands, which was only a copy of the true one in heaven. He entered into heaven itself to appear now before God on our behalf. And he did not enter heaven to offer himself again and again, like the high priest here on earth who enters the Most Holy Place year after year with the blood of an animal. If that had been necessary, Christ would have had to die again and again, ever since the world began. But now, once for all time, he has appeared at the end of the age to remove sin by his own death as a sacrifice.

And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment, so also Christ was offered once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for him.

Ezekiel 37:23

They will never again pollute themselves with their idols and vile images and rebellion, for I will save them from their sinful apostasy. I will cleanse them. Then they will truly be my people, and I will be their God.

Hebrews 10:19-25

And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Jeremiah 33:6-9

"Nevertheless, the time will come when I will heal Jerusalem's wounds and give it prosperity and true peace. I will restore the fortunes of Judah and Israel and rebuild their towns. I will cleanse them of their sins against me and forgive all their sins of rebellion. Then this city will bring me joy,

glory, and honor before all the nations of the earth! The people of the world will see all the good I do for my people, and they will tremble with awe at the peace and prosperity I provide for them.

Ezekiel 36:25-27

Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. Your filth will be washed away, and you will no longer worship idols. And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart

and give you a tender, responsive heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so that you will follow my decrees and be careful to obey my regulations.