

Holy Bible Aionian Edition ©
Aionian Bible

Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International, 2018-2024

Source text: AionianBible.org

Source version: 8/12/2024

Source copyright: Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International

Nainoia Inc Aionian Verse retranslation of World English Bible Updated via Marshall, 2018-2024

Formatted by Speedata Publisher 4.19.20 (Pro) on 8/20/2024

100% Free to Copy and Print

TOR Anonymously

<https://AionianBible.org>

Published by Nainoia Inc

<https://Nainoia-Inc.signedon.net>

We pray for a modern Creative Commons translation in every language

Report content and format concerns to Nainoia Inc

Volunteer help is welcome and appreciated!

"Behold, I lay last night with my father. Let's make him drink wine again tonight. You go in, and lie with him, that we may preserve our father's family line." 35 They made their father drink wine that night also. The younger went and lay with him. He did not know when she lay down, nor when she got up. 36 Thus both of Lot's daughters were with child by their father. 37 The firstborn bore a son, and named him Moab. He is the father of the Moabites to this day. 38 The younger also bore a son, and called his name Ben Ammi. He is the father of the children of Ammon to this day.

20 Abraham traveled from there toward the land of the South, and lived between Kadesh and Shur. He lived as a foreigner in Gerar. 2 Abraham said about Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." Abimelech king of Gerar sent, and took Sarah. 3 But God came to Abimelech in a dream of the night, and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man, because of the woman whom you have taken; for she is a man's wife." 4 Now Abimelech had not come near her. He said, "Lord, will you kill even a righteous nation? 5 Did not he tell me, 'She is my sister'? She, even she herself, said, 'He is my brother.' I have done this in the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands." 6 God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know that in the integrity of your heart you have done this, and I also withheld you from sinning against me. Therefore I did not allow you to touch her. 7 Now therefore, restore the man's wife. For he is a prophet, and he will pray for you, and you will live. If you do not restore her, know for sure that you will die, you, and all who are yours." 8 Abimelech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told all these things in their ear. The men were very scared. 9 Then Abimelech called Abraham, and said to him, "What have you done to us? How have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? You have done deeds to me that ought not to be done!" 10 Abimelech said to Abraham, "What did you see, that you have done this thing?" 11 Abraham said, "Because I thought, 'Surely the fear of God is not in this place. They will kill me for my wife's sake.'" 12 Besides, she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife. 13 When God caused me to wander from my father's house, I said to her, 'This is your kindness which you shall show to me. Everywhere that we go, say of me, "He is my brother."' 14 Abimelech took sheep and cattle, male servants and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and restored Sarah, his wife, to him. 15 Abimelech said, "Behold, my land is before you. Dwell where

it pleases you." 16 To Sarah he said, "Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver. Behold, it is for you a covering of the eyes to all that are with you. In front of all you are vindicated." 17 Abraham prayed to God. So God healed Abimelech, his wife, and his female servants, and they bore children. 18 For the LORD had closed up tight all the wombs of the house of Abimelech, because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.

21 The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had spoken. 2 Sarah conceived, and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. 3 Abraham called his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac. 4 Abraham circumcised his son, Isaac, when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. 5 Abraham was one hundred years old when his son, Isaac, was born to him. 6 Sarah said, "God has made me laugh. Everyone who hears will laugh with me." 7 She said, "Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? For I have borne him a son in his old age." 8 The child grew and was weaned. Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. 9 Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, mocking. 10 Therefore she said to Abraham, "Cast out this servant and her son! For the son of this servant will not be heir with my son, Isaac." 11 The thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight on account of his son. 12 God said to Abraham, "Do not let it be grievous in your sight because of the boy, and because of your servant. In all that Sarah says to you, listen to her voice. For your offspring will be named through Isaac. 13 I will also make a nation of the son of the servant, because he is your child." 14 Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread and a container of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder; and gave her the child, and sent her away. She departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba. 15 The water in the container was spent, and she put the child under one of the shrubs. 16 She went and sat down opposite him, a good way off, about a bow shot away. For she said, "Do not let me see the death of the child." She sat opposite him, and lifted up her voice, and wept. 17 God heard the voice of the boy. The angel of God called to Hagar out of the sky, and said to her, "What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid. For God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. 18 Get up, lift up the boy, and hold him with your hand. For I will make him a great nation." 19 God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went, filled the container

is hanged is accursed of God. Do not defile your land which the LORD your God gives you for an inheritance.

22 You shall not see your brother's ox or his sheep go astray and hide yourself from them. You shall surely bring them again to your brother. **2** If your brother is not near to you, or if you do not know him, then you shall bring it home to your house, and it shall be with you until your brother comes looking for it, and you shall restore it to him. **3** So you shall do with his donkey. So you shall do with his garment. So you shall do with every lost thing of your brother's, which he has lost and you have found. You may not hide yourself. **4** You shall not see your brother's donkey or his ox fallen down by the way, and hide yourself from them. You shall surely help him to lift them up again. **5** A woman shall not wear men's clothing, neither shall a man put on women's clothing; for whoever does these things is an abomination to the LORD your God. **6** If you come across a bird's nest on the way, in any tree or on the ground, with young ones or eggs, and the hen sitting on the young, or on the eggs, you shall not take the hen with the young. **7** You shall surely let the hen go, but the young you may take for yourself, that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days. **8** When you build a new house, then you shall make a railing around your roof, so that you do not bring blood on your house if anyone falls from there. **9** You shall not sow your vineyard with two kinds of seed, lest all the fruit be defiled, the seed which you have sown, and the increase of the vineyard. **10** You shall not plow with an ox and a donkey together. **11** You shall not wear clothes of wool and linen woven together. **12** You shall make yourselves fringes on the four corners of your cloak with which you cover yourself. **13** If any man takes a wife, and goes in to her, hates her, **14** accuses her of shameful things, gives her a bad name, and says, "I took this woman, and when I came near to her, I did not find in her the tokens of virginity;" **15** then the young lady's father and mother shall take and bring the tokens of the young lady's virginity to the elders of the city in the gate. **16** The young lady's father shall tell the elders, "I gave my daughter to this man as his wife, and he hates her. **17** Behold, he has accused her of shameful things, saying, 'I did not find in your daughter the tokens of virginity;' and yet these are the tokens of my daughter's virginity." They shall spread the cloth before the elders of the city. **18** The elders of that city shall take the man and chastise him. **19** They shall fine him one hundred shekels of silver, and give them to the father of the young lady, because

he has given a bad name to a virgin of Israel. She shall be his wife. He may not put her away all his days. **20** But if this thing is true, that the tokens of virginity were not found in the young lady, **21** then they shall bring out the young lady to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her to death with stones, because she has done folly in Israel, to play the prostitute in her father's house. So you shall remove the evil from among you. **22** If a man is found lying with a woman married to a husband, then they shall both die, the man who lay with the woman and the woman. So you shall remove the evil from Israel. **23** If there is a young lady who is a virgin pledged to be married to a husband, and a man finds her in the city, and lies with her, **24** then you shall bring them both out to the gate of that city, and you shall stone them to death with stones; the lady, because she did not cry, being in the city; and the man, because he has humbled his neighbor's wife. So you shall remove the evil from among you. **25** But if the man finds the lady who is pledged to be married in the field, and the man forces her and lies with her, then only the man who lay with her shall die; **26** but to the lady you shall do nothing. There is in the lady no sin worthy of death; for as when a man rises against his neighbor and kills him, even so is this matter; **27** for he found her in the field, the pledged to be married lady cried, and there was no one to save her. **28** If a man finds a lady who is a virgin, who is not pledged to be married, grabs her and lies with her, and they are found, **29** then the man who lay with her shall give to the lady's father fifty shekels of silver. She shall be his wife, because he has humbled her. He may not put her away all his days. **30** A man shall not take his father's wife, and shall not uncover his father's skirt.

23 He who is emasculated by crushing or cutting shall not enter into the LORD's assembly. **2** A person born of a forbidden union shall not enter into the LORD's assembly; even to the tenth generation shall no one of his enter into the LORD's assembly. **3** An Ammonite or a Moabite shall not enter into the LORD's assembly; even to the tenth generation shall no one belonging to them enter into the LORD's assembly forever, **4** because they did not meet you with bread and with water on the way when you came out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse you. **5** Nevertheless the LORD your God would not listen to Balaam, but the LORD your God turned the curse into a blessing to you, because the LORD your God loved you. **6** You shall not seek their peace nor their prosperity all your days forever.

was by him, and he said, "What they are building, if a fox climbed up it, he would break down their stone wall." 4 "Hear, our God, for we are despised. Turn back their reproach on their own head. Give them up for a plunder in a land of captivity. 5 Do not cover their iniquity. Do not let their sin be blotted out from before you; for they have insulted the builders." 6 So we built the wall; and all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to work. 7 But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabians, the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites heard that the repairing of the walls of Jerusalem went forward, and that the breaches began to be filled, they were very angry; 8 and they all conspired together to come and fight against Jerusalem, and to cause confusion among us. 9 But we made our prayer to our God, and set a watch against them day and night because of them. 10 Judah said, "The strength of the bearers of burdens is fading and there is much rubble, so that we are not able to build the wall." 11 Our adversaries said, "They will not know or see, until we come in among them and kill them, and cause the work to cease." 12 When the Jews who lived by them came, they said to us ten times from all places, "Wherever you turn, they will attack us." 13 Therefore I set guards in the lowest parts of the space behind the wall, in the open places. I set the people by family groups with their swords, their spears, and their bows. 14 I looked, and rose up, and said to the nobles, to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, "Do not be afraid of them! Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses." 15 When our enemies heard that it was known to us, and God had brought their counsel to nothing, all of us returned to the wall, everyone to his work. 16 From that time forth, half of my servants did the work, and half of them held the spears, the shields, the bows, and the coats of mail; and the rulers were behind all the house of Judah. 17 Those who built the wall, and those who bore burdens loaded themselves; everyone with one of his hands did the work, and with the other held his weapon. 18 Among the builders, everyone wore his sword at his side, and so built. He who sounded the trumpet was by me. 19 I said to the nobles, and to the rulers and to the rest of the people, "The work is great and widely spread out, and we are separated on the wall, far from one another. 20 Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, rally there to us. Our God will fight for us." 21 So we did the work. Half of the people held the spears from the rising of the morning until the stars appeared. 22 Likewise at the same time I said to the people, "Let everyone with his servant lodge within

Jerusalem, that in the night they may be a guard to us, and may labor in the day." 23 So neither I, nor my brothers, nor my servants, nor the men of the guard who followed me took off our clothes. Everyone took his weapon to the water.

5 Then there arose a great cry of the people and of their wives against their brothers the Jews. 2 For there were some who said, "We, our sons and our daughters, are many. Let us get grain, that we may eat and live." 3 There were also some who said, "We are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards, and our houses. Let us get grain, because of the famine." 4 There were also some who said, "We have borrowed money for the king's tribute using our fields and our vineyards as collateral. 5 Yet now our flesh is as the flesh of our brothers, our children as their children. Behold, we bring our sons and our daughters into bondage to be servants, and some of our daughters have been brought into bondage. It is also not in our power to help it, because other men have our fields and our vineyards." 6 I was very angry when I heard their cry and these words. 7 Then I consulted with myself, and contended with the nobles and the rulers, and said to them, "You exact usury, everyone of his brother." I held a great assembly against them. 8 I said to them, "We, after our ability, have redeemed our brothers the Jews that were sold to the nations; and would you even sell your brothers, and should they be sold to us?" Then they held their peace, and found not a word to say. 9 Also I said, "The thing that you do is not good. Should not you walk in the fear of our God because of the reproach of the nations, our enemies? 10 I likewise, my brothers and my servants, lend them money and grain. Please let us stop this usury. 11 Please restore to them, even today, their fields, their vineyards, their olive groves, and their houses, also the hundredth part of the money, and of the grain, the new wine, and the oil, that you are charging them." 12 Then they said, "We will restore them, and will require nothing of them. We will do so, even as you say." Then I called the priests, and took an oath of them, that they would do according to this promise. 13 Also I shook out my lap, and said, "So may God shake out every man from his house, and from his labor, that does not perform this promise; even may he be shaken out and emptied like this." All the assembly said, "Amen," and praised the LORD. The people did according to this promise. 14 Moreover from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even to the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes the king, that is, twelve years, I and my brothers have not eaten the

the destruction of my relatives?" 7 Then King Ahasuerus said to Esther the queen and to Mordecai the Jew, "See, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and they have hanged him on the gallows because he laid his hand on the Jews. 8 Write also to the Jews as it pleases you, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's ring; for the writing which is written in the king's name, and sealed with the king's ring, may not be reversed by any man." 9 Then the king's scribes were called at that time, in the third month, which is the month Sivan, on the twenty-third day of the month; and it was written according to all that Mordecai commanded to the Jews, and to the local governors, and the governors and princes of the provinces which are from India to Ethiopia, one hundred twenty-seven provinces, to every province according to its writing, and to every people in their language, and to the Jews in their writing, and in their language. 10 He wrote in the name of King Ahasuerus, and sealed it with the king's ring, and sent letters by courier on horseback, riding on royal horses that were bred from swift steeds. 11 In those letters, the king granted the Jews who were in every city to gather themselves together and to defend their lives—to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish all the power of the people and province that would assault them, their little ones and women, and to plunder their possessions, 12 on one day in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar. 13 A copy of the letter, that the decree should be given out in every province, was published to all the peoples, that the Jews should be ready for that day to avenge themselves on their enemies. 14 So the couriers who rode on royal horses went out, hastened and pressed on by the king's commandment. The decree was given out in the citadel of Susa. 15 Mordecai went out of the presence of the king in royal clothing of blue and white, and with a great crown of gold, and with a robe of fine linen and purple; and the city of Susa shouted and was glad. 16 The Jews had light, gladness, joy, and honor. 17 In every province and in every city, wherever the king's commandment and his decree came, the Jews had gladness, joy, a feast and a holiday. Many from among the peoples of the land became Jews, for the fear of the Jews had fallen on them.

9 Now in the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, on the thirteenth day of the month, when the king's commandment and his decree came near to be put in execution, on the day that the enemies of the Jews hoped to conquer them, (but it turned out that the opposite happened,

that the Jews conquered those who hated them), 2 the Jews gathered themselves together in their cities throughout all the provinces of the King Ahasuerus, to lay hands on those who wanted to harm them. No one could withstand them, because the fear of them had fallen on all the people. 3 All the princes of the provinces, the local governors, the governors, and those who did the king's business helped the Jews, because the fear of Mordecai had fallen on them. 4 For Mordecai was great in the king's house, and his fame went out throughout all the provinces, for the man Mordecai grew greater and greater. 5 The Jews struck all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, and with slaughter and destruction, and did what they wanted to those who hated them. 6 In the citadel of Susa, the Jews killed and destroyed five hundred men. 7 They killed Parshandatha, Dalphon, Aspatha, 8 Poratha, Adalia, Aridatha, 9 Parmashta, Arisai, Aridai, and Vaizatha, 10 the ten sons of Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Jews' enemy, but they did not lay their hand on the plunder. 11 On that day, the number of those who were slain in the citadel of Susa was brought before the king. 12 The king said to Esther the queen, "The Jews have slain and destroyed five hundred men in the citadel of Susa, including the ten sons of Haman; what then have they done in the rest of the king's provinces! Now what is your petition? It shall be granted you. What is your further request? It shall be done." 13 Then Esther said, "If it pleases the king, let it be granted to the Jews who are in Susa to do tomorrow also according to today's decree, and let Haman's ten sons be hanged on the gallows." 14 The king commanded this to be done. A decree was given out in Susa; and they hanged Haman's ten sons. 15 The Jews who were in Susa gathered themselves together on the fourteenth day also of the month Adar, and killed three hundred men in Susa; but they did not lay their hand on the plunder. 16 The other Jews who were in the king's provinces gathered themselves together, defended their lives, had rest from their enemies, and killed seventy-five thousand of those who hated them; but they did not lay their hand on the plunder. 17 This was done on the thirteenth day of the month Adar; and on the fourteenth day of that month they rested and made it a day of feasting and gladness. 18 But the Jews who were in Susa assembled together on the thirteenth and on the fourteenth days of the month; and on the fifteenth day of that month, they rested, and made it a day of feasting and gladness. 19 Therefore the Jews of the villages, who live in the unwallied towns, make the fourteenth day of the month Adar a day of gladness and feasting, a holiday, and a day of sending presents of food to one another. 20 Mordecai wrote

25 By David. To you, LORD, I lift up my soul. **2** My God, I have trusted in you. Do not let me be shamed. Do not let my enemies triumph over me. **3** Yes, no one who waits for you will be shamed. They will be shamed who deal treacherously without cause. **4** Show me your ways, LORD. Teach me your paths. **5** Guide me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation. I wait for you all day long. **6** LORD, remember your tender mercies and your loving kindness, for they are from old times. **7** Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions. Remember me according to your loving kindness, for your goodness' sake, LORD. **8** Good and upright is the LORD, therefore he will instruct sinners in the way. **9** He will guide the humble in justice. He will teach the humble his way. **10** All the paths of the LORD are loving kindness and truth to such as keep his covenant and his testimonies. **11** For your name's sake, LORD, pardon my iniquity, for it is great. **12** What man is he who fears the LORD? He shall instruct him in the way that he shall choose. **13** His soul will dwell at ease. His offspring will inherit the land. **14** The friendship of the LORD is with those who fear him. He will show them his covenant. **15** My eyes are ever on the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net. **16** Turn to me, and have mercy on me, for I am desolate and afflicted. **17** The troubles of my heart are enlarged. Oh bring me out of my distresses. **18** Consider my affliction and my travail. Forgive all my sins. **19** Consider my enemies, for they are many. They hate me with cruel hatred. **20** Oh keep my soul, and deliver me. Let me not be disappointed, for I take refuge in you. **21** Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you. **22** God, redeem Israel out of all his troubles.

26 By David. Judge me, LORD, for I have walked in my integrity. I have trusted also in the LORD without wavering. **2** Examine me, LORD, and prove me. Try my heart and my mind. **3** For your loving kindness is before my eyes. I have walked in your truth. **4** I have not sat with deceitful men, neither will I go in with hypocrites. **5** I hate the assembly of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked. **6** I will wash my hands in innocence, so I will go about your altar, LORD, **7** that I may make the voice of thanksgiving to be heard and tell of all your wondrous deeds. **8** LORD, I love the habitation of your house, the place where your glory dwells. **9** Do not gather my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloodthirsty men **10** in whose hands is wickedness; their right hand is full of bribes. **11** But as for me, I will walk in my integrity. Redeem me, and be merciful to me. **12** My foot

stands in an even place. In the congregations I will bless the LORD.

27 By David. The LORD is my light and my salvation. Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life. Of whom shall I be afraid? **2** When evildoers came at me to eat up my flesh, even my adversaries and my foes, they stumbled and fell. **3** Though an army should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear. Though war should rise against me, even then I will be confident. **4** One thing I have asked of the LORD, that I will seek after: that I may dwell in the LORD's house all the days of my life, to see the LORD's beauty, and to inquire in his temple. **5** For in the day of trouble, he will keep me secretly in his pavilion. In the secret place of his tabernacle, he will hide me. He will lift me up on a rock. **6** Now my head will be lifted up above my enemies around me. I will offer sacrifices of joy in his tent. I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD. **7** Hear, LORD, when I cry with my voice. Have mercy also on me, and answer me. **8** When you said, "Seek my face," my heart said to you, "I will seek your face, LORD." **9** Do not hide your face from me. Do not put your servant away in anger. You have been my help. Do not abandon me, neither forsake me, God of my salvation. **10** When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up. **11** Teach me your way, LORD. Lead me in a straight path, because of my enemies. **12** Do not deliver me over to the desire of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen up against me, such as breathe out cruelty. **13** I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. **14** Wait for the LORD. Be strong, and let your heart take courage. Yes, wait for the LORD.

28 By David. To you, LORD, I call. My rock, do not be deaf to me, lest, if you are silent to me, I would become like those who go down into the pit. **2** Hear the voice of my petitions, when I cry to you, when I lift up my hands toward your Most Holy Place. **3** Do not draw me away with the wicked, with the workers of iniquity who speak peace with their neighbors, but mischief is in their hearts. **4** Give them according to their work, and according to the wickedness of their doings. Give them according to the operation of their hands. Bring back on them what they deserve. **5** Because they do not respect the works of the LORD, nor the operation of his hands, he will break them down and not build them up. **6** Blessed be the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my petitions. **7** The LORD is my strength and my shield. My heart has trusted in him, and I am helped. Therefore my

of the miry clay. He set my feet on a rock, and gave me a firm place to stand. **3** He has put a new song in my mouth, even praise to our God. Many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD. **4** Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, and does not respect the proud, nor such as turn away to lies. **5** Many, LORD, my God, are the wonderful works which you have done, and your thoughts which are toward us. They cannot be declared back to you. If I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be counted. **6** Sacrifice and offering you did not desire. You have opened my ears. You have not required burnt offering and sin offering. **7** Then I said, "Behold, I have come. It is written about me in the book in the scroll. **8** I delight to do your will, my God. Yes, your law is within my heart." **9** I have proclaimed glad news of righteousness in the great assembly. Behold, I will not seal my lips, LORD, you know. **10** I have not hidden your righteousness within my heart. I have declared your faithfulness and your salvation. I have not concealed your loving kindness and your truth from the great assembly. **11** Do not withhold your tender mercies from me, LORD. Let your loving kindness and your truth continually preserve me. **12** For innumerable evils have surrounded me. My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up. They are more than the hairs of my head. My heart has failed me. **13** Be pleased, LORD, to deliver me. Hurry to help me, LORD. **14** Let them be disappointed and confounded together who seek after my soul to destroy it. Let them be turned backward and brought to dishonor who delight in my hurt. **15** Let them be desolate by reason of their shame that tell me, "Aha! Aha!" **16** Let all those who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. Let such as love your salvation say continually, "Let the LORD be exalted!" **17** But I am poor and needy. May the Lord think about me. You are my help and my deliverer. Do not delay, my God.

41 For the Chief Musician. A Psalm by David. Blessed is he who considers the poor. The LORD will deliver him in the day of evil. **2** The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive. He shall be blessed on the earth, and he will not surrender him to the will of his enemies. **3** The LORD will sustain him on his sickbed, and restore him from his bed of illness. **4** I said, "LORD, have mercy on me! Heal me, for I have sinned against you." **5** My enemies speak evil against me: "When will he die, and his name perish?" **6** If he comes to see me, he speaks falsehood. His heart gathers iniquity to itself. When he goes abroad, he tells it. **7** All who hate me

whisper together against me. They imagine the worst for me. **8** "An evil disease", they say, "has afflicted him. Now that he lies he shall rise up no more." **9** Yes, my own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, who ate bread with me, has lifted up his heel against me. **10** But you, LORD, have mercy on me, and raise me up, that I may repay them. **11** By this I know that you delight in me, because my enemy does not triumph over me. **12** As for me, you uphold me in my integrity, and set me in your presence forever. **13** Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting and to everlasting! Amen and amen.

42 For the Chief Musician. A contemplation by the sons of Korah. As the deer pants for the water brooks, so my soul pants after you, God. **2** My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? **3** My tears have been my food day and night, while they continually ask me, "Where is your God?" **4** These things I remember, and pour out my soul within me, how I used to go with the crowd, and led them to God's house, with the voice of joy and praise, a multitude keeping a holy day. **5** Why are you in despair, my soul? Why are you disturbed within me? Hope in God! For I shall still praise him for the saving help of his presence. **6** My God, my soul is in despair within me. Therefore I remember you from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon, from the hill Mizar. **7** Deep calls to deep at the noise of your waterfalls. All your waves and your billows have swept over me. **8** GOD will command his loving kindness in the daytime. In the night his song shall be with me: a prayer to the God of my life. **9** I will ask God, my rock, "Why have you forgotten me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?" **10** As with a sword in my bones, my adversaries reproach me, while they continually ask me, "Where is your God?" **11** Why are you in despair, my soul? Why are you disturbed within me? Hope in God! For I shall still praise him, the saving help of my countenance, and my God.

43 Vindicate me, God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation. Oh, deliver me from deceitful and wicked men. **2** For you are the God of my strength. Why have you rejected me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy? **3** Oh, send out your light and your truth. Let them lead me. Let them bring me to your holy hill, to your tents. **4** Then I will go to the altar of God, to God, my exceeding joy. I will praise you on the harp, God, my God. **5** Why are you in despair, my soul? Why are you

Song of Solomon

1 The Song of songs, which is Solomon's. **2** Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth; for your love is better than wine. **3** Your oils have a pleasing fragrance. Your name is oil poured out, therefore the virgins love you. **4** Take me away with you. Let's hurry. The king has brought me into his rooms. Friends We will be glad and rejoice in you. We will praise your love more than wine! Beloved They are right to love you. **5** I am dark, but lovely, you daughters of Jerusalem, like Kedar's tents, like Solomon's curtains. **6** Do not stare at me because I am dark, because the sun has scorched me. My mother's sons were angry with me. They made me keeper of the vineyards. I have not kept my own vineyard. **7** Tell me, you whom my soul loves, where you graze your flock, where you rest them at noon; for why should I be as one who is veiled beside the flocks of your companions? **8** If you do not know, most beautiful among women, follow the tracks of the sheep. Graze your young goats beside the shepherds' tents. **9** I have compared you, my love, to a steed in Pharaoh's chariots. **10** Your cheeks are beautiful with earrings, your neck with strings of jewels. **11** We will make you earrings of gold, with studs of silver. **12** While the king sat at his table, my perfume spread its fragrance. **13** My beloved is to me a sachet of myrrh, that lies between my breasts. **14** My beloved is to me a cluster of henna blossoms from the vineyards of En Gedi. **15** Behold, you are beautiful, my love. Behold, you are beautiful. Your eyes are like doves. **16** Behold, you are beautiful, my beloved, yes, pleasant; and our couch is verdant. **17** The beams of our house are cedars. Our rafters are firs.

2 I am a rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys. **2** As a lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters. **3** As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, his fruit was sweet to my taste. **4** He brought me to the banquet hall. His banner over me is love. **5** Strengthen me with raisins, refresh me with apples; for I am faint with love. **6** His left hand is under my head. His right hand embraces me. **7** I adjure you, daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, or by the hinds of the field, that you not stir up, nor awaken love, until it so desires. **8** The voice of my beloved! Behold, he comes, leaping on the mountains, skipping on the hills. **9** My beloved is like a roe or a young deer. Behold, he stands behind our wall! He looks in at the windows. He glances through the lattice. **10** My beloved

spoke, and said to me, "Rise up, my love, my beautiful one, and come away. **11** For behold, the winter is past. The rain is over and gone. **12** The flowers appear on the earth. The time of the singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. **13** The fig tree ripens her green figs. The vines are in blossom. They give out their fragrance. Arise, my love, my beautiful one, and come away." **14** My dove in the clefts of the rock, in the hiding places of the mountainside, let me see your face. Let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet and your face is lovely. **15** Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that plunder the vineyards; for our vineyards are in blossom. **16** My beloved is mine, and I am his. He browses among the lilies. **17** Until the day is cool, and the shadows flee away, turn, my beloved, and be like a roe or a young deer on the mountains of Bether.

3 By night on my bed, I sought him whom my soul loves. I sought him, but I did not find him. **2** I will get up now, and go about the city; in the streets and in the squares I will seek him whom my soul loves. I sought him, but I did not find him. **3** The watchmen who go about the city found me; "Have you seen him whom my soul loves?" **4** I had scarcely passed from them, when I found him whom my soul loves. I held him, and would not let him go, until I had brought him into my mother's house, into the room of her who conceived me. **5** I adjure you, daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, or by the hinds of the field, that you not stir up nor awaken love, until it so desires. **6** Who is this who comes up from the wilderness like pillars of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all spices of the merchant? **7** Behold, it is Solomon's carriage! Sixty mighty men are around it, of the mighty men of Israel. **8** They all handle the sword, and are expert in war. Every man has his sword on his thigh, because of fear in the night. **9** King Solomon made himself a carriage of the wood of Lebanon. **10** He made its pillars of silver, its bottom of gold, its seat of purple, the middle of it being paved with love, from the daughters of Jerusalem. **11** Go out, you daughters of Zion, and see King Solomon, with the crown with which his mother has crowned him, in the day of his weddings, in the day of the gladness of his heart.

4 Behold, you are beautiful, my love. Behold, you are beautiful. Your eyes are like doves behind your veil. Your hair is as a flock of goats, that descend from Mount Gilead. **2** Your teeth are like a newly shorn flock, which have come up from the washing, where every one of them has twins. None is bereaved among them. **3** Your lips are like scarlet thread. Your mouth is lovely. Your temples are like a piece of

Jeremiah

1 The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah, one of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin. **2** The LORD's word came to him in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah, in the thirteenth year of his reign. **3** It came also in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, to the end of the eleventh year of Zedekiah, the son of Josiah, king of Judah, to the carrying away of Jerusalem captive in the fifth month. **4** Now the LORD's word came to me, saying, **5** "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you were born, I sanctified you. I have appointed you a prophet to the nations." **6** Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak; for I am a child." **7** But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am a child;' for you must go to whomever I send you, and you must say whatever I command you. **8** Do not be afraid because of them, for I am with you to rescue you," says the LORD. **9** Then the LORD stretched out his hand and touched my mouth. Then the LORD said to me, "Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. **10** Behold, I have today set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to uproot and to tear down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant." **11** Moreover the LORD's word came to me, saying, "Jeremiah, what do you see?" I said, "I see a branch of an almond tree." **12** Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well; for I watch over my word to perform it." **13** The LORD's word came to me the second time, saying, "What do you see?" I said, "I see a boiling cauldron; and it is tipping away from the north." **14** Then the LORD said to me, "Out of the north, evil will break out on all the inhabitants of the land. **15** For behold, I will call all the families of the kingdoms of the north," says the LORD. "They will come, and they will each set his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, and against all its walls all around, and against all the cities of Judah. **16** I will utter my judgments against them concerning all their wickedness, in that they have forsaken me, and have burned incense to other gods, and worshiped the works of their own hands. **17** "You therefore put your belt on your waist, arise, and say to them all that I command you. Do not be dismayed at them, lest I dismay you before them. **18** For behold, I have made you today a fortified city, an iron pillar, and bronze walls against the whole land—against the kings of Judah, against its princes, against its priests, and against the people of the land. **19** They will fight against you, but they will not prevail against you; for I am with you", says the LORD, "to rescue you."

2 The LORD's word came to me, saying, **2** "Go and proclaim in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, 'The LORD says, "I remember for you the kindness of your youth, your love as a bride, how you went after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown. **3** Israel was holiness to the LORD, the first fruits of his increase. All who devour him will be held guilty. Evil will come on them,'" says the LORD." **4** Hear the LORD's word, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel! **5** The LORD says, "What unrighteousness have your fathers found in me, that they have gone far from me, and have walked after worthless vanity, and have become worthless? **6** They did not say, 'Where is the LORD who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, who led us through the wilderness, through a land of deserts and of pits, through a land of drought and of the shadow of death, through a land that no one passed through, and where no man lived?' **7** I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruit and its goodness; but when you entered, you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. **8** The priests did not say, 'Where is the LORD?' and those who handle the law did not know me. The rulers also transgressed against me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal and followed things that do not profit. **9** "Therefore I will yet contend with you," says the LORD, "and I will contend with your children's children. **10** For pass over to the islands of Kittim, and see. Send to Kedar, and consider diligently, and see if there has been such a thing. **11** Has a nation changed its gods, which really are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for that which does not profit. **12** "Be astonished, you heavens, at this and be horribly afraid. Be very desolate," says the LORD. **13** "For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the spring of living waters, and cut out cisterns for themselves: broken cisterns that cannot hold water. **14** Is Israel a slave? Is he born into slavery? Why has he become a captive? **15** The young lions have roared at him and raised their voices. They have made his land waste. His cities are burned up, without inhabitant. **16** The children also of Memphis and Tahpanhes have broken the crown of your head. **17** "Have not you brought this on yourself, in that you have forsaken the LORD your God, when he led you by the way? **18** Now what do you gain by going to Egypt, to drink the waters of the Shihor? Or why do you go on the way to Assyria, to drink the waters of the River? **19** "Your own wickedness will correct you, and your backsliding will rebuke you. Know therefore and see that it is an evil and bitter thing, that you have forsaken the LORD your God, and that my fear is not in you," says the Lord,

fields to those who will possess them. For everyone from the least even to the greatest is given to covetousness; from the prophet even to the priest everyone deals falsely. **11** They have healed the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, "Peace, peace," when there is no peace. **12** Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No, they were not at all ashamed. They could not blush. Therefore they will fall among those who fall. In the time of their visitation they will be cast down, says the LORD. **13** "I will utterly consume them, says the LORD. No grapes will be on the vine, no figs on the fig tree, and the leaf will fade. The things that I have given them will pass away from them." **14** "Why do we sit still? Assemble yourselves! Let's enter into the fortified cities, and let's be silent there; for the LORD our God has put us to silence, and given us poisoned water to drink, because we have sinned against the LORD. **15** We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of healing, and behold, dismay! **16** The snorting of his horses is heard from Dan. The whole land trembles at the sound of the neighing of his strong ones; for they have come, and have devoured the land and all that is in it, the city and those who dwell therein." **17** "For, behold, I will send serpents, adders among you, which will not be charmed; and they will bite you," says the LORD. **18** Oh that I could comfort myself against sorrow! My heart is faint within me. **19** Behold, the voice of the cry of the daughter of my people from a land that is very far off: "Is not the LORD in Zion? Is not her King in her?" "Why have they provoked me to anger with their engraved images, and with foreign idols?" **20** "The harvest is past. The summer has ended, and we are not saved." **21** For the hurt of the daughter of my people, I am hurt. I mourn. Dismay has taken hold of me. **22** Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?

9 Oh that my head were waters, and my eyes a spring of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people! **2** Oh that I had in the wilderness a lodging place of wayfaring men, that I might leave my people and go from them! For they are all adulterers, an assembly of treacherous men. **3** "They bend their tongue, as their bow, for falsehood. They have grown strong in the land, but not for truth; for they proceed from evil to evil, and they do not know me," says the LORD. **4** "Everyone beware of his neighbor, and do not trust in any brother; for every brother will utterly supplant, and every neighbor will go around like a slanderer. **5** Friends deceive each other, and will not speak

the truth. They have taught their tongue to speak lies. They weary themselves committing iniquity. **6** Your habitation is in the middle of deceit. Through deceit, they refuse to know me," says the LORD. **7** Therefore the LORD of Armies says, "Behold, I will melt them and test them; for how should I deal with the daughter of my people? **8** Their tongue is a deadly arrow. It speaks deceit. One speaks peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth, but in his heart, he waits to ambush him. **9** Should not I punish them for these things?" says the LORD. "Should not my soul be avenged on a nation such as this? **10** I will weep and wail for the mountains, and lament for the pastures of the wilderness, because they are burned up, so that no one passes through; Men cannot hear the voice of the livestock. Both the birds of the sky and the animals have fled. They are gone. **11** "I will make Jerusalem heaps, a dwelling place of jackals. I will make the cities of Judah a desolation, without inhabitant." **12** Who is wise enough to understand this? Who is he to whom the mouth of the LORD has spoken, that he may declare it? Why has the land perished and burned up like a wilderness, so that no one passes through? **13** The LORD says, "Because they have forsaken my law which I set before them, and have not obeyed my voice or walked in my ways, **14** but have walked after the stubbornness of their own heart and after the Baals, which their fathers taught them." **15** Therefore the LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says, "Behold, I will feed them, even this people, with wormwood and give them poisoned water to drink. **16** I will scatter them also among the nations, whom neither they nor their fathers have known. I will send the sword after them, until I have consumed them." **17** The LORD of Armies says, "Consider, and call for the mourning women, that they may come. Send for the skillful women, that they may come. **18** Let them make haste and take up a wailing for us, that our eyes may run down with tears and our eyelids gush out with waters. **19** For a voice of wailing is heard out of Zion, 'How we are ruined! We are greatly confounded because we have forsaken the land, because they have cast down our dwellings.'" **20** Yet hear the LORD's word, you women. Let your ear receive the word of his mouth. Teach your daughters wailing. Everyone teach her neighbor a lamentation. **21** For death has come up into our windows. It has entered into our palaces to cut off the children from outside, and the young men from the streets. **22** Speak, "The LORD says, "The dead bodies of men will fall as dung on the open field, and as the handful after the harvester. No one will gather them.'" **23** The LORD says, "Do not let the wise man glory in his wisdom. Do not

evil happen to a city, and the LORD has not done it? 7 Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, unless he reveals his secret to his servants the prophets. 8 The lion has roared. Who will not fear? The Lord GOD has spoken. Who can but prophesy? 9 Proclaim in the palaces at Ashdod, and in the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say, "Assemble yourselves on the mountains of Samaria, and see what unrest is in her, and what oppression is among them." 10 "Indeed they do not know to do right," says the LORD, "Who hoard plunder and loot in their palaces." 11 Therefore the Lord GOD says: "An adversary will overrun the land; and he will pull down your strongholds, and your fortresses will be plundered." 12 The LORD says: "As the shepherd rescues out of the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear, so shall the children of Israel be rescued who sit in Samaria on the corner of a couch, and on the silken cushions of a bed." 13 "Listen, and testify against the house of Jacob," says the Lord GOD, the God of Armies. 14 "For in the day that I visit the transgressions of Israel on him, I will also visit the altars of Bethel; and the horns of the altar will be cut off, and fall to the ground. 15 I will strike the winter house with the summer house; and the houses of ivory will perish, and the great houses will have an end," says the LORD.

4 Listen to this word, you cows of Bashan, who are on the mountain of Samaria, who oppress the poor, who crush the needy, who tell their husbands, "Bring us drinks!" 2 The Lord GOD has sworn by his holiness, "Behold, the days shall come on you that they will take you away with hooks, and the last of you with fish hooks. 3 You will go out at the breaks in the wall, everyone straight before her; and you will cast yourselves into Harmon," says the LORD. 4 "Go to Bethel, and sin; to Gilgal, and sin more. Bring your sacrifices every morning, your tithes every three days, 5 offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving of that which is leavened, and proclaim free will offerings and brag about them; for this pleases you, you children of Israel," says the Lord GOD. 6 "I also have given you cleanness of teeth in all your cities, and lack of bread in every town; yet you have not returned to me," says the LORD. 7 "I also have withheld the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest; and I caused it to rain on one city, and caused it not to rain on another city. One field was rained on, and the field where it did not rain withered. 8 So two or three cities staggered to one city to drink water, and were not satisfied; yet you have not returned to me," says the LORD. 9 "I struck you with blight and mildew many times in your gardens and your vineyards,

and the swarming locusts have devoured your fig trees and your olive trees; yet you have not returned to me," says the LORD. 10 "I sent plagues among you like I did Egypt. I have slain your young men with the sword, and have carried away your horses. I filled your nostrils with the stench of your camp, yet you have not returned to me," says the LORD. 11 "I have overthrown some of you, as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and you were like a burning stick plucked out of the fire; yet you have not returned to me," says the LORD. 12 "Therefore I will do this to you, Israel; because I will do this to you, prepare to meet your God, Israel. 13 For, behold, he who forms the mountains, creates the wind, declares to man what is his thought, who makes the morning darkness, and treads on the high places of the earth: The LORD, the God of Armies, is his name."

5 Listen to this word which I take up for a lamentation over you, O house of Israel: 2 "The virgin of Israel has fallen; She shall rise no more. She is cast down on her land; there is no one to raise her up." 3 For the Lord GOD says: "The city that went out a thousand shall have a hundred left, and that which went out one hundred shall have ten left to the house of Israel." 4 For the LORD says to the house of Israel: "Seek me, and you will live; 5 but do not seek Bethel, nor enter into Gilgal, and do not pass to Beersheba; for Gilgal shall surely go into captivity, and Bethel shall come to nothing. 6 Seek the LORD, and you will live, lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and it devour, and there be no one to quench it in Bethel. 7 You who turn justice to wormwood, and cast down righteousness to the earth! 8 Seek him who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns the shadow of death into the morning, and makes the day dark with night; who calls for the waters of the sea, and pours them out on the surface of the earth, the LORD is his name, 9 who brings sudden destruction on the strong, so that destruction comes on the fortress. 10 They hate him who reproves in the gate, and they abhor him who speaks blamelessly. 11 Therefore, because you trample on the poor and take taxes from him of wheat, you have built houses of cut stone, but you will not dwell in them. You have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. 12 For I know how many are your offenses, and how great are your sins—you who afflict the just, who take a bribe, and who turn away the needy in the courts. 13 Therefore a prudent person keeps silent in such a time, for it is an evil time. 14 Seek good, and not evil, that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of Armies, will be with you, as you say. 15

17 After six days, Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John his brother, and brought them up into a high mountain by themselves. **2** He was changed before them. His face shone like the sun, and his garments became as white as the light. **3** Behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them talking with him. **4** Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you want, let's make three tents here: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." **5** While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them. Behold, a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Listen to him." **6** When the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces, and were very afraid. **7** Jesus came and touched them and said, "Get up, and do not be afraid." **8** Lifting up their eyes, they saw no one, except Jesus alone. **9** As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Do not tell anyone what you saw, until the Son of Man has risen from the dead." **10** His disciples asked him, saying, "Then why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" **11** Jesus answered them, "Elijah indeed comes first, and will restore all things; **12** but I tell you that Elijah has come already, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they wanted to. Even so the Son of Man will also suffer by them." **13** Then the disciples understood that he spoke to them of John the Baptizer. **14** When they came to the multitude, a man came to him, kneeling down to him and saying, **15** "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is epileptic and suffers grievously; for he often falls into the fire, and often into the water. **16** So I brought him to your disciples, and they could not cure him." **17** Jesus answered, "Faithless and perverse generation! How long will I be with you? How long will I bear with you? Bring him here to me." **18** Jesus rebuked the demon, and it went out of him, and the boy was cured from that hour. **19** Then the disciples came to Jesus privately, and said, "Why were not we able to cast it out?" **20** He said to them, "Because of your unbelief. For most certainly I tell you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will tell this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. **21** But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting." **22** While they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be delivered up into the hands of men, **23** and they will kill him, and the third day he will be raised up." They were exceedingly sorry. **24** When they had come to Capernaum, those who collected the didrachma coins came to Peter, and said, "Does not your teacher pay the didrachma?" **25** He said, "Yes." When he came into the

house, Jesus anticipated him, saying, "What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth receive toll or tribute? From their children, or from strangers?" **26** Peter said to him, "From strangers." Jesus said to him, "Therefore the children are exempt. **27** But, lest we cause them to stumble, go to the sea, cast a hook, and take up the first fish that comes up. When you have opened its mouth, you will find a stater coin. Take that, and give it to them for me and you."

18 In that hour the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who then is greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?" **2** Jesus called a little child to himself, and set him in the middle of them **3** and said, "Most certainly I tell you, unless you turn and become as little children, you will in no way enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. **4** Whoever therefore humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. **5** Whoever receives one such little child in my name receives me, **6** but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble, it would be better for him if a huge millstone were hung around his neck and that he were sunk in the depths of the sea. **7** "Woe to the world because of occasions of stumbling! For it must be that the occasions come, but woe to that person through whom the occasion comes! **8** If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life maimed or crippled, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into the consummate (aiōnios g166) fire. **9** If your eye causes you to stumble, pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into the Gehenna (Geenna g1067) of fire. **10** See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. **11** For the Son of Man came to save that which was lost. **12** "What do you think? If a man has one hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does not he leave the ninety-nine, go to the mountains, and seek that which has gone astray? **13** If he finds it, most certainly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine which have not gone astray. **14** Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. **15** "If your brother sins against you, go, show him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained back your brother. **16** But if he does not listen, take one or two more with you, that at the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. **17** If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the assembly. If he refuses to hear the assembly

the Herodians to him, that they might trap him with words. **14** When they had come, they asked him, "Teacher, we know that you are honest, and do not defer to anyone; for you are not partial to anyone, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? **15** Shall we give, or shall we not give?" But he, knowing their hypocrisy, said to them, "Why do you test me? Bring me a denarius, that I may see it." **16** They brought it. He said to them, "Whose is this image and inscription?" They said to him, "Caesar's." **17** Jesus answered them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." They marveled greatly at him. **18** Some Sadducees, who say that there is no resurrection, came to him. They asked him, saying, **19** "Teacher, Moses wrote to us, 'If a man's brother dies and leaves a wife behind him, and leaves no children, that his brother should take his wife and raise up offspring for his brother.' **20** There were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and dying left no offspring. **21** The second took her, and died, leaving no children behind him. The third likewise; **22** and the seven took her and left no children. Last of all the woman also died. **23** In the resurrection, when they rise, whose wife will she be of them? For the seven had her as a wife." **24** Jesus answered them, "Is not this because you are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God? **25** For when they will rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. **26** But about the dead, that they are raised, have not you read in the book of Moses about the Bush, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? **27** He is not the God of the dead, but of the living. You are therefore badly mistaken." **28** One of the scribes came and heard them questioning together, and knowing that he had answered them well, asked him, "Which commandment is the greatest of all?" **29** Jesus answered, "The greatest is: 'Hear, Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. **30** You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. **31** The second is like this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." **32** The scribe said to him, "Truly, teacher, you have said well that he is one, and there is none other but he; **33** and to love him with all the heart, with all the understanding, all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbor as himself, is more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." **34** When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from God's Kingdom." No one dared ask him

any question after that. **35** Jesus responded, as he taught in the temple, "How is it that the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David? **36** For David himself said in the Holy Spirit, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies the footstool of your feet.'" **37** Therefore David himself calls him Lord, so how can he be his son?" The common people heard him gladly. **38** In his teaching he said to them, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk in long robes, and to get greetings in the marketplaces, **39** and to get the best seats in the synagogues and the best places at feasts, **40** those who devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation." **41** Jesus sat down opposite the treasury and saw how the multitude cast money into the treasury. Many who were rich cast in much. **42** A poor widow came and she cast in two small brass coins, which equal a quadrans coin. **43** He called his disciples to himself and said to them, "Most certainly I tell you, this poor widow gave more than all those who are giving into the treasury, **44** for they all gave out of their abundance, but she, out of her poverty, gave all that she had to live on."

13 As he went out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Teacher, see what kind of stones and what kind of buildings!" **2** Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone on another, which will not be thrown down." **3** As he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, **4** "Tell us, when will these things be? What is the sign that these things are all about to be fulfilled?" **5** Jesus, answering, began to tell them, "Be careful that no one leads you astray. **6** For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and will lead many astray. **7** "When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be troubled. For those must happen, but the end is not yet. **8** For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places. There will be famines and troubles. These things are the beginning of birth pains. **9** "But watch yourselves, for they will deliver you up to councils. You will be beaten in synagogues. You will stand before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony to them. **10** The Good News must first be preached to all the nations. **11** When they lead you away and deliver you up, do not be anxious beforehand or premeditate what you will say, but say whatever will be given you in that hour. For it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. **12** "Brother will deliver up brother to death, and the father his child. Children will rise

amazed. 6 He said to them, "Do not be amazed. You seek Jesus, the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him! 7 But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He goes before you into Galilee. There you will see him, as he said to you.'" 8 They went out, and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had come on them. They said nothing to anyone; for they were afraid. 9 (note: The most reliable and earliest manuscripts do not include Mark 16:9-20.) Now when he had risen early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. 10 She went and told those who had been with him, as they mourned and wept. 11 When they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they disbelieved. 12 After these things he was revealed in another form to two of them as they walked, on their way into the country. 13 They went away and told it to the rest. They did not believe them, either. 14 Afterward he was revealed to the eleven themselves as they sat at the table; and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen him after he had risen. 15 He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to the whole creation. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who disbelieves will be condemned. 17 These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new languages; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it will in no way hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." 19 So then the Lord, after he had spoken to them, was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. 20 They went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that followed. Amen.

condemned. Set free, and you will be set free. **38** "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be given to you. For with the same measure you measure it will be measured back to you." **39** He spoke a parable to them. "Can the blind guide the blind? Will not they both fall into a pit?" **40** A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. **41** Why do you see the speck of chaff that is in your brother's eye, but do not consider the beam that is in your own eye? **42** Or how can you tell your brother, 'Brother, let me remove the speck of chaff that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the beam that is in your own eye? You hypocrite! First remove the beam from your own eye, and then you can see clearly to remove the speck of chaff that is in your brother's eye. **43** "For there is no good tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces good fruit. **44** For each tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush. **45** The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings out that which is good, and the evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings out that which is evil, for out of the abundance of the heart, his mouth speaks. **46** "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do the things which I say? **47** Everyone who comes to me, and hears my words and does them, I will show you who he is like. **48** He is like a man building a house, who dug and went deep and laid a foundation on the rock. When a flood arose, the stream broke against that house, and could not shake it, because it was founded on the rock. **49** But he who hears and does not do, is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream broke, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great."

7 After he had finished speaking in the hearing of the people, he entered into Capernaum. **2** A certain centurion's servant, who was dear to him, was sick and at the point of death. **3** When he heard about Jesus, he sent to him elders of the Jews, asking him to come and save his servant. **4** When they came to Jesus, they begged him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy for you to do this for him, **5** for he loves our nation, and he built our synagogue for us." **6** Jesus went with them. When he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy for you to come under my roof. **7** Therefore I did not even think myself worthy to come to you; but say the word, and my servant will be

healed. **8** For I also am a man placed under authority, having under myself soldiers. I tell this one, 'Go!' and he goes; and to another, 'Come!' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." **9** When Jesus heard these things, he marveled at him, and turned and said to the multitude who followed him, "I tell you, I have not found such great faith, no, not in Israel." **10** Those who were sent, returning to the house, found that the servant who had been sick was well. **11** Soon afterwards, he went to a city called Nain. Many of his disciples, along with a great multitude, went with him. **12** Now when he came near to the gate of the city, behold, one who was dead was carried out, the only born son of his mother, and she was a widow. Many people of the city were with her. **13** When the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not cry." **14** He came near and touched the coffin, and the bearers stood still. He said, "Young man, I tell you, arise!" **15** He who was dead sat up and began to speak. Then he gave him to his mother. **16** Fear took hold of all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and, "God has visited his people!" **17** This report went out concerning him in the whole of Judea and in all the surrounding region. **18** The disciples of John told him about all these things. **19** John, calling to himself two of his disciples, sent them to Jesus, saying, "Are you the one who is coming, or should we look for another?" **20** When the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptizer has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you he who comes, or should we look for another?'" **21** In that hour he cured many of diseases and plagues and evil spirits; and to many who were blind he gave sight. **22** Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John the things which you have seen and heard: that the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. **23** Blessed is he who finds no occasion for stumbling in me." **24** When John's messengers had departed, he began to tell the multitudes about John, "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? **25** But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are gorgeously dressed and live delicately are in kings' courts. **26** But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet. **27** This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.' **28** "For I tell you, among those who are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptizer; yet he who is least in God's Kingdom is greater than he." **29** When all the people

Titus

1 Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's chosen ones and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness, **2** in hope of the consummate (αἰώνιος g166) life, which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began; **3** but in his own time revealed his word in the message with which I was entrusted according to the commandment of God our Savior, **4** to Titus, my true child according to a common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior. **5** I left you in Crete for this reason, that you would set in order the things that were lacking and appoint elders in every city, as I directed you— **6** if anyone is blameless, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, who are not accused of loose or unruly behavior. **7** For the overseer must be blameless, as God's steward, not self-pleasing, not easily angered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for dishonest gain; **8** but given to hospitality, a lover of good, sober minded, fair, holy, self-controlled, **9** holding to the faithful word which is according to the teaching, that he may be able to exhort in the sound doctrine, and to convict those who contradict him. **10** For there are also many unruly men, vain talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, **11** whose mouths must be stopped: men who overthrow whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for dishonest gain's sake. **12** One of them, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, and idle gluttons." **13** This testimony is true. For this cause, reprove them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, **14** not paying attention to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn away from the truth. **15** To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their mind and their conscience are defiled. **16** They profess that they know God, but by their deeds they deny him, being abominable, disobedient, and unfit for any good work.

2 But say the things which fit sound doctrine, **2** that older men should be temperate, sensible, sober minded, sound in faith, in love, and in perseverance, **3** and that older women likewise be reverent in behavior, not slanderers nor enslaved to much wine, teachers of that which is good, **4** that they may train the young wives to love their husbands, to love their children, **5** to be sober minded, chaste, workers at home, kind, being in subjection to their own husbands, that God's word may not be blasphemed. **6** Likewise, exhort

the younger men to be sober minded. **7** In all things show yourself an example of good works. In your teaching, show integrity, seriousness, incorruptibility, **8** and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, that he who opposes you may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say about us. **9** Exhort servants to be in subjection to their own masters and to be well-pleasing in all things, not contradicting, **10** not stealing, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God, our Savior, in all things. **11** For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, **12** instructing us to the intent that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we would live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present age (αἰὼν g165); **13** looking for the blessed hope and appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, **14** who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people for his own possession, zealous for good works. **15** Say these things and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one despise you.

3 Remind them to be in subjection to rulers and to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, **2** to speak evil of no one, not to be contentious, to be gentle, showing all humility toward all men. **3** For we were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. **4** But when the kindness of God our Savior and his love toward mankind appeared, **5** not by works of righteousness which we did ourselves, but according to his mercy, he saved us through the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, **6** whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior; **7** that being justified by his grace, we might be made heirs according to the hope of the consummate (αἰώνιος g166) life. **8** This saying is faithful, and concerning these things I desire that you insist confidently, so that those who have believed God may be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men; **9** but shun foolish questionings, genealogies, strife, and disputes about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain. **10** Avoid a factious man after a first and second warning, **11** knowing that such a one is perverted and sinful, being self-condemned. **12** When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicus, be diligent to come to me to Nicopolis, for I have determined to winter there. **13** Send Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey speedily, that nothing may be lacking for them. **14** Let our people also learn to maintain good works to meet necessary needs, that they

2 Peter

1 Simon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have obtained a like precious faith with us in the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ: **2** Grace to you and peace be multiplied in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, **3** seeing that his divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and virtue, **4** by which he has granted to us his precious and exceedingly great promises; that through these you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world by lust. **5** Yes, and for this very cause adding on your part all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence; and in moral excellence, knowledge; **6** and in knowledge, self-control; and in self-control, perseverance; and in perseverance, godliness; **7** and in godliness, brotherly affection; and in brotherly affection, love. **8** For if these things are yours and abound, they make you to not be idle or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9** For he who lacks these things is blind, seeing only what is near, having forgotten the cleansing from his old sins. **10** Therefore, brothers, be more diligent to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never stumble. **11** For thus you will be richly supplied with the entrance into the consummate (αιώνιος g166) Kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **12** Therefore I will not be negligent to remind you of these things, though you know them and are established in the present truth. **13** I think it right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you, **14** knowing that the putting off of my tent comes swiftly, even as our Lord Jesus Christ made clear to me. **15** Yes, I will make every effort that you may always be able to remember these things even after my departure. **16** For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. **17** For he received from God the Father honor and glory when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." **18** We heard this voice come out of heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain. **19** We have the more sure word of prophecy; and you do well that you heed it as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star arises in your hearts, **20** knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of private interpretation. **21** For no prophecy ever

came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke, being moved by the Holy Spirit.

2 But false prophets also arose among the people, as false teachers will also be among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, denying even the Master who bought them, bringing on themselves swift destruction. **2** Many will follow their immoral ways, and as a result, the way of the truth will be maligned. **3** In covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words: whose sentence now from of old does not linger, and their destruction will not slumber. **4** For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them down to Tartarus (Tartaroō g5020), and committed them to pits of darkness to be reserved for judgment; **5** and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah with seven others, a preacher of righteousness, when he brought a flood on the world of the ungodly, **6** and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, having made them an example to those who would live in an ungodly way, **7** and delivered righteous Lot, who was very distressed by the lustful life of the wicked **8** (for that righteous man dwelling among them was tormented in his righteous soul from day to day with seeing and hearing lawless deeds), **9** then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptation and to keep the unrighteous under punishment for the day of judgment, **10** but chiefly those who walk after the flesh in the lust of defilement and despise authority. Daring, self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, **11** whereas angels, though greater in might and power, do not bring a slanderous judgment against them before the Lord. **12** But these, as unreasoning creatures, born natural animals to be taken and destroyed, speaking evil in matters about which they are ignorant, will in their destroying surely be destroyed, **13** receiving the wages of unrighteousness; people who count it pleasure to revel in the daytime, spots and defects, reveling in their deceit while they feast with you; **14** having eyes full of adultery, and who cannot cease from sin, enticing unsettled souls, having a heart trained in greed, accursed children! **15** Forsaking the right way, they went astray, having followed the way of Balaam the son of Beor, who loved the wages of wrongdoing; **16** but he was rebuked for his own disobedience. A speechless donkey spoke with a man's voice and stopped the madness of the prophet. **17** These are wells without water, clouds driven by a storm; for whom the blackness of darkness has been reserved. **18** For, uttering great swelling words of emptiness, they entice in the lusts of the flesh, by licentiousness, those who are indeed