

March 1

Obedience

Psalm

*I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord.*
Psalm 104:33-34

Meditation

How noble it is to acquiesce in the divine will; to let our will be swallowed up in the will of God! Then, when the soul is in the "spirit of obedience," and in a condition to inquire in the word of the Lord, for instruction, it is easy to find the right way and walk in it. May we, in humility, love and submission to our Heavenly King, find and walk in the right way of the Lord, and finally be brought to the enjoyment of his everlasting kingdom!
Benjamin Franklin, *The Gospel Preacher* vol. 2, 217

Scripture

Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.
John 12:25-26

Prayer

Jesus, may I serve and follow you, hating my life so I may keep it. Father, may your will be mine! Give me this day, a spirit of obedience.

March 2

Children

Psalm

*Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem!
Praise your God, O Zion!
For he strengthens the bars of your gates;
he blesses your children within you.*
Psalm 147:12-13

Meditation

Why do we not more frequently retire to our closets, and pray more earnestly for the salvation of immortal souls? How much more parents might do in this way to promote the present and eternal well-being of their children than they can by constantly laboring to secure for them a large supply of the riches, and the honors, and the pleasures of this vain world!

Robert Milligan, *A Brief Treatise on Prayer*, 25

Scripture

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Deuteronomy 4:9

Prayer

Father, grant us courage and wisdom to pass our faith on to our children.
Bless them this day with your love and protection. May I receive your kingdom
like a little child.

March 3

Light

Psalm

*There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!
Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!"*

Psalm 4:6

Meditation

It is thus, in the moral world, that the sun of righteousness shines forth out of Zion upon the darkness of the soul. "God is light, and in him is no darkness at all." And it is from the mount of his holiness, from Zion, the joy of the earth, that he sends forth the light of life.

Robert Richardson, *Communings in the Sanctuary*, 90

Scripture

Jesus said to them, "The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light."

John 12:35-36

Prayer

Father, shine your light into my heart this day. Lord Jesus, increase my faith in you as the light of the world. May I let my light shine so others will glorify your name.

March 4

Money

Psalm

*For the wicked boast of the desires of their heart,
those greedy for gain curse and renounce the Lord.*

Psalm 10:3

Meditation

Rich persons are never pre-eminent in religion. The necessary cares of this life and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, that they may bring no fruit to perfection. The mania at this day for acquiring wealth has seized upon the religious community and almost is religion, pure and undefiled religion, banished from the earth. This mania has also invaded the ministers of the gospel.

Barton W. Stone, *Christian Messenger* (1844), 329

Scripture

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:19-21

Prayer

O Father, deliver me from times of prosperity! Cure me of the desire for more money. Let you alone be my treasure, my security, and my honor.

March 5

Weakness

Psalm

*How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
How long must I bear pain in my soul,
and have sorrow in my heart all day long?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?*

Psalm 13:1-2

Meditation

Prayer, must be the sincere expression of the soul's inmost desires. But unless we pause awhile, in the quiet of our own chamber, and introspect our hearts and lives, and examine ourselves in light of God's word, there can be no intelligent appreciation of our needs and no fervency of desire for those spiritual blessings which alone can satisfy the soul.

J.H. Garrison, *Alone with God*, 88

Scripture

And, besides other things, I am under daily pressure because of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to stumble, and I am not indignant? If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.

2 Corinthians 11:28-30

Prayer

Father, you know my weakness. Hear me and give me your strength, for I cannot stand of my own power. Take away my pain and sorrow, and satisfy me with yourself.

March 6

Prayer

Psalm

*They confronted me in the day of my calamity;
but the Lord was my support.
He brought me out into a broad place; he delivered me,
because he delighted in me.*

Psalm 18:18-19

Meditation

It is therefore, a most benevolent and gracious provision of the Scheme of Redemption that God permits, invites, and encourages his children to pray; to pray always, to pray everywhere, and to pray for all things necessary to their present and eternal well-being.

Robert Milligan, *Scheme of Redemption*, 367

Scripture

"Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened."

Matthew 7:7-8

Prayer

My Father, in my distress I call on you. Hear my call! Open the door. Give me what I ask .May I find in you all I seek. Provide for all my needs this day, and let me trust in you and you alone.

March 7

Rescue

Psalm

*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me,
from the words of my groaning?*
Psalm 22:1

Meditation

Yes, proofs, numerous and incontestable, that God cares for us, and that nothing that pertains to us can be foreign to him. From this I conclude that God is never forgetful of our temporal wants. He has made abundant provision for our bodily needs, and He must be pleased when we cast ourselves on Him in time of bodily want.

Ashley S. Johnson, *The Life of Trust*, 12

Scripture

But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

2 Timothy 4:17-18

Prayer

Father, rescue me from all attacks this day. Do not forget me. When I cannot see your helping hand, give me eyes of faith to trust your care and give you eternal glory.

March 8

Forgiveness

Psalm

*Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;
our God is merciful.
The Lord protects the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.*
Psalm 116:5-6

Meditation

If we do not forgive those who have trespassed against us, neither will our heavenly Father forgive our trespasses. This is because the unforgiving spirit is an impenitent spirit, and therefore in no condition to receive forgiveness.

J.H. Garrison, *Alone with God*, 116

Scripture

*If your enemies are hungry, give them bread to eat;
and if they are thirsty, give them water to drink;
for you will heap coals of fire on their heads,
and the LORD will reward you.*

Proverbs 25:21-22

Prayer

O God, be merciful to me a sinner. May I embrace your forgiveness, but keep my weakness ever before me so that I may show mercy to others. Lord, forgive my unforgiving spirit. Bless my enemies this day.

March 9

Reverence

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

Do we not oftentimes treat God with less respect, carrying into his presence
sins unrepented of, hearts ungrateful for his daily mercies, and minds preoccupied
with worldly thoughts and cares, having an indistinct idea of the favors
we need?

J.H. Garrison, *Alone with God*, 58

Scripture

*Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by
which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe;
for indeed our God is a consuming fire.*

Hebrews 12:28-29

Prayer

Holy God, King of the Universe, I bow before you today in reverence and
awe. Your love is indeed a consuming fire in my heart. I praise you for your
unsurpassed greatness. I thank you for giving me your unshakable kingdom.

March 10

Judgment

Psalm

Rise up, O Lord!

Do not let mortals prevail;

let the nations be judged before you.

Psalm 9:19

Meditation

The law of God, the highest, the grandest, and most sublime law known to mortals, has not only a penalty, but the most terrible, fearful, and awful penalty ever described by human tongue as its divine sanction. Its salvation, therefore, means something. Its pardon, justification, and deliverance of the soul from sin mean something.

Benjamin Franklin, *The Gospel Preacher*, vol. 1, 479

Scripture

Do not follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who are all around you, because the Lord your God, who is present with you, is a jealous God. The anger of the Lord your God would be kindled against you and he would destroy you from the face of the earth.

Deuteronomy 6:14-15

Prayer

Lord, keep me faithful to you, and you alone. Remove every idol from my heart, so I might not fall under your judgment.

March 11

Hearing

Psalm

*Rise up, O God, plead your cause;
remember how the impious scoff at you all day long.*
Psalm 74:22

Meditation

And it is in the unsearchable riches of Christ; in the infinite magnitude of the Divine perfections, the depths of his wisdom, the greatness of his power, the wonders of his redeeming love, that all the faculties of our nature may find their noblest exercise and most illimitable freedom.

Robert Richardson, *Communings in the Sanctuary*, 25

Scripture

And he said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear; the measure you give will be the measure you get, and still more will be given you. For to those who have, more will be given; and from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away."

Mark 4:24-25

Prayer

Father, open my ears and heart today to the reality of your presence .May I become all you created me to be through the love of your Son Jesus and the power of your Holy Spirit.

March 12

Doing

Psalm

*O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.
O that today you would listen to his voice!*

Psalm 95:6-7

Meditation

Since, therefore, all the other attributes of the Almighty are found in concentrated splendor in his will, and that his word is his will, and his will himself, it follows of necessity, that to believe or receive his word, or adopt his will, is to receive him, and to merge our own individuality in his individuality, and to become in our highest nature, our spiritual nature, essentially one with him.

Walter Scott, *The Messiahship*, 341

Scripture

*For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous in God's sight,
but the doers of the law who will be justified.*

Romans 2:13

Prayer

O God, may I do your word this day and so enter into your life, becoming one with you.

March 13

Proclamation

Psalm

*We give thanks to you, O God;
we give thanks; your name is near.
People tell of your wondrous deeds.*
Psalm 75:1

Meditation

Jesus Christ, crucified, buried, risen, and glorified, was the burden of all the apostle's preaching. He is everywhere represented by them as the living, reigning, and Almighty Sovereign of heaven and earth; but at the same time, as being ever ready to receive and save to the uttermost all who will come unto God by Him.

Robert Milligan, *The Great Commission*, 111

Scripture

As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. But Jesus refused, and said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you."

Mark 5:18-19

Prayer

Father, give me the love and the boldness to proclaim this day what Christ has done for me. May I thank you and praise you by all my actions for your great mercy.

March 14

Holiness

Psalm

Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel.

Psalm 22:3

Meditation

And who that has any just conceptions of his new relations, his privileges, and his birthrights as a child of God and an heir of heaven, would not be animated and encouraged to the greatest possible extent by such a call? Who that realizes that the Spirit of the living God dwells and works within would not also labor with all diligence to work out one's own salvation and keep the heart pure?

Robert Milligan, *Scheme of Redemption*, 284

Scripture

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

I Corinthians 6:19-20

Prayer

Father, holy is your name! Work today through your Holy Spirit to make me holy in your sight. Mold me into the image of your holy Son, Jesus. May my holy life this day bring others to your grace.

March 15

Repentance

Psalm

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Psalm 80:3

Meditation

We must return to the government, laws, and ordinances of our rightful king, the Lord Jesus, before we shall be ever gathered together and become worthy subjects of his kingdom.

Barton W. Stone, *Christian Messenger* (1844), 227

Scripture

For if you truly amend your ways and your doings, if you truly act justly one with another, if you do not oppress the alien, the orphan, and the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own hurt, then I will dwell with you in this place, in the land that I gave of old to your ancestors forever and ever.

Jeremiah 7:5-7

Prayer

Father, turn my heart to you. Break me of the desire to serve the ways of the world. Give me purity of heart to serve you alone. May I show my devotion to you by acts of justice and service to others.

March 16

Faith

Psalm

*We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord,
and his might, and the wonders that he has done.*

Psalm 78:4

Meditation

Now the belief of what Christ says of himself, terminates in trust or confidence in him: and as the Christian religion is a personal thing, both as respects subject and object, that faith in Christ which is essential to salvation is not the belief of any doctrine, testimony, or truth, abstractly, but belief in Christ; trust or confidence in him as a person, not a thing.

Alexander Campbell, *The Christian System*, 53

Scripture

Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Romans 4:23-25

Prayer

Lord Jesus, I believe in you! Increase my faith. Father, I trust you as the one who raised Jesus from the dead. May my faith and trust be in you personally, Father, Son, and Spirit. Help me as I proclaim your great deeds.

March 17

Trials

Psalm

*Uphold me according to your promise,
that I may live, and let me not be put to shame in my hope.
Hold me up, that I may be safe and have regard for your statutes continually.*
Psalm 119:116-117

Meditation

To learn this lesson—that all life's crosses and trials and conflicts, and the performance of our daily tasks, no matter how humble, are the very means which God has ordained for our spiritual discipline, and the stepping-stones by which we are to rise from earth to heaven, from bitter sorrows and lowly duties to celestial joys and heavenly employments—is to know the meaning of life and to master the secret of contentment and happiness in our earthly lot.

J.H. Garrison, *Alone with God*, 109

Scripture

*Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there?
Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored?*
Jeremiah 8:22

Prayer

Jesus, Great Physician, heal me from my sickness of soul. Free me from the tyranny of self. Transform my daily tasks into glorious acts of service. Keep me steadfast in times of trial. Let me not be put to shame in my hope.

March 18

Hearing

Psalm

*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.
Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.*

Psalm 85:8-9

Meditation

In the name then of our Lord Jesus the Christ, our only Savior, let us come to our Father, who always hears us and who is faithful to keep that which is committed to his hands; who will be with us in every trial, in all our sufferings, and in crossing the cold river, where he will receive us to himself to be with him forever and ever.

Benjamin Franklin, *The Gospel Preacher*, vol. 2, 193

Scripture

As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

Mark 6:34

Prayer

Father, hear my prayer. I thank you, that you ever hear me. Lord, open my ears and heart to hear your word to me. Lord Jesus, thank you for teaching me with compassion and gentleness. May I live with you in glory in this land.

March 19

Seeking the Lost

Psalm

*O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.
O that today you would listen to his voice!*
Psalm 95:6-7

Meditation

We try to “attract” the people to the house of God. Jesus went to the people, sought them. In reference to this world his only question would have been: “Is it lost, does it need me?” His only question in reference to the individual, you, is: “Are you lost, are you helpless, do you need me?” He did not make any special effort to find the so-called respectable sinners—all were lost in his sight.

Ashley S. Johnson, *The Life of Trust*, 132

Scripture

*For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all,
so that I might win more of them.*

I Corinthians 9:19

Prayer

Loving God, thank you for seeking and finding me when I was lost. Jesus, Savior, continue to look for me! May I be a slave to all I meet today, so that you might win them and find them through me.

March 20

Righteousness

Psalm

*It is he who remembered us in our low estate,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
and rescued us from our foes,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*

Psalm 136:23-24

Meditation

To love God with all our heart, and our neighbor as ourselves, with a
correspondent walk, is righteousness..

Barton W. Stone, *The Christian Messenger* (1843), 208

Scripture

*But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from
the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been
set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.*

Romans 6:17-18

Prayer

Holy Father, through your Son Jesus you have made me righteous in your
sight. Give me hunger and thirst for what truly satisfies, for your righteousness
alone. Make me your slave. Give me your cross. Remember me this day.

March 21

Communion with God

Psalm

*Happy are the people who know the festal shout,
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your countenance;
they exult in your name all day long, and extol your righteousness.*

Psalm 89:15-16

Meditation

It is here that everything should promote that solemn stillness and that reverential awe, which prepare the heart for communion with God and a better appreciation of the deep mysteries of his grace.

Robert Richardson, *Communings in the Sanctuary*, 8

Scripture

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

Prayer

Father, I approach you on bended knee, with reverence and awe, asking you to share your life with me this day. Lord Jesus, when I drink the cup and eat the bread, may I share in your body and blood. Make your Presence real to me!

March 22

Rescue from Death

Psalm

Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool.

Holy is he!

Psalm 99:5

Meditation

The love of God in the gift of his Son—Christ's own love and infinite condescension, his incarnation, his heavenly but hazardous mission to the Jews, his transfiguration, his sorrows and teachings, his death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and glorification preached, and as it were, dropped into the mind successively, or in other words, addressed to the human heart with all the evidence of truth and the sweetness of love, decompose all sin, and separate it from the mind and spirit, reducing a person thereby to simplicity and childlike docility.

Walter Scott, *The Messiahship*, 42

Scripture

Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

Romans 7:24-25

Prayer

Praise be to you, O God, for rescuing me from sin and death! I extol you with every breath.

March 23

Providence

Psalm

*But you, O Lord my Lord, act on my behalf for your name's sake;
because your steadfast love is good, deliver me.
For I am poor and needy,
and my heart is pierced within me.*

Psalm 109:21-22

Meditation

All nature is but a case of instruments in the hands of God, by means of which, through the agency of the Spirit, he not infrequently accomplishes his benevolent designs in reference to the sanctification of the saints, as well as in reference to the conversion of sinners.

Robert Milligan, *Scheme of Redemption*, 282

Scripture

*But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?
Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good,
in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today.*

Genesis 50:19-20

Prayer

Ruler of all, act in my life today. Turn evil into good, as you did for Joseph long ago. Open my eyes to your work in the world through your Holy Spirit. Use me to preserve and save those I meet.

March 24

Living Bread

Psalm

*My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.*
Psalm 73:26

Meditation

If Jesus had not died we could not have lived; for it is only through him who died for us that we can live to God. It is only by partaking of that bread which came down from heaven and which was given for the life of the world that we can live forever.

Robert Richardson, *Communings in the Sanctuary*, 18

Scripture

"I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

John 6:48-51

Prayer

Lord Jesus, I hunger and thirst for you. Feed me with the living bread. Fill me with your presence this day that I might have life. Keep me from wanting to be filled with all the unhealthy things of the world. Increase my faith!

March 25

The Great Shepherd

Psalm

*When they are diminished and brought low through oppression, trouble, and sorrow,
he pours contempt on princes and makes them wander in trackless wastes;
But he raises up the needy out of distress,
and makes their families like flocks.*

Psalm 107:39-41

Meditation

O the precious comfort of knowing that Christ is over us continually with a shepherd's watchful eye, and that he is mighty and able to save!

J.H. Garrison, *Alone with God*, 32

Scripture

Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

Jeremiah 23:3-4

Prayer

Jesus, loving Shepherd, watch over me your little lamb this day. Correct me with your rod. Guide me with your staff. Father God, I thank you for giving me shepherds under the Great Shepherd, to lead me in paths of righteousness.

March 26

Discipline

Psalm

*On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.*

Psalm 145:5

Meditation

The habit of secret prayer is no exception to this general law. In no other religious exercise are we brought so near to God; in no other can we be so familiar with the Creator of our bodies and the Father and preserver of our spirits.

Robert Milligan, *A Brief Treatise on Prayer*, 17-18

Scripture

Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one. So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Prayer

Father, grant me self-control and discipline. May I form the habits of prayer and meditation so I may come to know you. Deliver me from self-centeredness and desires for pleasures that do not fulfil. Send your Holy Spirit to make me holy as you are holy.

March 27

Humility

Psalm

Love the Lord, all you his saints.

The Lord preserves the faithful, but abundantly repays the one who acts haughtily.

Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord.

Psalm 31:23-24

Meditation

How far above the standard of humble Christians have we risen! We must sink down to the standard of Christian perfection, humility, love, kindness, goodness, and meekness. We must be stripped of the love of the world, of the honor that cometh from others, of the love of money, and be filled with the Spirit of our Lord, else the door of heaven will be shut and barred against us forever. Solemn thought!

Barton W. Stone, *Christian Messenger* (1843), 50

Scripture

But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."

Mark 9:34-35

Prayer

Father, make me a servant. Purge me of the desire to be greatest. Fill me with your Spirit so I may seek to serve rather than to be served. Have mercy on me, a sinner!

March 28

Faith

Psalm

*Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.*

Psalm 125:1

Meditation

Is God really our Father? I have asked and answered this great question because of its relation to The Life of Trust, or if you choose, believing prayer. If

God is our Father, really, truly, always, it follows that he hears us, for our earthly parents hear us, when, in our distress, we cry unto them.

Ashley S. Johnson, *The Life of Trust*, 32

Scripture

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.

John 9:35-37

Prayer

Lord, I believe, help my unbelief. Increase my trust in you, Father. May my trust not be in money, governments, plans, or programs, but in you and you alone. This day may I truly believe and worship.

March 29

Light

Psalm

*But you, O Lord, are a shield around me,
my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.*

Psalm 3:3

Meditation

To the sacrifice of Christ, we always look for the basis of our pardon; to his blood that cleanses us from all sin, for justification and personal acceptance; and to his Word we look for counsel and instruction in Christian piety and righteousness. We are as dependent on his Word for light, as we are upon his blood for pardon.

Alexander Campbell, *The Christian System*, 50

Scripture

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

1 John 1:5-7

Prayer

God of light, show me the right path today so I may walk in you. Jesus, Light of the world, enlighten me today in your love. Give me fellowship with you, O God, that I may never stray.

March 30

Holiness

Psalm

*For the Lord is righteous; he loves righteous deeds;
the upright shall behold his face.*

Psalm 11:7

Meditation

Holiness is not a mere ecstasy of feeling; it is not a glowing desire to be Christlike, though that is a good beginning. It is an actual achievement in overcoming the temptations and trials of life, through faith, and by the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit.

J.H. Garrison, *The Holy Spirit*, 175

Scripture

Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; for it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

1 Peter 1:14-16

Prayer

Father, give me your Spirit today to make me holy. Transform me into the image of your Son. Take from me all rebellion and selfishness, that I may be your obedient child.

March 31

The Cross

Psalm

*I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.*

Psalm 130:5-6

Meditation

In his flesh and blood on the cross, we see a foundation laid for salvation, redemption, pardon, justification, sanctification, and glorification, to a fallen world. Here then is soul satisfying food, as boundless as our wants, and as lasting as eternity.

Barton W. Stone, *Christian Messenger* (1843), 113

Scripture

"For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

John 10:17-18

Prayer

God of love, I thank you for the gift of your Son. Lord Jesus, I praise you for your marvelous gift. May I wait on your salvation.