

Jeremiah 23:1-6

A righteous shepherd for Israel

23:1 Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.

23:2 Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD.

23:3 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.

23:4 I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

23:5 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

23:6 In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Luke 1:68-79

God's tender compassion

1:68 "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

1:69 He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his child David,

1:70 as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

1:71 that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

1:72Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and has remembered his holy covenant,

1:73the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us

1:74that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear,

1:75in holiness and righteousness in his presence all our days.

1:76And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

1:77to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

1:78Because of the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

1:79to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Jeremiah 23:1-6

A righteous shepherd for Israel

23:1Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.

23:2Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD.

23:3Then 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.

23:4I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

23:5The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

23:6In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Psalm 46

The God of Jacob is our stronghold

46:1God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

46:2Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,

46:3though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Selah

46:4There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

46:5God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

46:6The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice; the earth melts.

46:7The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

46:8Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

46:9He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

46:10"Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth."

46:11The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Selah

Colossians 1:11-20

A hymn to Christ, firstborn of all creation

1:11May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully

1:12giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

1:13He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,

1:14in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

1:15He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation,

1:16for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers--all things have been created through him and for him.

1:17He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

1:18He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.

1:19For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

1:20and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Luke 23:33-43

Jesus crucified with two thieves

23:33 When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

23:34 Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

23:35 And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"

23:36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine

23:37 and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

23:38 There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

23:39 One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

23:40 But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?"

23:41 And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."

23:42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom."

23:43 He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."