

Old Testament Readings

Sirach

SIRACH 2: 1-11

A Reading from the Book of Sirach.

**My child, when you come to serve the Lord,
prepare yourself for trials. Be sincere of heart and steadfast,
and do not be impetuous in time of adversity.**

**Cling to him, do not leave him,
that you may prosper in your last days.
Accept whatever happens to you;
in periods of humiliation be patient.**

**For in fire gold is tested,
and the chosen, in the crucible of humiliation.
Trust in God, and he will help you;
make your ways straight and hope in him.**

**You that fear the Lord, wait for his mercy,
do not stray lest you fall.
You that fear the Lord, trust in him,
and your reward will not be lost.
You that fear the Lord, hope for good things,
for lasting joy and mercy.**

**Consider the generations long past and see:
has anyone trusted in the Lord and been disappointed?
Has anyone persevered in his fear and been forsaken?
has anyone called upon him and been ignored?
For the Lord is compassionate and merciful;
forgives sins and saves in time of trouble.**

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

A Reading from the Book of Sirach

The Lord sets a father in honor over his children
And confirms a mother's authority over her sons;

Those who honor their father atone for sins;
They store up riches who respect their mother.

Those who honor their father will have joy in their own
children, and when they pray they are heard.

Those who respect their father will live a long life; those
who obey the Lord honor their mother.

Those who fear the Lord honor their father and serve their
parents as masters.

My son, be steadfast in honoring your father; do not
grieve him as long as he lives.

Even if his mind fails, be considerate of him; do not revile
him because you are in your prime.

Kindness to a father will not be forgotten; it will serve as a
sin offering – it will take lasting root.

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

(Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14)

A Reading from the book of Sirach

5, 8,12-14

Those who honor their parents, will have joy in their own children, and when they pray they will be heard.

Honor your parents by word and deed, that their blessing may come upon you. For a parent's blessing strengthens the houses of the children.

My child, help your parents in their old age, and do not grieve them as long as they live;
even if their mind fails, be patient with them,
because you have all your faculties do not despise them.
For kindness to a parent will not be forgotten.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the book of Sirach

5, 8, 12-14

Those who honor their father will have joy in their own children, and when they pray they will be heard.

Honor your father by word and deed, that his blessing may come upon you. For a father's blessing strengthens the houses of the children.

My child, help your father in his old age, and do not grieve him as long as he lives;
even if his mind fails, be patient with him;
because you have all your faculties do not despise him.
For kindness to a father will not be forgotten.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the book of Sirach

Those who honor their mother will have joy in their own children, and when they pray, they will be heard.

Honor your mother by word and deed, that her blessing may come upon you. For a mother's blessing strengthens the houses of the children.

My child, help your mother in her old age, and do not grieve her as she lives; even if her mind fails, be patient with her; because you have all your faculties do not despise her.

For kindness to a mother will not be forgotten.

The word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Sirach

(Sirach 6:5-6, 14-16)

Pleasant speech multiplies friends,
and a gracious tongue multiplies courtesies.
Let those who are at peace with you be many,
but let your advisers be one in a thousand.

Faithful friends are a sturdy shelter;
whoever finds one has found a treasure.
Faithful friends are beyond price;
no amount can balance their worth.
Faithful friends are life-saving medicine;
And those who fear the Lord will find them.

The Word of the Lord.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF SIRACH

(Sirach 26:1-4, 13-16)

Blessed the husband of a good wife,
twice-lengthened are his days;

A worthy wife brings joy to her husband, peaceful
and full is his life.

A good wife is a generous gift bestowed upon him
who respects the Lord;

Be he rich or poor, his heart is content, and a smile
is ever on his face.

A gracious wife delights her husband,
her thoughtfulness puts flesh on his bones;

A gift from the Lord is her governed speech, and her
firm virtue is of surpassing worth.

Choicest of blessings is a modest wife, priceless her
chaste soul.

A holy and decent woman adds grace upon grace;
indeed, no price is worthy of her temperate soul.

Like the sun rising in the LORD's heavens, the
beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her
home.

The Word of the Lord.

Isaiah

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On that day, you will say: I give you thanks, O Lord.

God indeed is my savior;
I am confident and unafraid.
My strength and my courage is the Lord,
and he has been my savior.

With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation,
and say on that day:
Give thanks to the Lord, acclaim God's name;
among the nations make known his deeds, proclaim how
exalted is God's name.
Sing praise to the Lord for his glorious achievement;
Let this be known throughout all the earth.

The Word of the Lord....

(Isaiah 12: 1a, 2-5)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

God indeed is my savior;
I am confident and unafraid.
My strength and my courage is the Lord,
and he has been my savior.

With joy you will draw water
at the fountain of salvation, and say on that day:
Give thanks to the Lord, acclaim his name;
among the nations make known his deeds,
proclaim how exalted is his name.

Sing praise to the Lord for his glorious achievement;
let this be known throughout all the earth.
Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,
for great in your midst
is the Holy One of Israel!

The word of the Lord.

(Isaiah 12:2-6)

A9 Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the Lord of Hosts will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy rich food and pure choice wines.

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 God 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

A10 Isaiah 35:1-6,10

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom. They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song. The glory of Lebanon will be given them, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God. Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak, say to those whose hearts are frightened: be strong, fear not! Here is your God, He comes with vindication; with divine recompense He comes to save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the dumb will sing. Streams will burst forth in the desert and rivers in the steppe. Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.

The Word of the Lord

A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH

(Isaiah 40: 28-31)

Do you not know or have you not heard?

The Lord is the eternal God,

Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint nor grow weary,

And his knowledge is beyond scrutiny.

He gives strength to the fainting;

For the weak he makes vigor abound.

Though young men faint and grow weary,

And youths stagger and fall,

They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength,

They will soar as the eagles' wings;

They will run and not grow weary,

Walk and not grow faint.

The Word of the Lord.

A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH

(Isaiah 43:1-7)

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—

Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

The Word of the Lord.

A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH

(Isaiah 43:2-4)

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

You are precious in my sight,

and honored, and I love you.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The word of the Lord.

(Isaiah 55: 6, 10-13)

A12 Isaiah 57:15-19

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

For thus says the One who is high and exalted, living eternally, whose name is the Holy One.

On high I dwell and in holiness and with the crushed and dejected in spirit, to revive the hearts of the crushed.

I will not accuse forever, nor always be angry; for their spirits would faint before me, the souls that I have made.

Because of their wicked avarice I was angry and struck them hiding myself in wrath as they went their own rebellious way.

I saw their ways, but I will heal them and lead them:

I will give full comfort to them and those who mourn for them.

I, the Creator, who gave them life.

Peace, peace to the far and the near, says the Lord; and I will heal them.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn.

The word of the Lord.

A13 Isaiah 61:1-13

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me;

He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the Lord and a day of vindication by our God, to comfort all who mourn.

To place on those who mourn in Zion a diadem instead of ashes, to give them oil of gladness in place of mourning, a glorious mantle instead of a listless spirit.

They will be called oaks of justice, planted by the Lord to show His glory.

The Word of the Lord

Jeremiah

A READING FROM THE PROPHET JEREMIAH

(Jeremiah 29: 11-14)

For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare, not for your woe, plans to give you a future full of hope. When you call me, when you go to pray to me, I will listen to you. When you look for me, you will find me. Yes, when you seek me with all your heart, you will find me with you, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Zephaniah

A20 Zephaniah 3:16-20

A Reading from the Book of Zephaniah

On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged!

The Lord your God is in your midst,
A mighty savior.
He will rejoice over you with gladness
And renew you in his love.
He will sing joyfully because of you.

As one sings at festivals
I will remove disaster from among you,
So that none may recount your disgrace.

Yes, at that time I will deal
With all who oppress you;
I will save the lame,
And assemble the outcasts
I will give them praise and renown
In all the earth, when I bring about their restoration.

At that time I will bring you home,
and at that time I will gather you
For I will give you renown and praise,
among all the peoples of the earth,
When I bring about restoration
before your very eyes, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Lamentations

A15 Lamentations 3:17-26

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 I 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 will call this to mind
as my reason to have hope.

The Word of the Lord

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF LAMENTATIONS

(Lamentations 3:21-27)

This I call to mind,

and therefore I 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.

A Reading from the Book of Lamentations

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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

(Lamentations 3:22-26)

Proverbs

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

(Proverbs 3: 1-6)

Forget not my teachings, keep in mind my commands; for many days, and years of life, and peace, will they bring you.

Let not kindness and fidelity leave you; bind them around your neck; Then will you win favor and good esteem before God and man.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, on your own intelligence rely not; In all your ways be mindful of him, and he will make straight your paths.

The Word of the Lord.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

(Proverbs 31: 10-13, 16- 2, 25-31)

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 obtains wool and flax and makes cloth with skillful hands. Like merchant ships, she secures her provisions from afar. She rises while it is still night, and distributes food to her household. She picks out a field to purchase; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. She is girt about with strength, and sturdy are her arms.

She enjoys the success of her dealings; at night her lamp is undimmed. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle. She reaches out her hands to the poor, and extends her arms to the needy.

She fears not the snow for her household; and her charges are doubly clothed. She makes her own coverlets; fine linen and purple are her clothing. 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.

She watches the conduct of her household, and she eats not her food in idleness. Her children rise up and praise her; her husband, too, extols her:

"Many are the women of proven worth, but you have excelled them all." Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who respects the LORD is to be praised. Give her a reward of her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

(Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19 - 20, 30-31)

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 obtains wool and flax
and makes cloth with skillful hands.
She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her fingers ply the spindle.
She reaches out her hands to the poor,
and extends her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
Give her a reward of her labors,
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

(Proverbs 31: 10- 31)

Her children stand up and proclaim her blessed, her husband too, sings her praises:

“Many women have done admirable things, but you surpass them all!” Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who fears Yahweh is the one to praise.

Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

(Proverbs 31: 25 - 31)

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.

Her children rise up and praise her;

“Many are the women of proven worth, but you have excelled them all.”

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who respects the Lord is the be praised.

Give her a reward of her labors, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

Ecclesiastes

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES

(Ecclesiastes 3: 1 - 8, 11)

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 our hearts.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes (3:1-11)

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for everything 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.

What advantage has the worker from his toil? I have considered the task that God has appointed for us to be busied about. He has made everything appropriate to its time, and has put the timeless into their hearts, without our 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. For all of us moreover, to eat and drink and enjoy the fruit of all our labor—a gift of God.

I recognized that whatever God does will endure forever; there is no adding to it, or taking from it. Thus has God done that he may be revered. What now is, has already been; what is to be, already is; and God restores what would otherwise be displaced.

The word of the Lord.

Wisdom

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF WISDOM

(Wisdom 3: 1 - 3)

The souls of the just are in the hands 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 in peace.

The Word of the Lord.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF WISDOM

(Wisdom 3: 1 - 6)

But 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 going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace. For if, 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.

The Word of the Lord.

A6a Wisdom 3:1-9

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

But 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 going forth from us, utter destruction.

But they are at peace.

For if indeed, they be 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 in him in love:

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

The Word of the Lord

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF WISDOM

(Wisdom 3: 1 - 9)

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 in 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 God shall understand truth,
and the faithful shall abide with him in love:
Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,
and God's care is with the elect.

The Word of the Lord.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF WISDOM

(Wisdom 4: 7 - 15)

The just man, though he die early, shall be at rest.

For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time, nor can it be measured in terms of years.

Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men, and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

He who pleased God was loved; he who lived among sinners was transported—

Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind or deceit beguile his soul;

For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.

Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career; for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness. But the people saw and did not understand, nor did they take this into account.

The Word of the Lord.

Maccabees

A1 2MACCABEES 12:43-46

A Reading from the 2nd Book of Maccabees

A collection was taken among all the soldiers, amounting to two thousand silver drachmas, which was sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice. In doing this they acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as they had the Resurrection of the Dead in view: for if they were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death. But if they did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Thus they made atonement for the dead that they might be free from sin.

The Word of the Lord

Job

A2 Job19:1,23-27a

A Reading from the Book of Job

Then Job answered and said: Oh, would that my words be written down!

Would that they were inscribed in a record:

That with an iron chisel and with lead they were cut in the rock forever! But as for me, I know my vindicator lives, and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust: whom I myself shall see:

My own eyes, not another's shall behold him. And from my flesh I shall see God: my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The Word of the Lord

Song of Songs

A5 Song of Songs 8: 6-7

A reading from the Song of Songs

Set me as a seal on your heart, a seal on your arm: for stern as death is love, relentless as the nether world is devotion: its flames are a blazing fire. Deep waters cannot quench love, nor floods sweep it away. Were you to offer all you own to purchase love, you would be roundly mocked.

The Word of the Lord.

Ezekiel

Ezekiel 37:12-14

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord GOD: O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them, and bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and have you rise from them, O my people! I will put my spirit in you that you may live, and I will settle you upon your land; thus you shall know that I am the LORD. I have promised, and I will do it, says the LORD.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

A17 Ezekiel 34:12-14

A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel

Therefore prophesy and say to them: thus says the Lord God: O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them, and bring you back to the Land of Israel.

Then you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and have you rise from them, O my people!

I will put my spirit in you that you may live and I will settle you upon your land; thus you shall know that I am the Lord. I have promised and I will do it, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

A16 A Reading from the prophet Ezekiel

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will look after and tend my sheep.

As a shepherd tends his flock when he finds himself among his scattered sheep, so will I tend my sheep. I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered when it was cloudy and dark.

I will lead them out from among the peoples and gather them from foreign lands. I will bring them back to their own country and pasture them upon the mountains of Israel in the land's ravines and all its inhabited places.

In good pastures will I pasture them and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing ground, and in rich pastures shall they be pastured on the mountains of Israel.

I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest, says the Lord God.

The lost I will seek out; the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal (but the sleek and the strong I will destroy) shepherding them rightly.

The Word of the Lord

Daniel

A18 Daniel 12:1-3

A Reading from the Prophet Daniel

At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince, guardian of his people.

It shall be a time surpassed in distress since nations began until that time.

At that time your people shall escape, everyone who is found in the book.

Many of those who sleep in the dust of the Earth shall awake; some shall live forever, others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.

But the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, and those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever,

The Word of the Lord

Psalm 121: 1-8

I lift up my eyes to the mountains—
where does my help come from?

My help comes from the LORD,
the Maker of heaven^b and earth.^c

He will not let your foot slip—
he who watches over you will not slumber;
indeed, he who watches^d over Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

The LORD watches over^e you—
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
the sun^f will not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.

The LORD will keep you from all harm^g—
he will watch over your life;
the LORD will watch over your coming and
going both now and forevermore.^h