

Amos 5:18–24

18 Woe to you who desire
the day of the Lord!

Why would you have
the day of the Lord?

It is darkness, and not light,

19 as if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him,

or went into the house and leaned
his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.

20 Is not the day of the Lord
darkness, and not light,
and gloom with
no brightness in it?

21 "I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight
in your solemn assemblies.

22 Even though you offer me your
burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;

and the peace offerings of your
fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.

23 Take away from me the noise of
your songs;
to the melody of your harps
I will not listen.

24 But let justice roll down
like waters,
and righteousness like an
ever-flowing stream."

**Psalm 70**

1 Make haste,
O God, to de- | liver me!*

O Lord,
make haste to | help me!

2 Let them be put to shame and
confusion who | seek my life!*

Let them be turned back and
brought to dishonor
who de- | sire my hurt!

3 Let them turn back
because | of their shame*

who say, "A- | ha, Aha!"

4 May all who seek you rejoice and
be | glad in you!*

May those who love your
salvation say evermore, |
"God is great!"

5 But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, | O God!*

You are my help
and my deliverer;
O Lord, do | not delay!

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

¹⁵For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Matthew 25:1–13

¹[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut.

¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹²But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."