

WHAT A NAME

Jesus, Name Above All Names

A 25-Day Devotional

What A Name – Jesus, Name Above all Names

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Fort Worth, Texas

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Introduction

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Christmas is filled, well-filled with so many things that it's hard to know where to begin. Family. Food. Lights. Candy. Shopping. Stress. Debt. Church. Singing. Cheer. (And of course, *lists*—lots of lists! As the song says, “He’s making a list and checking it twice.”)

As I type this, we haven’t even reached the second full week of October. It’s my day off here in Texas, and I managed to get a sunburn while walking and working in my yard. So yes, Christmas feels a long way off—but, we all know it’s right around the corner.

Over the next 25 days, my father, my brother, and I want to take you on a Christmas journey, one that goes beyond the lights, the gifts, and the busyness. Together, we’ll unpack the depths of the *Name above every name—Jesus*. What a name!

Let’s begin with this promise from Scripture:

Psalm 16:11

*You will show me the path of life;
In Your presence is fullness of joy;
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.¹*

True joy is not found in the *presents* of Christmas, but in the *presence* of Christ. This season, let’s slow down, lift our

¹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ps 16:11.

eyes, and focus our hearts on the One whose name is above every name.

As you journey through these devotionals, may your heart be rekindled with wonder at who Jesus is. Each name and title we explore reveals another facet of His glory. He is The Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Whether this Christmas finds you surrounded by family or walking through difficulty, remember this truth: His name is powerful, personal, and present. He is the reason we celebrate, the hope we cling to, and the joy that fills our hearts. What a Savior. What a name!

WHAT A NAME

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Wonderful Counselor

DAY 1

The Wonderful Counselor

By Jon Haley

Isaiah 9:6-7

*⁶For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷Of the increase of His government and peace
There will be no end, Upon the throne of David
and over His kingdom, To order it and
establish it with judgment and justice
From that time forward, even forever.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.²*

Read Isaiah 9

This passage is often read at Christmastime and is an obvious prophecy of Jesus. The title of this devotional, of course, comes from this prophecy of Jesus. These two verses speak of Jesus' humanity and deity. Isaiah speaks of the first and second advents of Christ. "Advent" means arrival or coming. This is a prophecy of baby Jesus and King Jesus.

"The child (v. 6) is the Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14). He is God's gift to man's predicament. He is fully human ('child,'

² [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Is 9:6-7.

‘born,’ ‘son’), but he is also divine, with all the perfections of kingship in himself: supernatural wisdom, might, paternal beneficence, and peace.”³

“Isaiah 9:6 declares both the *humanity* (“A Child is born”) and the *deity* (“A Son is given”) of the Lord Jesus Christ. The prophet then leaps ahead to the Kingdom Age when the Messiah will reign in righteousness and justice from David’s throne.”⁴

We are living between the two advents. In the first advent, Jesus came as a humble baby. In the Second Advent, Jesus will come as a warrior-king. He will make all things new, and ultimately, this is why we can live in peace. We know that we will one day rule and reign with King Jesus.

I pray this Christmas season you will be reminded of the goodness of Jesus. He truly is the Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Reflect and Pray

1. How can reflecting on the names of Jesus, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, lead you to deeper worship this Christmas?
2. Christmas celebrates the first Advent. How can you take time this week to pray with anticipation for His second coming, asking God to prepare your heart to live in readiness and hope?

³ Willem A. VanGemeren, [“Isaiah,”](#) in *Evangelical Commentary on the Bible*, vol. 3, Baker Reference Library (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1995), 482.

⁴ Warren W. Wiersbe, [Be Comforted](#), “Be” Commentary Series (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 37.

DAY 2

Guided by His Word

By Jon Haley

Psalm 119:105-106

*¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path.
¹⁰⁶I have sworn and confirmed
That I will keep Your righteous judgments.⁵*

Read Psalm 119

Have you ever walked all night uphill in the dark? I have. I was very grateful for the headlamp that helped direct my steps and light my path. We began our final push to the Summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro at Midnight and arrived the next morning. This hike would have been much more difficult without a light affixed to my head.

The imagery here in Psalm 119 is clear and concise. The Word of God shows us the way to go. The lamp to my feet speaks to nearness or oneness. His word lights each step, my day-to-day, or maybe more precisely, my minute-by-minute walk. The next statement reveals God's word as a light to his path. This speaks to the long-term or longer journey. The Bible not only directs today, but also tomorrow.

⁵

[The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ps 119:105-106.

Reading the word and obeying the word are two different things. “Recognizing that God’s Word was his light to direct him, the psalmist vowed to follow it.”⁶ God’s Word guides us and directs us. It shows us where to walk and how to avoid danger.

‘The wicked may set a trap (v. 110) and afflict us (v. 107), but the Bible will give us life (v. 107), lead us to praise (v. 108), teach us (v. 108), and give us joy (v. 111). Such a Word should give us a resolve to obey it “to the very end” (v. 112). He that uses [the Word] faithfully learns where to set his foot as he walks along the slippery paths of this life. He need not stumble or fall”⁷

Many scholars believe Psalm 1 sets the tone of the entire collection of Psalms. David wrote in Psalm 1 that the blessed man delights in the word of God and meditates on it day and night. As you enter the Christmas Season, remember Jesus is our Wonderful Counselor and has chosen to reveal Himself through His Word. Read it, memorize it, meditate on it, and obey it.

Reflect and Pray

1. The psalmist not only read the Word but resolved to obey it. How can you take one specific step this week to live out what God has shown you through His Word?
2. Take a moment to pray and ask God to make His Word a light to your next step and a lamp for your future path. What area of your life most needs His direction right now?

⁶ Allen P. Ross, “[Psalms](#),” in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 881.

⁷ Daniel L. Akin, Johnny M. Hunt, and Tony Merida, [Exalting Jesus in Psalms 101–150](#), ed. David Platt, Daniel L. Akin, and Tony Merida, Christ-Centered Exposition (Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2021), 179–180.

DAY 3

Jesus Knows Our Heart

By Mike Haley

Psalm 139:1

¹O LORD, You have searched me and known me.⁸

Read Psalm 139

Are you often discouraged with your moods? One day you are up and the next day you are down. Often, we don't know why we feel discouraged or think of ourselves as failures. The Lord Jesus takes one glance at us, and He knows everything totally, instantly, and perfectly.

Our God is limitless, and He is also loving. He's the one who loves us the most. His divine wisdom converges with our daily trials, and He knows just what we need. No one ever cares for you like Jesus.

Take a few minutes to read Psalm 139, and you will notice that

- God is omniscient and knows everything. (1-6)
- God is omnipresent, and He knows where you are always. (7-12)

⁸ [*The New King James Version*](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ps 139:1.

- God is omnipotent and has the power to do for us what we really need. (13-18)
- God is righteous and He is just, and able to search our hearts and know our anxieties and then “lead us in the way everlasting.” (19-24)

If God knows all about us, then we can’t hide from Him. Why not be open to tell Him what you’re feeling and ask Him to help you? God is waiting to hear from you. Let Him know that you need His help today.

Psalm 139:9-10

*⁹If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in
the uttermost parts of the sea,
¹⁰Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your
right hand shall hold me.⁹*

Reflect and Pray

1. How does knowing that God is omniscient, omnipresent, and omnipotent change the way you respond to discouragement or failure?
2. Ask the Lord to search your heart like David did in Psalm 139:23-24. What hidden worry, sin, or burden do you need to surrender to Him today?

⁹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ps 139:9–10.

DAY 4

The Counselor Who Comforts

By Mike Haley

John 14:15-18

¹⁵ If you love Me, keep My commandments.

¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—

¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.¹⁰

Read John 14

The Lord Jesus promised to send the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, to be with us and not to allow us to make the journey through this broken world alone. He promised to send the Helper, the Comforter, the Spirit of truth, to be with us. That Holy Spirit is the one who comes into us to teach us His truth and to make sure we do not feel orphaned and alone.

Elijah had an emotional breakdown in 1 Kings 19, and loneliness was a big factor. He felt alone in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. He had no one with whom to pray or talk, and no one on whom to lean. He was all alone, and it

¹⁰ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 14:15–18.

unnerved him. Yet, God was with him in a “still small voice.”

I Kings 19:12

¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.¹¹

The Lord sent a partner in ministry, a young man named Elisha. When we feel most alone, it is often the best time to hear God’s still small voice. He talks with us and fellowships with us during those times of loneliness.

Tune your ears to the still small voice of His comforting Word, which still speaks as it did in the days of Elijah. It is a comfort to know that the Lord is praying for us. The longest prayer of our Lord is recorded in John 17.

John 17:20-21

*²⁰ I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;
²¹ that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.¹²*

When you feel all alone and helpless, remember the Lord is praying for you. He wants to speak to you through His word and His Holy Spirit. Pray, and then read, and then listen

¹¹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 1 Ki 19:12.

¹² [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 17:20–21.

for the small voice of the Lord to speak to you. Call a friend and ask them to pray for you over the phone. We are not alone, and God has someone to help you. So, reach out to God, and reach out to a friend.

Reflect and Pray

1. Who in your life might be feeling isolated or forgotten right now? How could God use you, like Elisha with Elijah, to remind them that they are not alone?
2. Ask the Holy Spirit, your Comforter and Helper, to speak to you through His still small voice today. What do you need to quiet or surrender to hear Him clearly?

DAY 5

His Plans Are Good

By Michael Haley

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."¹³

Read Jeremiah 29

This verse is one of the most loved promises in Scripture—and rightfully so. Yet, it's important to remember that God originally spoke these words to His people in exile. While we must be careful not to claim promises meant for a specific time and people, we can absolutely hold to the principle this verse reveals: God loves His people and His plans for them are good.

Romans 8:28

²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."¹⁴

When Jeremiah wrote this letter, God's people were living as captives in Babylon. They were discouraged and uncertain about the future. But God reassured them—though

¹³ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Je 29:10–11.

¹⁴ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Ro 8:27–28.

their exile would last 70 years, He had not forgotten them. Hope remained. There was light at the end of the tunnel.

During the Christmas season, we're reminded that Jesus came for us and died for us. We celebrate His first coming, even as we look ahead with great anticipation to His return. While we wait, Jeremiah 29:12–14 calls us to pray, to seek Him wholeheartedly, and to rest in the promise that He hears, and He will be found.

I love how the song “Good Plans” by Red Rocks Worship captures this truth:

Surely Your goodness and mercy will follow after me.
So, fear will not find me, for I'll be dwelling in the house
of God.

He has good plans. He has good plans for me.
I will take heart in deserts and gardens—
If I know my Father, I know my Father has good plans.

Jeremiah urged God's people to live faithfully in the waiting—to build homes, raise families, seek the good of the city, and pray for its peace. In the same way, as followers of Jesus, we are living in a kind of exile here on earth. But we are not alone and not forgotten. Jesus will return, and He will take us home.

Reflect and Pray

1. How can you live faithfully and seek the good of your “city” while waiting for Christ's return?
2. Ask God to help you trust His goodness in both the “deserts and gardens” of your life.

DAY 6

Follow the Shepherd's Voice

By Michael Haley

John 10:27

*²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them,
and they follow me. ¹⁵*

Read John 10

Have you ever heard someone say, “She has the voice of an angel”? Some voices are unforgettable. A familiar voice can stir up deep emotion—sometimes comfort and joy, sometimes pain or longing.

During the holiday season, we may find ourselves missing a voice we won’t hear again this side of Heaven or eagerly anticipating a loved one’s call.

When I was in high school and college, my twin brother and I sounded almost identical. Over the years, he has lived in Texas, while I’ve stayed mostly in Colorado. Now, his voice carries a Southern tone, and mine doesn’t. Time and distance have changed our voices, but it’s still easy for me to recognize his.

¹⁵ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Jn 10:27.

Jesus said, *My sheep hear My voice*. In John 10, He paints a beautiful picture of a shepherd and his sheep—an image that may not be as familiar to us today. In the first century, shepherds often kept their flocks in a shared enclosure overnight. In the morning, each shepherd would call out, and only his sheep would come. They knew his voice, and they followed him.

What an amazing truth: the Good Shepherd knows you, and He calls you by name. He's not distant, and His voice isn't harsh or confusing—it's personal, loving, and trustworthy.

What might the Shepherd be saying to you today? Maybe He is calling you back from a place of distraction or distance. Perhaps He's inviting you to deeper trust, greater obedience, or a bold step of faith. It's one thing to hear His voice, but quite another to follow it.

Every time I read the Gospels, I'm struck by how the disciples responded to Jesus' call. When He said, "Follow Me," they dropped everything and followed immediately. What about you? Are you listening for His voice? Are you ready to follow wherever He leads?

Reflect and Pray

1. How might your day look different if you lived with the constant awareness that the Shepherd knows you, speaks to you, and walks with you?
2. Ask the Lord to help you recognize His voice above all others, and to give you the faith to follow wherever He leads.

WHAT & NAME

WHAT & NAME
Mighty God

DAY 7

The Mighty God

By Jon Haley

Colossians 1:15-20

¹⁵ *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.*

¹⁶ *For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.*

¹⁷ *And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.*

¹⁸ *And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.*

¹⁹ *For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell,*

²⁰ *and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.*¹⁶

Read Colossians 1

WOW! What a powerful and complete description of JESUS! Paul left no doubt about what he believed regarding Jesus. Jesus is the PREEMINENT One. He is the Mighty

¹⁶ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Col 1:15–20.

God of Creation. He reveals seven realities of who Jesus, the Mighty God, is.

1. The Image of God (15)
2. The Firstborn of creation (15)
3. The Creator of the Universe (16)
4. The Head of the Church (18)
5. The Firstborn from the Dead (18)
6. The Fullness of God (19)
7. The Reconciler of all things (20)

“Paul is clearly concerned about any system that would place Christ on a level with anyone or anything else. He does not wish to share the place and power of Christ with anyone else; He stands alone. He alone is the answer.”¹⁷

John 1:1-4

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

²He was in the beginning with God.

³All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.¹⁸

John 1:14

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.¹⁹

¹⁷ Jay E. Adams, [Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon](#), The Christian Counselor's Commentary (Cordova, TN: Institute for Nouthetic Studies, 2020), 140.

¹⁸ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 1:1–3.

¹⁹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 1:14.

Jesus is the only person who lived before they were born. He is God in the flesh. He is God the Creator. He and the Father are one. Jesus, the Creator of the universe, took on human flesh. He came not as a mighty king, but as a humble baby. He came to live a perfect life so that He could be the perfect sacrifice to atone for our sins. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, let's not forget this little baby is the Mighty God.

Reflect and Pray

1. If Jesus truly holds *preeminence in all things*, what area of your life still needs to come under His authority and leadership?
2. Thank Jesus for being both the Creator of all things and the Savior who reconciled you through His blood. Ask Him to help you live with awe and gratitude for who He truly is.

DAY 8

Victory Over Sin and Death

By Jon Haley

1 Corinthians 15:55-58

⁵⁵O Death, where is your sting?

O Hades, where is your victory?"

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.

⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.²⁰

Read 1 Corinthians 15

"We do not fight for victory but from victory." I have heard this statement many times. The statement applies directly to these few verses. Paul, with confidence, reminds the church in Corinth of their position in Christ. Followers of Jesus do not have to fear death. Followers of Jesus don't have to worry about the grave.

²⁰ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 1 Co 15:55–58.

“Paul looked forward in these verses to the fulfillment of two Old Testament prophecies at the general resurrection: Death has been swallowed up in victory (see Isa. 25:8); and Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? (see Hos. 13:14).

Though he did not quote either of these texts precisely, these were unmistakably his references. These quotes may represent Paul’s own rendering of these verses from the Hebrew. Of course, his point is clear: because believers’ resurrected bodies will be immortal and imperishable, death will never affect them. Death will not be able to destroy them or to plague them. Instead, believers will live eternally, free from the worry of physical deterioration and death.”²¹

Take note of the first word of verse 58. “Therefore”. As you are probably aware, when you see the word, “therefore”, you need to go look and see what it is there for. Paul says, because we don’t have to fear death and because we are serving the Lord from victory, not for victory, we should *be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.*

²¹ Richard L. Pratt Jr., [1 & 2 Corinthians](#), vol. 7, Holman New Testament Commentary (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000), 271.

Based on the Victory we have in Jesus, we should serve Him faithfully and completely with confidence that God will reward our faithfulness. One of the best ways to give thanks to God, who gives us victory in Jesus, is to serve Him. Will you choose to serve him faithfully without fear?

Reflect and Pray

1. How does knowing your labor in the Lord is *not in vain* change the way you approach your work, ministry, or relationships today?
2. Ask God to deepen your confidence in the victory you already have through Jesus. Pray for a steadfast, immovable spirit that serves Him out of gratitude, not obligation.

DAY 9

Strength in Weakness

By Mike Haley

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

⁹ And He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.²²

Read 2 Corinthians 12

Paul had made many trips, traveling from town to town in a march across Asia and Macedonia. He told everyone who would listen that He had been thrown from His horse and had seen a bright light from heaven that blinded him for three days.

He was a strong man who had been on a mission to persecute those who were leaving the Jewish tradition to follow this Jesus of Nazareth. But, Jesus spoke to him from Heaven, and his life was radically changed.

²² [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 2 Co 12:9-10.

After preaching the gospel for many years, he had suffered many hardships for the cause of Christ.

2 Corinthians 11:23-28

²³ *Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often.*

²⁴ *From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one.*

²⁵ *Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep;*

²⁶ *in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;*

²⁷ *in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness—*

²⁸ *besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.*²³

Paul suffered more than most of those who have been martyred for Christ. When I read this passage, I am reminded that the things I have suffered seem small in comparison to what Paul suffered. It is in these times when He suffered, he felt weak in body and spirit, that Paul discovered the power of Christ. The Lord strengthened His weary heart. In these times of weakness, God had the power to give him a renewed heart and hope.

²³ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 2 Co 11:23–28.

Paul had been on a mission to carry the good news of Christ to a world that was desperate for hope. He found the Lord Jesus was able to encourage and strengthen him in his darkest moments of pain and suffering.

In our greatest sorrows, Jesus is there. In our darkest moments, Jesus remains the light that shines within us. In our lowest moments, Jesus can still the storms that overwhelm us.

2 Corinthians 12:9b

*My strength is made perfect in weakness.*²⁴

Jesus came to earth and was born a baby for us. He came to suffer in this broken world for us. He wanted to taste death for us. He rose from the dead to demonstrate to us His LOVE and His POWER! He can bring strength to you and to me when we are weak.

Psalm 103:14

*¹⁴For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.*²⁵

Reflect and Pray

1. Paul found joy in suffering because it revealed Christ's power in him. How could embracing weakness change your attitude toward trials, hardships, or the pressures you face today?
2. Ask the Lord to help you see your limitations not as failures but as opportunities for His power to shine through. Pray for the humility to *boast in your infirmities* so that Christ's strength may rest upon you.

²⁴ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 2 Co 12:9.

²⁵ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ps 103:14.

DAY 10

The God Who Fights for Us

By Mike Haley

Exodus 14:13-14

¹³ And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.

¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.²⁶

Read Exodus 14

We are often told that we are in a battle against the forces of evil. The Devil is our adversary, and his goal is to destroy the work of Christ. He is a deceiver, a liar, and the accuser of the brethren.

John 10:10a

¹⁰ The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.²⁷

Revelation 12:9

⁹ So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the

²⁶ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ex 14:13–14.

²⁷ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 10:9–10.

*whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.*²⁸

We are faced with the forces of evil, and we are in a battle for truth and righteousness. The Lord tells us...

Ephesians 6:10

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

*¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*²⁹

There are times when we need to take the advice of the Lord God Almighty as Moses did. *Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever.*¹⁴ *The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.*³⁰

The Lord performed a mighty work that day, parting the Red Sea and allowing Israel to cross over on dry land. He also allowed Pharaoh's army to march into the same sea, but God caused the waters to return in great power, and all of them were drowned in the waters.

God commands us to put on the armor and to stand for truth, but He also tells us to trust in Him with all our hearts.

²⁸ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Re 12:9.

²⁹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Eph 6:10–11.

³⁰ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ex 14:13–14.

He tells us to rest in Him and rely upon Him. It is His strength and His power that we can proceed in victory.

Romans 8:37

³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.³¹

How are we more than conquerors? Read these passages of scripture which reveal how we are more than conquerors in JESUS.

1 John 4:4

⁴ You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.³²

1 John 5:4-5

⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

⁵ Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?³³

John 5:24

²⁴ “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has

³¹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ro 8:37.

³² [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 1 Jn 4:4.

³³ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 1 Jn 5:4–5.

*everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment,
but has passed from death into life.*³⁴

There is a time to stand for Him in faith. There is a time to stand still and see the power of the LORD, for He is able to deliver us.

Reflect and Pray

1. God doesn't just call us to fight for Him; He fights *for us*. How does knowing that "the LORD will fight for you" change the way you approach opposition, hardship, or spiritual warfare?
2. Ask God to quiet your fears and strengthen your faith as you face spiritual battles. Pray that you will learn when to act and when to rest—trusting His timing, His power, and His plan.

³⁴ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 5:24.

DAY 11

Nothing is Impossible

By Michael Haley

Luke 1:37

³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.”³⁵

Read Luke 1

Luke, like a seasoned journalist, compiled the Gospel of Luke so the early church could be confident in the things they had been taught. Imagine him interviewing the eyewitnesses to all the things he would share, all while under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The first chapter of Luke details how angels visited both Elizabeth and Mary. Four hundred years had passed since Malachi, the last prophet, had spoken a word from God to Israel. The Gospels begin with God once again visiting His people.

Gabriel first visits Zechariah to announce the birth of John. Zechariah was a priest, but to this point in his service, he had never heard directly from God. While serving in the temple, the angel proclaimed to him that God had heard his prayers and that his wife would bear a son. To say he was surprised would be an understatement, but if we're honest, can we blame him?

Six months later, Gabriel returns with another announcement. This time to a young virgin named Mary.

³⁵ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Lk 1:37.

Like Zechariah, she was *greatly troubled*. Mary asked a reasonable question: *How will this be, since I am a virgin?* The angel replied, *The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren.*

Elizabeth was barren, and Mary was a virgin, yet both would give birth to miracles. Our key verse today is Luke 1:37—the very next statement Gabriel gives to Mary: *For nothing will be impossible with God.* What a mighty God we serve!

One of the things I love most about this story is Mary's response. In verse 38, she replies with complete surrender: *Let it be to me according to your word.* When we grasp the weight of the angel's words, the weight of our surrender almost seems weightless. When God calls us to surrender to His will, we may wrestle with doubts, but once we cling to the truth that nothing is impossible with God, how could we not respond the same way? "Let it be to me according to your word."

Reflect and Pray

1. Reflect: How might your outlook change if you truly believed that nothing, no circumstance, no struggle, no prayer, is impossible with God?
2. Ask God to strengthen your faith and give you Mary's heart of surrender. "Let it be to me according to Your word."

DAY 12

Christ the Warrior King

By Michael Haley

Revelation 19:11-16

¹¹ Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war.

¹² His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself.

¹³ He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God.

¹⁴ And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.

¹⁵ From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. ³⁶

Read Revelation 19

This passage stands in stark contrast to the image of Jesus as a baby in a manger. When He returns to rule, He will come as the Warrior King. His first advent was one of humility and

³⁶ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Re 19:11–16.

sacrifice, while His second will be marked by majesty and power.

The first time He came, He entered the world as a servant, born in a manger, wearing a crown of thorns, and riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. But when He comes again, He will return as the conquering King, riding a white horse, wearing many crowns, and seated on a throne of glory.

Christmas is the season when we celebrate His first coming while also anticipating the second. In His first coming, Jesus came to save; in His second, He will come to judge. The first time, He was despised and rejected; the next time, every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess that He is Lord. The first advent revealed the Lamb who was slain for the sins of the world; the second will reveal the Lion of the tribe of Judah who reigns forever. The manger and the cross displayed His mercy, but soon, the clouds of heaven will reveal His majesty.

Paul reminds us in 1 Thessalonians that the return of Christ is certain, so we are called to live considering that day. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night, so we must stay awake and alert, faithfully waiting for the moment He takes us home.

Because Jesus came first to pay for our sins, those who have placed their faith in Him have no reason to fear His return. Instead, we live with eager anticipation, striving to be

found faithful when the sky splits open and the King of Kings and Lord of Lords calls us home.

Reflect and Pray

1. How does living with the certainty of Christ's return shape your priorities, your purity, and your courage this week?
2. Ask the Lord to help you live with both gratitude for His first coming and urgency for His second. Pray for faithfulness and boldness as you await the return of your Warrior King.

WHAT A NAME

WHAT A NAME

Everlasting Father

DAY 13

The Father Who Never Leaves

By Jon Haley

Deuteronomy 31:6

⁶ Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.”³⁷

Read Deuteronomy 31

The verse of scripture in which this book is about refers to Jesus the Messiah. Jesus, the second person of the Trinity. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. “In context, this verse is proclaiming the redemption of Israel and the activities, titles, and blessings of the Messiah who is to rule the earth and usher in a reign of blessing and peace that will have no end. One of His titles is ‘Everlasting Father.’”³⁸

Isaiah 9:6

*⁶For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.³⁹*

³⁷ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Dt 31:6.

³⁸ <https://www.gotquestions.org/Everlasting-Father.html>

³⁹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Is 9:6.

When speaking of God the Father, we most often do not reference Jesus. “In this context, it is best taken as an idiom, commonly used in the ancient world, for a benevolent and just official or ruler.”⁴⁰ Therefore, this section of the devotional will focus on God the Father.

Moses is about to die, and God is going to turn the leadership of the people of Israel over to Joshua. Moses stands before the people to assure them that God’s presence will not leave them or forsake them. He then reiterates this several times, specifically to Joshua.

Deuteronomy 31:7-8

⁷ Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, “Be strong and of good courage, for you must go with this people to the land which the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it.

⁸ And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed.⁴¹

Hebrews 13:5-6

⁵ Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

⁴⁰ Robert B. Chisholm, “[The Major Prophets](#),” in *Holman Concise Bible Commentary*, ed. David S. Dockery (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1998), 270.

⁴¹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Dt 31:7–8.

⁶ So we may boldly say: “*The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?*”⁴²

“Resting on this Divine assurance will both moderate our desires and alleviate our fears. “I will never leave thee nor forsake thee” is a guarantee of God’s continual provision and protection, and this rebukes all inordinate desires and condemns all anxious fears”⁴³

The O.T. promise of God’s presence calls us not to be fearful because of His presence. Similarly, the N.T. promise found in Hebrews also addresses our fears. When we remember God is with us, then fear will be dispelled. Hold to this powerful truth, that our Everlasting Father will never leave us nor forsake us.

Reflect and Pray

1. Moses reminded Joshua—and the people—that God would go before them and be with them. Where might God be calling you to step forward in faith, trusting that He is already there ahead of you?
2. Thank God for being your Everlasting Father who never leaves nor forsakes you. Ask Him to strengthen your courage and quiet your fears with the assurance of His presence today.

⁴² [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Heb 13:5–6.

⁴³ Arthur Walkington Pink, [An Exposition of Hebrews](#) (Swengel, PA: Bible Truth Depot, 1954), 1135.

DAY 14

Adopted Into His Family

By Jon Haley

Romans 8:15, 17

¹⁵ *For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”*
¹⁷ *and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.*⁴⁴

Read Romans 8

This chapter is one of the most beloved in the Bible. There are many powerful and meaningful verses penned by Paul in this theologically rich passage.

Romans 8:1

*There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.*⁴⁵

Romans 8:11

¹¹ *But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the*

⁴⁴ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ro 8:14–17.

⁴⁵ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ro 8:1.

*dead will also give life to your mortal bodies
through His Spirit who dwells in you.⁴⁶*

Romans 8:18

*¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present
time are not worthy to be compared with the glory
which shall be revealed in us. ⁴⁷*

Romans 8:28

*²⁸ And we know that all things work together for
good to those who love God, to those who are the
called according to His purpose. ⁴⁸*

Romans 8:31

*³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is
for us, who can be against us?⁴⁹*

Adoption is a powerful experience. I remember, as a young boy, watching from the staircase, peering into the living room as parents received a precious little baby they were adopting. I don't remember all the stories; I am not sure I even knew the stories. However, I can recall the emotions. Parents who had prayed for a child were holding their little boy or girl for the first time. What a powerful scene.

Eventually, I would experience this on an entirely different level. My parents adopted a little girl when I was

⁴⁶ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ro 8:11.

⁴⁷ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ro 8:18.

⁴⁸ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ro 8:28.

⁴⁹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ro 8:31.

12 years of age. What an experience of joy and elation as my parents had desperately prayed for another child.

Paul uses this terminology when speaking to followers of Jesus. When we surrender our lives to Jesus and place our faith in Him for salvation, we are adopted into the family of God. God is our Father, and Jesus is our brother. We are joint heirs with Christ, Paul states. WOW!

Adoption into God's family was made possible by Jesus. He humbled Himself and took on human flesh. He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death. He humbled Himself and willingly laid his life down for you and me. His death provided a way for us to be adopted and thus become joint heirs with Christ. This Christmas, let us be reminded that adoption was made possible through Jesus.

Reflect and Pray

1. Being a child of God means you share in both His sufferings and His glory. How can your life reflect the character and mission of your "Abba, Father" as one who carries His name into the world?
2. Thank God for adopting you through Jesus Christ and making you His child and heir. Ask Him to help you live each day with the confidence, gratitude, and joy of someone who belongs to His family.

DAY 15

The Father who Provides

By Mike Haley

Philippians 1:19-20

*¹⁹ And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
²⁰ Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.⁵⁰*

Read Philippians 1

Matthew 6:33

³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.⁵¹

As we celebrate the first advent of the Son of God this year, we remind ourselves that God the Father seeks to provide all our needs according to His riches in glory. He is the Everlasting Father, and He was willing to give His only Son to live here on the earth, to suffer and to be tempted in all ways as we are. He was willing for His Son to give his life as the Lamb of God in the death on the cross for our sins.

The angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying:

⁵⁰ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Php 4:19–20.

⁵¹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Mt 6:33.

Matthew 1:20-21

²⁰ But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

²¹ And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”⁵²

The greatest need we have is forgiveness of our sins and the gift of everlasting life. He gives us a reason to live and a purpose for our existence. God has plans for our lives. He knows us and loves us as a loving Father. He also gives us the wonderful hope of life everlasting with Him in a place beyond our imagination in beauty and tranquility.

2 Corinthians 9:15

¹⁵ Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!⁵³

James 1:17

¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.⁵⁴

The Lord Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, just as was promised in Micah 5:2. Bethlehem meant “house of bread”. He was to be born in a place called the “house of bread” and eventually would be identified as the Bread of Life.

⁵² [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Mt 1:19–21.

⁵³ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 2 Co 9:15.

⁵⁴ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jas 1:17.

James 6:35

³⁵ And Jesus said to them, *I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.*⁵⁵

James 6:48

⁴⁸ *I am the bread of life.*⁵⁶

James 6:51

⁵¹ *I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.*⁵⁷

Their fathers ate of the manna that fell from heaven when they wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Jesus said to them that the Father who gave them the manna has now sent the living bread from heaven.

John 5:24

²⁴ *Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has*

⁵⁵ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 6:35.

⁵⁶ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 6:48.

⁵⁷ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 6:51.

*everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment,
but has passed from death into life.⁵⁸*

Reflect and Pray

1. What practical habit (budget, journal of answered prayer, weekly generosity) will help you remember the Father's provision in the new year?
2. Ask God to deepen your trust in Him as your Everlasting Father and faithful Provider. What specific area of your life do you need to surrender so you can seek first His kingdom and trust Him to supply the rest?

⁵⁸ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 5:24.

DAY 16

A Father's Compassion

By Mike Haley

Psalm 103:13-14

*¹³As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities
those who fear Him.*

*¹⁴For He knows our frame; He remembers that we
are dust.⁵⁹*

Read Psalm 103

Jesus said, *How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings*⁶⁰ Luke recounted the scene as Jesus looked over the city of Jerusalem the day of his triumphal entry. As Jesus drew near the city of Jerusalem on the day of His triumphal entry.

Luke 19:41-42

*⁴¹Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept
over it,*

*⁴²saying, If you had known, even you, especially in
this your day, the things that make for your peace!
But now they are hidden from your eyes.⁶¹*

The Lord Jesus knew that soon He would be betrayed and arrested. He saw ahead and realized He would be condemned

⁵⁹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ps 103:13–14.

⁶⁰ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Mt 23:37.

⁶¹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Lk 19:41–42.

by Pilate, and the leaders of the nation of Israel would cry out, *Crucify Him, crucify Him, we will not have Him rule over us.* The Lord Jesus saw the destruction that would shortly come to this city and that the temple would be destroyed by the Romans. He wept! He saw the nation would be scattered yet again. Jesus wept! He had such love for the people, and yet the rulers did not realize that He had come to be their Messiah and would provide salvation for everyone who would believe.

We celebrate at Christmas the coming of the promised Redeemer of Israel, yet we know that He came not only for the nation of Israel but also for the entire world.

John 3:16

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ⁶²

The Father was moved with compassion for the world, which was condemned by their own sin and rebellion. The Father was willing for His only Son to be born, to live, and to die so that all who would believe could be forgiven their sins and receive the gift of eternal life. That gift would change their life forever.

The world that sat in darkness did not comprehend that the Light of the world and the living bread had come to save

⁶² [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 3:16.

them. The majority of the nation of Israel did not receive Him.

John 1:11-12

¹¹ He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. ¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name.⁶³

He came to give us the light of life. Those who believe and receive His light become the lights of Christ to shine in the world that remains in darkness. This Christmas, let your light shine before others, so that they may receive the true light of salvation, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflect and Pray

1. Those who receive the Light become lights to the world. How can you let the compassion of the Father and the light of Christ shine through your words and actions this Christmas season?
2. Jesus wept over Jerusalem because His people rejected the peace He offered. Ask God to give you His heart of compassion—who in your life needs to experience His mercy through you this week?

⁶³ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 1:10–12.

DAY 17

Love that Lasts Forever

By Michael Haley

Jeremiah 31:3

³The LORD appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. ⁶⁴

Read Jeremiah 31

When the Bible calls Jesus the Everlasting Father, it's not referring to His role within the Trinity—God the Father, Son, and Spirit—but rather to His role as a King who rules with a father's heart. He is the King of Kings, the eternal ruler whose love and care for His children never end.

Unlike earthly fathers, no matter how well they loved us or how much they may have failed us, Jesus' love is perfect and unchanging. He is the Father who never leaves, the King whose compassion has no limit, and the Shepherd whose care never ceases. What an amazing truth to remember during the Christmas season: the Child in the manger is also the eternal King who loves us with everlasting love. Scripture is full of reminders of that love.

⁶⁴ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Je 31:3.

Jesus is the initiator of love, *We love because He first loved us* (1 John 4:19). His love is conquering and inseparable: *In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life... nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:37-39

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,

³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. ⁶⁵

Our Everlasting Father demonstrated ultimate, sacrificial love when He laid down His life for us on the cross. His blood has freed us from the bondage of sin and death (Revelation 1:5). That love doesn't just redeem, but it restores. Just as Jesus redeemed and restored Judah and Israel, He redeems and restores all who call upon His name. If you haven't yet received the perfect, saving love of Jesus, today is the perfect day to do so.

Call on His name, repent of your sin, and receive His grace. But if you already belong to Him, let this be a

⁶⁵ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Ro 8:37–39.

reminder: walk in the truth and promises of His love. His love is perfect, and perfect love casts out fear (1 John 4:18). The Lord says, *I have continued My faithfulness to you*. His love for you is not based on your performance; it's rooted in His character. Take a moment today to rest in that truth. Your Everlasting Father loves you with an everlasting love.

Reflect and Pray

1. Do I truly believe that nothing can separate me from Christ's love? How can I reflect the heart of the Everlasting Father to those around me this week?
2. Thank You, Jesus, for loving me with a perfect, everlasting love. Help me rest in Your faithfulness, not my performance. Teach me to reflect Your love to others in the way I live and lead.

DAY 18

The Father of Eternity

By Michael Haley

John 17:3

³ And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.⁶⁶

Read John 17

The Christmas season is a time when many families hold their traditions close. Our family, like yours, has a few that have become sacred over the years. My favorite tradition is our annual trip to the San Isabel National Forest to hunt for our Christmas tree.

December 6, 2009, marked the first of what has since become an annual adventure. Usually, on the first weekend of December, we head to the mountains in search of the perfect tree. Over the years, there have been plenty of tears shed, arguments had, dads and kids lost, church vans stuck, snowballs thrown, and trees cut down. Once we finally agree on a tree, we cut it down, drag it back to the vehicle, and secure it with ropes. If you'd like to relive the adventure with us, check out the photo album titled "Christmas Tree Hunt" on my Facebook page.

⁶⁶ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Jn 17:2–3.

On the way home, we usually stop for pizza, and once we get back, the decorating begins. Part of our tradition is to play the movie *Elf* while hanging ornaments on just the right branches, which is usually accompanied by a tin of popcorn (which, I might add, seems to have gotten much smaller over the years!). One of the movie's most famous lines is when Buddy the Elf excitedly shouts, "Santa! Santa here? I know him! I know him!"

That line always makes me think of a greater truth found in John 17:3.

John 17:3

³And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.⁶⁷

Eternal life isn't about knowing about God; it's about knowing Him personally. Knowing God is not just an intellectual understanding — it's living in fellowship with Him. It's an intimate relationship, where you truly know God as a person and experience His presence in your life.

Paul expressed this so beautifully in Philippians 3, when he contrasted his former religious resume with the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus:

⁶⁷ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Jn 17:2–3.

Philippians 3:7-8

⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁶⁸

The Father of Eternity invites you into eternal life, a relationship with Him that begins now and lasts forever. Where you spend eternity depends on whether you know Him, not just whether you've heard about Him. The only way to know the Father is through Jesus, His Son. As you enjoy the traditions and moments of this season, pause and consider the most important question of all: Do you truly know Him?

Reflect and Pray

1. How can I cultivate a deeper, more personal walk with Jesus this Christmas season? Who can I share the joy of truly knowing Him with this week?
2. Lord, thank You for inviting me into a real relationship with You. Help me not to settle for knowing the facts about You but to walk closely with You each day. Deepen my love, strengthen my faith, and help me to live like someone who truly knows You.

⁶⁸ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Php 3:7–9.

WHAT A NAME

Prince of Peace

DAY 19

Peace Announced

By Jon Haley

Luke 2:13-14

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

¹⁴ Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!⁶⁹

Read Luke 2

The shepherds were not the most upstanding citizens in the Ancient Near East. Most commentaries will inform you they were not even allowed to be witnesses in a court of law because they were not reliable or trustworthy. The Shepherds were outcasts and continually lived as ceremonially unclean. This meant they could not enter the Temple and worship.

I find it incredibly intriguing that the incredible witnesses become incredible witnesses of the birth of Jesus. Luke tells us they immediately went and told everyone about the night that changed history.

⁶⁹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Lk 2:13–14.

Luke 2:17-18

¹⁷ Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child.

¹⁸ And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds.⁷⁰

Take a moment to meditate on the words the Angel told the Shepherd. The Angel reveals the purpose for which God became man.

Luke 2:10-11

¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹ For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.⁷¹

These despised men hear the most wonderful thing about how this joy comes. It comes through the birth of “a Savior ... who is the Messiah, the Lord” (v. 11). This is the only time in the Gospels this phrase is used. It’s the only time we see all the titles of Jesus brought together—Savior, Messiah, Lord. He will save his people from their sins. Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah promised to Israel. And most staggeringly of all, he is Lord. He is God. He is

⁷⁰ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Lk 2:17–18.

⁷¹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Lk 2:10–11.

Maker of all. He is Ruler of all. The angels not only give the gospel to the Shepherds; they give the true identity of Christ.⁷²

The Gospel, the Good News, came to the humble, lowly Shepherds. They received, accepted, believed, rejoiced and then shared it. This is how all of Jesus should respond to the Gospel. How about you? Have you received and believed the Good News? If yes, are you rejoicing and sharing the Gospel that brings joy to all people?

Don't miss the result of believing and receiving. The angels sing a hymn of praise before they leave.

Luke 2:14

¹⁴Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!⁷³

The NKJV translation does not depict the angels' message correctly. "The NIV's **on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests** is preferred to the KJV's "good will toward men." God's peace is not given to those who have good will, but to those who are recipients of God's good will or favor.⁷⁴

In other words, peace is available to those who have believed and received the Gospel's Good News. Apart from a relationship with God through Jesus, peace on earth for all men is impossible.

⁷² Thabiti Anyabwile, *Exalting Jesus in Luke*, Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary (Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2018), 43.

⁷³ *The New King James Version* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Lk 2:14.

⁷⁴ John A. Martin, "[Luke](#)," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 208.

Luke 2:14

*¹⁴Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to
men on whom his favor rests. ⁷⁵*

Reflect and Pray

1. The shepherds heard, believed, rejoiced, and then shared the Gospel. Who in your life needs to hear the Good News of peace this Christmas, and how will you share it with them?
2. Peace on earth is given to those on whom God's favor rests, those who receive Jesus by faith. How can you pray today for a deeper awareness of the peace that comes only through a relationship with Christ?

⁷⁵ [The Holy Bible: New International Version](#) (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1984), Lk 2:14.

DAY 20

Peace with God

By Jon Haley

Romans 5:1

¹Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ ⁷⁶

Read Romans 5

Mankind cannot experience true peace OF God until we are at peace WITH God. Peace of mind and heart are not possible apart from God. We can have peace with God in our lives only if we are at peace with God.

“Having proven that justification before God comes only through faith, Paul now reveals the result of justification: peace with God. What the first Adam lost in the Garden of Eden, the second Adam has restored. Now any who seek peace with God may have it.”⁷⁷

Paul explains the sin of Adam puts all of mankind as enemies with God. Our sin separates us from the Holy and righteous God. We are not only separated, but enemies of our Creator. This is an alarming reality. Indeed, this is the “bad news” of the Bible. **It gets worse!** If we die without our

⁷⁶ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ro 5:1.

⁷⁷ Kenneth Boa and William Kruidenier, [Romans](#), vol. 6, Holman New Testament Commentary (Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000), 150.

relationship being reconciled, we will live for eternity as enemies of God.

Let's look at our Romans 5:1 *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ*, and we can have peace with God through justification by faith. What does this mean? How does one become justified? I am glad you asked. This is the “good news” of the Bible.

“While we were rebellious and despicable, Christ died for us so that we could come to God, find peace with him, and become heirs of his promises. Christ did not die so that we could be made lovable; Christ died because God already loved us and wanted to bring us close to himself.”⁷⁸

You see, even though you and I were enemies of God, Jesus came and died to make a way for us to be reconciled to God. *But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.*⁷⁹ God desired for us to have peace WITH Him. Therefore, He sent Jesus to live a sinless life to be the perfect sacrifice. Because Jesus died for us we can have peace WITH God.

To be justified means to be declared “Not Guilty”. If we are declared “not guilty”, then we are no longer enemies of God but friends of God. The relationship that was broken through sin can be restored by faith. Do you want to be justified and attain peace with God?

⁷⁸ Bruce Barton et al., [*Life Application New Testament Commentary*](#) (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale, 2001), 597.

⁷⁹ Tyndale House Publishers, [*Holy Bible: New Living Translation*](#) (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 2015), Ro 5:8.

Here are three steps to take to be at peace with God:

1. **Admit you are a sinner.** Romans 3:23 *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*⁸⁰
2. **Believe in Jesus and receive forgiveness.** John 3:16 *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*⁸¹
3. **Confess your faith in Jesus.** Romans 10:9 *that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*⁸²

Reflect and Pray

1. Justification by faith changes our status from enemy to friend of God. In what ways can you live out your restored relationship with God this week—showing others the peace and grace you’ve received?
2. Because of Jesus, those once declared guilty are now declared righteous—fully forgiven and accepted. How can you thank God today for reconciling you to Himself and pray for someone who still needs that same peace?

⁸⁰ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ro 3:23.

⁸¹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 3:16.

⁸² [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ro 10:9.

DAY 21

Peace in Trials

By Mike Haley

John 14:27

²⁷ Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. ⁸³

It is most difficult to have peace of mind and heart when we are in the middle of a storm. Through the years of ministry, I have been with many families in the waiting rooms of many hospitals. Some of these visits have been very happy times filled with laughter and stories of family times. Other times, they were stressful and sobering.

I have heard doctors say, “It’s cancer, but we got it all.” I have also heard them say, “We have done all we know to do and now we will wait and see.” I have heard them say, “We did everything we could, but they did not survive.” Those different words from doctors can spark a wide range of emotions, but “peace” is not one of them.

How do we have peace in the difficult times of our lives? When the angel appeared to the shepherds the night of the Savior’s birth, his message was:

⁸³ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 14:27.

Luke 2:10-11

¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.

¹¹ For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.’⁸⁴

Then the heavens were filled with a host of angels praising God and saying: *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.*⁸⁵ The Lord Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace. He alone can come into the storms of our life and say “Peace, be still.”⁸⁶

The secret of peace is knowing and believing in the Prince of Peace. He is in control. He has the power to still the storms and the power to bring us through the storms to the other side.

John 16:33

³³ These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.’⁸⁷

Jesus said, *In Me*, there is peace. Believing in Him, trusting in Him, resting in Him, brings peace. Be at peace,

⁸⁴ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Lk 2:10–11.

⁸⁵ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Lk 2:14

⁸⁶ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Mk 4:39.

⁸⁷ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 16:33.

the Lord says to us: “I got this, don’t worry, I can take care of you”. I can bring you through this. I can provide for you.” Peace is found in a person who is all-powerful, all-knowing, all-loving!

Reflect and Pray

1. True peace isn’t the absence of trouble; it’s the presence of Jesus. How can you remind yourself, and others, that peace is found *in Him* when fear or uncertainty comes?
2. Even in life’s hardest storms, Christ’s presence brings calm and confidence. What trial or burden do you need to place in His hands today, trusting that He has the power to say, “Peace, be still”?

DAY 22

Peace with Others

By Mike Haley

Ephesians 2:14-15

¹⁴ For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,

¹⁵ having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,⁸⁸

Read Ephesians 2

Peaceful relationships —the ability to get along with others —are truly challenging. Paul writes to the Church of Ephesus about the peace given to the church, composed of both Jews and Gentiles.

The Gentile believers have been accepted into the fellowship of the church, the body of Christ, by the power of forgiveness in the cross of Christ.

Paul also speaks to the subject of peace with others in Ephesians 4:25-32. He urges Jews and Gentiles alike to *Put away anger and evil speaking and encourages believers to be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another even as God in Christ forgave you.*

⁸⁸ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Eph 2:14–15.

- Jesus taught the golden rule:

Matthew 7:12

¹² Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.⁸⁹

- Jesus taught us to go the second mile in helping others who are in need.

Matthew 5:41-42

⁴¹ And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. ⁴² Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.⁹⁰

Just as God has extended to us His abundant grace and mercy, we also should extend that grace and mercy to others, especially to those who are brothers and sisters in Christ. Paul encouraged the Church at Philippi to help the two women who had conflict to resolve their differences and work together for the good of the church.

Philippians 4:2-3

*² I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.
³ And I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with*

⁸⁹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Mt 7:12.

⁹⁰ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Mt 5:40–42.

*Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers,
whose names are in the Book of Life.*⁹¹

2 Thessalonians 3:1-2

¹Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as *it is* with you, ² and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith.⁹²

Romans 12:17-18

¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.

⁸ If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.⁹³

Live each day to please the Lord and walk in love. We all know that conflicts arise in our families, within our church family, and with our neighbors. Conflicts are inevitable. Live in such a way that you are a good neighbor and a faithful follower of Christ. He is our peace!

Reflect and Pray

1. What practical step can you take this week to pursue peace and reflect the love of Christ in a strained relationship?
2. Who do you need to pray for today—asking God to soften your heart and give you strength to show kindness, mercy, or reconciliation?

⁹¹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Php 4:2–3.

⁹² [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 2 Th 3:1–2.

⁹³ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ro 12:17-18.

DAY 23

Peace that Guards Us

By Michael Haley

Philippians 4:6-7

⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁹⁴

Read Philippians 4

The peace of God stands guard over our hearts and minds like a soldier ready to protect us. But how can we experience the kind of peace that truly surpasses understanding?

Verse six gives us a key: pray about everything and worry about nothing. Of course, this is often easier said than done. **Scripture teaches us that prayer is the antidote for worry:**

“Three words express different aspects of prayer: prayer, a worshipful attitude; petition, a need; and requests, the specific concern. Thanksgiving shapes prayers with gratitude. In response, the peace of God brings power to endure. The peace surpasses knowledge, calming a troubling situation when explanations fail.”⁹⁵

⁹⁴ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Php 4:5–7.

⁹⁵ 9 Richard R. Melick Jr., “Philippians,” in CSB Study Bible: Notes, ed. Edwin A. Blum and Trevin Wax

Prayer is a way for us to acknowledge our dependence on God. Much of our anxiety comes from trying to control outcomes rather than trusting Him. When worry arises, let it serve as a signal to bring your heart to God in prayer. Hillsong United captures this beautifully in their song Prince of Peace:

“The Prince of Peace meets me there, You’re always there,
 You heard my prayer. Your love
 surrounds me. When my thoughts wage war, when night
 screams terror, there Your voice will
 roar. Come death or shadow, God I know Your light will
 meet me there. When fear comes
 knocking, there You’ll be my guard. When day breeds
 trouble, there You’ll hold my heart. Come
 storm or battle, God I know Your peace will meet me there
 again and again.”

As you meditate on this passage, don’t miss verse eight:

Philippians 4:8

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.⁹⁶

Many of our worries stem from believing the enemy’s lies. Prayer aligns our hearts with the truth of God’s Word, allowing His peace to take root. When we turn our anxieties into prayers, we experience the peace that surpasses

(Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers, 2017), 1888–1889.

⁹⁶ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Php 4:8.

WHAT IS NAME

understanding, a peace that guards our hearts, strengthens our minds, and holds us steady even in the midst of chaos.

Reflect and Pray

1. How can I turn my anxious thoughts into prayers today? What truths from Scripture can I focus on to remind myself of God's presence and peace?
2. Lord, I bring my worries and fears to You. Help me trust You with what I cannot control. Fill me with Your peace, and teach me to meditate on what is true, lovely, and praiseworthy.

DAY 24

The Coming Kingdom of Peace

By Michael Haley

Revelation 21:1-4

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.

Also there was no more sea.

² Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.

⁴ And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."⁹⁷

Read Revelation 21

We spend so much of life searching for peace, a quiet moment, a deep breath, a sense that everything is finally okay. But no matter how still the room becomes or how calm the moment feels, something always reminds us that true peace is still out of reach. That's because the peace we long for isn't found in this world; it's found in a Person.

⁹⁷ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Re 21:1–4.

Wow—talk about peace! One day, Jesus will split the sky and call home all those who are alive and asleep in Christ. I believe we will be raptured out of this world (1 Thessalonians 5) before the seven-year period known as the Great Tribulation. Once the Tribulation is over, we will return with Jesus as He conquers the enemy at the Battle of Armageddon. Then we will rule and reign with Him for 1,000 years. At the end of that reign, the earth will be destroyed, and Heaven will become a place on earth. The Heaven and earth as we know them now will be no more, and God will dwell with His people on the new Heaven and new earth.

Think about that for a moment. During the busy Christmas season, we strive to find moments of peace, quiet, and solitude. Yet even in those moments, we never experience complete peace. But one day, when God dwells with us, He will wipe away every tear from our eyes. Death will breathe its last, and life will reign forever. There will be no more loss, no more pain, no more mourning, and no more crying.

Christmas morning is a celebration of the Savior's birth, the day God clothed Himself in humanity so that we could be clothed in His righteousness.

2 Corinthians 5:21

²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. ⁹⁸

No matter what gifts you give or receive this Christmas, there is no greater gift than the gift of Jesus. The only way to experience true peace — both now and for eternity — is to give your life to the Prince of Peace. Those who do not know Jesus will not experience Heaven, but those who have placed their faith in Him can rest in the hope that one day, we will meet Him face to face.

Reflect and Pray

1. How can I share the message of true and lasting peace with someone this Christmas? Am I living in a way that reflects my anticipation of seeing Jesus face to face?
2. In a world filled with chaos, help me rest in Your promise of eternal peace. Teach me to live each day with anticipation of Your return and gratitude for Your gift of salvation.

⁹⁸ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#) (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), 2 Co 5:20–21.

DAY 25

The Light Has Come

By Jon Haley

John 8:12

¹² Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.'⁹⁹

Read Luke 2

Jesus, our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace, is also The Light of the World. He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He is the Alpha and Omega.

This morning, as you celebrate the birth of Jesus, Immanuel, God with us, I want to take you back to the day his faithful parents took him to the Temple to be presented and dedicated as the firstborn male. He would have been, most likely, 40 days old.

Luke 2:22-24 (NLT)

²² Then it was time for their purification offering, as required by the law of Moses after the birth of a child; so his parents took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

⁹⁹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jn 8:12.

²³ *The law of the Lord says, ‘If a woman’s first child is a boy, he must be dedicated to the LORD.’*

²⁴ *So they offered the sacrifice required in the law of the Lord—“either a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”¹⁰⁰*

I love the two stories that follow. The last story is of a widow named Anna who was 84 years old. She went to the Temple daily, day after day, and year after year. She was waiting to see the One who would be the world's redemption.

Luke 2:38

³⁸ *And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.¹⁰¹*

Just before she saw the “redemption of God,” we are told about Simeon, who was also waiting to see the Promised One. God had revealed to Simeon that he would not die until He saw the Promised One.

Luke 2:28-32

²⁸ *he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:*

²⁹ *“Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace,*

According to Your word;

³⁰ *For my eyes have seen Your salvation*

¹⁰⁰ Tyndale House Publishers, [Holy Bible: New Living Translation](#) (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 2015), Lk 2:22–24.

¹⁰¹ [The New King James Version](#) (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Lk 2:38.

*³¹Which You have prepared before the face of all
peoples,
³²A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles,
And the glory of Your people Israel.”¹⁰²*

Simeon blessed God for allowing him to see the Promised One —the Light of the world—who would bring salvation to the Jews and Gentiles.

“The special revelation from the Holy Spirit about seeing the Messiah was apparently unique and perhaps came because of Simeon’s intense desire for the Promised One.

On seeing the Child and picking Him up, Simeon ... praised God, the response of godly people toward the Messiah throughout the Gospel of Luke. He then uttered a psalm of praise extolling God for fulfilling His promise by bringing salvation.”¹⁰³

Today, as you celebrate Christmas, may you respond like Anna and Simeon with a heart of Thanksgiving, acknowledging the Light of the World has come to bring salvation to all people

Reflect and Pray

1. How can you carry the light of Christ into the world beyond Christmas Day, shining His love and truth in everyday life?
2. Take a moment to thank God for allowing you to see and know His salvation through Jesus—what words of praise rise from your heart today?

¹⁰² *The New King James Version* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Lk 2:28–32.

¹⁰³ John A. Martin, “[Luke](#),” in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 209.

Conclusion

What a Savior, What a Name

Thank you for joining us on that 25-day journey. I pray this devotional has made you appreciate and reflect on the **NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES, JESUS!** I am a blessed man to have a Father who has faithfully followed JESUS for many years. I am doubly blessed to have a twin brother who is a faithful pastor, father, and grandfather. I am thankful they chose to help author this book, and they continue to challenge me to be a faithful man of God.

Every name we've explored reveals a different facet of His glory and grace: our **Wonderful Counselor** who guides us, our **Mighty God** who strengthens us, our **Everlasting Father** who loves us, and our **Prince of Peace** who calms us.

No matter what season you find yourself in—joy or sorrow, waiting or worship—remember that **He is near, He is faithful, and His name still saves.**

So, lift your eyes, lift your heart, and lift your voice. The Light has come. The King still reigns.

What a Savior. What a Name!

WHAT A NAME

WHAT A NAME

Jesus, Name Above All Names