Proverbs 25:2–10

2It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out.

³As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth,

so the heart of kings is unsearchable.

Take away the dross from the silver, and the smith has material for a vessel;

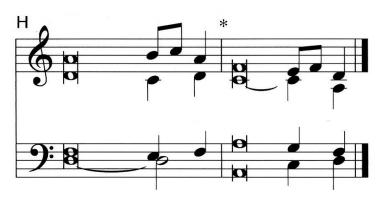
5take away the wicked from the presence of the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness.

6Do not put yourself forward
in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
7for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower
in the presence of a noble.

What your eyes have seen

8do not hastily bring into court,
for what will you do in the end,
when your neighbor puts
you to shame?

oArgue your case with your neighbor himself, and do not reveal another's secret, nolest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end.



Psalm 131

10 Lord, my heart is not lifted up;
my eyes are not | raised too high;*
I do not occupy myself with things
too great and too
marvel- | ous for me.

2But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child
with its | mother;*
like a weaned child is my soul
with- | in me.

30 Israel, hope | in the Lord*
from this time forth
and for- | evermore.

Hebrews 13:1-17

Let brotherly love continue. 2Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. 3Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. 4Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. 5Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." 6So we can confidently say,

"The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. 10 We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. 11For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ₁₂So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. 13 Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. 14For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. 15Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. 16Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

17Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Luke 14:1-14

One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the

Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ₂And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ₃And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" ₄But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ₅And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" ₆And they could not reply to these things.

7Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. 10 But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. 11For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

12He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. 13But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, 14and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."