

Jeremiah 15:15–21

15 O Lord, you know;
 remember me and visit me,
 and take vengeance for me
 on my persecutors.

In your forbearance take me not away;
 know that for your sake I bear reproach.

16 Your words were found, and I ate them,
 and your words became to me a joy
 and the delight of my heart,
 for I am called by your name,
 O Lord, God of hosts.

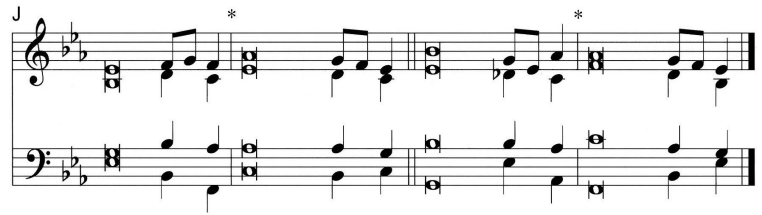
17 I did not sit in the company of revelers,
 nor did I rejoice;
 I sat alone, because your hand was upon me,
 for you had filled me with indignation.

18 Why is my pain unceasing,
 my wound incurable,
 refusing to be healed?
 Will you be to me like a deceitful brook,
 like waters that fail?

19 Therefore thus says the Lord:
 "If you return, I will restore you,
 and you shall stand before me.
 If you utter what is precious,
 and not what is worthless,
 you shall be as my mouth.
 They shall turn to you,
 but you shall not turn to them.

20 And I will make you to this people
 a fortified wall of bronze;
 they will fight against you,
 but they shall not prevail over you,
 for I am with you
 to save you and deliver you,
 declares the Lord.

21 I will deliver you
 out of the hand of the wicked,
 and redeem you
 from the grasp of the ruthless."

**Psalm 26**

1 Vindicate me, O Lord,
 for I have walked in my in- | tegrity,*
 and I have trusted in the Lord
 without | wavering.

2 Prove me, O Lord, and | try me;*
 test my heart | and my mind

3 For your steadfast love
 is be- | fore my eyes,*
 and I walk in your | faithfulness.

4 I do not sit with men of | falsehood,*
 nor do I consort with | hypocrites.

5 I hate the assembly of evil- | doers,*
 and I will not sit with the | wicked.

6 I wash my hands in | innocence*
 and go around your altar, | O Lord,
7 proclaiming thanksgiving | aloud,*
 and telling all your | wondrous deeds.

8 O Lord, I love the habitation | of your house*
 and the place where your | glory dwells.

9 Do not sweep my soul away with | sinners,*
 nor my life with blood- | thirsty men,
10 in whose hands are evil de- | vices,*
 and whose right hands
 are | full of bribes.

11 But as for me,
 I shall walk in my in- | tegrity;*
 redeem me, and be gra- | cious to me.

12 My foot stands on | level ground;*
 in the great assembly
 I will | bless the Lord.

Romans 12:9–21

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16:21–28

²¹From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life?

²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."