

Ecclesiastes 12:1-8

Remember also your Creator
in the days of your youth,
before the evil days come and the years draw near
of which you will say, “I have no pleasure in them”;
before the sun and the light and the moon
and the stars are darkened
and the clouds return after the rain,
in the day when the keepers of the house tremble,
and the strong men are bent,
and the grinders cease because they are few,
and those who look through the windows
are dimmed, and the doors on the street are shut –

Ecclesiastes 12:1-8

when the sound of the grinding is low,
and one rises up at the sound of a bird,
and all the daughters of song are brought low –
they are afraid also of what is high,
and terrors are in the way;
the almond tree blossoms,
the grasshopper drags itself along,
and desire fails,
because man is going to his eternal home,
and the mourners go about the streets –

Ecclesiastes 12:1-8

before the silver cord is snapped,
or the golden bowl is broken,
or the pitcher is shattered at the fountain,
or the wheel broken at the cistern,
and the dust returns to the earth as it was,
and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher.

All is vanity.

Ecclesiastes 12:5

They are afraid also of what is high,
and terrors are in the way;
the almond tree blossoms,
the grasshopper drags itself along,
and desire fails,
because man is going to his eternal home,
and the mourners go about the streets.









1 John 1:5

This is the message we have heard from him
and proclaim to you:
that God is light,
and in him is no darkness at all.

Jeremiah 1:11-12

And the word of the LORD came to me, saying,
“Jeremiah, what do you see?”

And I said,
“I see an almond branch *[shoqayd]*.”

Then the LORD said to me,
“You have seen well,
for I am watching *[shoqayd]*
over my word to perform it.”

Numbers 11:4-6

Now the rabble that was among them
had a strong craving.

And the people of Israel also wept again and said,
“Oh that we had meat to eat!

We remember the fish we ate in Egypt
that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons,
the leeks, the onions, and the garlic.

But now our strength is dried up,
and there is nothing at all
but this manna to look at.”

Numbers 14:1-4

Then all the congregation raised a loud cry,
and the people wept that night.
And all the people of Israel grumbled
against Moses and Aaron.

Numbers 14:1-4

The whole congregation said to them,
“Would that we had died in the land of Egypt!
Or would that we had died in this wilderness!
Why is the LORD bringing us into this land,
to fall by the sword?
Our wives and our little ones will become a prey.
Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?”

And they said to one another,
“Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt.”

Numbers 16:1-2

Now Korah the son of Izhar,
son of Kohath, son of Levi,
and Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab,
and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben,
took men.

And they rose up before Moses,
with a number of the people of Israel,
250 chiefs of the congregation,
chosen from the assembly,
well-known men.

Numbers 16:3

They assembled themselves together
against Moses and against Aaron and said to them,

“You have gone too far!
For all in the congregation are holy,
every one of them,
and the LORD is among them.
Why then do you exalt yourselves
above the assembly of the LORD?”

Numbers 17:1-3

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,
“Speak to the people of Israel,
and get from them staffs,
one for each fathers’ house, from all their chiefs
according to their fathers’ houses,
twelve staffs.

“Write each man’s name on his staff,
and write Aaron’s name on the staff of Levi.
For there shall be one staff for the head
of each fathers’ house.”

Numbers 17:4-5

“Then you shall deposit them in the tent of meeting before the testimony, where I meet with you. And the staff of the man whom I choose shall sprout.

“Thus I will make to cease from me the grumblings of the people of Israel, which they grumble against you.”

Numbers 17:6-7

Moses spoke to the people of Israel.
And all their chiefs gave him staffs,
one for each chief,
according to their fathers' houses,
twelve staffs.

And the staff of Aaron was among their staffs.

And Moses deposited the staffs before the LORD
in the tent of the testimony.

Numbers 17:8

On the next day Moses went into
the tent of the testimony, and behold,
the staff of Aaron for the house of Levi
had sprouted and put forth buds
and produced blossoms,
and it bore ripe almonds.

Numbers 17:9-10

Then Moses brought out all the staffs
from before the LORD to all the people of Israel.
And they looked, and each man took his staff.

And the LORD said to Moses,
“Put back the staff of Aaron before the testimony,
to be kept as a sign for the rebels,
that you may make an end
of their grumblings against me,
lest they die.”

Numbers 17:11-13

Thus did Moses; as the LORD commanded him,
so he did.

And the people of Israel said to Moses,
“Behold, we perish, we are undone,
we are all undone.

Everyone who comes near, who comes near
to the tabernacle of the LORD, shall die.

Are we all to perish?”

1 John 1:5-7

This is the message we have heard from him
and proclaim to you, that God is light,
and in him is no darkness at all.

If we say we have fellowship with him
while we walk in darkness,
we lie and do not practice the truth.

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus his Son
cleanses us from all sin.

Hebrews 10:19-22

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places 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 draw near 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 12:1-3

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1-3

Consider him who endured from sinners
such hostility against himself,
so that you may not grow weary
or fainthearted.

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is
love, joy, peace, patience,
kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness, self-control.

Against such things there is no law.

TRUST THE LORD!

TAKE HEED TO HIS WORD!

TAKE HEART!

Deuteronomy 31:6

Be strong and courageous.

Do not fear or be in dread of them,
for it is the LORD your God who goes with you.

He will not leave you or forsake you.