



“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 **Ephesians 4:22-24**

“Put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires . . . and put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”

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
Yea, As I Live, Jehovah Saith

TLH 331, LSB 614
 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 7-13, 2018

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

“Resisting the flesh” is not a popular way of operating these days. The world teaches us that the key to happiness is to act on our desires, that our desires define us, and that it is ok to “be ourselves.” The problem is that this is not only the teaching of the world, but also Satan’s desire for us. Our highest calling is not to be “happy,” but to be “holy.” Our desires, for the record, lead to neither happiness, nor holiness. Let us then turn to the Word of God and hear what He has planned for us, His children, that we may, by the power of His Spirit, resist the desires of the flesh and live in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.

SUN

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 9:1-8 “Your Sins are Forgiven.”

A man who cannot walk is brought to Jesus. Jesus’ response is not what most expected. Seeing that the man had come in faith, He forgives his sins. The scribes thought this was blasphemous, for only God has this authority. Jesus then heals the lame man to show He has the authority to forgive sins. The crowds glorified God as the paralytic walked away. Jesus began with what was most important, our standing before God. Sins forgiven, we have standing before God, regardless of our physical condition. Our temptation today is to flop the priority and prioritize our physical health over our eternal standing before God.

Lord, forgive me my sins as only You can, that I may walk with You and all the saints forever. Amen.

MON

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:145-152 “You Are Near, O Lord.”

When you find yourself in great distress, where do you turn? Our first line of defense is usually ourselves: What can I do to fix this? Or we might place our hope in technology and wearily pour over screen after screen of Google searches in the hope of finding “an answer.” The psalmist, in a time of great distress, cries out to the Lord and hopes in His Words while meditating on His promises. We would do well to join the psalmist and trust in the Lord rather than in our own abilities. Although the psalmist likely “feels” that the Lord is distant, he confesses the Truth, “but You are near, O Lord.” *Heavenly Father, when we are tempted to shoulder our adversity alone, turn our hearts and minds to the Truth of our salvation through Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen.*

TUE

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 4:22-28 “Give No Opportunity to the Devil”

“Put off your old self,” which is “corrupt through your deceitful desires,” and “put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.” Our desires, apart from Christ, are deceitful and corrupt. The world teaches that our desires define who we are and that we ought to celebrate our desires and in so doing achieve happiness. This is the call of the devil. Our Lord, through the waters of Holy Baptism, creates us anew and calls us to holiness. He literally sets us apart as His own. To follow Him is to embrace the fruit of the Spirit, particularly self-control, in denying the desires of our flesh. *Heavenly Father, by the power of Your Spirit, help me to put away all falsehood, that I might deny myself and serve You. Amen.*

WED

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 44:21-23 “Return to Me, for I have Redeemed You.”

“I formed you; you are My servant.” Our sinful flesh bristles at these words. They are nonetheless true and ought to provide great comfort. Our God is not a petty idol. He is the One that formed you in your mother’s womb. It stands to reason that we would submit to and serve the One Who made us. Instead, we rebel, we run away, we stray like sheep without a shepherd. Amazingly, our Lord in His great mercy does not cast us away. Instead, He sends His Son, Who dies in our stead, that our transgressions might be blotted out like a cloud and our sins be turned to mist. Having been redeemed, we are free to return Home.

Father, hold me fast, that I may dwell in Your house forever. Amen.

THU

SCRIPTURE: John 1:35-51 “Come and See.”

Our Lord found Philip and Philip found Nathanael. Our Lord, found you, and you. . . Many of us struggle with sharing our faith. We don’t know what to say, or when to say it, so we say nothing most of the time. We convince ourselves that we are not properly equipped or trained. Our tendency is to overthink. Philip used three words with Nathanael, “Come and see.” You don’t have to field every question your family member or neighbor might have—simply invite them into the presence of their Lord and Savior (the Divine Service) that they too might receive the gifts of the kingdom. *Lord, You have found me and made me Your own, if it be Your will, use me to lead others unto Yourself with words as simple as “come and see.” Amen.*

FRI

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 “Baptized into One Body”

“We were all baptized into one body.” Though we are all members, we are not all the same. We each serve a different purpose, arranged by God, and according to His choosing. Together we make a whole unit, the body of Christ. It is a deception of the devil to believe that we can exist on our own apart from the body. The pinky cannot sever itself from the body and continue to live. The pinky will die and the body will suffer the loss. We are created to work together, resist division, and care for one another. We are called to suffer together and rejoice together as we follow our Head, Christ Jesus, our Lord. *Lord, grant me peace as a member of Your body, that I may work in harmony with all the members to Your glory. Amen.*

SAT

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 61 “When My Heart is Faint”

When we are given to see the frailty of our flesh, the fact that the happenings of life are beyond our control, we are wise to follow the lead of the psalmist and cry out to the Lord in prayer. “Lead me to the rock that is higher than I, for You have been my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy.” Certainty, firm ground, bedrock, is found only in the One Who is higher than I—the Lord. The Lord provides us refuge in the shelter of His wings. Indeed, this is the desire of our Savior, to gather us to Himself. *Dear Lord, “I need Thy presence every passing hour; what but Thy grace can foil the tempters power? Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.” Amen. (LSB 878 v.2)*

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