



Trustworthy Sayings: Salvation and Works

“The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works.” (Titus 3:8)

Call to Worship

Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD,
who stand by night in the house of the LORD!

**Lift up your hands to the holy place
and bless the LORD!**

**May the LORD bless you from Zion,
he who made heaven and earth!**

(Ps 134)

Let us pray.

**Sovereign Lord, our Heavenly Father,
it is our heart's desire, our deepest longing,
to know you, to love you, and to worship you.
It is our greatest pleasure,
our highest privilege, our chief delight,
to meet with you, the one true and living God,
and experience your grace and favour.
Grant us power by your Holy Spirit
to worship you now, in spirit and in truth.
Amen.**

Valley of Vision

Psalm 104

My soul, bless the Lord!
The Lord is most great,
with glory arrayed,
majestic His state;
the light is His garment,
the skies are His shade,
and over the waters
His courts He has laid.

He rides on the clouds,
the wings of the storm,
the lightning and wind
His bidding perform;
the earth He has founded;
it firmly shall stand,
with waters its clothing
ordained from His hand.

He waters the hills
with rain from the skies,
and plentiful grass
and herbs He supplies,
gives food to the cattle,
and blesses our toil
with bread in abundance,
with wine and with oil.

The trees which the Lord
has planted are fed,
and over the earth
their branches are spread;
they keep in their shelter
the birds of the air,
the life of each creature
the Lord makes His care.

Your Spirit, O Lord,
makes life to abound,
the earth is renewed,
and fruitful the ground;
to God be all glory
and wisdom and might,
let God in His creatures
forever delight.

Rejoicing in God,
my thought shall be sweet,
while sinners depart
in ruin complete;
my soul, bless Jehovah,
His name be adored;
come praise Him, you people,
and worship the Lord!

Confession and Assurance

Hear the summary of the whole law, from our Lord Jesus Christ:

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.” (Matt 22:37-40)

Have mercy on us, O God

**According to your unfailing love;
According to your great compassion.**

God's word tells us:

*"If we say we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins,
God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

(1 Jn 1:8-9)

Let us therefore confess our sins against God,
and against our neighbour,
first in silence and then aloud together.

Please kneel or be seated.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and most merciful Father,

**We have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things that we ought to have done;
and we have done those things that we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.**

**But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners.
Spare those who confess their faults.
Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises
declared to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." (1 Pet 2:24-25)

Psalm 103 (b)

As far as east is from the west,
So far his love has borne away
Our many sins and trespasses
And all the guilt that on us lay.
Just as a father loves his child,
So God loves those who fear his name.
For he remembers we are dust,
And well he knows our feeble frame.

Each human life is like the grass,
And like a meadow flower it grows.
Its place will never be recalled
Once over it the tempest blows.

God's Word

Matt 7:1-14, The Fruitful Life, p. 812

This is the Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God

Psalm 73:15-28

**If I had said, "I will speak thus",
I would have betrayed
the generation of your children.
But when I thought
how to understand this,
it seemed to me
a wearisome task,
until I went into
the sanctuary of God;
then I discerned their end.**

Truly you set them in slippery places;
you make them fall to ruin.
How they are destroyed in a moment,
swept away utterly by terrors!
Like a dream when one awakes,
O Lord, when you rouse yourself, you
despise them as phantoms.

But everlasting is God's love
For those who fear him, and their seed—
For those who keep his covenant,
And carefully his precepts heed.

God's kingly rule is over all;
In heaven he has set his throne.
O you his angels, praise the LORD,
Strong ones by whom his will is done.
O praise the LORD, you heavenly hosts,
His servants who perform his word.
Praise God, his works
throughout his realm,
And you, my soul, O praise the LORD!

**When my soul was embittered,
when I was pricked in heart,
I was brutish and ignorant;
I was like a beast towards you.
Nevertheless, I am
continually with you;
you hold my right hand.
You guide me with your counsel,
and afterwards you will
receive me to glory.**

Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth
that I desire besides you.
My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart
and my portion for ever.

**For behold, those who are
far from you shall perish;
you put an end to everyone
who is unfaithful to you.
But for me it is good to be near God;
I have made the Lord God my refuge,
that I may tell of all your works.**

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.

**As it was in the beginning,
is now, and shall be forever,
age after age. Amen!**

Second Reading: Titus 3:1-11, p. 998

This is the Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Trustworthy Sayings: Salvation & Works (Mark Payne)

O Church Arise

O Church, arise,
and put your armour on;
Hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say
that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold, whose battle-cry is Love,
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war,
to love the captive soul
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword
that makes the wounded whole,
We will fight with faith and valour.
When faced with trials on every side
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have
the prize for which He died,
An inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross,
where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes
lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come
put strength in every stride,
Give grace for every hurdle,
That we may run
with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls
and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in glory.

*Stuart Townend & Keith Getty
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Creed

Since the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all through the righteousness of Christ, without any merit of our own, why should we do good works?

**Because when the goodness and loving kindness of God
our Saviour appeared, he saved us,
not because of works done by us in righteousness,
but according to his own mercy,
by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,
whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour,
so that being justified by his grace
we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life,
and having believed in God, devote ourselves to good works.
Amen.**

(Titus 3:4-8)

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

All baptised Christians who trust in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and seek to lead a new life by God's mercies, are welcome at this table. If you do not profess faith in Christ, please refrain from receiving the bread and wine.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Please join in saying the Sanctus ("The Holy", based on Isaiah 6:3)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The stewards will distribute the wine and bread.

Eat the bread as you receive it, but keep the wine until we all drink together.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Heavenly Father, we offer you eternal praise and thanks that you have so blessed us poor sinners, that we would be drawn into the Communion of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, whom you have delivered to death for us, and whom you have given us as the food and drink of life eternal.

We humbly beg you, heavenly Father, to keep us as faithful members of your church, to strengthen us by your Spirit, and to draw us together in love and unity, that we may serve through those good works which you have prepared for us to do through Jesus Christ our Lord, and for His glory.

Amen.

Gifts and Offerings

Gifts and offerings may be placed in the offertory box at the back of the hall. *"Honour the LORD with your wealth and with the first-fruits of all your produce." (Prov 3:9)*

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures, here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost
Amen.

Benediction

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the Name of Christ, Amen.

Notes & Notices

Paul's Trustworthy Sayings

1. **Salvation** Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. (1 Tim 1:15)
 2. **Godliness** Godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. (1 Tim 4:8)
 3. **Life** If we have died with him, we will also live with him. (2 Tim 2:11)
 4. **Works** I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. (Titus 3:8)
 5. **Calling** If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. (1 Tim 3:1)
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Please diarise and pray for the following:

<i>The Coming Week...</i>		
Tue 22nd Aug	Tots and Toys	10.30am
Sun 27th Aug	Worship, Church picnic and T-Smith farewell <i>(Please bring your lunch for the picnic, but drinks will be provided. There will also be some "extra dishes" for any who may need it.)</i>	1 Tim 3:1-7
<i>Further Ahead...</i>		
Sat 9th Sep	Men's Ministry kickoff, Magee's home, 4:30pm	Intro, fire, food & chat

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture references are from the English Standard Version (ESV)