

Amos 6:1–7

1 "Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,
and to those who feel secure
on the mountain of Samaria,
the notable men of the first of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel comes!

2 Pass over to Calneh, and see,
and from there go to
Hamath the great;
then go down to Gath
of the Philistines.

Are you better than these kingdoms?
Or is their territory greater
than your territory,

3 O you who put far away
the day of disaster
and bring near the seat of violence?

4 "Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and stretch themselves out
on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the midst of the stall,

5 who sing idle songs
to the sound of the harp
and like David invent
for themselves instruments of music,

6 who drink wine in bowls
and anoint themselves
with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of
Joseph! **7** Therefore they shall now be
the first of those who go into exile,
and the revelry of those who stretch
themselves out shall pass away."

**Psalm 146**

1 Praise | the Lord! *
Praise the Lord, | O my soul!

2 I will praise the Lord as long | as I live; *
I will sing praises to my God
while I have my | being.

3 Put not your trust in | princes, *
in a son of man,
in whom there is no sal- | vation.

4 When his breath departs
he returns | to the earth; *
on that very day his plans | perish.

5 Blessèd is he whose help
is the God of | Jacob, *
whose hope is in the | Lord his God,

6 who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is | in them, *
who keeps faith for- | ever;

7 who executes justice
for | the oppressed, *
who gives food to the | hungry.
The Lord sets the prisoners free;

8 the Lord opens the eyes | of the blind. *
The Lord lifts up
those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the | righteous.

9 The Lord watches over the sojourners;
he upholds the widow
and the | fatherless, *
but the way of the wicked
he brings to | ruin.

10 The Lord will reign for- | ever, *
your God, O Zion, to all generations.
| Praise the Lord!

Timothy 3:1–13

¹The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. ²Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, ⁵for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? ⁶He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

⁸Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. ⁹They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. ¹¹Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. ¹²Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. ¹³For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

Luke 16:19–31

¹⁹[Jesus said:] "There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, ²³and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. ²⁴And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.' ²⁵But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. ²⁶And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' ²⁷And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— ²⁸for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' ³⁰And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' ³¹He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.'"