

Graduation Scriptures

Deuteronomy 30: 15 – 17

Moses said to the people:

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them,

Isaiah 43: 1 – 3; 4a

Thus says the Lord,

he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.

I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honoured, and I love you,

Jeremiah 29: 11- 14

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Proverbs 8: 32 – 35

The Wisdom of God cries aloud:

‘And now, my children, listen to me:

happy are those who keep my ways.

Hear instruction and be wise,

and do not neglect it.

Happy is the one who listens to me,

watching daily at my gates,

waiting beside my doors.

For whoever finds me finds life

and obtains favour from the LORD

Ruth 1: 16 –17

But Ruth said,

‘Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you!

Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people and your God my God.

Where you die, I will die— there will I be buried.

May the LORD do thus and so to me and more as well, if even death parts me from you!’

Numbers 6: 24 – 26

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ‘Say this to Aaron and his sons: “This is how you are to bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace.”

This is how they are to call down my name on the people of Israel, and I will bless them.’

Ecclesiastes 3:1 –12

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live

Romans 8: 31 – 35; 37 – 39

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor 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.

Ephesians 1: 17 – 23

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 3: 14 – 21

Brothers and sisters:

I kneel in prayer to the Father.

All things in heaven and on earth receive their life from him.

God is wonderful and glorious.

I pray that his Spirit will make you become strong followers and that Christ will live in your hearts because of your faith.

Stand firm and be deeply rooted in his love.

I pray that you and all of God's people will understand what is called wide or long or high or deep.

I want you to know all about Christ's love, although it is too wonderful to be measured.

Then your lives will be filled with all that God is.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

2 Peter 1: 3 – 9

His divine power has given us everything needed for life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Thus he has given us, through these things, his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may escape from the corruption that is in the world because of lust, and may become participants in the divine nature. For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love. For if these things are yours and are increasing among you, they keep you from being ineffective and unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. For anyone who lacks these things is short-sighted and blind, and is forgetful of the cleansing of past sins.

1 Corinthians 12: 4 – 7, 13

Brothers and sisters:

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but they all come from the same Spirit.

There are different ways to serve the same Lord, and we can each do different things.

Yet the same God works in all of us and helps us in everything we do.

The Spirit has given each of us a special way of serving others.

The body of Christ has many different parts, just as any other body does.

But God's Spirit baptised each of us and made us part of the body of Christ.

Romans 12: 1 – 6

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith.

2 Thessalonians 2: 13 – 17

But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. For this purpose he called you through our proclamation of the good news, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

1 John 4: 7 – 12

My dear friends, we must love each other.

Love comes from God, and when we love each other, it shows that we have been given new life.

We are now God's children, and we know him.

God is love, and anyone who doesn't love others has never known him.

God showed his love for us when he sent his only Son into the world to give us life.

Real love is not our love for God, but his love for us.

God sent his Son to be the sacrifice by which our sins are forgiven.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Matthew 6: 25 – 34

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Don't worry about having something to eat, drink, or wear.

Isn't life more than food or clothing?

Look at the birds in the sky!

They don't plant or harvest.

They don't even store grain in barns.

Yet your Father in heaven takes care of them.

Aren't you worth more than birds?

“Can worry make you live longer?

Why worry about clothes?

Look how the wild flowers grow.

They don't work hard to make their clothes.

But I tell you that Solomon with all his wealth was not as well clothed as one of them.

God gives such beauty to everything that grows in the fields, even though it is here today and thrown into a fire tomorrow.

He will surely do even more for you!

Why do you have such little faith?

“Don't worry and ask yourselves,

'Will we have anything to eat?

Will we have anything to drink?

Will we have clothes to wear?'

Only people who don't know God are always worrying about such things.

Your Father in heaven knows that you need all of these.

But more than anything else, put God's work first and do what he wants.

Then all the other things will be yours as well."

Matthew 6:19 – 21

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Don't store up treasures on earth!

Moths and rust can destroy them, and thieves can break in and steal them.

"Instead, store up your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy them, and thieves cannot break in and steal them.

"Your heart will always be where your treasure is."

Matthew 14: 22- 33

Jesus made his disciples get into a boat and start back across the lake.

But he stayed until he had sent the crowds away.

Then he went up on a mountain where he could be alone and pray.

Later that evening, he was still there.

By this time the boat was a long way from the shore.

It was going against the wind and was being tossed around by the waves.

A little while before morning,

Jesus came walking on the water toward his disciples.

When they saw him, they thought he was a ghost.

They were terrified and started screaming.

At once Jesus said to them, "Don't worry!

I am Jesus. Don't be afraid."

Peter replied, "Lord, if it is really you, tell me to come to you on the water."

"Come on!" Jesus said.

Peter then got out of the boat and started walking on the water toward him.

But when Peter saw how strong the wind was, he was afraid and started sinking.

"Lord, save me!" he shouted.

Right away Jesus reached out his hand.

He helped Peter up and said,

"You surely don't have much faith. Why do you doubt?"

When Jesus and Peter got into the boat, the wind died down.

The men in the boat worshiped Jesus and said,

"You really are the Son of God!"

Matthew 22: 34 – 40

After Jesus had made the Sadducees look foolish, the Pharisees heard about it and got together.

One of them was an expert in the Jewish Law.

So he tried to test Jesus by asking,

"Teacher, what is the most important commandment in the Law?"

Jesus answered: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind.' This is the first and most important commandment.

The second most important commandment is like this one.

And it is, 'Love others as much as you love yourself.'

All the Law of Moses and the Books of the Prophets are based on these two commandments."

Luke 19: 11 – 26

As they were listening to this, he went on to tell a parable, because he was near Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately. So he said, 'A nobleman went to a distant country to get royal power for himself and then return. He summoned ten of his slaves, and gave them ten pounds, and said to them, "Do business with these until I come back." But the citizens of his country hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, "We do not want this man to rule over us." When he returned, having received royal power, he ordered these slaves, to whom he had given the money, to be summoned so that he might find out what they had gained by trading. The first came forward and said, "Lord, your pound has made ten more pounds." He said to him, "Well done, good slave! Because you have been trustworthy in a very small thing, take charge of ten cities." Then the second came, saying, "Lord, your pound has made five pounds." He said to him, "And you, rule over five cities." Then the other came, saying, "Lord, here is your pound. I wrapped it up in a piece of cloth, for I was afraid of you, because you are a harsh man; you take what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow." He said to him, "I will judge you by your own words, you wicked slave! You knew, did you, that I was a harsh man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow? Why then did you not put my money into the bank? Then when I returned, I could have collected it with interest." He said to the bystanders, "Take the pound from him and give it to the one who has ten pounds." (And they said to him, "Lord, he has ten pounds!") "I tell you, to all those who have, more will be given; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.

John 15: 9 – 17

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. if you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

"I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

"You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

"You did not choose me but I chose you.

And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."