

**RICHMOND HILL  
CHRISTIAN  
COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**40 DAYS OF PRAYER**

January 1 to  
February 9,  
2025



# Preface

Dear Family in Christ,

Peace! Believers in every generation have their own hymns and songs. Through singing to one another, they express their emotions toward God; and through the transmission of these songs, they teach and form knowledge on God, helping each other to respond to His calling and worship Him with their whole heart and being. In the Old Testament, Asaph was the worship leader during King David's time (1 Chronicles 15:1, 19; 16:5, 7). He served God in the temple by singing and playing instruments. Furthermore, he was a seer (2 Chronicles 29:30), who understood and had insights into God's will. He cried out to Him prophetically and proclaimed His messages to His people.

The Bible contains 12 Psalms attributed to Asaph (Psalms 50, 73–83). These Psalms, featuring praise, lament, and instruction, reveal genuine individual and communal worship. Asaph focused on the reality of sin, emphasizing that God desires thanksgiving and repentance over outward rituals. He warned that those who forget God and disobey His word will face judgment, but those who offer sacrifices of gratitude glorify Him and will receive His salvation. In one's faith journey, one might grapple with God's silence, especially during the time when the righteous one suffered and the wicked one prospered. Yet, Asaph, in his profound journey of faith with God, he moved from a state of confusion to total understanding. For God responded clearly to His people saying: "I will cut off the horns of all the wicked, but the horns of the righteous will be lifted up." Also, we can see that our supreme King, who calls us to remember His mighty deeds in delivering and His righteous judgment during our difficult time, reigns from everlasting to everlasting. His is our Good Shepherd, and we are the sheep of His pasture.

Today, as we enter 2025 as worshippers of the triune God, let us use these 40 days of devotion to reflect on our spiritual lives. Let us, like Asaph, look back on our journey, give thanks for God's care and protection, confess our sins, and repent. In the beginning of this new year, let us rededicate ourselves holistically to truly experiencing Him in our daily worship!

## 1. Developing a Habit of Daily Devotion

If you did not have the habit of doing daily Bible meditation and prayer (devotion), I encourage you to start this year. Below are some suggestions for cultivating a devotional habit:

- a. Set Goals:
  - Time: Decide how many times a week and how long each session will you like to spend time with God.
  - Material: Follow a published Bible reading plan or study a specific book of the Bible each time.
- b. Prepare a Devotional Calendar:
  - Record monthly, quarterly, and yearly goals. Regularly track your progress.
- c. Keep a Devotional Journal:
  - Write down what God says to you and what you say to Him during each session.
- d. Divide the Year into Quarters:
  - Adjust the frequency or duration of your devotions each quarter until you develop a daily habit of meeting with God.

## 2. Example of setting Quarterly Goals

- a. First Quarter (January–March)
  - i. Weekly Goal: I will have ..... devotional sessions each week. (Be realistic)
  - ii. Session Length: Each session will last .....
  - iii. Scripture Over these three months, I will read .....

- b. **\*\*Monthly Review:** Use your devotional calendar to evaluate progress at the end of each month, adjust, and set goals for the next month.
- c. For the second, third, and fourth quarters, follow the same pattern.

Notes:

- When you resolve to love the Lord, difficulties and obstacles will arise. If you stumble, you must get back up. If you find yourself too weak to do it yourself, pray and ask your spiritual partner (s) to help you. Likewise, if you see your spiritual partner (s) fall, you must help him/her to get up again.
- If you invest effort and time in cultivating a devotional habit, God will surely delight in you and help you grow spiritually. As Proverbs 24:16 says, "Though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again."
- Unless otherwise stated, Scripture is taken from the New International Version (NIV).

Blessings in Christ,

Your Pastors at RHCCC

January 1, 2025

January 1, 2025 (Wednesday) – Day 1

# Prepare Yourself to Face God’s Judgment

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## Scripture

The Mighty One, God, the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to where it sets. From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth. Our God comes and will not be silent; a fire devours before Him, and around Him a tempest rages. He summons the heavens above, and the earth, that He may judge His people: “Gather to me this consecrated people, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice.” And the heavens proclaim His righteousness, for He is a God of justice. (Psalm 50:1-6)

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## Meditation

As we enter a new year, stepping into 2025, this passage reminds us that it is no coincidence that God brought us to this scripture on the first day of the year.

Asaph, the psalmist and worship leader during King David’s reign, began with a declaration: the Mighty One, God, the Lord, is the God who judge. Whom does God judge? He judges those who have made a covenant with Him through sacrifice—His people. For us today, this means that God will judge believers who trust Him. The judgment serves to reveal God’s righteousness.

In this scripture, God calls us to face His awesome, just, and faithful nature. He invites us to pause our busy lives, come before Him in worship and praise, listen to His voice, reflect on our past, and realign our paths and goals. Most importantly, we must prepare ourselves for the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ could return at any moment. How should we prepare ourselves? God’s judgment will base on what happen in our daily lives, which He knows perfectly. Those who please Him will receive heavenly rewards, while those who displease Him will face His righteous verdict.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, you are the God who calls us and gathers us. We are willing to follow You. You are the Mighty One, the one true God, the Lord of our lives. Only You are worthy of our reverence and adoration.

Lord Jesus Christ and Holy Spirit who dwells within us, please guide us to live out Your purpose for our new life in 2025. Show us what is needed to change or be removed from our lives this year. Give us the sensitivities to discern Your will and magnify Your name. I wish I will receive your reward at the final judgment.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

January 2, 2025 (Thursday) – Day 2

# The Righteous Must Repent and Offer Thanksgiving to God

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## Scripture

“Hear, my people, and I will speak; I will testify against you, Israel: I am God, your God. I bring no charges against you concerning your sacrifices or concerning your burnt offerings, which are ever before me. I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the insects in the fields are mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it. Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats? Sacrifice thank offerings to God, fulfill your vows to the Most High, and call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.” (Psalm 50:7-15)

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## Meditation

As a worship leader and prophet, Asaph rebuked the people of God for their erroneous views on God and on the concept of worship. People worship God not because God needs sacrifices; rather, as they approach God, people need sacrifices to appease the wrath of God towards their sins, thus, hope to restore the relationship between a holy God and sinful humanity (Leviticus 1–7). However, the righteous among Israel misunderstood God’s glory, thinking He required their sacrifices to display their piety. They failed to realize that a hollow, outward faith provokes God’s wrath and leads to judgment.

Today, our participation in Sunday worship, praise singing, and church service might also become mere formalities. Mere outward actions do not make us true worshippers of God. God looks at our hearts, assess our attitudes and motivations in daily life. God says, “Sacrifice thank offerings to God.” The opposite of thanksgiving is complaint, dissatisfaction, or indifference. We should offer thanksgiving to glorify God and return the honour due to Him.

Reflection: in your daily life, are you genuinely thankful, or do you often complain, feel dissatisfied, or remain indifferent to spiritual matters?

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## Prayer

Dear God, you are the Creator and owner of all creations. You are the great, abundant, and perfect Lord. You delight our honest and grateful hearts, not outward rituals.

If I focus mainly on receiving your love and grace without offering you my time, money, abilities, and resources, please forgive my ignorance. If I am being self-centred, self-pitying, or self-righteous, please cleanse me and renew me with a pure heart and a wise spirit. Teach me to count your blessings daily and offer thanksgiving as my sacrifice.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

January 3, 2025 (Friday) - Day 3

# The Wicked Must Turn Back and Sincerely Offer Thanks to God

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## Scripture

But God says to the wicked: “What right have you to recite my laws or take my covenant on your lips? You hate my instruction and cast my words behind you. When you see a thief, you join with him; you throw in your lot with adulterers. You use your mouth for evil and harness your tongue to deceive. You sit and testify against your brother and slander your own mother’s son. When you did these things and I kept silent, you thought I was exactly like you. But I now arraign you and set my accusations before you. “Consider this, you who forget God, or I will tear you to pieces, with no one to rescue you: Those who sacrifice thank offerings honor me, and to the blameless I will show my salvation.”

(Psalm 50:16-23)

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## Meditation

In God’s eyes, the wicked are those who use God’s word to teach others but reject God’s discipline and live by their own desires. It’s not that these people don’t know God, but they don’t follow God wholeheartedly. They acknowledge God and believe in Him, but they do not live fully by His word.

In today’s terms, they are nominal believers— appear devout outwardly but lack a genuine, God-centered life. Is this a warning to us as believers today? Am I living out my faith half-heartedly? Do I selectively listen to and obey the teachings of the Bible? Could I be considered wicked in God’s eyes?

The psalmist divides the Israelites into two groups: those who attempt to please God through our own ways and those who are outwardly compliant but inwardly don’t care for God. Both groups lack a true understanding of God and are detestable to Him. A wise believer, however, is one who truly knows God’s character, understands His will, and consistently responds to His grace. The most important thing in the life of a believer is to establish an intimate and genuine relationship with the God who created us.

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## Prayer

My Lord and my God, thank you for using Psalm 50 to awaken my spirit of slumber. Father, you desire your children to worship you in spirit and truth and to obey you wholeheartedly. But my faith and daily life are disconnected, and I lack the strength to change.

Lord, have mercy on me. Reform me so that I will not become wicked in your eyes. I am willing to confess my sins before you and start anew this year. Holy Spirit, please continue to enlighten, cleanse, and renew me. Help me develop a plan on my spiritual growth: to study and remember your word daily, to pray regularly and draw near to you, and to better understand your will so that I may delight you.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

January 4, 2025 (Saturday) - Day 4

# Seeking a Pure Heart

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## Scripture

Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. (Psalm 73:1-3)

Blessed is the pure in heart, for they will see God. (Matthew 5:8)

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## Meditation

"Pure in heart" refers to inner purity and sincerity, totally focused on God. Asaph began his psalm by affirming God's goodness to Israel and to those who are pure in heart. This reiterated the essential element of the God-man relationship: God's goodness ensures that the pure-hearted will be blessed.

However, the psalmist then reflected on his own faith crisis: the reality that the wicked seemed to prosper in peace. How could this be? Does God bless the wicked and arrogant? Why were they not punished? How did this align with God's goodness?

Believers often face similar doubts on their faith journey: Why does God allow the wicked to flourish while the righteous suffer? Why does God let blasphemers gain power? Why does He allow terrorists to massacre innocent people? Have you, dear brothers and sisters, experienced similar questions or feelings that way in your life?

Remember the promise of Jesus in the Beatitudes: "Blessed is the pure in heart, for they will see God."

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, from days of old to eternity you are God. You are our God, the Lord of my life. You are faithful in your promises and you will never change. Heaven and earth will pass away, your words will endure forever.

Lord, I am often attracted by this world, causing my eyes to turn away from you. Please create in me a pure heart and grant me the power to fix my gaze solely on you in all circumstances. Help me keep my eyes on you, the Lord Jesus, who was crucified on the cross.

Improve my perspective so I no longer see the world from my own point of view. Free me from the surroundings that overwhelm me. Thank you for using today's Scripture to remind me that despite the corrupted or unjust state this world has become, we should always fix our eyes on you alone. Lord, in my moment of weakness, enable me to remain focus, meditate on your majesty and your wondrous deeds.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ's name, I pray. Amen.

January 5, 2025 (Sunday) – Day 5

# Confessing Struggles in Faith

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## Scripture

Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and have washed my hands in innocence. All day long I have been afflicted, and every morning brings new punishments. If I had spoken out like that, I would have betrayed your children. When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me deeply. (Psalm 73:13-16)

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## Meditation

Asaph lamented his current reality. Despite striving to have “clean hands and a pure heart”, he felt that he has not received God’s “goodness”, but instead he endured afflictions and punishments. This led him to question the value of his efforts: “Why should I keep my heart pure? Is my devotion all in vain?”

He desired to share his honest thoughts with God’s people, but he worried that doing so might cause them to stumble. Yet, keeping silent only deepened his inner turmoil. Witnessing and experiencing the prosperity of the wicked and the suffering of the righteous one troubled him greatly.

Can you empathize with Asaph’s struggles and loneliness? Have you ever faced similar struggles in your faith journey? How did you overcome them? Do you have the courage to admit your struggles in faith? Are you willing to listen and walk with others when they face such struggles?

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## Prayer

Merciful Father and Loving Saviour, your love is unfathomable. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so is your great love for your people. You died for us on the cross while we were still sinners. You washed away our sins with your blood, delivered us from the grip of sins and the power of death. You also gave us new life in Jesus Christ. We thank you and praise your name!

Lord, forgive our spiritual pride and complacency. We are sorry for relying on our righteousness instead of your grace. Help us develop a humble and obedient heart, so we will follow you and not the world. Lord, forgive us for being lack of trust, easily threatened by what we see instead of walking by faith. We need to anchor our lives in your words and connect to you every day.

Thank you for giving us the church, so we can have brothers and sisters to walk with. Help us to walk in love, listen to each other, and encourage one another.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

**January 6, 2025 (Monday) – Day 6**

# Renew My Vision

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## Scripture

Till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny. Surely you place them on slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin. How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors! ... When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you. (Psalm 73:17-22)

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## Meditation

In the Old Testament, the sanctuary symbolized the centre of worship and a place to meet God in person. Entering the sanctuary means draw near to God and experience His presence.

Asaph initially struggled to understand why God allowed the wicked to prosper and the righteous to suffer. However, once he entered God’s presence, his perspective changed. From God’s viewpoint, the fate of the wicked was clear—they were already on slippery ground, unaware that they were heading for destruction. Their hearts were filled with fear and desolation, far from God’s salvation.

Asaph realized that without understanding God’s will, humans were as senseless as animals.

Dear brothers and sisters, we need God’s perspective to understand our surroundings so to live for Him. Spending time daily in God’s word, prayer, and meditation will help us gain His vision and align our hearts with His. Let us ask God to open our eyes, expand our spiritual understanding, and walk with Him in victory.

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## Prayer

Merciful Heavenly Father, our loving Saviour Christ, we praise you. You see everything inside us and know our weaknesses, and you give us the privilege to pray to you, allow us to pour out our hearts to you.

Lord, grant me your perspective: when storm arises, when trouble surrounds me, or when I feel lost, lift me to a higher ground, so I may see through your eyes. Help me to realize that knowing you, returning to you, and dwelling in your presence is the greatest joy and satisfaction of my life. Thank you for your eternal life through Christ’s redemption on the cross. Lord, help us to grasp your promises tightly in all circumstances so that we can experience concrete spiritual growth in you.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

January 7, 2025 (Tuesday) – Day 7

# Source of Strength in Adversity

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## Scripture

Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, and afterward, you will take me into glory. Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. (Psalm 73:23-26)

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## Meditation

Asaph declared, “I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand.” For the psalmist, God’s presence was the most important reality of his faith. This truth is just as essential for us, as disciples of Jesus Christ.

God’s guidance is our source of strength and assurance. The “right hand” symbolizes power and protection, ensuring that we remain on the right path even when we are prone to stray.

The psalmist’s heartfelt cry, “Whom have I in heaven but you?” revealed his love and trust in God alone. His eternal hope lied not in earthly pleasures but in God’s presence.

Even when our bodies and hearts grow weak, we can confidently declare that God is our portion and strength forever.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, I praise your holy name. When I witness your marvellous creation, my heart is filled with awe and gratitude.

Yet, I often fail to see my own insignificance and take your love for granted. Thank you for holding me by my right hand and lifting my eyes toward your eternal home. Lord, help me set my hope not on my present circumstances but on your promises. Lift my heart to rise above my struggles and rejoice in your glorious victory.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

January 8, 2025 (Wednesday) – Day 8

# Draw Near to God and Avoid Death

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## Scripture

Those who are far from You will perish; You destroy all who are unfaithful to You. But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge; I will tell of all Your deeds. (Psalm 73:27-28)

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## Meditation

“Those who are far from You will perish.” God is a righteous and holy God. Revering Him is a fundamental attitude and virtue for all people. Here, Asaph made no hesitation, proclaiming directly that those who stray from God will die. This death is not just physical but also spiritual.

What does it mean to leave God? It is to pursue unfaithfulness. Every act is laid bare before God, and nothing can be hidden. When someone turns their focus away from God to worship other gods, they abandon their Creator and choose a path leading to destruction.

Jesus said in John 15:6, “If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire, and burned.”

Asaph resolved to draw near to God. He recognized that his blessings come from God, and the greatest benefit of being close to Him is making the Sovereign Lord his refuge. Since the time of Asaph until today, suffering is a part of human existence. However, those who trust in God do not need to fear because in Him they will find refuge and security.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, I praise your holy name! Your lovingkindness reaches the heavens, and your power fills the earth! Humbly, I come before you. May you shine your holy light on me and reveal within me any sins or distractions. If my eyes turned away from you, and if I sought other things or people besides you, please guide me back to the right path.

Thank you for the reminder today through Asaph’s psalm. Strengthen my faith, Lord. May I trust you as my refuge and offer my life to become a vessel of blessing in your hands.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

January 9, 2025 (Thursday) – Day 9

# Cry Out to God in Distress

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## Scripture

O God, why have you rejected us forever? Why does your anger smolder against the sheep of your pasture? Remember the nation you purchased long ago, the people of your inheritance, whom you redeemed—Mount Zion, where you dwelt. Turn your steps toward these everlasting ruins, all this destruction the enemy has brought on the sanctuary. Your foes roared in the place where you met with us; they set up their standards as signs. They behaved like men wielding axes to cut through a thicket of trees. They smashed all the carved paneling with their axes and hatchets. They burned your sanctuary to the ground; they defiled the dwelling place of your Name. They said in their hearts, “We will crush them completely! They burned every place where God was worshiped in the land. We are given no signs from God; no prophets are left, and none of us knows how long his will be. (Psalm 74:1-9)

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## Meditation

Psalm 74 is a group lament.

Why is it sad? Because the temple symbolized God's presence in the culture and beliefs of the time! So, when the temple was destroyed, people didn't know where God was. If God is powerful, why would He allow His dwelling to be destroyed by the enemy?! For the Israelites, the destruction of the temple meant abandonment by God. The word "discard" means "rejection" and "making it smelly," so God's rejection made the Israelite faith community feel like they were stinky in the eyes of others. What is even more tragic is that God has remained silent amid all these evil doings.

Dear brothers and sisters, when life is not going as expected, when your faith is at rock bottom, will you cry out directly to God, as Asaph did? Even if you don't know where God is, even if you don't understand why He is silent, you will still pray to Him and speak to Him: O God, why have You forsaken us forever?

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## Prayer

Dear heavenly Father, you are the King of kings, you are in control of all things, you are everywhere. What we experience and encounter today, I don't understand why this is the way it is. Oh, Father, please have mercy on me, and do not be silent and let me learn the lesson you want me to amid all these troubles; Give me the power to be humble and teachable, to be obedient to Your will. Father, please tell me if you are really teaching me the lesson of patience and waiting. It is because I firmly believe that your love will not forsake me.

Today I remember so and so ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations).

Have mercy on their weaknesses and listen to their cries to you, so that they may become mature in their faith, love the Lord more, and grow in your time and for your purpose. In the name of Jesus Christ I pray, amen.

**January 10, 2025 (Friday) – Day 10**

# Do You Trust This God?

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## Scripture

How long will the enemy mock you, God? Will the foe revile your name forever? Why do you hold back your hand, your right hand? Take it from the folds of your garment and destroy them! But God is my King from long ago; He brings salvation on the earth. It was you who split open the sea by your power; you broke the heads of the monster in the waters. It was you who crushed the heads of Leviathan and gave it as food to the creatures of the desert. It was you who opened up springs and streams; you dried up the ever-flowing rivers. The day is yours, and yours also the night; you established the sun and moon. It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter. (Psalm 74:10-17 NIV)

## Meditation

Asaph cried out urgently in prayer, asking God how long the wicked will prevail. His questions revealed frustration and confusion, but also a deep faith in God's sovereignty. Even when the enemy prospers and God appeared silent, Asaph did not lose trust. He recalled God's mighty deeds in the past, emphasizing His power and salvation.

In verses 13-17, the repeated use of "You" highlights God's unmatched authority and ability to save. This truth becomes the psalmist's strength.

When faced with a crisis or unanswered prayers, who do you turn to? Do you abandon your faith, seek help from man, grow distant from God and the church? Or will you, like Asaph, trust the eternal God who was, is, and is to come?

## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, in this dark era, we, your children, sometimes face challenges that are even harder than those Asaph faced. Yet, you have already told us that these things will surely happen.

Lord, you are love, and your love never fails. Teach us to cherish our present and live our lives to reflect mutual love and encouragement. Help us to praise you in our sufferings, persecution, or shame, for you are always our help. We praise you, Lord, Hallelujah!

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ's name, I pray. Amen.

January 11, 2025 (Saturday) – Day 11

# Praise God Even in Suffering

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## Scripture

Remember how the enemy has mocked you, Lord, how foolish people have reviled your name. Do not hand over the life of your dove to wild beasts; do not forget the lives of your afflicted people forever. Have regard for your covenant, because haunts of violence fill the dark places of the land. Do not let the oppressed retreat in disgrace; may the poor and needy praise your name. Rise up, O God, and defend your cause; remember how fools mock you all day long. Do not ignore the clamor of your adversaries, the uproar of your enemies, which rises continually. (Psalm 74:18-23)

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## Meditation

When the temple was destroyed, the people not only suffered but also questioned God's presence. If God is almighty, why would He allow His dwelling place to be desecrated? For Israel, the destruction of the temple symbolized abandonment by God.

The psalmist repeatedly referred to God's name, emphasizing the desecration it has suffered. Yet, the psalmist ended with a prayer for the oppressed and the needy to praise God's name. Even in the midst of chaos and destruction, the psalmist chose to focus on God's faithfulness and the hope of deliverance.

When you encounter evil or suffering in your life, do you allow it to consume you? Or do you seek the Holy Spirit's help to rise above your circumstances and praise God despite adversity? Will you trust that God is in control, even in trials, He is shaping and refining your life?

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## Prayer

Dear Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I praise You forever! You love me unconditionally and guide me with your grace. In times of hardship, you always open a way for me. You lift me up and remind me that all things are under your sovereign control.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ's name, I pray. Amen.

**January 12, 2025 (Sunday) – Day 12**

# Thank God for His Deeds

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## Scripture

We praise you, God, we praise you, for your name is near; people tell of your wonderful deeds. You say, “I choose the appointed time; it is I who judge with equity. When the earth and all its people quake, it is I who hold its pillars firm.” (Psalm 75:1-3)

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## Meditation

We are called to continually praise and thank God, the righteous judge. Though He may delay judgment, His timing is perfect, and His justice is sure. The psalmist acknowledged God’s patience and faithfulness, trusting that He will intervene at the appointed time.

This passage invites us to acknowledge God’s presence (“Your Name is near”) and to trust that even when our life feels unstable, He still upholds the world with His strength. When facing injustice or suffering, we should hold on to the assurance that God will act in His perfect timing.

Do you feel anger or sorrow over the injustices you have faced? This passage reminds us that God sees and knows. At the right time, He will bring justice. For this, we should give Him thanks!

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, our hearts long for You, we are drawn to Your heavenly throne. We thank you for your salvation, rescuing us from the flood of sin and death. Though this world is broken, you remain our Rock, our refuge, and our salvation.

Even when we walk through the darkest valleys, we need not fear because you are with us. You refine us like gold, making our lives precious in your sight.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

January 13, 2025 (Monday) – Day 13

# The Righteous Judge

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## Scripture

To the arrogant I say, “Boast no more,” and to the wicked, “Do not lift up your horns. Do not lift your horns against heaven; do not speak so defiantly.” No one from the east or the west or from the desert can exalt themselves. It is God who judges: He brings one down, He exalts another. (Psalm 75:4-7)

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## Meditation

Matthew Henry reminded us, “God’s people must drink the cup of affliction, but its dregs are reserved for the wicked.” The psalmist warned the arrogant and the wicked not to exalt themselves. God, who has established the earth’s pillars, will humble the proud and exalt the humble.

When you are troubled by the evil around you, it’s easy to become disheartened or pessimistic. However, this passage assures us that no one can escape God’s judgment. In His perfect timing, He will bring justice.

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## Prayer

Lord, grant me the wisdom and humility to trust in Your righteous judgment. Though this world may seem broken by the actions of the proud and wicked, help me remain hopeful, knowing that you will act at the appointed time. You are the sovereign King who sustains the earth, and your kingdom is unshakable.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

January 14, 2025 (Tuesday) – Day 14

# God’s Righteous Judgment and Ultimate Victory

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## Scripture

In the hand of the Lord is a cup full of foaming wine mixed with spices; He pours it out, and all the wicked of the earth drink it down to its very dregs. As for me, I will declare this forever; I will sing praise to the God of Jacob, who says, “I will cut off the horns of all the wicked, but the horns of the righteous will be lifted up.” (Psalm 75:8-10)

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## Meditation

This passage reminds us of God’s righteousness and sovereignty. The cup of foaming wine represents God’s judgment, which the wicked cannot escape. Though the world often seems unjust, we can trust in God’s ultimate justice.

In response, the psalmist declared eternal praise, showing us that even amid challenges, we should praise and trust God. The wicked will be humbled, and the righteous will be exalted by God.

Do you trust this God of justice, who will exalt the humble and bring down the proud?

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for being a righteous judge. Though we face injustice and suffering, we trust in your perfect timing and unchanging goodness. Help us remain faithful and praise you always, even when life feels uncertain.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

January 15, 2025 (Wednesday) – Day 15

# God’s Presence, Majesty, and Victory

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## Scripture

God is renowned in Judah; in Israel, His name is great. His tent is in Salem, His dwelling place in Zion. There He broke the flashing arrows, the shields and the swords, the weapons of war. (Psalm 76:1-3)

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## Meditation

This passage highlights God’s presence, majesty, and victory. His name is exalted in Judah and Israel, and His presence is found in Zion and Salem, symbolizing His dwelling among His people. This reminds us that no matter where we are, God is always present with us, calling us to worship and find strength in Him.

In verse 3, the psalmist describes God’s power in breaking weapons of war, symbolizing His triumph over hostile forces. God is not only our protector but also the one who brings peace. When we face spiritual battles, He has the power to disarm threats and replace conflict with peace.

When life feels overwhelming or chaotic, trust in God’s presence and power. He is the victorious God who brings peace to His people, turning their battles into moments of victory and rest.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for dwelling among us and for being the source of our strength. You are great and mighty, and your presence gives us peace. Lord, help me to trust in your power and not rely on my own strength. Teach me to depend on you in every circumstance, knowing that you fight for me and lead me to victory.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

January 16, 2025 (Thursday) – Day 16

# God Is Awesome; He Judges the Wicked and Saves the Humble

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## Scripture

You are radiant with light, more majestic than mountains rich with game. The valiant lie plundered; they sleep their last sleep; not one of the warriors can lift his hands. At your rebuke, God of Jacob, both horse and chariot lie still. It is you alone who are to be feared. Who can stand before you when you are angry? From heaven you pronounced judgment, and the land feared and was quiet—when you, God, rose up to judge, to save all the afflicted of the land. (Psalm 76:4-9)

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## Meditation

“It is You alone who are to be feared.” This passage reveals God’s majesty and righteous anger. His rebuke alone silences the proud and the powerful. The psalmist reminded us that God is the ultimate warrior and judge.

God’s rebuke brings both deliverance for the afflicted and judgment for the arrogant. When God arises to judge, even the earth is silenced in awe of His justice. This passage calls us to recognize God’s authority and submit to His will.

Do you understand the weight of God’s righteous anger? Do you truly grasp the depth of Christ’s sacrifice on the cross, where He bore the wrath of God for our sins? Rejoice and give thanks for the salvation made possible through Jesus Christ.

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## Prayer

Heavenly Father, you are glorious and mighty! your justice and holiness are unmatched, and I stand in awe of your greatness. Thank you for offering salvation through Jesus Christ, who bore the punishment I deserved. Teach me to live in reverence of you, walking humbly and obediently in your ways.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

Amen.

January 17, 2025 (Friday) – Day 17

# Fear God

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## Scripture

Surely your wrath against mankind brings you praise, and the survivors of your wrath are restrained. Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them; let all the neighboring lands bring gifts to the One to be feared. He breaks the spirit of rulers; He is feared by the kings of the earth. (Psalm 76:10-12)

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## Meditation

The psalmist reminded us to fulfill our vows to the Lord and bring offerings to Him, for He alone is worthy of reverence. Fearing God means to stand in awe of His greatness and holiness, not out of terror but with reverence and humility.

In contrast to the arrogance of earthly rulers, God’s sovereignty humbles the proud and exalts the faithful. Those who resist Him will face His judgment, while those who honour Him will find refuge.

Are you living a life that honours God’s greatness? Have you dedicated your time, talents, and treasures to glorify Him? Take time to reflect on His attributes and work; respond with worship and thanksgiving.

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## Prayer

Heavenly Father, I kneel before You, offering gratitude and praise, for you alone are worthy. “You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing.” (Psalm 16:2) Help me dedicate my life to you as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing in your sight. Teach me to honour you with my thoughts, words, and actions, and to live in awe of your greatness.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

January 18, 2025 (Saturday) – Day 18

# God will be faithful to us even we don't feel like it.

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## Scripture

I cried out to God for help; I cried out to God to hear me. When I was in distress, I sought the Lord; at night I stretched out untiring hands and my soul refused to be comforted. I remembered You, O God, and I groaned; I mused, and my spirit grew faint. (Psalm 77:1-3)

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## Meditation

The psalmist paints a clear picture of his great pain, affecting his body, soul, and spirit. "Cry out to God" is repeated twice in verse 1, showing how urgently he calls on the Lord. His prayer is unceasing and full of persistence, for his suffering is not just in his mind but felt deeply in his body.

Asaph goes through great trials, deep sorrow, and unbearable suffering. When trouble comes, we often complain to our family and friends. Sometimes we even try to escape our pain by turning to distractions like watching movies or playing games. But the psalmist understands the danger of such ways. He knows he must seek the Lord and cry out to Him for help and guidance.

In his distress, he questions God's faithfulness and kindness. He feels that God is far from him, that the Lord is not near. Yet, despite his pain and doubt, the psalmist continues to cry out, reaching out with all his heart to the Lord.

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## Prayer

Our Abba Father, I know that You delight in those who humble themselves and seek Your face. I confess, Lord, that I am in great trouble and my heart is burdened. I stretch out my hands unto You, O Lord. Grant me faith and confidence in Your unfailing love and mercy.

Today I remember ..... (someone/ incidents)

May You have mercy on them as they are weak and needy. Hear their cry, uplift their faith and help them grow according to Your time and way. In Jesus' name. I pray. Amen.

January 19, 2025 (Sunday) - Day 19

# Appealing to God in the midst of suffering

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## Scripture

You kept my eyes from closing; I was too troubled to speak. I thought about the former days, the years of long ago; I remembered my songs in the night. My heart mused and my spirit inquired; Will the Lord reject forever? Will He never show His favor again? Has His promise failed for all time? Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has He in anger withheld His compassion? (Psalms 77:4-9)

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## Meditation

The psalmist is in great distress and deep trouble. He lifts his voice toward God, questioning His faithfulness, His covenant, His unfailing love, His mercy, and His compassion. He feels not the protection nor the presence of the Lord. The comfort and nearness of God, which he once knew, seem far from him. The psalmist's heart is burdened, not only for himself but for his family and his people. All manner of attacks and dangers are pursuing him and his people. Yet, the psalmist does not flee from the crisis; in the midst of his affliction, he chooses to seek the Lord and pour out his prayer before Him.

Oftentimes, we find ourselves in seasons of confusion and chaos. Even the faithful will at times question the love and mercy of the Lord. We may cry out in urgency, praying that God would change the circumstances or the hearts of others. We may even seek to blame and instruct God, desiring that He would act according to our own timing and will.

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## Prayer

Lord, in the midst of all kinds of distress, may we find our rest in You. You are our salvation, our rock, and our refuge. You are the banner of our faith. We face many waves—be it health issues, financial struggles, emotional burdens, or relational trials—that seek to erode our love and trust in You, Lord. Help us to refocus our hearts upon Your Word and Your love. Renew our vision of Your salvation and mercy.

Today I remember ..... (someone/ incidents)

Pray for Your mercy upon the week and needy, hear their prayer and cry out, uplift their faith and help their grow in You according to Your way and Your time. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

January 20, 2025 (Monday) - Day 20

# Count your blessings

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## Scripture

Then I thought, "To this I will appeal: the years when the Most High stretched out his right hand. I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago. I will consider all your works and meditate on all your mighty deeds." Your ways, God, are holy. What god is as great as our God? You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples. (Psalms 77:10-14)

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## Meditation

During a time of deep distress and hardship, the palmist reflected on his sorrows, struggles and doubts on God's absence of guidance and support to him. Yet, as he changes his focus from his current hardship to the memories of the miracles God has performed in the past, especially in the Exodus, his faith is strengthened. The key words in this passage such as "miracles" and "mighty deeds" reveal God's authority and omnipotence. They also remind us that during hard times we are to remember what God has done in our lives and how good God has been to us. During the darkest moments of life, God is still "the God who performs miracles", worthy of our trust and praise. We can then find hope and courage to journey on.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank you for your constant presence in my life. When I face challenges and hardships, my heart is often filled with doubt and misery. Like the psalmist, I search for your holy face in the darkness, wondering if your grace is still with me. I pray that during hard times, I remember to change my focus from my struggles and pain to recalling your mighty deeds in the past. Help me to remember that the miracles that you have done for the Israelites in the past are still present in every moment of my life. I pray that you will open my eyes so that I can see your faithfulness and mercy.

Lord, when I am down, I pray that you comfort me with your words, so that my faith can be strengthened. Whatever the obstacles I encounter, I know that your plan is good and all goodness is in you. I pray that regardless of the situation, I can bear witness for your glory and power.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, may your grace be with those who are in needs. May you hear and answer their prayers. May you strengthen their faith. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. I pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**January 21, 2025 (Tuesday) - Day 21**

# God's Power and Deliverance

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## Scripture

The waters saw you, God, the waters saw you and writhed; the very depths were convulsed. The clouds poured down water, the heavens resounded with thunder; your arrows flashed back and forth. Your thunder was heard in the whirlwind, your lightning lit up the world; the earth trembled and quaked. Your path led through the sea, your way through the mighty waters, though your footprints were not seen. You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron. (Psalm 77:16-20)

## Meditation

This passage expressed the psalmist's cry for God as well as his trust in Him in times of distress and desperation. It shows his longing for God's deliverance, his reflections on God's past deeds, and his emphatic belief in God's omnipotence and redemption.

The "mighty arm" in verse 15 not only represents God's power but also His love for His people. Psalmist then reflects on God's miraculous works throughout the history especially those done during Israelites' exodus out of Egypt. These memories not only comfort the psalmist, but also proclaim God's authority and power.

These verses remind us that in difficult times, other than asking God for help, we should also count our blessings and remember his deliverances in the past. These reflections can help us find the guiding light in darkness, strengthening our faith in times of trials and tribulations.

## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank you for your faithfulness and love. When I am weak and in trouble, I can lean on you. As Psalm 77 says, with your mighty arm you redeem me. I cry out to you for courage and faith in order to find your light in darkness.

Lord, when I encounter trials and tribulations, I pray that you will remind me what you have done for me. You have performed miracles amongst the Israelites, led them across the Red Sea and delivered them. I pray that you also perform miracles in my life, help me find peace in turbulence and lean on you wholeheartedly in rough times. No matter the circumstances, I know you always lead me.

Lord, my future and my life are in your hands. May you guide me.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, may your grace be with those who are in needs. May you hear and answer their prayers. May you strengthen their faith. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

**January 22, 2025 (Wednesday) - Day 22**

# Listen

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## Scripture

O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old - what we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done. (Psalm 78: 1-4)

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## Meditation

Psalm 78 is a psalm of admonition. Right out of the gate, Asaph sets a solemn tone to awaken God's people with these words: "...hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth." This blunt and straightforward exclamation catches our attention and sets the stage for the message that is to follow. Asaph wants us to set aside all obstacles and distractions, so that we can focus on what he has to say and then meditate on it over and over again. He feels the need to warn the listeners ahead of time because the message he is about to deliver is very important.

So what is this important message? He wants us to hear his teaching which is God's law and God's Word. He wants to talk about "parables" and "hidden things", which are the most difficult to explain and comprehend. He wants to talk about "the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, and the wonders He has done." All of these have to be taught. We have to know them by heart.

Brothers and sisters, what kind of attitude do we have for God's teaching nowadays? Do we care? Do we want to hear? I hope that we can be conscientious and attentive to God's Words and deeds, keep them in our hearts and meditate on them always.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, Please forgive me. I know that sometimes I take your Words too lightly, and sometimes I forget your Words too quickly. I pray that you will help me, give me a fearful heart, pay attention to your teaching, and allow your Words to shape me and mold me. Lord, help me constantly reflect on your power and deeds, and give you all the praise that you deserve.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, I pray for your mercy. Remember their needs, hear their cries, and strengthen their faith. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

January 23, 2025 (Thursday) - Day 23

# From Generation to Generation

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## Scripture

He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands. They would not be like their forefathers - whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to him. (Psalm 78: 5-8)

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## Meditation

Long ago, God “decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel.” Both “statutes” and “law” mean the word of God, including the commandments God said to Moses on Mount Sinai, as well as accounts of God’s mighty deeds in Israel’s history. God not only wants his people to follow His teachings, but also desires these commandments and stories to be passed on from generation to generation, to help each generation obey and trust God and to keep them from repeating the same mistakes as their ancestors.

“These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.” (Deuteronomy 6:6-7). God demands all Christian parents to diligently pass down his teaching from generation to generation. Therefore, home becomes the most important place for religious education. This is undoubtedly a difficult task for parents. It not only challenges parents to seriously study and obey God’s word so that they can be good role models for their children. It also challenges them to re-examine their parenting focus: do you pour all your time and resources on your children’s education and achievements, or to help them build a close relationship with God so that they can grow to fear, trust and obey him always? Bear in mind that religious education is present at every home whether you want it or not. The question is what is being taught: to follow God faithfully or not.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank you for sending so many of your faithful and obedient servants to be my spiritual role models and teachers. I pray that you can also help me grow to be a God-fearing disciple of yours, obeying and diligently passing down your word and stories of your mighty deeds to the next generations, so that they can follow you all of their lives.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, I pray for your mercy. Remember their needs, hear their cries, and strengthen their faith. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.

January 24, 2025 (Friday) - Day 24

# Do Not Forget God's Grace

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## Scripture

The men of Ephraim, though armed with bows, turned back on the day of battle; they did not keep God's covenant and refused to live by his law. They forgot what he had done, the wonders he had shown them. He did miracles in the sight of their fathers in the land of Egypt, in the region of Zoan. He divided the sea and led them through; he made the water stand firm like a wall. He guided them with the cloud by day and with light from the fire all night. He split the rocks in the desert and gave them water as abundant as the sea; he brought streams out of a rocky crag and made water flow down like rivers. (Psalm 78:9-16)

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## Meditation

This is one of 12 psalms written by Asaph, David's director of music. Verse 8 accuses the tribe of Ephraim of being ungrateful, cowardly, and unfaithful. Asaph then recounts how God performed miracles to save the Israelites, reminding them that they should not forget God's deliverance. Ephraim was Joseph's younger son, but since he was blessed by Jacob, descendants of Ephraim had a special tribal status among the Israelites. Verses 9 to 11 said that despite being fully armed and having God on their side, people of Ephraim turned back from battle, forgot God's mighty deeds, and disobeyed God's laws and covenant. Verses 12 to 16 went on recounting how God miraculously led their forefathers out of Egypt and through the desert, including parting the Red Sea, guiding them by cloud and fire, and providing them all they needed in the desert. All these miracles show God's power and providence, reminding the Israelites to not ever forget God's grace.

We all have received God's grace and salvation. Are we going to be like Ephraim - ungrateful, unfaithful, and cowardly turning back from the spiritual battle even though God is with us?

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank you for your abundant love and grace. Because of your sacrifice on the cross, we can now call you our Father, our lives can be changed and we can live more fully. Your timely deliverance and constant companion, especially during difficult and lonely times, gives me hope, comfort, and strength. Moreover, you have prepared a way to eternal salvation. I pray that I walk in your light and do not forget your sacrifices. I trust that you are with me when I spread the gospel, helping me stand firm in the spiritual battleground.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, may your grace be with those who are in needs. May you hear and answer their prayers. May you strengthen their faith. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

January 25, 2025 (Saturday) - Day 25

# God Punishes the Sinful, Doubtful and Unfaithful

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## Scripture

But they continued to sin against him, rebelling in the desert against the Most High. They willfully put God to the test by demanding the food they craved. They spoke against God, saying, "Can God spread a table in the desert? When he struck the rock, water gushed out, and streams flowed abundantly. But can he also give us food? Can he supply meat for his people?" When the Lord heard them, he was very angry; his fire broke out against Jacob, and his wrath rose against Israel, for they did not believe in God or trust in his deliverance. Yet he gave a command to the skies above and opened the doors of the heavens; he rained down manna for the people to eat, he gave them the grain of heaven. Men ate the bread of angels; he sent them all the food they could eat. He let loose the east wind from the heavens and led forth the south wind by this power. He rained meat down on them like dust, flying birds like sand on the seashore. He made them come down inside their camp, all around their tents. They ate till they had more than enough, for he had given them what they craved. But before they turned from the food they craved, even while it was still in their mouths, God's anger rose against them; he put to death the sturdiest among them, cutting down the young men of Israel. (Psalm 78:17-31)

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## Meditation

Today's passage recounts the sad story about Israelites' disobedience, greed and rebellion which eventually bringing about God's punishment, despite having experienced His miracles and providence.

Verses 17 - 22: Although God showered the Israelites with blessings and providence in the desert, they sinned, challenged and questioned Him. Finally, God's wrath rose against them. Verses 23 - 29: Even when God was angry with the Israelites, He continued to provide for them, satisfying their craving for meat by sending them quails.

Verses 30-31: However, Israelites' greed was still not satisfied. This eventually brought about God's judgment and punishment that killed "the sturdiest among them" and "the young men of Israel".

As we are justified by faith, we have to remain faithful, cannot indulge in sins, disobedience and greed. Do not challenge God's bottom line as it will bring about God's judgement and punishment.

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## Prayer

Our Heavenly Father, I praise you because you are kind and just. Your love is full of mercy and grace. You forgive my sins and give me a new life. I also praise you for your righteousness and holiness. You hate sins and will judge the world with your righteousness. Father, teach me how to discern right from wrong, help me walk in the truth, and set me free from sin's grip through the Holy Spirit. I pray that I will always stay on the path that you have prepared for me and will glorify your name. May my heart remain faithful and truthful to you always.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, may your grace be with those who are in needs. May you hear and answer their prayers. May you strengthen their faith. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

January 26, 2025 (Sunday) - Day 26

# God Remembers His People

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## Scripture

In spite of all this, they kept on sinning; in spite of his wonders, they did not believe. So he ended their days in futility and their years in terror. Whenever God slew them, they would seek him; they eagerly turned to him again. They remembered that God was their Rock, that God Most High was their Redeemer. But then they would flatter him with their mouths, lying to him with their tongues; their hearts were not loyal to him, they were not faithful to his covenant. Yet he was merciful; he forgave their iniquities and did not destroy them. Time after time he restrained his anger and did not stir up his full wrath. He remembered that they were but flesh, a passing breeze that does not return. (Psalm 78:32-39)

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## Meditation

Today's Bible passage presents the following pattern: people rebel, God unleashes judgement; people repent, God shows mercy. God is merciful not only because He forgives our sins, but more importantly He also knows that we are "but flesh, a passing breeze that does not return." As a result, as people keep on sinning against Him and forgetting His wonders, He is willing to restrain His anger. Even when our repentance is superficial and our mouths and tongues continue to infuriate Him, He is willing to forgive us time after time. Who can compare to our merciful God? Let us examine and reflect on our thoughts and actions. Are we trapped in the same pattern? How do we react when we are wronged by other people? What does today's passage teach us?

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## Prayer

Our merciful God, wonderful Lord, I thank you and praise you. You have abundant love and are slow to anger. You are my almighty God and Saviour. I pray that you will forgive my sins, as I do not yet love you with all my heart, all my soul, all my mind and all my strength. Have mercy on me for I am weak, and remember that I am "but flesh, a passing breeze". Remind me to follow your will all the time and trust you completely. Help me count your blessings under all circumstances, so that I will not forget what you have done for me. Grant me strength to get back up when I fall, and determination to live each and every day fully.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

May your mercy be upon them. Touch their hearts and renew their bodies and souls. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may everyone count their blessings and praise you always. I pray in Jesus' precious name. Amen.

January 27, 2025 (Monday) - Day 27

# God Cares For His Rebellious People

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## Scripture

Psalm 78:40-55

How often they rebelled against him in the desert and grieved him in the wasteland! Again and again they put God to the test; they vexed the Holy One of Israel. They did not remember his power - the day he redeemed them from the oppressor, the day he displayed his miraculous signs in Egypt... He drove out nations before them and allotted their lands to them as an inheritance; he settled the tribes of Israel in their homes. (Psalm 78:40-55)

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## Meditation

Why did God care about the rebellious Israelites in the desert?

Today's passage mentioned that it did not just happen once or twice, but "how often they rebelled against him in the desert and grieved him in the wasteland!" Not long before that, this group of Israelites experienced God's mighty works, saw how God used ten plagues to make Pharaoh yield and set them free, how God parted the Red Sea to let them cross yet drowned their enemy, and "brought them to the border of his holy land." In spite of witnessing all these miracles, they rebelled, complained (Ex 15:24, 16:2) and even tested God (Ex 17:2).

God "brought his people out like a flock; he led them like sheep through the desert." He also "drove out nations before them and allotted their lands to them as an inheritance." While the great shepherd guided his sheep, they only saw their immediate needs and made endless demands. God showered his people with his loving grace but they took it for granted. No wonder God was sad.

Imagine how you would feel if all you get is ungrateful gripe from the people you care the most about.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, Please forgive me as I often make you sad. I know you can take away your grace any time you want, but you have not. You call my name so that I can return to you and continue to receive your blessings. God, I know I often sin against you. Make me aware of all my transgressions and help me repent swiftly. May the Holy Spirit guard me against evil, help me follow your will with a grateful heart, and not upset you anymore.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

May God wash away all the sins and evil desires, fill our hearts and minds with your love and forgiveness. I pray in Jesus' precious name. Amen.

January 28, 2025 (Tuesday) - Day 28

# Prevent sorrow from a rebellious heart

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## Scripture

But they put God to the test and rebelled against the Most High; they did not keep his statutes. Like their ancestors they were disloyal and faithless, as unreliable as a faulty bow. They angered him with their high places; they aroused his jealousy with their idols. When God heard them, he was furious; he rejected Israel completely. He abandoned the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent he had set up among humans. He sent the ark of his might into captivity, his splendor into the hands of the enemy. He gave his people over to the sword; he was furious with his inheritance. Fire consumed their young men, and their young women had no wedding songs; their priests were put to the sword, and their widows could not weep. (Psalm 78:56-64)

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## Meditation

When God lifted the Israelites from slavery in Egypt with His mercy, bringing them to the Promised Land of Canaan, the Israelites should have come to their Lord and Saviour with grateful hearts. However, not only did the Israelites fail to focus on worshiping their Saviour, but they also reverted to their old ways. They tested their Lord, disobeyed God's commandments, broke their covenant with God, and even turned their backs on Him as their ancestors had done, arousing His wrath. Because of this, the Israelites were delivered into the hands of their enemies. Today, are we as ungrateful as the people of Israel were back then? Do we disregard God's love and kindness toward us? Do we act selfishly according to self-absorbed worldly values and ignore the teachings of the Bible, straying from the path that God laid down for us? Do we behave rebelliously, like the Israelites, deliberately ignoring our God and creating chaos in our daily lives, to the point that we corner ourselves into difficult situations? We may feel hopeless when facing our daily challenges because we have walked away from God, and we can do nothing without Him.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, I pray that You watch over my heart, take away the sins that are hidden within me, and remind me that I am saved and reborn by the blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. I no longer live as my old self but as someone new with Christ in my life, always abiding in Your guidance and grace. Please do not let me walk away from You. Help me always to be mindful of Your words and never stray from Your path. Do not let my pride blind me. Protect me from envy for the fame and fortune of the world, and guide me to focus on You, the only righteous and living God who created heaven and earth. I pray that Your Spirit will always move me to behave in line with the Lord's will and that I may always be a good witness for the Lord. May the Lord hear my prayer.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, may your grace be with those who are in needs. May you hear and answer their prayers. May you strengthen their faith. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose.

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I pray. Amen.

January 29, 2025 (Wednesday) - Day 29

# Lord, please save those whom you love

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## Scripture

Then the Lord awoke as from sleep, as a warrior wakes from the stupor of wine. He beat back his enemies; he put them to everlasting shame. Then he rejected the tents of Joseph, he did not choose the tribe of Ephraim; but he chose the tribe of Judah, Mount Zion, which he loved. He built his sanctuary like the heights, like the earth that he established forever. He chose David his servant and took him from the sheep pens; from tending the sheep he brought him to be the shepherd of his people Jacob, of Israel his inheritance. And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them. (Psalm 78:65-72)

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## Meditation

God heard the cries of the Israelites suffering in Egypt, and with His love, He brought all the Israelites out of Egypt and into the Promised Land of Canaan. By all accounts, the Israelites should have paid respect to their Lord God for His grace and salvation. However, the Israelites forgot the grace of God, just as their ancestors did—"a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to Him" (Psalm 78:8). So God allowed them to follow their evil ways and let them be attacked by their enemies. For the people reap what they sow, and God's silence seemed as though He were asleep. However, how could God not cherish His people? God chose Judah as the leader of Israel, He chose Mount Zion as His throne, and He chose David to shepherd His people. Although the Israelites endured hardship, they also experienced the salvation granted by God. God led His people safely into the Promised Land, and His love for them never ceases. In all the years and days in which we experience weakness or confusion, how have I experienced God's salvation?

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## Prayer

Dear Abba Father, thank You for Your love and grace. Thank You for not giving up on us and for Your salvation. There are inevitably many ups and downs in life, and we can easily become confused, following the direction of the world blindly and despising the gentle reminders of the Holy Spirit. At times, we may feel helpless, despairing, and depressed like the prodigal son, but Your love still envelops me, enabling me to rekindle the fire and hope by reminding me of Your words and guidance. Oh Lord! Thank You for Your presence and for walking with me on my path. May Your gracious hand continue to lead me so that I won't stray from Your path, and may my life glorify Your name.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, may your grace be with those who are in needs. May you hear and answer their prayers. May you strengthen their faith. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I pray. Amen.

January 30, 2025 (Thursday) - Day 30

# Pray for Forgiveness of Sins of a Community

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## Scripture

O God, the nations have invaded your inheritance; they have defiled your holy temple, they have reduced Jerusalem to rubble. They have given the dead bodies of your servants as food to the birds of the air, the flesh of your saints to the beasts of the earth. They have poured out blood like water all around Jerusalem, and there is no one to bury the dead. We are objects of reproach to our neighbours, of scorn and derision to those around us. How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever? How long will your jealousy burn like fire? (Psalm 79:1-5)

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## Meditation

This psalm is a lamentation for a nation that experienced a terrible disaster. The Babylonians invaded Judah, levelled the temple in Jerusalem and killed so many that blood was “like water all around Jerusalem and there is no one to bury the dead”. What a horrifying scene! Not only that, the Israelites were “objects of reproach”, “scorn and derision” to neighbouring nations. The psalmist was heartbroken, so he asked God to take away the shame. Dear brothers and sisters, the consequences of sins are unbearable. We need to be aware of sins both on a personal level and as a community because God is just and cannot tolerate any sin. We need to be vigilant to keep sins at bay, and know what weaknesses will lead us astray and rebel against God. Let us keep watching individually and for our community so that we can encourage each other in our pursuit of holiness.

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## Prayer

Dear God, Have mercy on us as we are weak. We lift up our community and ask that you forgive our sins and wash away our iniquities. May your light shine upon us so that we can get a clear view of our transgressions. With our Lord Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross, he became the ultimate sin offering and protected us from God’s wrath. Create in us a clean heart, God, and restore a new and right spirit within us. Do not abandon us so that your grace can still surround us. Keep us away from evil but help us follow you closely to pursue your holiness and do your work, so that we as a community can glorify your name.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, may your grace be with those who are in needs. May you hear and answer their prayers. May you strengthen their faith. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

January 31, 2025 (Friday) - Day 31

# To worship God wholeheartedly and single-mindedly.

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## Scripture

Pour out your wrath on the nations that do not acknowledge you, on the kingdoms that do not call on your name; for they have devoured Jacob and devastated his homeland. Do not hold against us the sins of past generations; may your mercy come quickly to meet us, for we are in desperate need. (Psalm 79:6-8)

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## Mediation:

God's wrath is directed at the unfaithful Israelites, yet the psalmist points out that they are God's covenant people, belonging to Him. In contrast, the foreign nations that do not know God have devoured Jacob and defiled the holy land! The psalmist asks God to turn His wrath towards those kingdoms that do not call on His name, for their sins are indeed grave! The psalmist seeks God's forgiveness for the sins of their ancestors and pleads for His mercy, acknowledging their desperate condition. God sees His relationship with Israel as akin to a marriage, where unfaithfulness involves turning to idol worship. He desires our wholehearted loyalty and single-minded worship. We need to constantly reflect on our faithfulness to God. Since God loves us unconditionally, do we faithfully respond to His love, allowing nothing and no one to rob our hearts? We must recognize that apart from you we have no good thing. Therefore, let us run swiftly to follow the Lord, making Him everything to us!

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## Prayer

Holy Lord, faithful God, you are loyal to your beloved and chosen people, and you have left nothing good from us. Yet we often do not respond to you with a thankful heart and do not love you wholeheartedly. Actually, you lack nothing and do not need us to do anything for you; what you desire is our undivided love, just as you love us. We must admit that our hearts are occupied by many things: careers, wealth, family, children, pleasure, fame, power, and status. We have not placed you first in our lives! We are willing to repent and turn back to you, asking you to forgive our sins of not acknowledging you as God and not to let your wrath fall upon us.

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, may your grace be with those who are in needs. May you hear and answer their prayers. May you strengthen their faith. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

**February 1, 2025 (Saturday) - Day 32**

# Praise the Name of God

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## Scripture

Help us, God our Saviour, for the glory of your name; deliver us and forgive our sins for your name's sake. Why should the nations say, 'Where is their God?' Before our eyes make known among the nations that you avenge the outpoured blood of your servants. May the groans of the prisoners come before you; with your strong arm preserve those condemned to die. Pay back into the laps of our neighbors seven times the contempt they have hurled at you, Lord. Then we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will praise you forever; from generation to generation, we will proclaim your praise! (Psalm 79:9-13)

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## Mediation:

The psalmist's plea for God's forgiveness and salvation is based on the desire for God's name to be honoured, preventing the foreigners from mocking Him. For God's reputation is often tied to the circumstances of His people. They cannot allow the foreigners to say where is your God and isn't it your God taking care of you? Therefore, let everyone know that their God is faithful, even when His people face difficult trials which may be God's discipline! As God's people reach their lowest point, they cry out for God to restore and embrace them again. For they are God's people and His flock. God loves us enough to discipline us, and when His anger is over He will accept and forgive us. Let us not reach such depths before we repent and return. When our lives are rebuilt, we must praise Him and proclaim His glorious acts. Let us not disgrace God's name, hallowed be your name, to God be the glory!

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## Prayer

O God! How beautiful is your name on earth; may your glory be revealed to the world! Thank you for your unwavering commitment to your covenant people. Although we may be unfaithful, chasing after fleeting things, worshiping idols and abandoning you. In your anger, we have faced hardship and pain, please save us for the sake of your name and forgive our sins. We understand that out of your loving discipline, you want to bring us back to you. You are our faithful Lord, when we truly repent and confess, you will cleanse our transgressions and forgive our iniquities. Therefore, we must sing praise to your holy name, proclaim your virtues and praise from generations to generations!

Today, I remember ..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, may your grace be with those who are in needs. May you hear and answer their prayers. May you strengthen their faith. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

**February 2, 2025 (Sunday) - Day 33:**

# Turn back to God

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## Scripture

Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, you who leads Joseph like a flock. You who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh. Awaken your might; come and save us. Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved. (Psalm 80:1-3)

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## Meditation

Psalm 80 reflects the psalmist's hope in and prayer to God, pleading Him to lead Israel as He did in the wilderness. For Israel, exile was a hopeless situation, yet the psalmist clings to a deep-rooted belief, so that he can sustain in his hope. Psalmist reminds us that in our darkest hours, we must know that God is our Shepherd, so that we can offer the right prayers. He cares for and protects His flock as Psalm 23 reminds us, "The Lord is my Shepherd, I lack nothing."

These verses urge us to cry out to God, "Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved." Most importantly, we must turn away from our sins. We need to admit that we cannot "turn back" solely by our own strength, for "I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out" (Romans 7:18). Only by calling on God to "restore us" can we experience renewal, humble ourselves, and rely on Him to live victoriously. The psalmist references the prayer of the high priest: "The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you" (Numbers 6:24-26). The "shining" is God's blessing, and as we look up to His light, we are victorious.

Our God, who is seated between the cherubim, is full of authority and majesty, and He delights in teaching, forgiving, and extending grace from His throne of mercy. May God have mercy on us and bring salvation.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, you are full of mercy and grace. Help us to know you more deeply, understanding that you are our Shepherd. Through you, we can overcome the corruption of the flesh, resist the temptations of the world, and stand against Satan's schemes. With humble hearts, we come before your throne of grace, seeking mercy, comfort, and guidance. Heavenly Father, may your great power shield us so that we no longer fall into sin but instead return to you. Through our Lord Jesus, we are freed from sin; we resolve not to sin again and to break free from its bonds.

Today, I especially remember..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Our God, show your mercy and grace to them, that they may soon return to you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

February 3, 2025 (Monday) - Day 34

# Pleading with the Lord of Hosts to Remember Us

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## Scripture

O Lord God of hosts, how long will your anger smolder against the prayers of your people? You have fed them with the bread of tears, you have made them drink tears by the bowlful. You make us an object of derision to our neighbors, and our enemies mock us. Restore us, O God of Hosts; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved! You transplanted a vine from Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it, and it took root and filled the land. The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches. Its branches reached as far as the Sea, its shoots as far as the River. Why have you broken down its hedges so that all who pass by pick its grapes? Boars from the forest ravage it, and the wild beast from the field devour it. Return to us, O God of Hosts! Look down from heaven and see! (Psalm 80:4-14a)

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## Meditation

The title "God of Hosts" describes God as Almighty God. The captivity of God's people was not due to His inability or unwillingness to care for Israel. This was the consequence of their rebellion and sin, the manifest of God's anger and the serious warning. For years, Israel clung to idol worship, especially the golden calves, which hindered their prayers from being heard. God is the vine planter who led Israel into Canaan, provided them manna from heaven and living water from the rock during their wilderness journey. His provision was unceasing, yet the people stubbornly followed in their ancestors' footsteps. Israelites refused to submit to God, worshipping false idols, provoking His wrath. When God "broke down the hedges" (verse 12) and withdrew His protection over Israel, they finally recognized their vulnerability and helplessness. They realized idols were powerless, and political alliances could not save them. Only by "turning back" to God, seeking His mercy and care, would they find true protection and hope.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and provoked your anger. Though we have experienced your grace and provision, we still rely on our own ways and follow worldly life style. Our rebellion and disobedience have grieved your heart. Please forgive us and help us to learn humility and submission before you. May we confess, repent, and "turning back" to experience your grace again. Lord, grant us a clean heart to uphold truth, stay away from sin, and serve wholeheartedly to please you.

Today, I especially remember..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

God, show your mercy and grace to them, that they may soon return to you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**February 4, 2025 (Tuesday) - Day 35**

# A Prayer for Salvation

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## Scripture

Watch over this vine, the root your right hand has planted, the branch you have raised up for yourself. Your vine is cut down, it is burned with fire; at your rebuke your people perish. Let your hand rest on the man at your right hand, the son of man you have raised up for yourself. Then we will not turn away from you; revive us, and we will call on your name. Restore us, Lord God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved. (Psalm 80:14b-19)

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## Meditation

The psalmist earnestly prays for God's mercy to once again watch over Israel. The word "restore" (in verses 14 and 19) has the meaning of "return, revive, and bring back." The psalmist pleads for God to save the people He led out of Egypt, to look down from heaven and protect the vine (Israel) He planted. We have to understand that we are sinner and are unable to "turn back" on our own. We need God's direct intervention. The psalmist repeatedly asks God to "restore us" (in verses 3, 7, and 19). We pray God's hand to uphold and strengthen us so that we do not rely on our own reasoning, emotions, or will to follow Him. We pray the Lord to empower us to "return" so we will not turn away from Him. We commit to no longer act according to our own ways, straying from His path. We must sincerely call upon the name of God, honouring Him, fearing Him, and proclaiming His goodness while trusting in His salvation and healing grace.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, we ask you to look down from heaven. If we rely on our own strength to follow you, we are bound to fail and fall. Save us from our sin and give us new life. May your kindness shine upon us, strengthening our faith. Help us to fix our eyes upon Jesus, always with a grateful heart, singing praises to you. Let us proclaim your grace and lead others to turn back to you. May God fulfill His promise of amazing salvation, that in this crooked and depraved generation, we may be His blameless children. In the victorious name of Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.

Today, I especially remember..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

God, show your mercy and grace to them, that they may soon return to you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

February 5, 2025 (Wednesday) - Day 36

# Offer an Wholehearted Worship

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## Scripture

Sing for joy to God our strength; shout aloud to the God of Jacob! Begin the music, strike the timbrel, play the melodious harp and lyre. Sound the ram's horn at the New Moon, and when the moon is full, on the day of our festival; this is a decree for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob. When God went out against Egypt, he established it as a statute for Joseph. I heard an unknown voice say: "I removed the burden from their shoulders; their hands were set free from the basket. In your distress you called and I rescued you, I answered you out of a thundercloud; I tested you at the waters of Meribah. (Psalm 81:1- 7)

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## Meditation

This is a psalm of praise related to the festivals, calling people to offer wholehearted worship to God. Here, the "New Moon" refers to the new month, and the "Full Moon" is when moon is full. Traditionally this psalm relates to the Feast of Tabernacles or other festivals. The psalmist encourages us to "shout aloud" and "sing for joy," not only with an attitude of worship but with "songs, timbrel, harps, lyres, and trumpets," expressing praise to God with every possible instrument! This shows that the Father delights in worship that flows from the heart and finds expression in outward praise. For He is the creator and the Great King, we should not be too reserved and not realize that worship has a side of passion and exuberance.

Verses 5-7 remind Israelites of how God rescued them from the hand of the Egyptians and met with them in the wilderness, calling them to remember God's past works as a reason for their joyful praise. When we fail to regularly count our blessings or recall the Father's presence, we may gradually lose our fervour in worship. Let us reflect more on the Father's past help and guidance. These memories may rekindle in us a deep desire to offer God our fullest worship.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, you are the Great King of the universe. The heavens, the earth, and all within them belong to you! Guide our hearts to recall your past mercies and guiding hand that brought us from death to life, from darkness to light, and placed your Holy Spirit within us so we may cry out "Abba, Father," and worship you with fervour. You are worthy of our praise forever!

Today, I especially remember..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

God, show your mercy and grace to them, that they may soon return to you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**February 6, 2025 (Thursday) - Day 37**

# Offer Wholehearted Worship

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## Scripture

Hear me, my people, and I will warn you—if you would only listen to me, Israel! You shall have no foreign god among you; you shall not worship any god other than me. I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of Egypt. Open wide your mouth, and I will fill it. But my people would not listen to me; Israel would not submit to me. So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts to follow their own devices. If my people would only listen to me, if Israel would only follow my ways, how quickly I would subdue their enemies and turn my hand against their foes! Those who hate the LORD would cringe before him, and their punishment would last forever. But you would be fed with the finest of wheat; with honey from the rock I would satisfy you. (Psalm 81:8-16)

## Meditation

The second half of this psalm is to admonish and urge the Israelites to “listen to God!” Twice it says, “If only my people would listen to me.” In the first instance, it states that when the Israelites did not listen, God let their hearts to be stubborn and allowed them to follow their own ways. The second time, God promises that if they repent, they will experience His protection and abundant provision.

How is the Father calling out to us today? Is He persistently urging us to turn back to Him? There is a warning here: if we continually refuse to listen to God, He will let our hearts be hardened. Today, let us cherish the call of the Holy Spirit within us, treasure the opportunity to repent, and embrace the chance to return to the Father. As Isaiah says, “Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near” (Isaiah 55:6). In doing so, we will experience a renewed fullness from the Father and find joy restored to our hearts.

## Prayer

Heavenly Father, we seek you! May your Holy Spirit speak to us daily, drawing our focus to you alone. Help us to seek your face, your words, and your power everyday! Guard our hearts to remain tender and teachable so that we can turn from self-centredness and find our greatest satisfaction in you. You promise that if we open our mouths wide, you will fill us abundantly. May your will be done.

Today, I especially remember..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

God, show your mercy and grace to them, that they may soon return to you. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

February 7, 2025 (Friday) - Day 38

# God Judges Those in Authority in the Assembly

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## Scripture

God presides in the great assembly; he renders judgment among the 'gods': 'How long will you defend the unjust and show partiality to the wicked? Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked. The 'gods' know nothing, they understand nothing. They walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken. I said, "You are 'gods'; you are all sons of the Most High." But you will die like mere mortals; you will fall like every other ruler.' Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for all the nations are your inheritance. (Psalm 82:1-8)

## Meditation

God presides in the great assembly and renders judgement among the "gods," accusing them of injustice and partiality to the wicked. His rebuke, "How long?" reveals His anger and sorrow over the oppression of the weak in society: the poor, the afflicted, the orphaned, and the needy, who have no one to stand up for them or deliver them from the hands of the wicked. In this great assembly, God declares that those in authority will perish like everyone else, for they failed in their responsibilities.

Reflecting on our own lives, we see that through the blood of Jesus, we are redeemed and reconciled to God. But are we heeding His command to "act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God" (Micah 6:8)? There is only one Lord to judge the world, and He will judge the living and the dead at the appointed time. As we pray "Your kingdom come," do we envision what God's kingdom truly looks like? How can we live as citizens of His kingdom?

## Prayer

Righteous God, Judge of all the earth, you are the only God, and our merciful Lord. All those in power on earth must submit to you and heed your commands.

Forgive us, Lord, for we do not always dedicate ourselves to follow your will. Pardon our moments of weakness and cowardice when we face injustice in the society. Help us to live as citizens of your kingdom, to act justly, love mercy, and support the weak and protect the orphaned. Grant us hearts sensitive to the needs of others, to care for the vulnerable around us. Whether they are poor, afflicted, or needy, may your protection cover them. We also lift up those in authority, praying that you guide their hearts, like streams of water, to follow your will alone.

Today, I especially remember..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Our God, may your righteousness be revealed upon them, guiding them to walk in the light. May the precious blood of our Lord Jesus cleanse all unrighteousness, allowing God's will to be done on earth. This prayer is made in the precious name of our Lord Jesus. Amen.

February 8, 2025 (Saturday) Day 39

# Cry Out to God in the Midst of Distress

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## Scripture

O God do not remain silent; do not turn a deaf ear, do not stand aloof, O God. See how your enemies growl, how your foes rear their heads. With cunning they conspire against your people; they plot against those you cherish. "Come," they say, "let us destroy them as a nation, so that Israel's name is remembered no more. "With one mind they plot together; they form an alliance against you—the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, of Moab and the Hagrites, Gebal, Ammon and Amalek, Philistia, the people of Tyre. Even Assyria has joined them, to reinforce Lot's descendants. (Psalm 83:1-8)

## Meditation

Psalm 83 is the last psalm of Asaph's collection (50, 73-83), and it is a national lament. Israel is surrounded by powerful enemies (2 Chronicles 20:1-30), and ten nations represent all the forces opposed to God and His people. These nations bring pain, temptation, and destruction, plotting to eradicate Israel and its identity. The enemies are united, arrogantly declaring, "Let us..." as they aim to usurp God's authority and annihilate His people. The situation is dire, and Israel is at the brink of death, with no hope for self-deliverance, while God seems silent. How long must we endure in our suffering? In this time of crisis, Israel calls out to God for His voice and deliverance. Brothers and sisters, have you ever experienced a time when you felt surrounded by enemies and saw no hope? Have you ever prayed earnestly but heard no answer from God? In times of fear, pain, and despair, do your eyes become trapped by the circumstances around you, or do you, by faith, look up to the heavenly throne and call out for God's grace and salvation? "I will lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth." (Psalm 121:1-2)

## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, you alone are my rock, my Redeemer. I am often overwhelmed by the oppression of my enemies and the threats of my dire circumstances. As my heart grows faint, I cry out to You from the ends of the earth. Lift me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire, and set me on your solid rock. You alone are my refuge, my stronghold, my salvation! Though my enemies surround me, O Lord, you will hear my cry. You will give me strength, power, and protection, so that I may walk securely in the peace of your high places. Praise be to my Rock, my God!

Today, I remember..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ's name, I pray. Amen.

**February 9, 2025 (Sunday) Day 40**

# Let All the Earth Fear the Lord

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## Scripture

Do to them as you did to Midian, as you did to Sisera and Jabin at the river Kishon, who perished at Endor and became like dung on the ground. Make their nobles like Oreb and Zeeb, all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna, who said, "Let us take possession of the pasturelands of God." Make them like tumbleweed, O my God, like chaff before the wind. As fire consumes the forest or a flame sets the mountains ablaze, so pursue them with Your tempest and terrify them with your storm. Cover their faces with shame, that they may seek your name, O Lord. Let them be ever ashamed and dismayed; let them perish in disgrace. Let them know that you alone, whose name is the Lord, are the Most High over all the earth. (Psalm 83:9-18 NIV)

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## Meditation

In this passage, the psalmist calls on God to act as He did in Israel's history, when He judged their enemies. The proud and arrogant enemies who sought to destroy Israel are now reduced to shame and fear in the face of God's righteous judgment. They once arrogantly aimed to wipe out Israel's name, but now they must seek the name of the Lord in shame. God, the righteous judge, also opens the door of salvation for those who seek His name. Psalm 83 begins with a plea to God and ends with praise to God. Despite the circumstances, the psalmist's trust in God never wavers.

The name of the Lord means not only righteous judgment but also forgiveness, mercy, and grace. He is the supreme ruler of heaven and earth! For those of you facing difficulty, have you experienced God's gracious deliverance? Have you witnessed God's mighty acts around you? Reflect on the oil that God has poured upon your life, helping you to remain steadfast in your faith, truly knowing the name of the Lord and believing that He reigns over all things. May the grace that God bestows on you in your difficult times become a source of blessing to the nations.

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## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, you are the most high over all the earth, and you alone are worthy of all praise and glory. You have loved us with an unchanging love, giving us your son, Jesus Christ, to bear our sins and give us eternal life. There is no God like you, who has personally experienced suffering and understands our weaknesses and struggles! I surrender myself completely into your loving hands and trust you to guide me through life's journey. Help me to be a witness of your grace, so that your light may shine into all darkness.

Today, I especially remember..... (prayer requests for individuals and situations)

Lord, in their weakness, have mercy on them. Hear their cries and help them mature in their faith and their love for you. May they continue to grow in your time and for your purpose. In Jesus Christ's name, I pray. Amen.