

## PSALM 26

*A Psalm of David.*

**J**UDGE me, O LORD; for I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the LORD; *therefore* I shall not slide.

2 Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart.

3 For thy lovingkindness *is* before mine eyes: and I have walked in thy truth.

4 I have not sat with vain persons, neither will I go in with dissemblers.

5 I have hated the congregation of evil doers; and will not sit with the wicked.

6. I will wash mine hands in innocency: so will I compass thine altar, O LORD:

7 That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works.

8 LORD, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth.

9 Gather not my soul with sinners, nor my life with bloody men:

10 In whose hands *is* mischief, and their right hand is full of bribes.

11 But as for me, I will walk in mine integrity: redeem me, and be merciful unto me.

12 My foot standeth in an even place: in the congregations will I bless the LORD.

## PSALM 27

*A Psalm of David.*

**T**HE LORD *is* my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD *is* the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

2 When the wicked, *even* mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

3 Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this *will* I be confident.

4 One *thing* have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

5 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.

6 And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.

7. Hear, O LORD, *when* I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

8 *When thou saidst*, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.

9 Hide not thy face *far* from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

10 When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.

11 Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.

12 Deliver me not over unto the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty.

13 *I had fainted*, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

14 Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

## PSALM 28

*A Psalm of David.*

UNTO thee will I cry, O LORD my rock; be not silent to me: lest, *if* thou be silent to me, I become like them that go down into the pit.

2 Hear the voice of my supplications, when I cry unto thee, when I lift up my hands toward thy holy oracle.

3 Draw me not away with the wicked, and with the workers of iniquity, which speak peace to their neighbours, but mischief *is* in their hearts.

4 Give them according to their deeds, and according to the wickedness of their endeavours: give them after the work of their hands; render to them their desert.

5 Because they regard not the works of the LORD, nor the operation of his hands, he shall destroy them, and not build them up.

6. Blessed *be* the LORD, because he hath heard the voice of my supplications.

7 The LORD *is* my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him,

and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

8 The LORD *is* their strength, and he *is* the saving strength of his anointed.

9 Save thy people, and bless thine inheritance: feed them also, and lift them up for ever.

### PSALM 29

A Psalm of David.

**G**IVE unto the LORD, O ye mighty, give unto the LORD glory and strength.

2 Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

3 The voice of the LORD *is* upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD *is* upon many waters.

4 The voice of the LORD *is* powerful; the voice of the LORD *is* full of majesty.

5 The voice of the LORD breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon.

6 He maketh them also to skip like a calf; Lebanon and Sirion like a young unicorn.

7 The voice of the LORD divideth the flames of fire.

8 The voice of the LORD shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh.

9 The voice of the LORD maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of *his* glory.

10 The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever.

11 The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace.

### PSALM 30

A Psalm *and* Song *at* the dedication of the house of David.

**I**WILL extol thee, O LORD; for thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me.

2 O LORD my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.

3 O LORD, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.

4 Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

5 For his anger *endureth but* a moment; in his favour *is* life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy *cometh* in the morning.

6. And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved.

7 LORD, by thy favour thou hast made my mountain to stand strong:

thou didst hide thy face, *and* I was troubled.

8 I cried to thee, O LORD; and unto the LORD I made supplication.

9 What profit *is there* in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise thee? shall it declare thy truth?

10 Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me: LORD, be thou my helper.

11 Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness;

12 To the end that *my* glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.

### PSALM 31

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

**I**N thee, O LORD, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness.

2 Bow down thine ear to me; deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock, for an house of defence to save me.

3 For thou *art* my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.

4 Pull me out of the net that they have laid privily for me: for thou *art* my strength.

5 Into thine hand I commit my spirit: thou hast redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.

6 I have hated them that regard lying vanities: but I trust in the LORD.

7 I will be glad and rejoice in thy mercy: for thou hast considered my trouble; thou hast known my soul in adversities;

8 And hast not shut me up into the hand of the enemy: thou hast set my feet in a large room.

9. Have mercy upon me, O LORD, for I am in trouble: mine eye is consumed with grief, *yea*, my soul and my belly.

10 For my life is spent with grief, and my years with sighing: my strength faileth because of mine iniquity, and my bones are consumed.

11 I was a reproach among all mine enemies, but especially among my neighbours, and a fear to mine acquaintance: they that did see me without fled from me.

12 I am forgotten as a dead man out of mind: I am like a broken vessel.

13 For I have heard the slander of many: fear *was* on every side: while they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life.

14 But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said, Thou *art* my God.

15 My times *are* in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me.

16 Make thy face to shine upon thy servant: save me for thy mercies' sake.

17 Let me not be ashamed, O LORD; for I have called upon thee: let the wicked be ashamed, *and* let them be silent in the grave.

18 Let the lying lips be put to silence; which speak grievous things proudly and contemptuously against the righteous.

19. *Oh* how great *is* thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; *which* thou hast wrought for them that trust in

thee before the sons of men!

20 Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues.

21 Blessed *be* the LORD: for he hath shewed me his marvellous kindness in a strong city.

22 For I said in my haste, I am cut off from before thine eyes: nevertheless thou heardest the voice of my supplications when I cried unto thee.

23 O love the LORD, all ye his saints: *for* the LORD preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.

24 Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD.

## DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Psalm 26 is a prayer for vindication against an unjust charge made against David; while Psalm 27 is a prayer for spiritual orientation toward God (verses 1-3); toward life (verses 4-6); and toward self (verses 7-14).

Psalm 28 is a prayer of deliverance, followed by thanksgiving for the answer. David was hopeless except for God. He depended on God and rejoiced in Him as the solid Rock of his salvation.

Psalm 29 is a Psalm of praise, ending with a tremendous promise to all the children of God. The Lord will give strength to His people; He will bless His people with peace. Today, the strength of God's redeemed comes through the person of the Holy Spirit. He is our refuge; He is our hope; He is our sustenance in time of trouble; He is our deliverer; He is our comforter; He is our keeper. The peace that passeth all understanding comes only from God. In order

for a person to find that peace, he must receive Jesus Christ as his own personal Saviour.

Psalm 30 is a Psalm and song at the dedication of the house of David, after he had conquered Jerusalem and made it his capital. David had often been near death, but God brought him through. In this Psalm, David says he will sing praise to God forever.

David was a man after God's own heart. He never forgot where his strength and accomplishments came from. He was always faithful in giving thanks to God. Thanksgiving from Christians is pleasing to the Father. Too many times our prayers are filled only with requests, and we fail to thank God for all He has done for us. Philippians 4:6 says, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

Psalm 31 is a song of trust. David was in constant

danger, trouble, grief, or humiliation, and he always implicitly trusted in God. Jesus quoted verse 5 of this Psalm as He died on the cross (see Luke 23:46).

## **PROVERB FOR TODAY**

“The Lord hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil” (Proverbs 16:4).

## **TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING**

**ASSIGNMENT 20:** For today’s memory verses, follow instructions on page 8.

## **ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY**

**1215**

**THE MAGNA CHARTA WAS SIGNED.**

**1520**

**LUTHER WAS EXCOMMUNICATED FROM THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.**

Thank God for reformers. Thank God for men who have walked alone and paved the way for us. Thank God for men like Martin Luther, who was willing to be forsaken by friends, by denomination, by family, and by race that the truth might be spread. Luther’s favorite verse was, “The just shall live by faith” (Romans 1:17). Blessed be God, the just *SHALL* live by faith!

**1836**

**ARKANSAS WAS ADMITTED TO THE UNION.**

It has been my privilege to travel in this beautiful and great state of Arkansas. Dave Clark, the friend who led me to the Lord in 1971, and his wife Sharon lived in this state for many years in northwest Arkansas. Some of the most beautiful scenery in the world is there. There are some wonderful Christians here. Let us pray for them and for God’s blessings upon their lives and on their ministries. Did not the writer say, “God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you” (I Samuel 12:23). Then let us not sin against each other in ceasing to pray for God’s people.

**1752**

**THIS IS THE DAY GIVEN BY SOME THAT BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PROVED ELECTRICITY IN LIGHTNING IN THE FLYING OF THE KITE.**

Regardless of the day, let us thank God for Benjamin Franklin. He was a great American. In my way of thinking, he was one of the greatest.

**1849**

**JAMES POLK DIED.**

Our thoughts are turned again to those who lead us: our President, our Vice President, our Senate, our Congress, our Supreme Court, and those who make decisions concerning our lives. Pray for them.

## **ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY**

**1864**

**GRANT OUTWITTED LEE BY SHIFTING CAMPAIGN FROM COLD HARBOR TO PETERSBURG.**

Surprise attack by Gen. W.F. (“Baldy”) Smith succeeded but Smith hesitated and permitted rebels to reinforce their lines. Gen. Charles J. Paine’s division spear-headed the attack, knocking mile-wide hole in Petersburg defense and capturing 200 of 300 rebels captured that day. Congress passed bill equalizing pay, arms, equipment and medical services of black troops.

**1877**

**HENRY O. FLIPPER RECEIVED DEGREE AT WEST POINT AND BECAME THE FIRST BLACK GRADUATE.**

**1971**

**VERNON E. JORDAN JR., FORMER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND, APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE.**

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# Hymn of the Week

## “IN THE GARDEN”

C. Austin Miles

“He looked a little like a southern colonel with his white mustache and always appeared at the office with a small flower in his lapel. He had a marvelous sense of humor and a dry wit which could be very caustic if he thought the occasion demanded it—a truly brilliant man...” This was a description of the late C. Austin Miles, given to Lindsey Terry by Mrs. H.A. Dye, a friend of Mr. Miles.

“If Jesus Goes With Me, I’ll Go,” “Dwelling in Beulah Land” and “In the Garden” are only a few of the many gospel songs that seemed to fall from the pen of Mr. Miles. His “In the Garden” has become the second most popular gospel song in the United States, according to various polls. More than a million recordings of it have been sold.

One day in March 1912, Mr. Miles had been studying the 20th chapter of John, which records the story of Mary’s entrance into the garden to visit the tomb of Jesus. As she looked in, her heart was saddened even more because she found him not. Then, as He spoke to her, she recognized Him and her heart jumped for joy. She cried, “Rabboni!”

Mr. Miles imagined that he was present with them in the garden on that glorious occasion. He leaped from his chair, and under the inspiration of this sacred scene, penned the verses to his great song.

Later that same evening he wrote the music that has accompanied it on its world-wide circulation.

C. Austin Miles was born in Lakehurst, New Jersey, in 1868. He wrote his first gospel song at the age of 25. He was music editor and manager of the Hall-Mack Company for 37 years before the firm became Rodeheaver Hall-Mack Company. He still continued his connection with the company.

He often remarked in his later years that he would make it through another year if he could get through the month of March. Oddly enough, he passed away on March 10, 1946, in Pitman, New Jersey.

*I come to the garden alone,  
While the dew is still on the roses;  
And the voice I hear,  
Falling on my ear,  
The Son of God discloses.*

### **Chorus:**

*And He walks with me, and He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own,  
And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
None other has ever known.*

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# Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

**MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:**

**DIFFICULT PROBLEMS SOLVED: "I MAY LOSE MY JOB AND POSITION"**

(Assignment 20)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for the next seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning," page xiii near the front of this book.)

( ) Mark 8:36

For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

( ) Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

( ) Philippians 4:19

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

( ) Psalms 37:25

I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

( ) Psalms 84:11

For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.