

A Reading from the Book of Lamentations

It is good to wait in silence for the Lord God to save.

Lamentations 3:17-26

My soul is deprived of peace,
I have forgotten what happiness is;
I tell myself my future is lost,
all that I hoped for from the Lord.
The thought of my homeless poverty
is wormwood and gall;
remembering it over and over
leaves my soul downcast within me.

But I will call this to mind, as my reason to have hope:
the favors of the Lord are not exhausted, his mercies are
not spent;

They are renewed each morning, so great is his
faithfulness.

My portion is the Lord says my soul; therefore I will hope
in him.

Good is the Lord to one who waits for him, to the soul
that seeks him;

It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the
Lord.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Book of Sirach

(Sirach 3:2-7. 12-14)

For the Lord sets a father in honor over his children;
a mother's authority he confirms over her sons.
He who honors his father atones for sins;
he stores up riches who reveres his mother.
He who honors his father is gladdened by children,
and when he prays he is heard.
He who reveres his father will live a long life;
he obeys the Lord who brings comfort to his mother.
He who fears the Lord honors his father,
and serves his parents as rulers.
My son, take care of your father when he is old;
grieve him not as long as he lives.
Even if his mind fail, be considerate with him;
revile him not in the fullness of your strength.
For kindness to a father will not be forgotten,
it will serve as a sin offering--it will take lasting root.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Acts

God has appointed Jesus to judge everyone, alive and dead.

Acts 10:34 – 36, 42 - 43 (Short version)

In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is
acceptable to him.

You know the word that he sent to the Israelites
as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all,
He commissioned us to preach to the people and
testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living
and the dead.

To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes
in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Acts

God has appointed Jesus to judge everyone, alive and dead.

Acts 10:34 – 43 (Long version)

In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is
acceptable to him.

You know the word that he sent to the Israelites
as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all,
what has happened all over Judea,
beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached,
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the holy Spirit and
power.

He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by
the devil,
for God was with him.

We are witnesses of all that he did
both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem.

They put him to death by hanging him on a tree.

This man God raised on the third day and granted that he
be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen
by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose
from the dead. He commissioned us to preach to the people and
testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living
and the dead.

To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes
in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

All people will be brought to life in Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:20 – 23 (Short version)

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a human being; the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order:

Christ the first fruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

All people will be brought to life in Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:20 – 28 (Long version)

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a human being; the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order:

Christ the first fruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death, for “he subjected everything under his feet.” But when it says that everything has been subjected, it is clear that it excludes the One who subjected everything to him. When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the One who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

**A Reading from the Book of
Philippians**

*Jesus will transfigure these wretched
bodies of ours to be like his glorious
body.*

Philippians 3:20 – 21

Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the First Letter of John

*We have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers
and sisters.*

1 John 3:14 -16

We know that we have passed from death
to life because we love our brothers and
sisters. Whoever does not love remains in
death. Everyone who hates his brother is a
murderer, and you know that no murderer
has eternal life remaining in him. The way
we came to know love was that he laid
down his life for us;

so we ought to lay down our lives for our
brothers and sisters.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

Happy are those who die in the Lord.

Revelation 14:13

I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," said the Spirit, "let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

The dead have been judged according to their works.

Revelation 20:11 – 21:1

I saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades

gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death.) Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

There will be no more death.

Revelation 21:1 – 5a, 6b - 7

I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." The one who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his
God, and he will be my son."
The Word of the Lord.