

## **OLD TESTAMENT**

**Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9**

*The Lord will destroy death forever.*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the Lord of hosts  
will provide for all peoples.

On this mountain he will destroy  
the veil that veils all peoples,  
The web that is woven over all nations;  
he will destroy death forever.

The Lord will wipe away  
the tears from all faces;  
The reproach of his people he will remove  
from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken.

On that day it will be said:  
“Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!  
This is the Lord for whom we looked;  
Let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

The Word of the Lord.

## OLD TESTAMENT

**Wisdom 3:1-9**

(He accepted them as a holocaust.)

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

The souls of the just are in the hand of God,  
and no torment shall touch them.

They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;  
and their passing away was thought an affliction  
and their going forth from us, utter destruction.

But they are at peace.

For if before men, indeed, they be punished,  
yet is their hope full of immortality;

Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,  
because God tried them  
and found them worthy of himself.

As gold in the furnace, he proved them,  
and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

In the time of their visitation they shall shine,  
and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;

They shall judge nations and rule over peoples  
and the Lord shall be their King forever.

Those who trust in him shall understand truth,  
and the faithful shall abide with him in love:

Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,  
and his care is with his elect.

The Word of the Lord.

## **OLD TESTAMENT**

**Ecclesiastes 3:1-12**      Man cannot hit on the right time to act.

### **A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes.**

There is an appointed time for everything,  
and a time for every affair under the heavens.

A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant,  
and a time to uproot the plant.

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to tear down,  
and a time to build

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn,  
and a time to dance.

A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;  
a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.

A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep,  
and a time to cast away.

A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent,  
and a time to speak.

A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war,  
and a time of peace.

He has made everything appropriate to its time, and has put the  
timeless into their hearts, without men's ever discovering, from  
beginning to end, the work which God has done.

I recognized that there is nothing better than to be glad and to do  
well during life.

The Word of the Lord.

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## **OLD TESTAMENT**

### **Isaiah 43: 1-3a**

A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah.

But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, O Jacob,  
and formed you, O Israel:

Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name: you are mine.

When you pass through the water, I will be with you;  
In the rivers you shall not drown.

When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned;  
The flames shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord, your God,  
The Holy One of Israel, you Savior.

The Word of the Lord.

## **OLD TESTAMENT**

**Isaiah 60: 19-20**

God the glory of Zion

### **A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah**

No longer shall the sun be your light by day,  
Nor the brightness of the moon shine upon you at night;  
The Lord shall be your light forever, your God shall be your glory.  
No longer shall your sun go down,  
Or your moon withdraw,  
For the Lord will be your light forever,  
And the days of your mourning shall be at an end.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT**

### **Isaiah 65:17-19**

**A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah.**

See, I am creating new heavens and a new earth;  
The former things shall not be remembered nor come to mind.

Instead, shout for joy and be glad forever in what I am creating.

Indeed, I am creating Jerusalem to be a joy  
And its people to be a delight;

I will rejoice in Jerusalem and exult in my people.

No longer shall the sound of weeping be heard there,  
Or the sound of crying.

The Word of the Lord.

## **OLD TESTAMENT**

**Lamentations 3:17-26**

(It is good to wait in silence for the Lord God)

A reading from the book of Lamentations

My soul is deprived of peace,  
I have forgotten what happiness is;  
I tell myself my future is lost,  
    all that is hoped for from the Lord.  
The thought of my homeless poverty  
    is wormwood and gall;  
Remembering it over and over  
    leaves my soul downcast within me.  
But I call this to mind,  
    as my reason to have hope:  
The favors of the Lord are not exhausted,  
    his mercies are not spent;  
They are renewed each morning,  
    so great is his faithfulness.  
My portion is the Lord says my soul;  
    therefore will I hope in him.  
Good is the Lord to one who waits for him,  
    to the soul that seeks him;  
It is good to hope in silence  
    for the saving help of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

## **OLD TESTAMENT**

**Micah 6:8**

(What God requires)

A reading from the Book of Micah

You have been told, O man, what is good,  
And what the Lord requires of you;  
Only to do the right and to love goodness,  
And to walk humbly with your God.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT**

**Micah 7: 7-9**

(Penitence and Trust in God)

A reading from the Book of the prophet Micah

But as for me, I will look to the Lord, I will wait for God my savior:  
my God will hear me!

Do not rejoice over me, my enemy!

Though I have fallen, I will arise;  
though I sit in darkness, the Lord is my light.

I will endure the wrath of the Lord because I have sinned against him,  
until he pleads my case, and establishes my right.

He will bring me forth to the light; I will see his righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

## **OLD TESTAMENT**

### **Proverbs 31**

(The ideal wife)

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls.  
Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize.  
She brings him good and not evil all the days of her life.  
She rises while it is still night and distributes food to her household.  
She is a hard worker, strong and industrious.  
She reaches out her hand to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy.  
Long life is in her right hand; in her left are riches and honor.  
Her ways are pleasant ways, and all her paths are peace.  
She is a tree of life to those who grasp her, and he is happy who holds her fast.  
She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs at the days to come.  
She opens her mouth in wisdom, and on her tongue is kindly counsel.  
Better is a neighbor near at hand than a relative far away.  
A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter; he who finds one finds a treasure.  
Grandchildren are the crown of older people, and glory of children is their parentage.  
Train a child in the way he should go and even when he is older he will not swerve from it.  
Let your mother and father have joy; let her who bore you exult.  
Many are the women of proven worth, but you have excelled them all.  
Give her a reward for her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

## **OLD TESTAMENT**

**Sirach 34:13-17**

(Trust in the Lord and not in dreams.)

A reading from the book of Sirach.

Lively is the courage of those who fear the Lord,  
for they put their hope in their savior;  
He who fears the Lord is never alarmed,  
never afraid; for the Lord is his hope.

Happy the soul who fears the Lord!

In whom does he trust, and who is his support?  
The eyes of the Lord are upon those who love him;  
he is their mighty shield and strong support,  
A shelter from the heat, a shade from the noonday sun,  
a guard against stumbling, a help against falling.  
He buoys up the spirits, brings a sparkle to the eyes,  
gives health and life and blessing.

The Word of the Lord.