

“Resisting the Flesh Led by the Devil”



5 PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK Psalm 34:3b; 34:17; 48:14a; 78:1-3, 4b

Say to my soul, “I am your sal- / vation.”*
 The righteous cry out, and the / Lord hears.
 He delivers them out of all their / troubles.*
 For this is God, our God forever and / ever.
 Give ear, O my people, / to my law;*
 incline your ears to the words / of my mouth.
 I will open my mouth in a / parable;*
 I will utter dark say- / ings of old,
 which we have / heard and known,*
 and our fathers have / told us.
 We will tell the generation to come the praises / of the Lord,*
 and His strength and His wonderful works that / He has done.

6 SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK Psalm 119:146
 “I call to You; save me, that I may observe Your testimonies.”

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

8 PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK
 O almighty and most merciful God, of Your bountiful goodness keep us, we implore You, from all things that may hurt us, that we, being ready, both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that You would have done; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord 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 TLH 331, LSB 614
 Yea, As I Live, Jehovah Saith Nikolaus Herman



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| <p>1. Yea, as I live, Jehovah saith,
 I would not have the sinner's death,
 But that he turn from error's ways,
 Repent, and live through endless days.</p> <p>2. To us therefore Christ gave command:
 "Go forth and preach in every land;
 Bestow on all My pardoning grace
 Who will repent and mend their ways.</p> <p>3. "All those whose sins ye thus remit
 I truly pardon and acquit,
 And those whose sins ye do retain
 Condemned and guilty shall remain.</p> | <p>4. "What ye shall bind, that bound shall be;
 What ye shall loose, that shall be free;
 Unto My Church the keys are giv'n
 To ope and close the gates of heav'n."</p> <p>7. All praise, eternal Son, to Thee
 For absolution full and free,
 In which Thou showest forth Thy grace;
 From false indulgence guard our race.</p> <p>8. Praise God the Father and the Son
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
 As 'twas, is now, and so shall be
 World without end, eternally!</p> |
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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 October 18-24, 2020

THEME OF THE WEEK: Resisting the Flesh Led by the Devil

This week's devotions lead us to mark two things: First, that the life of faith is full of crosses and difficulties, for which we flee to the mercy of God in Christ for forgiveness and grace. Second, that the fruit of faith and trust in Christ Jesus is the continual putting to death of the old man in us, which does not want us to hallow God's name or let His kingdom come. Having been put into Christ by baptism, we continually strive against the flesh, the world, and the devil.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Luke 10:1-9 – Peace be upon this house...

The Lord sends the appointed seventy-two *ahead* of Him. He is coming. He is near. And the people need to be a people prepared. These preachers are to proclaim that the kingdom of God is near in the person of Jesus, they are to heal and bless with the full authority of the Lord. What joy would it have been to receive one of the seventy-two into one's home, to let the peace of the Lord rest upon the house! Your pastor too, bears the Word of the Lord into your home and brings you the full blessing of the crucified and risen Lord. He is also sent ahead of the Lord with His full blessing. It is no different. For the Lord is coming soon.

May His peace rest upon you and your home. *Lord, give Your peace to my home as we await Your final coming. Amen.*

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:145-152 – Faith and Works

With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O Lord! We cry to God and He hears and answers us. Faith is confident that in our distress, no matter what it is, it is the Lord Who hears our prayer and will answer. It says *"I call to You; save me..."* for there is no salvation in our merits or deeds, but only in the lovingkindness of the Triune God. But that faith also says *"I will keep your statutes... I hope in Your Word,"* for these two go hand in hand, faith and the desire to resist sin and embrace the goodness of the Word of God. We are not saved by our keeping of the Law, and at the same time faith delights in who God is, His ways, and His purposes for our life. *Lord Jesus, keep me in the true faith that I may delight in Your promises and observe Your testimonies. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 4:22-28 – Old Self, New Self

Your *old* self was put off in holy baptism. There, the Lord God came to you and made you a member of His body, the Church, forgave your sins and adopted you as His own. That event was a leaving of your former manner of life, whether you were young or old, and the embracing of the new self, the new manner of life, full of faith and good works. But we still have this old self, don't we? *"For we daily sin much,"* says the Small Catechism (SC, Lord's Prayer, 5th Petition) and we must daily drown that old self in repentance and faith in Jesus. The Christian therefore is *continually* leaving his old self behind, until we do it for good in the life of the world to come. *Lord Jesus, keep me aware of my old self that I would daily put on my new self. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 44:21-23 – Return to Me

Are my sins too great or have I back-slid too many times that God is angry with me? The Lord reminds us through Isaiah that it is He who redeems us and calls us by name. It is He who blots out our iniquities and our sins "like a mist." There is no sin too great that it cannot be blotted out by the Lord's steadfast love. It is for this reason that He says to Jacob and Israel, His holy Church, you, dear Christian soul "return to me." You who are far gone and separated from Him, you have no need to fear. Return to His fellowship. You are loved. Even the heavens and the earth break forth in song at the Lord's redemption for you. It is yours. There is no mistake. *Lord Jesus, You have redeemed me. May I sing for joy at Your love. Amen.*

THU

SCRIPTURE: John 1:35-51 - Can anything good come out of Nazareth?

Is the Bible really relevant for our time? Does baptism do anything? Can Jesus really feed us His body and blood under bread and wine? Is the holy Church found in my congregation (it doesn't look like it!)? Am I really a Christian, what with all my besetting sins and my doubts? Does my pastor *really* forgive my sins? The would-be disciples were tempted to judge Jesus by appearances, but God uses the lowliest and most despised things to humble the proud. Yes, the greatest good there is hails from lowly Nazareth. And so His promises, the greatest gifts on this green earth, are delivered in lowly form by paper and ink, bread and wine, water and word, and a blessed fellowship, which never ends. *Lord, open my eyes to see Your gifts by faith. Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 – One Body, One Spirit.

St. Paul is driving a stake through the idea which would cause Christians to despise one another for any reason. We are all one body, for we all have been made to drink of one Spirit. Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, pastoral or lay, we are all one body as the Church with many members, Christ being our divine head. We were all brought to the same font and baptized with the name of the Triune God. Thus, the variety of peoples, cultures, economic standings, offices, and gifts is not a hurdle to be overcome but embraced, that there would be no division in the body of Christ, bound together in the unity of the truth of God's word. *Lord Jesus, help us to see our neighbor as our brother in Christ, that we would rejoice together in Your salvation. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 61- Hear My Cry, O God!

It is a surprising thing to non-Christians that adversity is one of the defining characteristics of the Christian faith. Jesus promises His followers that they will endure the cross in some way, from the world, the flesh, or the devil. In ways that are beyond our reckoning, these trials are used for our benefit, to try our faith in the furnace that we would rely totally on the mercy of God. In such adversity David prays that he would be restored to the throne which was promised him. He asks to take refuge in the Lord, that he would dwell in safety under His wings. God alone is our refuge in time of need. And when we pray He will hear us and grant us solace by His promises to us. It was true for David. And it is true for you. *Hear my cry, O God! Amen.*

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