

# *January 1*

## Seeing God

### Psalm

*One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:  
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord,  
and to inquire in his temple.*

Psalm 27:4

### Meditation

The Christian religion, in short, proposes nothing less than an entire reformation of the human character....The pure in heart are related to each other because they are alike, and they are related to God and will be admitted to his presence because they resemble him.

Robert Richardson, *Communings in the Sanctuary*, 106

### Scripture

*When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he placed his right hand on me, saying, "Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive forever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades.*

Revelation 1:17-18

### Prayer

Father, by your grace and mercy, admit me into your holy presence. Holy God, through the power of your Spirit, transform me into the image of your Son, Jesus. Lord Jesus, give me life through your resurrection.

## *January 2*

### The Sacrifice of Jesus

#### Psalm

*"Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."  
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.*  
Psalm 46:10-11

#### Meditation

Christ himself had to suffer in order to meet the just and necessary demands of the Divine government, or otherwise the whole human race must perish forever. He saw it! He understood it! He felt it! He no longer hesitated. He accepted the dread alternative. He was borne to the cross as an innocent lamb is borne to the altar, and his blood was poured out for the sins of the world!

Robert Milligan, *Scheme of Redemption*, 236

#### Scripture

*So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

2 Corinthians 5:20-21

#### Prayer

O God, you have always been the refuge of your people. Thank you for reconciling me through the death of Jesus. Make me your ambassador of reconciliation this day.

## *January 3*

### The Compassion of God

#### Psalm

*For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;  
as far as the east is from the west,  
so far he removes our transgressions from us.  
As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.*

Psalm 103:11-13

#### Meditation

Hear me: All the voices of God in creation, providence, and redemption proclaim from the throne of light, love and mercy in the heavens and in every land and on every sea that there is one God and only one, and that he is our Father, in the highest, deepest and broadest sense of the word. Our earthly fathers love us; our heavenly Father is love (1 John 4: 16)!

Ashley S. Johnson, *The Life of Trust*, 31

#### Scripture

*On that day you will ask nothing of me. Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.*

John 16:23-24

#### Prayer

Compassionate Father, open my heart to the line of communication you give me in prayer. Hear me when I call.

## *January 4*

### Trust

#### Psalm

*Will you not revive us again, so that your people may rejoice in you?  
Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.  
Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,  
for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful,  
to those who turn to him in their hearts.*

Psalm 85:6-8

### Meditation

There is a critical point in the life of trust which is difficult to pass. On this side of the line are doubts, hesitation, and uncertainty; on the other, trust, unselfish labor and peace.

Ashley S. Johnson, *The Life of Trust*, 11

### Scripture

*All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.  
If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind,  
they would have had opportunity to return.*

Hebrews 11:13-15

### Prayer

Lord I believe, help my unbelief! Give me the trust that Abraham, Moses, and Rahab had in you. Turn my heart to you this day and make me your faithful servant.

## *January 5*

### Judgement and Mercy

#### Psalm

*Let the floods clap their hands;  
let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord,  
for he is coming to judge the earth.*

Psalm 98:8

#### Meditation

Though the love of God has been despised, the agonies of the Savior in the garden of Gethsemane have been condemned, the sufferings of Jesus on the cross have been unheeded by millions of our ungrateful and wayward race, his streaming blood to cleanse us from sin has been set at naught for many long centuries, the wonderful forbearance of God is still extended, and the nations are still invited to the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!

Benjamin Franklin, *The Gospel Preacher*, vol. 1, 454

#### Scripture

*From new moon to new moon, and from sabbath to sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, says the Lord.*

Isaiah 66:23

#### Prayer

Father, I thank you for your astounding patience with the world and with me. I praise you for your justice and your mercy. May the day come quickly when all will acknowledge you as Lord.

## *January 6*

### The City of God

#### Psalm

*There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.  
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.*

Psalm 46:4-5

#### Meditation

Hence it is, that with love's memories of the past, we can blend the joyful hopes of the future, and thus continue to celebrate the death of Christ until he come. For he it is, that lives and was dead; and behold he is alive for evermore, and hath the keys of death and hades.

Robert Richardson, *Communings in the Sanctuary*, 86

#### Scripture

*I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.  
And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light,  
and its lamp is the Lamb.*

Revelation 21:22-23

#### Prayer

Dear God, I thank you that through Jesus you invite me into your city, the new Jerusalem. May you reign in the temple of my body until that day I see you face to face as eternal light.

## *January 7*

### Dependence on God

#### Psalm

*Bless the Lord, all his hosts, his ministers that do his will.  
Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.*  
Psalm 103:21-22

#### Meditation

Prayer is the offering up of our desires to God for things agreeable to his will.  
The habitual performance of this duty produces that habitual sense of the presence and inspection of God, and of our entire dependence upon him, which is the foundation of a holy life.  
Barton W. Stone, *Christian Messenger* (1826), 235

#### Scripture

*Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."*  
John 6:37-40

#### Prayer

Lord Jesus, feed me with the living bread of your presence. Father, give me this day my daily bread. I praise you for your steadfast love.

## *January 8*

### Adoration of Christ

#### Psalm

*Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.*

*This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.*

*I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.*

Psalm 118:19-21

#### Meditation

Hence the apostles adored Christ, and offered prayers to him both before and after his glorification; and established the Messianic worship in the first church—the Jerusalem church which Christ himself founded—the mother indeed of all other churches—which, says the apostle, “is the mother of us all.”

Walter Scott, *The Messiahship*, 217

#### Scripture

*For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased  
to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven,  
by making peace through the blood of his cross.*

Colossians 1:19-20

#### Prayer

Lord Jesus, I praise you as the fullness of God. This day may that praise be not only in word but also in deed. Thank you, Father God, for saving me from death and reconciling me to yourself.



## *January 9*

### Seeing God

#### Psalm

*I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?  
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.  
He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.  
He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.*

Psalm 121:1-4

#### Meditation

O, the wondrous favors of God; O, the inexhaustibleness of his love; O, the intensity of his care for us in the things that pertain to our pilgrimage here! May God have mercy upon you, and enlarge your heart to know him and open your eyes to see him as he really is in his relations to you!

Ashley S. Johnson, *The Life of Trust*, 184

#### Scripture

*Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."*

John 8:12

#### Prayer

Father, open my eyes to see your love and help for me today. Lord Jesus, be the light that shines on my path. May I always live by the light of your love.

## *January 10*

### Eternal Rest

#### Psalm

*Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;  
you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.  
The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands.*

Psalm 138:7-8

#### Meditation

Let us then, dear brothers and sisters, never forget our birthright. Let us pray always; but let us also labor to enter into that rest which remains for the people of God.

Robert Milligan, *A Brief Treatise on Prayer*, 67

#### Scripture

*If you conquer, you will be clothed like them in white robes, and I will not blot your name out of the book of life; I will confess your name before my Father and before his angels. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.*

Revelation 3:5-6

#### Prayer

Father, as I labor for you today, do not forsake me as the work of your hands. Through the power of the resurrected Christ, may I conquer and reign with him forever.

# *January 11*

## Understanding God

### Psalm

*It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;  
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night.*

Psalm 92:1-2

### Meditation

The moral soundness of vision consists in having the eyes of the understanding fixed solely on God himself, his approbation and complacent affection for us.

Alexander Campbell, *The Christian System*, 17

### Scripture

*So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.*

Colossians 3:1-4

### Prayer

Lord Most High, set my mind on things above, where you live with Christ. Fix my sight solely on you and your steadfast love. Hide my life today with Christ and bring me into your glory.

## January 12

### Friendship with God

#### Psalm

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.  
Worship the Lord with gladness;  
come into his presence with singing.  
Know that the Lord is God.  
It is he that made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*  
Psalm 100:1-3

#### Meditation

Enough! Enough! What shall we render to the Lord for all these gracious benefits? Eternity, eternity will be too short for us to pay the debt of love and praise so justly due.

Barton W. Stone, *Christian Messenger* (1843), 114

#### Scripture

*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.*

John 15:12-15

#### Prayer

Father, I am yours. Jesus, you call me friend. I worship, I sing, I praise your name.

## *January 13*

### The Incarnation

#### Psalm

*Praise the Lord!*

*Praise, O servants of the Lord;*

*praise the name of the Lord.*

*Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore.*

*From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.*

Psalm 113:1-3

#### Meditation

“God was manifested in the flesh!” In Christianity itself or out of it, there is nothing equal to this. The greatness of the manifestation of God in the flesh, the divine in the human, the infinite in the finite, the eternal in the temporal will never be questioned.

Walter Scott, *The Messiahship*, 220

#### Scripture

*Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word.*

Hebrews 1:1-2

#### Prayer

Lord God, make me constantly aware of the great mystery of the incarnation.  
You became like me so I might be like you. Christ, live in me today.

## *January 14*

### Adoration of God

#### Psalm

*But you, O Lord, are a shield around me,  
my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.  
I cry aloud to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy hill.*  
Psalm 3:3-4

#### Meditation

In prayer, under the deep and solemn conviction that we are on holy ground, and that the eye of God is upon us, we are almost compelled to be humble, to repent of our sins, to forgive our enemies, to sympathize with the afflicted, to adore our Creator, love our Redeemer, and exercise all the powers of our souls in harmony with the will of God.  
Robert Milligan, *Scheme of Redemption*, 370

#### Scripture

*It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.*  
Isaiah 40:22-23

#### Prayer

I adore you, my God, for you are just, you are love, you are my glory. May I praise you with every breath today.

## *January 15*

### Prayer

#### Psalm

*Give ear to my words, O Lord;  
give heed to my sighing.  
Listen to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to you I pray.  
O Lord, in the morning you hear my voice;  
in the morning I plead my case to you, and watch.*  
Psalm 5:1-3

### Meditation

We have good reasons for believing in the direct and immediate operation of  
God upon the mind in answer to the prayer of faith and desire.  
Barton W. Stone, *Christian Messenger* (1826), 235

### Scripture

*As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings.*  
Hebrews 2:8-10

### Prayer

Lord, hear my cry. My King and My God, give me your glory this day  
through Jesus Christ, who suffered for me.

## *January 16*

### The Word of God

#### Psalm

*With my whole heart I seek you;  
do not let me stray from your commandments.  
I treasure your word in my heart,  
so that I may not sin against you.*

Psalm 119:10-11

#### Meditation

Where the visible ministries of the church are so largely devoted to the expenditure of spiritual vitality there must be some means of nourishment and recuperation. This is provided in the reading and study of the Word of God, and the atmosphere of prayer in which these privileges should be enjoyed.

J.W.McGarvey, *A Guide to Bible Study*, 5-6

#### Scripture

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.*

John 1:1-2, 14

#### Prayer

God of love, refresh my spirit today through the power of the Word made flesh. Revitalize me through the power of your Spirit in the words of Scripture. May I treasure your words in my heart to keep me from sin. Let that powerful word do forth in my life this day.



## *January 17*

### Reconciliation

#### Psalm

*He reached down from on high, he took me;  
he drew me out of mighty waters.  
He delivered me from my strong enemy,  
and from those who hated me; for they were too mighty for me.*  
Psalm 18:16-17

#### Meditation

Satan's influence over the world has been greatly curtailed, and a vast multitude of happy spirits redeemed by the blood of the Cross out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation now fill the heavens with their shouts of triumph and their songs of victory.  
Robert Milligan, *Scheme of Redemption*, 251-252.

#### Scripture

*But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us.*  
Ephesians 2:13-14

#### Prayer

God of peace, give me victory this day over every enemy that would keep me from you. Be my refuge in times of trouble. Break down every wall—personal, racial, and national—that separates me from others.

## *January 18*

### Self-Examination

#### Psalm

*I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
in the night also my heart instructs me.  
I keep the Lord always before me;  
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.*  
Psalm 16:7-8

#### Meditation

Live and walk in the Spirit daily at home and abroad. In order to this be often found on your knees in prayer, and often exercise yourselves in meditation and self examination.

Barton W. Stone, *Christian Messenger* (1843), 241

#### Scripture

*Take care, brothers and sisters, that none of you may have an evil, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," so that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partners of Christ, if only we hold our first confidence firm to the end.*

Hebrews 3:12-14

#### Prayer

O Father who sees all, examine my heart and keep it pure. Protect me from self-deception, fear, and unbelief. May I encourage my brothers and sisters and be encouraged by their faith. Give me a confidence in you that cannot be shaken.

## *January 19*

### Blessings

#### Psalm

*May he grant you your heart's desire,  
and fulfill all your plans.  
May we shout for joy over your victory,  
and in the name of our God set up our banners.  
May the Lord fulfill all your petitions.*  
Psalm 20:4-5

### Meditation

And when through faith, repentance, and baptism, we have assumed him as our rightful Sovereign, by his Holy Spirit, in answer to our prayers, he works in us, and by us, and for us, all that is needful for our present, spiritual, and eternal salvation.

Alexander Campbell, *The Christian System*, 67

### Scripture

*I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.*

Ephesians 3:6-17

### Prayer

Great Giver, I thank you for all the blessings you have lavished upon me. Give me Christ, my hearts desire, and all that comes with life in him. May I praise your Name forever, because of your unfailing love toward me.

## *January 20*

### Praise

Psalm

*Praise the Lord!*

*Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!*

*Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!*

Psalm 150:1-2

### Meditation

The fact that the whole visible universe with all its impressions and sentiments of beauty, order, variety, sublimity, immensity, stability, and perpetuity, issued without type, from the divine storehouse of the uncreated mind, fills us with the highest admiration of the glorious power, wisdom, and goodness of Almighty God.

Walter Scott, *The Gospel Restored*, 67.

### Scripture

*God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."*

John 4:24-26

### Prayer

I praise you, My God, for your glorious deeds of creation and redemption.  
With all my being I glorify you Christ as Savior of the world. I thank you,  
Father, for hearing my cries and prayers. How great you are, O Lord!

## *January 21*

### Approaching God

#### Psalm

*Make me to know your ways, O Lord;  
teach me your paths.*

*Lead me in your truth, and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
for you I wait all day long.*

Psalm 25:4-5

#### Meditation

If, then, we would be good and do good, and glorify our Father who is in heaven, let us not forget the duties and privileges of secret prayer; let us often retire to our closets, and when we have shut the door, let us pray to our Father who is in secret, and our father who seeth in secret will surely reward us openly.

Robert Milligan, *A Brief Treatise on Prayer*, 26-27.

#### Scripture

*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

Hebrews 4:15-16

#### Prayer

Father, I come to you boldly through the great High Priest, Jesus Christ. Forgive my sins. Teach me your truth. Guide me in right ways. Teach me to wait for your mercy and grace.

*January 22*

## The Character of God

### Psalm

*The Lord is the strength of his people;  
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.  
O save your people, and bless your heritage;  
be their shepherd, and carry them forever.*

Psalm 28:8-9

### Meditation

Creation reveals the power, the wisdom, and the goodness of God; providence proclaims also his justice, truth, and holiness. Redemption develops his mercy, condensation, and love; and all these are again characterized by infinity, eternity, and immutability.

Alexander Campbell, *The Christian System*, 20.

### Scripture

*Do not fear, or be afraid;  
have I not told you from of old and declared it?  
You are my witnesses!  
Is there any god besides me?  
There is no other rock; I know not one.*

Isaiah 44:8

### Prayer

O God, there is no god besides you. I praise you with all my being for your power, holiness and love. I praise you for saving me, keeping me from fear, and carrying me in your arms as my Shepherd.

## *January 23*

### Perseverance

#### Psalm

*Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,  
and I will observe it to the end.  
Give me understanding, that I may keep your law  
and observe it with my whole heart.*

Psalm 119:33-34

#### Meditation

Let us reform and be living, humble, holy, Christians; then will our aspect be glorious and exemplary. Others seeing our good works will glorify our Heavenly Father.

Barton W. Stone, *Christian Messenger* (1843), 242

#### Scripture

*And we want each one of you to show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope to the very end, so that you may not become sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.*

Hebrews 6:11-12

#### Prayer

Gracious Father, grant me diligence, humility, and understanding. May I boldly hold to my hope and assurance so I will observe your teachings with my whole heart. Let me not be sluggish in my work today, but be an example to others so they will give your glory.

## *January 24*

### Trust in God

#### Psalm

*Trust in the Lord, and do good;  
so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.  
Take delight in the Lord,  
and he will give you the desires of your heart.  
Commit your way to the Lord;  
trust in him, and he will act.*

Psalm 37:2-4

### Meditation

Let us trust our little selves with the Lord; and rest not, till by faith in the promised Holy Spirit and by incessant prayer we receive and be filled with it, like they were of old, in the ancient order of things.

Barton W. Stone, *Christian Messenger* (1843), 271

### Scripture

*Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit.*

Ephesians 5:15-18

### Prayer

Lord, let me trust not in myself, but in you. Act in my life today. Give me your Holy Spirit so I may understand and do your will.



*January 25*

## The Faith of Abraham

### Psalm

*In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame;  
in your righteousness deliver me.  
Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily.  
Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.*

Psalm 31:1-2

### Meditation

Abraham is another example. God commanded him to turn his back on home and kindred, and go to a land which he would show him. He had never, as far as we can discover, heard that voice before, but he obeyed. The journey was long and doubtless perilous, but he persevered.

Ashley S. Johnson, *The Life of Trust*, 111

### Scripture

*Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.*

Genesis 12:1-4

### Prayer

My Father, like Abraham, may I hear your voice and obey. Trusting your faithful love, may I wait for you today, and receive your blessings.

*January 26*

## Forgiveness of Sins

Psalm

*Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.  
Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.*

Psalm 32:1-2

## Meditation

He is the propitiation for our sins; and not for our sins only, but also for the sins of the whole world. He now makes his last appeal to our affections. Can we not, and will we not love him, who first loved us? Shall we be found so hardened and abandoned that we cannot love him who withheld not his own Son, but freely gave him up freely for us all?

Benjamin Franklin, *The Gospel Preacher*, vol. 1, 405

## Scripture

*And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."*

John 4:41-42

## Prayer

Praise be to God for saving me through Jesus! My sins are forgiven! My happiness overflows! I love you my Lord, with all my heart.

## *January 27*

### Thirst for God

#### Psalm

*O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.*

Psalm 63:1

#### Meditation

Thirst is, perhaps, the most intense desire the human body may know. Its pangs to the thirsty traveler in the parched desert are almost insufferable. What thirst is to the body, this desire is to the human soul. O that we could realize that it is only in Christ that the soul's needs are fully met.

J.H. Garrison, *Alone With God*, 28

#### Scripture

*Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.*

Hebrews 10:19-22

#### Prayer

Father, may I thirst for you, and you alone. Let me draw near you with confidence and with a true heart. Lead me away from everything that promises to fulfil my desires and turn to you, the One who can keep those promises.

*January 28*

## God Reveals Himself

### Psalm

*But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God.  
I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever.  
I will thank you forever, because of what you have done.  
In the presence of the faithful I will proclaim your name, for it is good.*

Psalm 52:8-9

### Meditation

If the light of the glorious gospel has shone upon us; if its heavenly influences have revived us; if we have arisen from the dust of error's death, and our hearts have been opened to receive the holy impressions of divine truth, then shall we be drawn by irresistible attractions, and strengthened more and more by added grace to ascend above the world and to approach the bright light of being and blessedness.

Robert Richardson, *Communings in the Sanctuary*, 61

### Scripture

*For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.*

Galatians 1:11-12

### Prayer

Holy Father, reveal yourself to me this day, so I can praise your name and thank you forever.

*January 29*

## Psalms of Praise

### Psalm

*Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God.  
His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth,  
Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King.*

Psalm 48:1-2

### Meditation

The sentiments expressed in the Psalms came from the hearts of the authors, and they show the best effects of the law of Moses, and the experience of Israel on the souls of the devout. One who is familiar with them can readily turn to such as will comfort in any sorrow, cheer in any despondency, and furnish expression to the deepest gratitude and most fervid thanksgiving.

J.W. McGarvey, *A Guide to Bible Study*, 44

### Scripture

*Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:  
I am the Lord your God,  
who teaches you for your own good,  
who leads you in the way you should go.*

Isaiah 48:17

### Prayer

Lord, teach me your ways so I may rejoice and be glad. Accept the pains, fears, joys, and praise of my heart.

*January 30*

## Forgiveness of Sins

### Psalm

*They have all fallen away, they are all alike perverse;  
there is no one who does good, no, not one.  
Have they no knowledge, those evildoers,  
who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon God?*  
Psalm 53:3-4

### Meditation

Here, then, dear reader, is a new and living way opened for us into the presence of the great God. Through the rent veil of your Redeemer's flesh you may find forgiveness and an entrance into the holiest of all. We beseech you, therefore, not to risk your soul's salvation by offering contempt to the blood of the covenant.

Walter Scott, *The Gospel Restored*, 516

### Scripture

*But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.*  
Hebrews 9:26b-28

### Prayer

Father, I confess my sin. I am perverse do not do the good. Have mercy. Forgive me through the sacrifice of Jesus. Lord Jesus, come quickly and save me forever!

## *January 31*

### Refuge and Comfort

#### Psalm

*It is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to put confidence in mortals.  
It is better to take refuge in the Lord  
than to put confidence in princes.*

Psalm 118:8-9

#### Meditation

Happiness and heaven are not all in the dim and unexplored hereafter; if we serve Him as He demands, heaven will be in us and around us in the field, in the shop—wherever duty calls; but if duty calls we must answer.

Ashley S. Johnson, *The Life of Trust*, 189

#### Scripture

*Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;  
break forth, O mountains, into singing!  
For the Lord has comforted his people,  
and will have compassion on his suffering ones.*

Isaiah 49:13

#### Prayer

Oh God of love, bring heaven into me and around me this day. May I find refuge and comfort in you, not in human leaders. When duty calls, by the power of your Holy Spirit move me to answer.