

Romans 8:26-31, 38-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Psalms 119:129-136

- ¹²⁹ Your decrees are wonderful; *
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
- ¹³⁰ When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.
- ¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant; *
I long for your commandments.
- ¹³² Turn to me in mercy, *
as you always do to those who love your Name.
- ¹³³ Steady my footsteps in your word; *
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
- ¹³⁴ Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.
- ¹³⁵ Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
and teach me your statutes.
- ¹³⁶ My eyes shed streams of tears, *
because people do not keep your law.

Matthew 13:31-33,44-45

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.