

# FOIA MARKER

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**Collection/Record Group:** Clinton Presidential Records

**Subgroup/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting

**Series/Staff Member:** Terry Edmonds

**Subseries:**

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**OA/ID Number:** 10982

**FolderID:**

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**Folder Title:**

Inspiration (Quotes, Poems, Psalms, People's Letters)

**Stack:**

**S**

**Row:**

**0**

**Section:**

**0**

**Shelf:**

**0**

**Position:**

**0**

# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## Clinton Library

| DOCUMENT NO.<br>AND TYPE | SUBJECT/TITLE                                         | DATE     | RESTRICTION |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|
| 001. letter              | To Terry Edmonds from Sharon Bloom (partial) (1 page) | 01/05/96 | P6/b(6)     |

### COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records  
Speechwriting  
Terry Edmonds  
OA/Box Number: 10982

### FOLDER TITLE:

Inspiration (quotes, poems, psalms, people's letters)

2006-0462-F  
ry615

### RESTRICTION CODES

#### Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

#### Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

(610) 687-3494

-- Upon conclusion of the meeting, the **President** proceeds to the Oval Office, while Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer remain in the Cabinet Room.

-- Following a brief hold, Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer proceed to the Oval Office to join the **President**.

4:25 pm           **THE PRESIDENT** escorts Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer to OEOB 450

4:30 pm-  
4:55 pm           **UNITED STATES-EUROPEAN UNION JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE**  
OEOB 450  
Remarks:  
Staff Contact: Tony Lake  
**OPEN PRESS**

-- **The President**, Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer are announced into the room and proceed to their podiums.

-- **The President** makes remarks.

-- Prime Minister Prodi makes remarks.

-- President Santer makes remarks.

-- Upon conclusion of remarks, **the President**, Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer take questions from the press.

4:55 pm           -- **The President**, Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer hold briefly, while the delegations proceed to the motorcade.

5:00 pm           -- **The President** escorts Prime Minister Prodi and President Santer to West Executive Avenue and bids them farewell.

5:10 pm-  
5:15 pm           **DEPARTURE PHOTO WITH MAJOR DARREN MCDEW**  
OVAL OFFICE  
Staff Contact: Alan Sullivan  
**WHITE HOUSE PHOTO ONLY**

5:25 pm-  
6:30 pm           **PHONE/OFFICE TIME**  
OVAL OFFICE

6:30 pm-           (T) **MEETING**  
7:15 pm           OVAL OFFICE  
Staff Contact: Tony Lake



The Bible tells us the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed'nego -- three men of faith, cast into a fiery furnace by the King of Babylon because they refused to worship his false gods and idols. But when the King looked into the fire he saw "four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire" He saw they were unhurt, and proclaimed that the "form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

My friends, God saw the faith of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed'nego and walked beside them in the furnace, and they walked from the fires unscathed.

Keep your faith, hold it fast, and these fires will never burn you, for God will walk beside you for all your days.

Date: January 5, 1996

To: Terry Edmonds  
(202) 456-5709 fax

TE -  
Thibs,

From: Sharon Bloom  
(410) 363-4561  
(410) 363-6422 fax

Tony B.

No. of pages including cover: 5

Terry,  
Thanks for  
your time -  
Sharon

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2006-0462-F  
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Sharon Bloom

(b)(6)

[001]

(b)(6)

Fax (410) 363-6422

January 5, 1996

Mr. Terry Edmonds  
Presidential Speech Writer  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Terry,

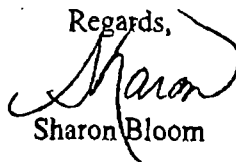
It was great talking with you this morning. Congratulations on your new assignment!

As I mentioned in our conversation, my eight year old daughter Alyssa, who is in third grade, came home from school and said "Mommy, I used my play time in school today to write this speech and my teacher said I should bring it home to you." Well I couldn't imagine what kind of speech Alyssa would be writing, I didn't even know she understood the concept of what a speech was. You can imagine my surprise when I saw that my daughter had written a speech on Bosnia! I asked her if the class had an assignment or had talked about Bosnia in Social Studies and she said that they hadn't but writing this speech was just something she had been thinking about for awhile. Still rather amazed, I talked to her teacher who confirmed that indeed Alyssa had done this all on her own during play time.

I always knew that my daughter was a compassionate child but this speech, truly from her heart, really touched me. So when I heard the President was traveling to Bosnia I decided to share this with you. Sometimes it's the honesty of a child that brings the proper perspective to a situation.

Thanks for taking the time to read it. I've retyped the copy and sent the original so you could see both. Again, congratulations and good luck with the new job.

Regards,

  
Sharon Bloom

Peace In Boznica (sic)

I know that there has been fighting in Boznica (sic) for many years. But now is our chance to make it stop! Just think if every body kept fighting this could lead to another war. Even though I am only 8 years old even I want it to stop!

Please listen to my wish. And Please stop this fighting!

by Alyssa Bloom

Speech / Peace in Bosnia

I know that there has been fighting in Bosnia for many years. But now is our chance to make it stop! Just think if every body kept fighting this could lead to another war. Even though I am only 8 years old even I want

it to stop!

~~stop this~~  
Please listen to

my

~~wish.~~

And Please

Stop this fighting!

# The Bible Gateway

## Genesis 37 (English-KJV)

See also: [Previous chapter](#), [This chapter](#), [Next chapter](#), [NIV](#), [NASB](#), [RSV](#), [Darby](#), [YLT](#)

- 
- 1 And Jacob dwelt in the land wherein his father was a stranger, in the land of Canaan.
- 2 These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and the lad was with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report.
- 3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours.
- 4 And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.
- 5 And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.
- 6 And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you, this dream which I have dreamed:
- 7 For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf.
- 8 And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? or shalt thou indeed have dominion over us? And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words.
- 9 And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.
- 10 And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, What is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?
- 11 And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.
- 12 And his brethren went to feed their father's flock in Shechem.
- 13 And Israel said unto Joseph, Do not thy brethren feed the flock in Shechem? come, and I will send thee unto them. And he said to him, Here am I.
- 14 And he said to him, Go, I pray thee, see whether it be well with thy brethren, and well with the flocks; and bring me word again. So he sent him out of the vale of Hebron, and he came to Shechem.
- 15 And a certain man found him, and, behold, he was wandering in the field: and the man asked him, saying, What seekest thou?
- 16 And he said, I seek my brethren: tell me, I pray thee, where they feed their flocks.
- 17 And the man said, They are departed hence; for I heard them say, Let us go to Dothan. And Joseph went after his brethren, and found them in Dothan.
- 18 And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near unto them, they conspired against him to slay him.
- 19 And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh.
- 20 Come now therefore, and let us slay him, and cast him into some pit, and we will say, Some evil beast hath devoured him: and we shall see what will become of his dreams.
- 21 And Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands; and said, Let us not kill him.
- 22 And Reuben said unto them, Shed no blood, but cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness, and lay no hand upon him; that he might rid him out of their hands, to deliver him to his father again.
- 23 And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stripped Joseph out of his coat, his coat of many colours that was on him;
- 24 And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit was empty, there was no water in it.
- 25 And they sat down to eat bread: and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and, behold, a company of Ishmeelites came from Gilead with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry it down to Egypt.
- 26 And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood?
- 27 Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother and our flesh. And his brethren were content.
- 28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.
- 29 And Reuben returned unto the pit; and, behold, Joseph was not in the pit; and he rent his clothes.
- 30 And he returned unto his brethren, and said, The child is not; and I, whither shall I go?
- 31 And they took Joseph's coat, and killed a kid of the goats, and dipped the coat in the blood;
- 32 And they sent the coat of many colours, and they brought it to their father; and said, This have we found: know now whether it be thy son's coat or no.
- 33 And he knew it, and said, It is my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces.
- 34 And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days.
- 35 And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him.
- 36 And the Midianites sold him into Egypt unto Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh's, and captain of the guard.
- 

See also: [Previous chapter](#), [This chapter](#), [Next chapter](#)

# The Bible Gateway

## Genesis 45 (English-KJV)

See also: [Previous chapter](#), [This chapter](#), [Next chapter](#), [NIV](#), [NASB](#), [RSV](#), [Darby](#), [YLT](#)

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- 1 Then Joseph could not refrain himself before all them that stood by him; and he cried, Cause every man to go out from me. And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known unto his brethren.
- 2 And he wept aloud: and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard.
- 3 And Joseph said unto his brethren, I am Joseph; doth my father yet live? And his brethren could not answer him; for they were troubled at his presence.
- 4 And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.
- 5 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.
- 6 For these two years hath the famine been in the land: and yet there are five years, in the which there shall neither be earing nor harvest.
- 7 And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.
- 8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.
- 9 Haste ye, and go up to my father, and say unto him, Thus saith thy son Joseph, God hath made me lord of all Egypt: come down unto me, tarry not:
- 10 And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast:
- 11 And there will I nourish thee; for yet there are five years of famine; lest thou, and thy household, and all that thou hast, come to poverty.
- 12 And, behold, your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin, that it is my mouth that speaketh unto you.
- 13 And ye shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that ye have seen; and ye shall haste and bring down my father hither.
- 14 And he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept; and Benjamin wept upon his neck.
- 15 Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him.
- 16 And the fame thereof was heard in Pharaoh's house, saying, Joseph's brethren are come: and it pleased Pharaoh well, and his servants.
- 17 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Say unto thy brethren, This do ye; lade your beasts, and go, get you unto the land of Canaan;
- 18 And take your father and your households, and come unto me: and I will give you the good of the land of Egypt, and ye shall eat the fat of the land.
- 19 Now thou art commanded, this do ye; take you wagons out of the land of Egypt for your little ones, and for your wives, and bring your father, and come.
- 20 Also regard not your stuff; for the good of all the land of Egypt is your's.
- 21 And the children of Israel did so: and Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them provision for the way.
- 22 To all of them he gave each man changes of raiment; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver, and five changes of raiment.
- 23 And to his father he sent after this manner; ten asses laden with the good things of Egypt, and ten she asses laden with corn and bread and meat for his father by the way.
- 24 So he sent his brethren away, and they departed: and he said unto them, See that ye fall not out by the way.
- 25 And they went up out of Egypt, and came into the land of Canaan unto Jacob their father,
- 26 And told him, saying, Joseph is yet alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt. And Jacob's heart fainted, for he believed them not.
- 27 And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said unto them: and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived:
- 28 And Israel said, It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive: I will go and see him before I die.
- 

See also: [Previous chapter](#), [This chapter](#), [Next chapter](#)

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Gospel Communications Network (GCN). Online Christian Resources.  
A Ministry of Gospel Films, Inc.

Challah  
Rabbi Richard Agler  
Congregation B'nai Israel  
Boca Raton, Fla.

Prayers  
speechwriter

February 24, 1995  
I Adar 25, 5755  
Parshat Vayakhel

All the President's Psalms: 25, 27, 90, 103, 139  
Recently President Clinton was quoted as saying  
that when he has faced times of difficulty--both in the Presidency  
and in life in general,  
He has turned to the Bible for strength and comfort.  
He mentioned specifically, the Book of Psalms.  
In response to the obvious question, "Which ones?"  
One of his aides listed the specific Psalms  
the President found especially meaningful.  
They were Psalm #'s 25, 27, 90, 103 and 139  
We've reprinted them for you this evening.

The story struck me for a number of reasons.

First, it was not the usual "religion" story that comes from Washington.

Far too often when there is a religious reference  
in politics or the media these days,

It is more likely to be sensational than inspirational,  
and divisive rather than unifying and uplifting.

But here was a non-partisan and apparently sincere testimony  
to the importance of solid, contemplative faith  
in the life of the most powerful man on earth.

That in itself was noteworthy.

It also struck me personally

I too have turned to the Book of Psalms in times of difficulty.

And such behavior is hardly unique.

Jewish tradition has prescribed *Tehillim* (Psalms)

as "the text to turn to" in time of trouble for millennia.

It's sad but true that far too many people are unaware of this,  
and the Book of Psalms remains a stranger.

People in crisis frequently ask the rabbi,

"Where can I turn, Where can I find strength?

I often suggest: open up the Book of Psalms.

Get a good translation and just skim through it,

If you don't find strength and support there

I'd be more than surprised.

Again, you'll also have plenty of company.

There's a *chevra* at the Western Wall in Jerusalem that  
takes it as a duty to complete the book once a day.

The *Siddur*--our Prayerbook--is filled with excerpts from Psalms,  
sometimes a psalm in its entirety--sometimes a phrase extracted.

It is impossible to complete a Jewish service without including  
some section of *Tehillim*.

Of course this is not by accident.

The genius of the Book of Psalms is that it makes faith,  
which can be difficult,  
accessible, immediate and personal.

Psalms is non-doctrinaire, non-ritual, & for most part, non-historical

What it is is "poetry of the spirit."

And it can touch us all.

Regardless of our level of ritual observance.

our level of faith, even our religion.

It is a book that asks no questions,

but give countless answers.

No one needs an excuse to open up Book of Psalms.

but the President's statement gives us one--

so let's take advantage.

We've photocopied the five that were mentioned for everyone  
and we'll take a moment to read them one by one.

We'll do it individually and silently.

Maybe pretend you're the President and you have  
problems with the media, the Russians, or the Republicans.

Better yet, pretend you're you, and you have  
problems with the family, with business, w/the family business.

First Psalm 25. What does Ps. 25 say to us?

(Discussion followed)

Major themes:

v. 1ff. Our hope and trust should be in G-d  
and we should try to walk on G-d's Path.

v. 4 Help show us the right path--of goodness  
This path saves us from distress.

Questn: If it was so obvious what G-d wants and we know this,  
why do we need help in walking right path?

Ans: Because we do. Knowing right is not enough to get  
us to "walking right." G-d helps those who turn to G-d for help.

v. 7 Forgive our youthful sins and transgressions.  
President and everybody else has them.  
Anybody here not?

vv. 15-20 G-d will deliver us from our enemies--please!  
When we walk in the path of integrity and uprightness.

All Presidents have enemies. As do most of us. Bible counsels:  
Deliverance comes from refuge in the Highest  
Not "street fighting" like the lowest.

Let's try Psalm 27. This one has similar themes to Psalm 25.

Incidentally, it is read each morning during month prior to New Year  
just before the *shofar* is sounded,  
until the conclusion of the fall holiday season.



Major themes:

- vv. 1-3: G-d is the source of our strength.. G-d is our inner integrity.  
This strength and integrity give us confidence in time of travail.  
(Competing "self-righteousnesses" should be negotiated upward.)
- vv. 4-6: To live in the house of the L-rd is what I seek.  
Interesting from someone who lives in the White House--  
G-d's house is better!  
And we can all live in it--with faith and with right life.  
G-d is also our shelter, protection and source of joy (4b, 6b).
- vv. 7-13: A plea for G-d not to be hidden from us.  
For we know that even all of our self-confidence and integrity  
is ultimately weak. We always need more than what we have  
Especially in time of difficulty.
- v. 14: Therefore, Look to the L-rd!

Psalms 90. Interesting choice as Presidential "favorite"

- Part of traditional Sabbath a.m. service  
but better known for its use in Jewish funerals.  
Immediate response to say it is somehow "morbid."  
Not it at all. Ps. 90 puts life in perspective. Let's read it.

Themes:

- vv. 1-4: G-d is Eternal  
vv. 5-10: while our lives are brief, and difficult,  
vv 10 & 17: Teach us to use our time well:  
help us fashion for ourselves a heart of wisdom and  
create works that will endure.

Psalms 103. Used in Jewish liturgy as prayer for sick. viz v. 3.

Major themes:

- We not as bad off as we think we are, nor as we could be.  
We often quick to blame G-d when things go wrong  
and slow to thank G-d when things are good.  
Dr. Eugene Borowitz, our scholar in residence spoke of this:  
More of our good deeds are rewarded than bad ones punished.  
Rabbi H. Kushner: Disasters get reported widely, good things do not.
- v. 15-18: Life is short, things come and go.(Presidencies)  
therefore keep the "covenant" (term used by Pres. in major speeches)  
and know goodness/G-d's beneficence.
- v 20f: Praise all G-d's works and G-d's co-workers/partners.

Psalms 139. Called "one of the most magnificent of the Psalms. A supreme expression of the omnipotence of G-d and of the intimate personal relationship between man and his Maker." R. Joseph Hertz

- vv. 1-11: You know me intimately--You made me/formed me  
I am small, You are everywhere but  
v. 14: I am part of You, so I can be great as well.

v. 24: Guide me in ways everlasting.

Common theme to all the President's Psalms (and most others):

We need help from above, from the One who made us,  
in order to be all that we can be,  
and to walk the path of righteousness.

Left to our own devices, we are rarely good enough,  
certainly not as good as we could be with G-d's help,  
and with the help of our tradition of learning and devotion.

It is good to have a President who understands it's important  
to turn to the Source of help in times of need,  
and in ordinary times as well.

We don't yet know how history will judge President Clinton.

But we can say that if his spiritual insight  
and appreciation for these Psalms is both genuine and lasting  
no matter what the critics say,  
when his time comes, he will leave office  
not only with a sense of accomplishment, but blessing as well.

Shabbat Shalom.

A decorative border surrounds the text, featuring various Jewish symbols and items. At the top center is an open book with Hebrew text. To its left is a menorah, and to its right is a Torah scroll. The corners and sides are adorned with additional symbols, including a Star of David, a menorah, and a Torah scroll. The border is composed of a dark, textured material with these symbols placed at intervals.

*"All the  
President's Psalms -  
25. 27. 90. 103. 139"*

*Shabbat Services  
Friday evening.  
February 24, 1995*

## 25 Of David.

K O LORD, I set my hope on You;  
 ב my God, in You I trust;  
 may I not be disappointed,  
 may my enemies not exult over me.  
 א O let none who look to You be disappointed;  
 let the faithless be disappointed, empty-handed.  
 ג Let me know Your paths, O LORD;  
 teach me Your ways;  
 ד guide me in Your true way and teach me,  
 for You are God, my deliverer;  
 it is You-I look to at all times.  
 ו O LORD, be mindful of Your compassion  
 and Your faithfulness;  
 they are old as time.  
 ז Be not mindful of my youthful sins and transgressions;  
 in keeping with Your faithfulness consider what is in my  
 favor,  
 as befits Your goodness, O LORD.  
 ח Good and upright is the LORD;  
 therefore He shows sinners the way.  
 ט He guides the lowly in the right path,  
 and teaches the lowly His way.  
 י All the LORD'S paths are steadfast love  
 for those who keep the decrees of His covenant.  
 יא As befits Your name, O LORD,  
 pardon my iniquity though it be great.  
 יב Whoever fears the LORD,  
 he shall be shown what path to choose.  
 יג He shall live a happy life,  
 and his children shall inherit the land.  
 יד The counsel<sup>א</sup> of the LORD is for those who fear Him;  
 to them He makes known His covenant.  
 טו My eyes are ever toward the LORD,  
 for He will loose my feet from the net.  
 טז Turn to me, have mercy on me,  
 for I am alone and afflicted.  
 טז My deep distress<sup>ב</sup> increases;  
 deliver me from my straits.  
 טז Look at my affliction and suffering,  
 and forgive all my sins.  
 טז See how numerous my enemies are,  
 and how unjustly they hate me!  
 טז Protect me and save me;  
 let me not be disappointed,  
 for I have sought refuge in You.  
 טז May integrity and uprightness watch over me,  
 for I look to You.  
 טז O God, redeem Israel  
 from all its distress.

## 27 Of David.

The LORD is my light and my help;  
 whom should I fear?  
 The LORD is the stronghold of my life,  
 whom should I dread?  
 When evil men assail me  
 to devour my flesh<sup>א</sup>—  
 it is they, my foes and my enemies,  
 who stumble and fall.  
 Should an army besiege me,  
 my heart would have no fear;  
 should war beset me,  
 still would I be confident.  
 One thing I ask of the LORD;  
 only that do I seek:  
 to live in the house of the LORD  
 all the days of my life,  
 to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD,  
 to frequent<sup>ב</sup> His temple.  
 He will shelter me in His pavilion  
 on an evil day,  
 grant me the protection of His tent,  
 raise me high upon a rock.  
 Now is my head high  
 over my enemies roundabout;  
 I sacrifice in His tent with shouts of joy,  
 singing and chanting a hymn to the LORD.  
 Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;  
 have mercy on me, answer me.  
 ב In Your behalf<sup>ב</sup> my heart says:  
 "Seek My face!"  
 O LORD, I seek Your face.  
 Do not hide Your face from me;  
 do not thrust aside Your servant in anger;  
 You have ever been my help.  
 Do not forsake me, do not abandon me,  
 O God, my deliverer.  
 Though my father and mother abandon me,  
 the LORD will take me in.  
 Show me Your way, O LORD,  
 and lead me on a level path  
 because of my watchful foes.  
 Do not subject me to the will of my foes,  
 for false witnesses and unjust accusers  
 have appeared against me.  
 Had I not the assurance  
 that I would enjoy the goodness of the LORD  
 in the land of the living . . .

Look to the LORD;  
 be strong and of good courage!  
 O look to the LORD!

O LORD, You have examined me and know me.

<sup>2</sup>When I sit down or stand up You know it;

You discern my thoughts from afar.

<sup>3</sup>You observe<sup>a</sup> my walking and reclining,  
and are familiar with all my ways.

<sup>4</sup>There is not a word on my tongue  
but that You, O LORD, know it well.

<sup>5</sup>You hedge me before and behind;  
You lay Your hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup>It is beyond my knowledge;  
it is a mystery; I cannot fathom it.

<sup>7</sup>Where can I escape from Your spirit?

Where can I flee from Your presence?

<sup>8</sup>If I ascend to heaven, You are there;  
if I descend to Sheol, You are there too.

<sup>9</sup>If I take wing with the dawn  
to come to rest on the western horizon,  
<sup>10</sup>even there Your hand will be guiding me,  
Your right hand will be holding me fast.

<sup>11</sup>If I say, "Surely darkness<sup>b</sup> will conceal me,  
night will provide me with cover,"<sup>b</sup>

<sup>12</sup>darkness is not dark for You;  
night is as light as day;  
darkness and light are the same.

<sup>13</sup>It was You who created my conscience;<sup>c</sup>  
You fashioned me in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup>I praise You,  
for I am awesomely, wondrously made;  
Your work is wonderful;  
I know it very well.

<sup>15</sup>My frame was not concealed from You  
when I was shaped in a hidden place,  
knit together in the recesses of the earth.

<sup>16</sup>Your eyes saw my unformed limbs;  
they were all recorded in Your book;  
in due time they were formed,  
<sup>17</sup>to the very last one of them.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>17</sup>How weighty Your thoughts seem to me, O God,  
how great their number!

<sup>18</sup>I count them—they exceed the grains of sand;  
I end—but am still with You.

<sup>19</sup>O God, if You would only slay the wicked—  
you murderers, away from me!—

<sup>20</sup>who invoke You for intrigue,  
Your enemies who swear by You falsely.<sup>a</sup>

<sup>21</sup>O LORD, You know I hate those who hate You,  
and loathe Your adversaries.

<sup>22</sup>I feel a perfect hatred toward them;  
I count them my enemies.

<sup>23</sup>Examine me, O God, and know my mind;  
probe me and know my thoughts.

<sup>24</sup>See if I have vexatious ways,  
and guide me in ways everlasting.

O Lord, You have been our refuge in every generation.  
 2Before the mountains came into being,  
 before You brought forth the earth and the world,  
 from eternity to eternity You are God.

3You return man to dust;<sup>a</sup>

You decreed, "Return you mortals!"

4bFor in Your sight a thousand years  
 are like yesterday that has past,  
 like a watch of the night.

5You engulf men in sleep;<sup>b</sup>

at daybreak they are like grass that renews itself;

6at daybreak it flourishes anew;

by dusk it withers and dries up.

7So we are consumed by Your anger,  
 terror-struck by Your fury.

8You have set our iniquities before You,  
 our hidden sins in the light of Your face.

9All our days pass away in Your wrath;  
 we spend our years like a sigh.

10The span of our life is seventy years,  
 or, given the strength, eighty years;  
 but the best of them are trouble and sorrow.

They pass by speedily, and we are in darkness.<sup>c</sup>

11Who can know Your furious anger?

Your wrath matches the fear of You.

12Teach us to count our days rightly,  
 that we may obtain a wise heart.

13Turn, O LORD!

How long?

Show mercy to Your servants.

14Satisfy us at daybreak with Your steadfast love  
 that we may sing for joy all our days.

15Give us joy for as long as You have afflicted us,  
 for the years we have suffered misfortune.

16Let Your deeds be seen by Your servants,  
 Your glory by their children.

17May the favor of the LORD, our God, be upon us;  
 let the work of our hands prosper,  
 O prosper the work of our hands!

Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
 all my being, His holy name.

2Bless the LORD, O my soul  
 and do not forget all His bounties.

3He forgives all your sins,  
 heals all your diseases.

4He redeems your life from the Pit,  
 surrounds you with steadfast love and mercy.

5He satisfies you with good things in <sup>a</sup>the prime of life,<sup>a</sup>  
 so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

6The LORD executes righteous acts  
 and judgments for all who are wronged.

7He made known His ways to Moses,  
 His deeds to the children of Israel.

8The LORD is compassionate and gracious,  
 slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love.

9He will not contend forever,  
 or nurse His anger for all time.

10He has not dealt with us according to our sins,  
 nor has He required us according to our iniquities.

11For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
 so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him.

12As east is far from west,  
 so far has He removed our sins from us.

13As a father has compassion for his children,  
 so the LORD has compassion for those who fear Him.

14For He knows how we are formed;  
 He is mindful that we are dust.

15Man, his days are like those of grass;  
 he blooms like a flower of the field;

16a wind passes by and it is no more,  
 its own place no longer knows it.

17But the LORD's steadfast love is for all eternity  
 toward those who fear Him.

and His beneficence is for the children's children

18of those who keep His covenant

and remember to observe His precepts.

19The LORD has established His throne in heaven,  
 and His sovereign rule is over all.

20Bless the LORD, O His angels,  
 mighty creatures who do His bidding,

ever obedient to His bidding;

21bless the LORD, all His hosts,

His servants who do His will;

22bless the LORD, all His works,  
 through the length and breadth of His realm;  
 bless the LORD, O my soul.

From Abraham Lincoln:

"I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. In this sad world of ours, sorrow comes to all. And it comes with bitter agony. Perfect relief is not possible, except with time."

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Cervantes:

"Tomorrow will be a new day. When God sends the dawn, he sends it for us all."

-----

Job 5:18

"For he maketh sore and bindeth up; he woundeth and his hands make whole."

-----

Revelations 7:17

"For the lamb, which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

-----

Unattributed (a takeoff on something Tony Campolo says)

"At times like this, we must remember, we will know joy again, but we will never be the same."

-----

Oscar Wilde

"Where there is sorrow, there is holy ground."

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Romans 8:28

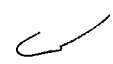
"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose."

-----

Reinhold Niebuhr

"Nothing that is worth anything can be achieved in a lifetime; therefore, we must be saved by hope."

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A small, handwritten mark resembling a checkmark or a stylized 'C' is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

Romans 8:24,25

"For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one also hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance, we wait eagerly for it."

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Romans: 12:11

"Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer."

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MLK

[on why Brown was in Bosnia]

"Man must evolve for all human conflict, a method which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love."

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Psalms 39:7

And now, Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in Thee."

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Psalms 62:5

My soul, wait in silence for God only, for my hope is from Him. He only is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be shaken."



**DANIEL, CHAPTER 3**  
**King James' Version**

- 1 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold; whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.
- 2 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.
- 3 Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.
- 4 Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages,
- 5 That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up:
- 6 And whoso falleth not down and worshippingeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.
- 7 Therefore at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and all kinds of musick, all the people, the nations, and the languages, fell down and worshipped the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.
- 8 Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews.
- 9 They spake and said to the king Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live for ever.
- 10 Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, shall fall down and worship the golden image:
- 11 And whoso falleth not down and worshippingeth, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.
- 12 There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.
- 13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and

**DANIEL, CHAPTER 3**  
**Revised Standard Version**

- 1 King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold, whose height was sixty cubits and its breadth six cubits. He set it up on the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.
- 2 Then King Nebuchadnezzar sent to assemble the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces to come to the dedication of the image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.
- 3 Then the satraps, the prefects, and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the justices, the magistrates, and all the officials of the provinces, were assembled for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.
- 4 And the herald proclaimed aloud, "You are commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages,
- 5 that when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up;
- 6 and whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace."
- 7 Therefore, as soon as all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, all the peoples, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the golden image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.
- 8 Therefore at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and maliciously accused the Jews.
- 9 They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "O king, live for ever!
- 10 You, O king, have made a decree, that every man who hears the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, shall fall down and worship the golden image;
- 11 and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast into a burning fiery furnace.
- 12 There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. These men, O king, pay no heed to you; they do not serve your gods or worship the golden image which you have set up."
- 13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and

Abed'nego be brought. Then they brought these men before the king.

- 14 Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed'nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the golden image which I have set up?"
- 15 Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, to fall down and worship the image which I have made, well and good; but if you do not worship, you shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace; and who is the god that will deliver you out of my hands?"
- 16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed'nego answered the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter.
- 17 If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace; and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king.
- 18 But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image which you have set up."
- 19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the expression of his face was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed'nego. He ordered the furnace heated seven times more than it was wont to be heated.
- 20 And he ordered certain mighty men of his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed'nego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.
- 21 Then these men were bound in their mantles, their tunics, their hats, and their other garments, and they were cast into the burning fiery furnace.
- 22 Because the king's order was strict and the furnace very hot, the flame of the fire slew those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed'nego.
- 23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed'nego, fell bound into the burning fiery furnace.
- 24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up in haste. He said to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the fire?" They answered the king, "True, O king."
- 25 He answered, "But I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods."
- 26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the burning fiery furnace and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed'nego, servants of the Most High God, come forth, and come here!" Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed'nego came out from the fire.

- 27 And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men; the hair of their heads was not singed, their mantles were not harmed, and no smell of fire had come upon them.
- 28 Nebuchadnezzar said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants, who trusted in him, and set at nought the king's command, and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God.
- 29 Therefore I make a decree: Any people, nation, or language that speaks anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb, and their houses laid in ruins; for there is no other god who is able to deliver in this way."
- 30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king.

- 14 Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?
- 15 Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?
- 16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.
- 17 If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.
- 18 But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.
- 19 Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated.
- 20 And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.
- 21 Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.
- 22 Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flames of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.
- 23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.
- 24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.
- 25 He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.
- 26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst

of the fire.

- 27 And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.
- 28 Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God.
- 29 Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.
- 30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon.