

THE LORD'S FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

Where Jesus Christ is truly Lord over all areas of our lives

FATHERS' PRAYER, PRAISE, and LESSONS FOR HIS FAMILY

Genesis Seven: The Flood

SATURDAY, October 25

Prayer

Praise: Nothing But the Blood of Jesus

Lesson: The Flood

Read Genesis Seven.

SUNDAY, October 26

Prayer

Praise: Nothing But the Blood of Jesus

Lesson: Come Unto Me

1. Genesis 7:1-3 "Then the Lord said to Noah, 'Enter the ark, you and all your household; for you alone I have seen to be righteous before Me in this time. You shall take with you of every clean animal by sevens, a male and his female; and of the animals that are not clean two, a male and his female; also of the birds of the sky, by sevens, male and female, to keep offspring alive on the face of all the earth.'"

A. The King James Version says, "And the Lord said unto Noah, 'Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before Me in this generation.'"

1. God called them with "Come thou," just as a tender, loving father would invite his children to come into his home, a safe refuge from the world. And indeed, this was God's calling to Noah to find shelter deep within the home God had provided for Noah and his family as a refuge from the coming deluge. Wherever our loving Father beckons us to come, we can be assured that is where we will be safest. For only in His will are we ever safe.

2. Psalm 103:13: “Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him.”

3. Isaiah 26:20,21: “Come, my people, enter into your rooms, and close your doors behind you; hide for a little while, until indignation runs its course. For behold, the Lord is about to come out from His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; and the earth will reveal her bloodshed, and will no longer cover her slain.”

B. Our loving father is once again pointing us to Christ who also beckons us to come to Him so that He may give us rest, as indeed, the ark points to Christ, being the only hope of our salvation from the coming wrath of God.

1. Matthew 11:28: “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.”

2. 1 Peter 3:18-21: “For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison, who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water. And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

3. Hebrews 10:12-39: “But He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time onward until His enemies be made a footstool for His feet. For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, ‘This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws upon their heart, and upon their mind I will write them,’ He then says, ‘And their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.’ Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer any offering for sin. Since therefore, brethren, we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near. For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain terrifying expectation of judgment, and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries. Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know Him who said, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay.’ And again, ‘The Lord will judge His people.’ It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God. But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings, partly, by being made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who were so treated. For you showed sympathy to the prisoners, and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and an abiding one. Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. For yet in a very

little while, He who is coming will come, and will not delay. But My righteous one shall live by faith; and if he shrinks back, My soul has no pleasure in him. But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.”

4. Hebrews 11:1,7: “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.... By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.”

5. Hebrews 11:6: “And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.”

6. John 14:1-3: “Let not your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many dwelling places ... for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.”

7. 2 Corinthians 5:1-8: “For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For indeed in this house we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven; inasmuch as we, having put it on, shall not be found naked. For indeed while we are in this tent, we groan, being burdened, because we do not want to be unclothed, but to be clothed, in order that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge. Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord—for we walk by faith, not by sight—we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.”

C. As the ark was the only means of preservation for Noah and his family, so, too, Jesus is our only means of salvation.

1. John 14:6: “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.’”

2. John 8:24: “I said therefore to you ... for unless you believe that I am He, you shall die in your sins.”

3. John 11:25,26: “Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die.’”

D. Many people saw the door to Noah’s ark, yet seeing the door did not save them; it was only those who entered through the door of the ark who were safe within. It is the same with Jesus Christ. Jesus is the door, the only passage to heaven. Many will see the door, but only those who enter through the door will be safe in Jesus Christ and enter into heaven.

1. John 10:9: “I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out, and find pasture.”

E. However, it is only those who are so burdened by their sins against God who will hear this calling and come to Christ for their salvation. The stubbornness of man’s sinful heart rejects God’s refuge just as the people in Noah’s day. And were it not for the working of His Holy Spirit, none would come in at all.

1. Romans 2:5,6: “But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, who will render to each person according to his deeds.”

2. “But My people did not listen to My voice; and Israel did not obey Me. So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their heart, to walk in their own devices. Oh that My people would listen

to Me, that Israel would walk in My ways!" (Ps 81:11-13).

3. Hebrews 3:13: "But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called 'Today,' lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin."

F. It is important for us to note Noah's location at the time of God's bidding. Knowing full well that destruction was coming and that the ark was prepared for the purpose of deliverance, Noah was not hiding in the ark waiting for that great and terrible day. He waited not in fear for his own life, but waited upon the Lord in full assurance that his Lord would provide for him when the time came, just as he had always trusted in Him for all things. Trust in our Lord brings peace of mind regardless of any imminent dangers.

1. Isaiah 26:4: "Trust in the Lord forever, for in God the Lord, we have an everlasting Rock."

2. As God's children, we should not be anxious under any circumstance, but instead, we should pray with supplication and thanksgiving to our Lord who gives peace and comfort to all those who trust in Him.

3. Philippians 4:6,7: "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

4. Noah was not anxious about what was to come because he had made it his habit to trust in the Lord, who in turn gave him peace, keeping his heart and mind on his hope of salvation. Again, everything in the Word of God points to Jesus Christ. Just as God provided a way of salvation from the coming destruction for Noah, so too, God has provided a way for our salvation from the coming destruction. Noah took refuge in the ark, as we should take refuge in Jesus Christ.

G. The reason for seven clean animals is that these would be needed for man's use, namely for food or as beasts of burden. Therefore God, as always, provided for man's needs in that He had two more pairs of these to come into the ark so that there would be more for repopulating the earth in a faster manner. The other clean animal was to be used for sacrificing to God once Noah left the ark. Consider that God gives us six days to do all our work, but the seventh is the Lord's. So, too, God gave Noah six animals for his preservation and use, but the seventh belonged to the Lord.

1. Genesis 8:20: "Then Noah built an altar to the Lord, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar."

MONDAY, October 27

Prayer

Praise: Nothing But the Blood of Jesus

Lesson: Two by Two

1. Genesis 7:4-9: "'For after seven more days, I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights; and I will blot out from the face of the land every living thing that I have made.' And Noah did according to all that the Lord had commanded him. Now Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of water came upon the earth. Then Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him entered the ark because of the water of the flood. Of clean animals and animals that are not clean and birds and everything that creeps on the ground, there went into the ark to Noah by twos, male and female, as God had commanded Noah."

A. Even though the earth's population would be almost totally eradicated, just as when God

created Adam and then gave him one wife, Eve, and then commanded them to be fruitful and multiply and to fill the earth, He had Noah and his sons only take one wife each to repopulate the earth. If ever the earth needed more opportunities for bringing forth children, it was at the beginning of creation and the beginning of life after the flood, yet God in His perfect wisdom designed that man should have but one wife—not two or even several.

1. Matthew 19:4-6: “And He answered and said, ‘Have you not read, that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother, and be joined to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh”? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.’”

TUESDAY, October 28

Prayer

Praise: Nothing But the Blood of Jesus

Lesson: God’s Own Do Whatever He Commands

1. Genesis 7:10-12: “And it came about after the seven days, that the water of the flood came upon the earth. In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky were opened. And the rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights.”

A. Is it not incredible that Noah was asked to build an ark at the age of 500 and then was used as God’s instrument to preserve a remnant of both man and beast? Let us remember that God indeed does not expect us to retire from His work at the age man deems appropriate for retirement. Indeed, we should continue to live our life in readiness to God’s calling, for it is the one who has trusted God for years who is able to rise in the midst of the most difficult of situations because he knows his Lord best and trusts in Him regardless of the circumstances.

B. God set the boundaries for the waters, and it is He who commands them to do whatever it is that He desires.

1. Psalm 33:6-8: “By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap; He lays up the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.”

2. Job 26:8: “He wraps up the waters in His clouds; and the cloud does not burst under them.”

3. Psalm 104:6-9: “You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters were standing above the mountains. At Your rebuke they fled; at the sound of Your thunder they hurried away. The mountains rose; the valleys sank down to the place which You established for them. You set a boundary that they may not pass over; so that they will not return to cover the earth.”

4. Job 37:11-13: “Also with moisture He loads the thick cloud; He disperses the cloud of His lightning. And it changes direction, turning around by His guidance, that it may do whatever He commands it on the face of the inhabited earth. Whether for correction, or for His world, or for lovingkindness, He causes it to happen.”

5. Job 38:8-11,22,23: “Or who enclosed the sea with doors, when, bursting forth, it went out from the womb; when I made a cloud its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and I placed boundaries on it, and I set a bolt and doors, and I said, ‘Thus far you shall come, but no farther; and here shall your proud waves stop’ ... Have you entered the storehouses of the

snow, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail, which I have reserved for the time of distress, for the day of war and battle?”

6. Job 12:15: “Behold, He restrains the waters, and they dry up; and He sends them out, and they inundate the earth.”

7. Isaiah 28:17: “And I will make justice the measuring line, and righteousness the plummet; then hail will sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters will overflow the secret place.”

8. Psalm 147:15,18: “He sends forth His command to the earth; His word runs very swiftly.... He causes His wind to blow and the waters to flow.”

WEDNESDAY, October 29

Prayer

Praise: Nothing But the Blood of Jesus

Lesson: Sealed Securely by His Spirit

1. Genesis 7:13-16: “On the very same day Noah and Shem and Ham and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons with them, entered the ark, they and every beast after its kind, and all the cattle after their kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth after its kind, and every bird after its kind, all sorts of birds. So they went into the ark to Noah, by twos of all flesh in which was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, entered as God had commanded him; and the Lord closed it behind him.”

A. It is important to realize that every animal entered the ark as “God had commanded him.” When God calls us to do the seemingly impossible, we must never fear the task but trust in Him to fulfill that which we are incapable of doing. Noah did not have to go out and capture all of these animals. Just as God brought the animals to Adam for him to name, so God Himself brought the animals to Noah and commanded them to go into the ark. Even wild animals obey His commands.

B. The Lord is the one who commanded Noah to build the ark, it is He who commanded the man and animals to enter the ark, and God was the one who closed the door to the ark.

C. The Lord Himself sealed the door of the ark so that no water would permeate the interior, safely securing all that were within. It was not something they themselves could do; only God could have protected them from the catastrophic flood. This too is similar to our salvation. Only Jesus Christ can save us from His wrath on the day of judgment, and ultimately, from eternal damnation. God therefore seals believers securely to Him through Jesus Christ our Redeemer and gives us the Holy Spirit as His seal, guaranteeing our security in Christ.

1. 2 Corinthians 1:21,22: “Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.”

2. Ephesians 1:13,14: “In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God’s own possession, to the praise of His glory.”

3. 1 Peter 1:3-9: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to

His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.”

4. Malachi 3:16-18: “Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another, and the Lord gave attention and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the Lord and who esteem His name. ‘And they will be Mine,’ says the Lord of hosts, ‘on the day that I prepare My own possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him.’ So you will again distinguish between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.”

5. Revelation 7:3: “Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the bond-servants of our God on their foreheads.”

6. Ezekiel 9:4-10: “And the Lord said to him, ‘Go through the midst of the city, even through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the abominations which are being committed in its midst.’ But to the others He said in my hearing, ‘Go through the city after him and strike; do not let your eye have pity, and do not spare. Utterly slay old men, young men, maidens, little children, and women, but do not touch any man on whom is the mark; and you shall start from My sanctuary.’ So they started with the elders who were before the temple.... Thus they went out and struck down the people in the city. As they were striking the people and I alone was left, I fell on my face and cried out saying, ‘Alas, Lord God! Are You destroying the whole remnant of Israel by pouring out Your wrath on Jerusalem?’ Then He said to me, ‘The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is very, very great, and the land is filled with blood, and the city is full of perversion; for they say, “The Lord has forsaken the land, and the Lord does not see!” But as for Me, My eye will have no pity nor will I spare, but I will bring their conduct upon their heads.’”

D. The trouble is that sin hardens hearts, stops up the ears, and blinds the eyes until it is too late. The people of Noah’s day are as they have always been, consumed with their daily affairs and pleasures without any thought for their Creator. Unfortunately though, once God shuts the door, it is shut tight that no matter how loudly one pleads to get in, God will not open it.

1. Luke 17:26,27: “And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it shall be also in the days of the Son of Man: they were eating, they were drinking, they were marrying, they were being given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.”

2. Jeremiah 3:24,25: “But the shameful thing has consumed the labor of our fathers since our youth, their flocks and their herds, their sons and their daughters. Let us lie down in our shame, and let our humiliation cover us; for we have sinned against the Lord our God, we and our fathers, since our youth even to this day. And we have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God.”

3. Proverbs 1:24-33: “Because I called, and you refused; I stretched out my hand, and no one paid attention; and you neglected all my counsel, and did not want my reproof; I will also laugh

at your calamity; I will mock when your dread comes, when your dread comes like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come on you. Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but they shall not find me, because they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord. They would not accept my counsel, they spurned all my reproof. So they shall eat of the fruit of their own way, and be satiated with their own devices. For the waywardness of the naïve shall kill them, and the complacency of fools shall destroy them. But he who listens to me shall live securely, and shall be at ease from the dread of evil.”

4. Luke 13:23-27: “And someone said to Him, ‘Lord, are there just a few who are being saved?’ And He said to them, ‘Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. Once the head of the house gets up and shuts the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock on the door, saying, “Lord, open up to us!” then He will answer and say to you, “I do not know where you are from.” They you will begin to say, “We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets”; and He will say, “I tell you, I do not know where you are from; depart from Me, all you evildoers.””

5. Matthew 7:19-23: “Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So then, you will know them by their fruits. Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast our demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’”

THURSDAY, October 30

Prayer

Praise: Nothing But the Blood of Jesus

Lesson: God Destroys the Wicked But Delivers the Righteous

1. Genesis 7:17-24: “Then the flood came upon the earth for forty days; and the water increased and lifted up the ark, so that it rose above the earth. And the water prevailed and increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark floated on the surface of the water. And the water prevailed more and more upon the earth, so that all the high mountains everywhere under the heavens were covered. The water prevailed fifteen cubits higher, and the mountains were covered. And all flesh that moved on the earth perished, birds and cattle and beasts and every swarming thing that swarms upon the earth, and all mankind; of all that was on the dry land, all in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, died. Thus He blotted out every living thing that was upon the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky, and they were blotted out from the earth; and only Noah was left, together with those that were with him in the ark. And the water prevailed upon the earth one hundred and fifty days.”

A. Hebrews 10:31: “It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

1. Job 20:27-29: “The heavens will reveal his iniquity, and the earth will rise up against him. The increase of his house will depart; his possessions will flow away in the day of His anger. This is the wicked man’s portion from God, even the heritage decreed to him by God.”

2. And so will be the coming day of the Lord for the wicked. 2 Peter 3:5-14: “For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and

the earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. But the present heavens and earth by His word are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men. But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what manner of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by fire, and the elements will melt with intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless.”

3. Revelation 6:15-17: “And the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains; and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, ‘Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; for the great day of their wrath has come; and who is able to stand?’”

B. No sinner is safe from God no matter how mighty his fortress.

1. Obadiah 3,4: “The arrogance of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rock, in the loftiness of your dwelling place, who say in your heart, ‘Who will bring me down to earth?’ Though you build high like the eagle, though you set your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down,’ declares the Lord.”

C. Can you just imagine how terrifying the flood could have been for Noah and his family, yet those who fear the Lord and trust in Him as their loving Father have nothing to fear, for the Almighty Himself protects His own.

1. Psalm 34:15-22: “The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry. The face of the Lord is against evildoers, to cut off the memory of them from the earth. The righteous cry and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.... Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.... The Lord redeems the soul of His servants; and none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.”

2. Isaiah 43:1,2: “But now, thus says the Lord, your Creator, O Jacob, and 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 will not overflow you.’”

3. Psalm 46: “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, and though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains quake at its swelling pride. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy dwelling places of the Most High. God is in the midst of her, she will not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. The nations made an uproar, the kingdoms tottered; He raised His voice, the earth melted. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. Come, behold the works of the Lord, who has wrought desolations in the earth. He makes wars to cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariots with fire. ‘Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.’ The Lord

of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold.”

4. Psalm 33:18-22: “Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, on those who hope for His lovingkindness, to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine. Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and our shield. For our heart rejoices in Him, because we trust in His holy name. Let Thy lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us, according as we have hoped in Thee.”

5. Psalm 91 is one of our family’s favorite Psalms. “He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, ‘My refuge and my fortress, My God, in whom I trust!’ For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper, and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings you may seek refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark. You will not be afraid of the terror by night, or of the arrow that flies by day; of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or of the destruction that lays waste at noon. A thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand; but it shall not approach you. You will only look on with your eyes, and see the recompense of the wicked. For you have made the Lord, my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place. No evil will befall you, nor will any plague come near your tent. For He will give His angels charge concerning you, to guard you in all your ways. They will bear you up in their hands, lest you strike your foot against a stone. You will tread upon the lion and cobra, the young lion and the serpent you will trample down. Because he has loved Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him securely on high, because he has known My name. He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him, and honor him. With a long life I will satisfy him, and let him behold My salvation.”