

Genesis 18:1–14

1 The Lord appeared to [Abraham] by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. 2 He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth 3 and said, "O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. 4 Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, 5 while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." 6 And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes." 7 And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. 8 Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

9 They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent." 10 The Lord said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. 12 So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?" 13 The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' 14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son."

**Psalm 27**

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom | shall I fear? *
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I | be afraid?
2 When evildoers assail me
to eat | up my flesh, *
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stum- | ble and fall.
3 Though an army encamp against me,
my heart | shall not fear; *
though war arise against me,
yet I will be | confident.
4 One thing have I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek | after: *
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and to inquire in his | temple.
5 For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of | trouble; *
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high up- | on a rock.
6 And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with | shouts of joy; *
I will sing and make melody | to the Lord.
7 Hear, O Lord, when I | cry aloud; *
be gracious to me and | answer me!
8 You have said, | "Seek my face." *
My heart says to you,
"Your face, Lord, | do I seek."
9 Hide not your face from me.
Turn not your servant away in | anger, *
O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,

O God of my sal- | vation!

¹⁰For my father and my mother have
for- | saken me,*

but the Lord will | take me in.

¹¹Teach me your way, | O Lord,*
and lead me on a level path
because of my | enemies.

¹²Give me not up to the will
of my adver- | saries;*
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they breathe out | violence.

¹³I believe that I shall look upon the goodness |
of the Lord*
in the land of the | living!

¹⁴Wait | for the Lord;*
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait | for the Lord!

Colossians 1:21–29

²¹You, who once were alienated and
hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now
reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in
order to present you holy and blameless and
above reproach before him, ²³if indeed you
continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not
shifting from the hope of the gospel that you
heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation
under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a
minister.

²⁴Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your
sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is
lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his
body, that is, the church, ²⁵of which I became a
minister according to the stewardship from God
that was given to me for you, to make the word
of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery hidden for
ages and generations but now revealed to his
saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how
great among the Gentiles are the riches of the
glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the
hope of glory. ²⁸Him we proclaim, warning
everyone and teaching everyone with all
wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in
Christ. ²⁹For this I toil, struggling with all his
energy that he powerfully works within me.

Luke 10:38–42

³⁸Now as they went on their way, Jesus
entered a village. And a woman named Martha
welcomed him into her house. ³⁹And she had a
sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and
listened to his teaching. ⁴⁰But Martha was
distracted with much serving. And she went up
to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my
sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to
help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha,
Martha, you are anxious and troubled about
many things, ⁴²but one thing is necessary. Mary
has chosen the good portion, which will not be
taken away from her."