

“The Blessedness of the Saints of God”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Revelation 12:11; Psalm 33:1, 13-15

They overcame him by the blood / of the Lamb*
and by the word of their testi- / mony,
They did not / love their lives*
even / unto death.
Rejoice in the Lord, O you / righteous!*
For praise from the upright is / beautiful.
The Lord looks from / heaven;*
He sees all the / sons of men.
From the place of His dwell- / ing He looks*
on all the inhabitants / of the earth;
He fashions their hearts indi- / vidually;*
He considers / all their works.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Psalm 18:1-2

I will love You, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer. My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

7 READ THE SCRIPTURE AND DEVOTION (OTHER SIDE OF THE PAGE)

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O almighty God, who has knit together Your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, grant us grace so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those unspeakable joys that you have prepared for those who unfeignedly love You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

9 PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

10 SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK
Christ, Thou Art the Sure Foundation

TLH 466
Author Unknown



1. Christ, Thou art the sure Foundation,
Thou the Head and Corner-stone;
Chosen of the Lord and precious
Binding all the Church in one;
Thou Thy Zion's Help forever
And her Confidence alone.

2. To this temple, where we call Thee,
Come, O Lord of hosts, today;
With Thy wonted loving-kindness
Hear Thy servants as they pray
And Thy fullest benediction
Shed within these walls always.

3. Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants
What they ask of Thee to gain,
What they gain from Thee forever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Thy glory,
Evermore with Thee to reign.

4. Praise and honor to the Father,
Praise and honor to the Son,
Praise and honor to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One,
One in might and one in glory,
While unending ages run.

1 BLESS YOURSELF WITH THE HOLY CROSS AND SAY:
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

2 SAY THE APOSTLES' CREED
I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our
Lord, who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died
and was buried. He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the
dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at
the right hand of God, the Father
Almighty. From thence He will come to
judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
Christian church, the communion of
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life
everlasting. Amen.

3 PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER
Our Father, who art in
heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it
is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily
bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who
trespass against us;
and lead us not into
temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and
the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

4 PRAY THE MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

Morning. I thank You, my
heavenly Father, through Jesus
Christ, Your dear Son, that You
have kept me this night from all
harm and danger; and I pray that
You would keep me this day also
from sin and every evil, that all my
doings and life may please You.
For into Your hands I commend
myself, my body and soul, and all
things. Let Your holy angel be with
me, that the evil foe may have no
power over me. Amen.

Evening. I thank you, my
heavenly Father, through Jesus
Christ, Your dear Son, that You
have graciously kept me this day;
and I pray that You would forgive
me all my sins where I have done
wrong, and graciously keep me this
night. For into Your hands, I
commend myself, my body and
soul, and all things. Let Your holy
angel be with me, that the evil foe
may have no power over me. Amen.

Around the Word Devotions + the week of November 7-13, 2021

THEME OF THE WEEK: The Blessedness of the Saints of God

We are sinners made holy by the blood of Jesus. "Saints" means holy ones, that is, forgiven ones. We are born sinners, unholy, sold into sin, but the Lord Jesus has rescued us from the devil's kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of God. We are His children, adopted into His family, and baptized in His name, cleansed with His washing and kept by His Word through life and death to life eternal. This week we rejoice that the Lord has called us by the Gospel, enlightened us with His gifts, sanctifies and keeps us with Jesus as His holy church.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:1-12, Blessings at the Bottom

Jesus puts the blessing where we least expected. Blessed are the wealthy? No: the poor in spirit. Blessed are the happy? No: those who mourn. Blessed are the proud and successful? No: the meek, and those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. We are always tempted to look for the blessing at the top of the heap, but Jesus finds us at the bottom, in the humility of our weakness and wanting, and He blesses us. This is the kingdom of heaven: for us men, and for our salvation, Jesus came down from heaven, all the way down to the death on the cross. Dear Christian, you are the blessed one. Jesus has called you into His heavenly kingdom. *O Lord Jesus Christ, keep me in the joy of Your kingdom. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 125: As the Mountains Surround Jerusalem

Psalm 125 is a pilgrim song, one of the hymns the people would sing as they traveled to Jerusalem. No matter which direction you take into Jerusalem, you are traveling up hill, climbing up a mountain. I imagine all the tired children complaining of their aching legs, and the parents would sing, "As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the LORD is round about His people." The mountains surrounding Jerusalem are a natural defense against enemies and attacks, and the LORD is the same for us: our fortress, our defense, our shield, our protector. He defends us against all danger, guards and protects us from all evil, all out of His faithful divine goodness and mercy. *O LORD, defend us from all our enemies, and give us Your victory. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Revelation 7:2-17: White with Blood

Imagine being brought into heavenly glory dressed in tattered, torn, filthy, wretched robes. But there is a bowl filled with the blood of Jesus, and pulling your robe from this wash you find it radiant and perfectly pure and white. Our beauty and our glorious dress is the blood and righteousness of Christ. This cleanses us from all unrighteousness. Clothed in Christ, even when the cosmos dissolves, we will stand and lift up our heads, and be welcomed into the eternal dwelling of the righteous. Jesus is our righteousness. Jesus is our hope. Jesus is our salvation. Jesus is our perfection. He has clothed us in our baptism, and prepared us for the glory to come. *Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness my beauty are, my glorious dress. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 51:9-16: Don't Forget the LORD's Hands

Don't forget the Lord's hands that divided the sea and led the people on dry ground. Don't forget the Lord's hands that stretched out the heavens. Don't forget the Lord's hands that formed the foundations of the earth. He is strong to save. Whatever your trouble, distress, affliction, worry, and conflict, the Lord is strong to save. He hears your prayers. Don't forget the Lord's hands that were stretched out, nailed to the cross, and raised to bless. Sin, death, the grave, the devil with all his demons, these are nothing to the LORD our God. Don't forget His hands. They are working for you. *Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD. Awake, as in the ancient days. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 9:18-26: The Miracle on the Way to the Miracle

The hem of His garment stops the flowing blood. His touch cleanses the leper. His spit opens the eyes of the blind. His word raises the dead. His word forgives sin. His word gives eternal life. His word banishes the fear of death, overcomes the devil, and sets us free. His presence (in the word) brings peace. His water (with the word) gives new birth. His body and blood (with the word) tighten our life-saving grip on His promises. His work is our salvation! *O Jesus, speak the word, and we are saved. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: Colossians 1:9-14: Spiritual Understanding

Paul prayed for the Colossian saints that they "might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding." May God grant it to us. Spiritual wisdom knows what earthly wisdom cannot know: first, that we are sinners deserving the wrath of God. Second, that the Son of God has suffered in our place to win eternal righteousness. Third, that God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our heart, praying and helping us along in this troubled life. Fourth, that the best is yet to come. We will inherit the light of the glory of God, the peace of heaven which will give way to the joy of the resurrection and the new heaven and earth. *O Lord, give us Your Spirit and a spiritual understanding of all things. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 18:1-19: The LORD is My Stay

The Psalms remind us that we are surrounded by enemies and encircled with trouble. "In this world you will have tribulation." The world, our own sinful flesh, the devil with all the demons all attack, swiping away at our faith and our life. But the LORD has not left us alone. The LORD is on our side. He is our rock, our fortress, our deliverer, our strength, our trust, our shield, our helmet of salvation, our high tower, our help, our stay. His strength is our confidence. His goodness is our hope. *I will love You, O LORD my strength. Amen.*

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