Amos 5:18–24

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why would you have
the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, and not light,
19 as if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no
brightness in it?
21 "I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight
in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings
of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.
23 Take away from me the noise
of your songs;
to the melody of your harps
I will not listen.
24 But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness
like an ever-flowing stream."



Psalm 70

1 Make haste,
O God, to de- | liver me!*
O Lord, make haste to | help me!
2 Let them be put to shame and confusion who | seek my life!*
Let them be turned back and
brought to dishonor
who de- | sire my hurt!
3 Let them turn back
because | of their shame*
who say, "A- | ha, Aha!"
4 May all who seek you
rejoice and be | glad in you!*
May those who love your
salvation say evermore, |
"God is great!"
5 But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, | O God!*
You are my help
and my deliverer;
O Lord, do | not delay!

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

13 But we do not want you to be
uninformed, brothers, about those
who are asleep, that you may not
grieve as others do who have no hope.
14 For since we believe that Jesus died
and rose again, even so, through
Jesus, God will bring with him those
who have fallen asleep. 15 For this we
declare to you by a word from the
Lord, that we who are alive, who are
left until the coming of the Lord, will
not precede those who have fallen
asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will
descend from heaven with a cry of
command, with the voice of an
archangel, and with the sound of the
trumpet of God. And the dead in
Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who
are alive, who are left, will be caught
up together with them in the clouds to
meet the Lord in the air, and so we
will always be with the Lord.
18 Therefore encourage one another
with these words.

Matthew 25:1–13

1 [Jesus said:] "The kingdom of
heaven will be like ten virgins who
took their lamps and went to meet the
bridegroom. 2 Five of them were
foolish, and five were wise. 3 For when
the foolish took their lamps, they took
no oil with them, 4 but the wise took
flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the
bridegroom was delayed, they all
became drowsy and slept. 6 But at
midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the
bridegroom! Come out to meet him.'
7 Then all those virgins rose and
trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish
said to the wise, ‘Give us some of
your oil, for our lamps are going out.'
9 But the wise answered, saying,
‘Since there will not be enough for us
and for you, go rather to the dealers
and buy for yourselves.' 10 And while
they were going to buy, the
bridegroom came, and those who
were ready went in with him to the
marriage feast, and the door was shut.
11 Afterward the other virgins came
also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.'
12 But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to
you, I do not know you.' 13 Watch
therefore, for you know neither the
day nor the hour."